

property and acquire title to and convey the same to purchasers as if they were a natural person; provided, however, that in case of such purchase by the said County Commissioners it shall not be lawful for them to pay for such property a greater amount than the State and county taxes in default, and the costs of sale, ratification and conveyance. And provided further that within three months after the date this Act goes into effect the said County Commissioners shall hold a public sale of at least one-fourth of the property heretofore acquired by said County Commissioners at tax sales, and every three months thereafter shall hold other sales of the said property until all of the same shall have been disposed of, the said sales to be made to the highest bidder for cash. After all of the property now so held by the County Commissioners shall have been disposed of, to the end that the same be placed back on the assessment books in the name of individual taxpayers, the said County Commissioners shall hold at least one public sale every year for the purpose of disposing entirely of any property purchased by said County Commissioners at tax sales.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all Acts or parts of Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, or any of them, are hereby repealed to the extent of any such inconsistency. And the County Commissioners of said county are hereby authorized and empowered to make such changes in their present office procedure and routine as may be necessary to facilitate and make effective the beginning of the operations of this Act and of carrying on the same.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency law and it is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public safety, and being passed on a ye and nay vote, supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly of Maryland, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 17, 1931.

CHAPTER 281.

AN ACT to repeal Chapter No. 301 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland, Session of 1924, entitled "An Act to authorize and direct the County Commissioners of Mont-