

extra compensation for those who are required to work more than eight hours.

The eight-hour day has been introduced in the penal institutions by the Board of Welfare as far as practicable. There are, however, some guards who are required to work longer than eight hours, because of the necessity of being with the prisoners under their supervision not only while the prisoners are at work, but also while they are either at meals or going to or from their cells. It is considered bad policy to change guards while the prisoners under them are out of their cells. The Board of Welfare has been trying to work out this situation so as to pay an additional compensation to such guards as have to work more than eight hours, and the Board expects to be able to do this when the increased appropriation allowed by the present budget becomes available. In view of this fact, and also because the subject seems to me one for the Board rather than for legislation, this bill will be vetoed.

Senate Bill No. 111 (Ch. 600) provides that no persons should be eligible for employment in the penal institutions unless they are registered voters of the State of Maryland.

At present all employees in these institutions are voters, and it is the Board of Welfare's policy always to employ voters whenever that is practical. This makes it easy for the Board to investigate the qualifications of those in their employ. At the same time, it is possible that the occasion may some time arise when the Board would desire to employ someone who is not at the time a voter in this State. It does not seem to me that the power to do this, should it become necessary, ought to be denied by statute, and, accordingly, I am vetoing this bill.

MECHANICS' LIENS.

(Chapter 685)

This bill provides for the discharge of liens under the Mechanics' Lien Law, by payment into court or by the giving of a bond.

It is apparent that the bill was hastily drawn, and from the advice I have secured I believe it would be certain to result in a good deal of litigation. Some of the provisions are more or less vague and uncertain. In addition to all this, the bill seems to have been introduced as a companion measure to