

REGISTRATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES BOUGHT.
FROM NON-RESIDENT DEALERS.

(Chapter 430, Senate Bill No. 349.)

This bill appears to have been introduced in order to meet the special case of a person buying a car in the District of Columbia, where there is now no title law, and being unable to get a title in Maryland. A title law, however, has recently been enacted for the District of Columbia, and this will be effective on July 1st, next, and will meet the situation. The bill, if approved, would not take effect until June 1st, and the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles will be able to handle such cases from then until the first of July. The bill is, therefore, not needed, and will be vetoed.

50-CENT FEE FOR INSPECTIONS.

(Chapter 413, House Bill No. 322.)

This bill authorizes garages or persons designated by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to make motor vehicle inspections provided for by the law to charge motor vehicle owners a fee of 50c for each inspection. When the Inspection Law was passed it was upon the assurance that the inspections would cost the motorists nothing. A great many motorists felt that in view of the increased receipts from gasoline taxes their 32-horse power license fee should be reduced, but the bill, as amended, reducing this fee to 25 cents did not pass the Legislature. Under these circumstances I do not think that an additional charge of 50c per car should be imposed on every motorist in the State. It is true that the dealers and the garages of the State strongly urge the approval of this bill. It is also true, however, that no one is required to undertake this inspection work and need not do it unless he desires. Garages, however, are quite generally willing to do it, not only because of their interest in traffic safety, but also because they quite frequently receive repair work which the inspections disclose to be necessary. For these reasons the bill will be vetoed.