All promotions shall be made within the Department, and no person shall be promoted to any rank, grade or position, except to ranks, grades or positions of a technical character, unless he shall have filled the rank, grade, or position inferior to the rank, grade or position to which he shall be promoted. All promotions up to and including the rank of Sergeant shall be departmental, and to such promotions, the Merit System shall not apply. All promotions above the rank of Sergeant shall be made from the entire eligible list for such rank or position.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1945.

Approved March 16, 1945.

CHAPTER 294.

(House Bill 27)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 10 of Article 88B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "State Police", relating to the residence requirements of employees of the Department, the probationary period and eliminating certain obsolete provisions.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That Section 10 of Article 88B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "State Police", be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

The Superintendent shall, within the limits of any appropriation made for such purpose, appoint such employees to his Department as are deemed necessary by him for the efficient administration of the Department. All appointees shall be taken from a list duly prepared by the State Employment Commissioner in accordance with the provisions of the Merit System, and no person shall be appointed to the Department unless he is a bona fide resident of the State of Maryland, and has been such for at least six months immediately preceding his appointment. All of the police employees appointed to the Department shall be probationer, and on probation for a period of two years from the date of appointment. The Superintendent shall have full power and authority to discharge any probationer for any cause which he may deem sufficient in his sole discretion. Probationers are not within the Merit System.