

returned to this Commission and a report made of the unsold licenses. The same applies to the Auditor's Office. When they audit our books and the Comptroller's books on angler's and hunter's licenses, our figures must agree.

"Under these two Bills the Comptroller's Office nor this Department would not have any check whatever on the licenses furnished by the Clerks of the Courts of Washington and Allegany Counties. These Bills were amended by the County Delegation by adding Garrett County to same.

"We think it is very unfair legislation and if persons over 65 years of age in the respective Counties are to be furnished gratis angler's and hunter's licenses, then why not furnish them gratis automobile licenses and trader's licenses? As you are aware, there are a great many persons over 65 years of age at present drawing State old-age pension and it does not seem fair that those persons in addition to others should be supplied with gratis licenses.

"The question in our mind is, if the language used in Senate Bill No. 81, Chapter 708, which is State-wide in effect, would not supersede House Bill No. 273, Chapter 471, and House Bill No. 274, Chapter 472. We would appreciate your vetoing these two Bills."

The State Law Department also expresses doubt as to the validity of the Bills in question on the grounds that they are discriminatory.

The Maryland State Game and Fish Protective Association, which is actively interested in conservation, likewise asks that these two Bills be vetoed.

In view of all of the foregoing, I feel obliged to disapprove both measures.

Chapter 924 (Senate Bill 563). This measure relates to the use of pound or stake nets in certain waters of Cecil County.

Because of its possible effect on existing measures and regulations of the State Game and Inland Fish Commission, I requested a comment from this agency. The State Game Warden, E. Lee LeCompte, has written me as follows:

"Senate Bill No. 563 repeals Section 35 of Article 39. This section was enacted by Section 31, Chapter 471, Acts of 1929, and is Section 35 in Volume 1 of the Code of Public Laws of Maryland, 1939 edition. This section provided riparian rights to owners of properties bordering on the waters in Cecil County and provides that persons desiring to set fish nets on waters opposite shore-owners' riparian rights must have the consent in writing from such owner.

"Section 24 of Article 39 provides a riparian owner shall first be entitled to the use of the waters in front of his property for fishing and included Cecil County therein. Therefore, Sen-