half of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore without the necessity for any further legislative action by the Mayor and ·City Council of Baltimore be exercisable and exercised as one continuous, unbroken delegation of authority by the municipal officials or official who may for the time being have charge of the general municipal water supply of Baltimore city, except that in the event that the charge of said water supply shall at any time or times be confided by law to one municipal official, there shall be associated with him until said main reservoir or lake, and all its working appurtenances and connections of every sort have been completed in the exercise of all his powers and discretion, and in the discharge of all of his duties under this Act by the appointment of the Mayor, subject to the provisions of section 25 and other related sections of article 4, entitled "City of Baltimore," of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland, and any amendment or amendments thereof, two capable and upright citizens of the city of Baltimore, who shall serve without pay in the award of contracts for work under this Act, the persons clothed with the power of doing the work contemplated by this Act shall be authorized, if they see fit, to insert in the specifications for any such contract 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 their judgment, 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 said persons, clothed with the power of doing the work contemplated by this Act may, with the consent of all of their number themselves, do any part or parts of any such work under such conditions, in every respect, as they may prescribe, by day labor, in which event, said persons, in addition to their 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 test of eligibility for all positions or employments under their control that they 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 any particular; provided, however, that neither any contractor or contractors, nor the persons clothed with the power of doing the work contemplated by this Act as aforesaid, shall at any time during the progress of said work employ thereon or permit, or allow to be employed thereon any person who is at the time of such employment, or who shall at any time thereafter and during the progress of