

In order that the next General Assembly may have the benefit of the most careful thought and study of this entire subject matter, I intend to have this important question studied by the special commission which I intend to appoint, as announced several days ago in vetoing Senate Bill 176 affecting motor carriers. This representative commission will be asked to study all phases of this situation in order that uniformity may be established, under a fair and equitable system both to the State and those affected by this particular levy.

JUDGES' PENSION.

SENATE BILL 123.

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 48 of Article 26 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1943 Supplement), title "Courts", sub-title "Pensions for Judges", relating to judges' pensions.

Senate Bill 123 was introduced for the avowed purpose of providing a Judge's pension for a former member of the Bench who served for a period through appointment.

In connection with the proposal it was contended that, through inadvertence, the General Assembly of 1943, in providing pensions to cover the various classes, failed to extend the legal provisions to the case of one particular individual. In fact, the contention was made that others, who had served shorter periods on the Bench, are receiving pensions under the present system.

If this enactment affected only the individual case, I would give executive approval to it. However, unintentionally perhaps, the original intended provisions of the new bill were changed and, as it now reads, the amendment to the law would make an important change in the existing system as it affects Judges appointed since June 1943.

This bill if signed by me eliminates the provision now in effect which gives to Judges credit for the period served by them through appointment providing they are subsequently elected. This provision was made after careful consideration by representatives of the Maryland State Bar Association and of the Bar Association of Baltimore City.

It was thought in 1943, after extensive work by members of the bar and subsequently by the Legislators, that a fair and equitable pension system for Judges had been placed on the statute books of Maryland. The general plan, it has been agreed, is the product of lengthy consideration and extended