

It has also been suggested that the law be changed so as to postpone the quadrennial new registration required for Baltimore City this year until 1934, and have only a supplemental registration. This, however, would also involve an important question of policy.

The registration law for Baltimore City was enacted in 1896, and it provided a new registration every year. In 1904 this law was amended so as to provide a new registration every two years. In 1922, in the interest of economy and the convenience of the citizens, the law was further amended so as only to require a new registration every four years.

It is to say the least a serious question whether the new general registration should now be postponed until the end of eight years.

The question of a permanent registration for Baltimore City is being considered by the Commission to Revise the Election Laws created by the Legislature of 1929, and in the absence of some necessity it would be a mistake to deal with this general subject now.

There is no such necessity, and no occasion to do more than meet the emergency which has required the extra session. This can be done by the simple and direct method of prescribing new registration days for this year only.

This would avoid all discussion as to the adoption of this or that permanent change in the law, or as to the advisability of this or that radical amendment. It would be completely adequate to the occasion, and would involve no possible considerations of a partisan or political character.

It would have the great advantage of enabling the Legislature to meet, pass the necessary measure and adjourn all in one day, and thus furnish the example of a prompt, expeditious, efficient, effective, non-partisan and non-political session of the Maryland Legislature, having but the one object of disposing of the business which calls them together.

If changes of a permanent character seem desirable in the registration laws for Baltimore City, there will be ample opportunity for their consideration by the next general session of the Legislature. There is no need to consider them now.