

Chapter 239 (House Bill 270). This measure provides for the examination and licensing of Insurance Agents, Solicitors, Brokers, etc. However, the Attorney General reveals the fact that in the body of the bill that Life Insurance Agents and Accident and Health Agents are exempt from the provisions of the bill. Because the exemption is not set forth in the title, the Attorney General rules that the measure is defective.

Chapter 251 (House Bill 177). This bill provides for the payment of a portion of the Magistrates' fees in Montgomery County to the Library of the Circuit Court. The title, however, provides that fees and forfeitures shall be used for the support of the Library of the Police Courts.

Chapter 352 (House Bill 314). This bill purports to repeal and re-enact a section of the Fair Trade Act with certain amendments. However, in undertaking the re-enactment, the main portion of the pre-existing law was omitted, probably through oversight, and thus would remain repealed if I signed the bill. Persons interested in the passage of the measure have since recommended its veto because of the slip-up which occurred.

Chapter 726 (House Bill 413). This bill, according to the State Law Department has a "wholly misleading title". The body of the bill refers to the licensing of peddlers in Kent County, but the State Law Department rules that there is a wide variance in the title.

DIVORCE.

Three bills were passed by the Legislature making changes in the divorce laws of the State. One provided that a previously existing cause for divorce would be eliminated, which under the present provisions denied equal rights to women. A second bill would permit the granting of a divorce where abandonment has continued for a period of one year, whereas the present law requires three years abandonment. The third bill would make it possible for a person to procure a divorce from a spouse who is permanently and incurably insane.

In order to have the benefit of advice from impartial and professional sources, I requested the President of the Bar Association of Baltimore City, Mr. Robert France, to appoint a special committee to consider these measures and to suggest whether or not the provisions would injuriously affect present procedure or whether the bills were faulty.

Pursuant to my request, President France appointed as a committee, James A. Latané, Esq. as Chairman, Ward B. Coe, Esq., and Gerald B. Hill, Esq. These gentlemen are Masters of Chancery appointed by the Supreme Bench of Baltimore