

serve for two years, Lewin W. Wickes, who should serve for four years, and Arthur P. Gorman, Jr., who should serve for six years, and who should be Chairman of said Commission, and it was further provided that the successors to these commissioners should be appointed by the Governor of Maryland. That by the further provision of the said Act of Assembly the salary of each of said commissioners was fixed at three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per annum, payable out of the State Treasury; and in addition to said sum, the Chairman of said Commission was to receive also three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per annum, payable out of the funds of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore as an employe of said municipal corporation; and it was further provided that each of the other two commissioners should receive also in addition the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) per annum, payable out of the funds of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, as employes of said municipal corporation, and,

WHEREAS, it was the belief in the past by successive General Assemblies of Maryland that the provision of Article XV, Section 1, of the Constitution of Maryland prohibited the General Assembly from creating any office whereof the salary of any officer holding such office should exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per annum, and,

WHEREAS, it was solely because of such belief that the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore was charged with the payment of a portion of the salaries of the members of the Public Service Commission, the Counsel to said Public Service Commission, the State Industrial Accident Commission, and the State Tax Commission, and,

WHEREAS, all doubt as to the power and authority of the General Assembly of Maryland to create a salaried officer carrying a greater salary, than three thousand dollars per annum and payable solely by the State of Maryland, notwithstanding said provision of the Maryland Constitution has been removed by the Court of Appeals of Maryland by virtue of the said Court's decision recorded in *Thrift vs. Laird*, 125 Md. 55, wherein the Court, referring to said Article XV, section 1, stated:

"That language undoubtedly does impose a limitation upon the compensation which a certain class of officers or appointees may receive, but it seems to be reasonably clear from the language of Section 1, Article XV, when considered in the light of its historical genesis and the accepted canons of con-