

constitutional sense, of the franchise or right in the exercise of which such obstruction had its origin, the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, acting by and through the agency of said commission, shall be empowered to secure the condemnation of such franchise or right in the manner provided for in Section 3 of this Act. The preceding provisions of this section shall likewise be applicable to any such obstruction in, over or under the public highways of any county of this State into which said sewerage system shall extend. The duty and cost of adjusting or removing private drains and sewers in Baltimore City which shall block or impede the progress of said sewerage system when in progress of construction and establishment, shall rest upon and be borne by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore exclusively.

Private drains
and sewers.

Work costing
over a cer-
tain sum to be
done by con-
tract.

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted*, That all work done or supplies or materials purchased in carrying out the purposes of this Act when involving an expenditure of five hundred dollars or more shall be by contract, awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 14 and 15 of Article 4, entitled "City of Baltimore," of the Public Local Laws of Maryland, except that said commission shall discharge the duties imposed upon the Board of Awards by said sections; provided, however, that said commission shall be empowered, if it see fit, to insert in the specifications for any such work reasonable and lawful conditions as to hours of labor, wages and the residence or character of workmen to be employed by the contractor, and especially, so far as may be practicable, in the judgment of said commission, such reasonable and lawful conditions as will tend to confine employment on such work, in whole or in part, to permanent and bona fide residents of the State of Maryland only; and provided, however, also that said commission with the consent of three-fourths of all its members may itself do any part or parts of any such work under such conditions in every respect as it may prescribe, by day labor, whenever the chief engineer, in writing, shall recommend that course; in which event the said commission, in addition to its other powers in the premises, shall likewise be authorized to devise, promulgate and enforce such rules and regulations as will make merit and personal fitness, ascertained by some system of open competition or registration or both, the sole tests of eligibility for all positions or employments under its control, which it may see fit to embrace within the scope of said rules and regulations, which, however, may be limited to permanent and bona fide residents of this State in

Tests of eligi-
bility for po-
sitions.