

1 in all the states of the Union practically. The large
2 cities have preserved these courts, have given them much
3 broader power than we have. This was a statement made
4 in 1913. So now we come down to the Bond Commission
5 Report. Three recommendations were made. That the
6 courts of the City of Baltimore be consolidated, that the
7 Orphans Courts be abolished, and that the numbers of the
8 members of the Court of Appeals be reduced. This was
9 made in 1943 by, as I have seen in the press on at
10 least 100 occasions, a well qualified commission and
11 it was. Two of the recommendations never saw the light
12 of day from any legislature that has met since 1943 to
13 date. Those two that never got out were the consolida-
14 tion of the courts of Baltimore City, along with the
15 Clerk's offices, and the abolition of the Orphans Courts
16 of Maryland. The third one did see the light of day and
17 it sort of died a stillborn death because no sooner had
18 the number of the members of the Court of Appeals been
19 reduced to five, within a space of two years the member-
20 ship of the Court of Appeals was increased beyond the
21 five.