

sequences which might result to their business should they fail to comply with the demands of those managing said combinations; and

WHEREAS, Certain exclusive privileges have been offered, held out and agreed to be given to those who entered said combinations, as against their rivals in business, to the great disadvantage and damage of those traders who have refused to be coerced by said threats and the granting of the privileges aforesaid; and

Preamble.

WHEREAS, Public policy requires the prohibition of all such combinations, howsoever the same may be brought about, and the adoption of such laws as will promote healthy competition in trade; therefore,

Preamble.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That certain new sections be added to Article 27 of the Code of Public General Laws of the State of Maryland, title "Crimes and Punishments," under the new sub title "Trade," to follow section 263, and to be known as sections 263 A, 263 B and 263 c.

New section added.

263 A. No person or association of persons shall either directly or indirectly, by agent or otherwise, use or hold for use in any way, or sell any stamp, commonly called a trading stamp, or any ticket, or check, or any written or printed promise or assurance, express or implied, or any other scheme or device for the sale, barter or trade of any goods, wares or merchandise holding out as an inducement for any such sale, barter or trade, the giving or issuing of any such stamp, ticket, check, promise, assurance, scheme or device, which stamp, ticket, check, promise, assurance, scheme or device, is to be or may be presented to or redeemed by some person or association of persons other than those making the sale, barter or trade aforesaid, the holder of said stamp, ticket, check, promise, assurance, scheme or device for presentment or redemption getting or receiving in exchange therefor any gift, prize or gratuity, or anything uncertain, undetermined or unknown to the purchaser of said goods, wares or merchandise at the time of the purchase thereof.

Unlawful to deal in trading stamps.

263 B. No person or association of persons shall either directly or indirectly by agent or otherwise, use or hold for use, or sell any stamp, commonly called a trading stamp, or any ticket, check, promise or assurance, express or implied, or any other scheme or device of the kind or character described in the preceding section of this article, and thereby prohibited to be used or held for use, or to be sold, when the same, instead of

Unlawful to deal in trading stamps.