CONDITIONAL CONTRACTS OF SALE.

Chapter 713 (House Bill 99). This measure would have the effect of creating a lien upon property involved in contracts of sale, which lien would take effect under conditions which, it is generally agreed, would be contrary to the general practice. Well informed persons in title and conveyancing work oppose the measure and have convinced me that its approval would be unwise.

Under the circumstances, I shall veto it.

CRIMINAL LAW.

Chapter 564 (House Bill 73). This bill provides for the payment by the State of damages to persons erroneously convicted of crime. The Attorney General advises me that this is a novel and dangerous Act which would recognize tort liability on the part of the State, a situation which has never existed.

CUMBERLAND.

Chapter 753 (Senate Bill 212). This bill is a local measure relating to the compensation and leaves of absence of the members of the Police Force in the City of Cumberland. After the measure passed the Senate it was amended in the House to include members of the Fire Department. However, the title was not amended in accordance with the changes in the body of the measure. As a result, the bill might seriously affect the regulations of the Police and Fire Departments or both because of the ambiguity to be found in the measure. The Senator from Allegany County who sponsored the bill has written me concurring in the recommendation of the State Law Department that the bill be vetoed.

DEFECTIVE TITLES.

Upon the advice of the State Law Department, I am vetoing five measures listed below. The Attorney General, in his written opinion to me, states that the titles are glaringly defective. Inasmuch as it would serve no purpose to have the laws made effective only to be nullified through court action, I must follow the advice of the State Law Department and disapprove them.

Chapter 92 (House Bill 130). The body of the bill provides for three night watchmen in three courts in Baltimore, but the title provides for only one night watchman in one court.