

The Governor is authorized to appoint, and remove at pleasure, an experienced and qualified attorney-at-law of this State, to be known as Peoples Counsel, who shall receive an annual salary of forty-five hundred (\$4,500) dollars.

The said commission shall have a secretary, to be appointed by it and to hold office at its pleasure. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep a full and true record of all the proceedings of the commission, of all books, maps, documents and papers ordered filed by the commission, and of all orders made by each of the commissioners, and of all orders made by the commission or approved and confirmed by it and ordered filed, and he shall be responsible to it for the safe custody and preservation of all such documents at its office. Under the direction of the commission, the secretary shall have general charge of its office, superintend the clerical business and perform such other duties as the commission may prescribe. He shall have power and authority to administer oaths in all parts whatsoever of the State, so far as the exercise of such power is properly incidental to the performance of his duties or that of the commission. The secretary shall designate from time to time one of the clerks appointed by the commission to perform the duties of secretary during his absence, and during such time the clerk so designated shall, at the office, possess the powers of the secretary of the commission. The annual salary of the secretary shall be three thousand dollars (\$3,000).

The commission shall have the power, subject to the approval, in writing, by the Governor, in each and every instance, to employ such officers, clerks, stenographers, typewriters, inspectors, experts and employees as it may deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this sub-title or to perform the duties and exercise the powers conferred by law upon the commission; no person, however, shall be appointed or employed by the commission in any position whatsoever, unless the commission shall certify to the Governor that it deems such appointment or employment, and the compensation or annual salary which it proposed shall be paid in each instance, actually necessary for carrying out the purposes and requirements of this sub-title, and unless the Governor shall thereupon approve in writing such appointment or employment, and such compensation or annual salary or salaries. If in any case the commission cannot ascertain in advance the value of any service to be rendered to it or the proper compensation to be paid therefor, it shall certify such fact to the Governor, who may authorize the employment or acquisition of the service in question, leaving the value or compensation thereof to be ascertained by subsequent agreement or adjustment.

Each commissioner and each person appointed to office or employment by the Governor or by the commission, with the approval of the Governor, shall before entering upon the duties of his office or employment, take and subscribe to the constitutional oath of office. No person shall be eligible for appointment or shall hold the office of commissioner, or be appointed by the commission, to or hold any office or position under the commission, who holds any official relation to any common carrier, railroad corporation, street railroad corporation, gas corporation, electrical corporation, telephone corporation, telegraph corporation, water company, heat and refrig-