

counties is that holders in the country parts of this class of property are very limited.

Facility has been given to test the accuracy of return in a case in Washington County. An individual made his return in April, 1915, setting forth in detail his holdings. He died in August of the same year, and it developed that in an inventory of \$91,000 of bonds there was a discrepancy of but \$4,000 between his holdings and his assessment. The party was more or less active and claim was made by his executors that the \$4,000 discrepancy was on account of recent purchases of bonds, purchased since his return to the County Commissioners.

Contention is made by some that any attempt to tax this class of property will drive people from the State. Only one instance has been brought to the attention of the Commission.

Prince George's County adjoins the District of Columbia, and many of its business and professional men maintain their homes in this county. Some years ago a resident of Washington built a handsome home in this county, and he has lived there for a few years past and is considered a resident of the county for voting purposes. With many others, he was served with notice and requested to make his return of bonds and foreign stock. He insists that if he is assessed on his holdings he will be obliged to sell his Maryland home and return to the city of Washington, because there this class of property is not subject to taxation. It may be stated that this individual is naturally a Washingtonian and has been attracted to the country because he prefers country life to metropolitan life. It remains to be seen whether he will give up the country life for the city life in Washington.

The other adjoining county to the District of Columbia in Maryland is Montgomery, and many Washingtonians maintain country places in this county and live part of the year in the country and part of the year in Washington. If they live the greater portion of the year in this State, they may enjoy the right of franchise, while if their residence is in Washington they enjoy no voting rights here.

The duty of supervising the assessment of intangible personal property subject to the low rate of taxation is only one of the many activities conferred upon the Commission by law and undertaken by it since its organization. The direct work of assessment of this