

more City last year seventy-eight murder and manslaughter cases were tried, and that the mental condition of the accused did not enter into more than six of them, yet under this proposed law it would have entered into every one of them, and in many instances might very well have tended to confuse the jury and becloud the real issues of the case. The bill might also prevent the prompt trial of murder cases, because it prescribes no period of time within which the Psychiatric Committee must report. Delays would be particularly apt to occur in the counties, in many of which the terms of court are comparatively short.

The principal objection to the bill, however, is that it makes the question of the prisoner's sanity part of every murder trial whether that is in fact involved or not, and this seems to me serious enough to require me to veto the bill.

HAWKERS AND PEDDLERS.

(Chapter 250, House Bill 134)

Under the present law, hawkers and peddlers are required to pay a license fee of \$300 for every motor vehicle or truck they use. House Bill 134 provides that every person selling food products made in this State shall be entitled to use as many motor vehicles or trucks as he pleases in Baltimore City or in any of the counties upon the payment of only one license fee of \$300 in each jurisdiction.

This bill would put it in the power of large corporations or partnerships selling food products of various kinds to invade the established field for retail merchants and compete with the neighborhood grocery stores, to the serious injury of the latter.

It is no hardship on corporations and partnerships of this kind to require them to take out a \$300 license for each one of their trucks engaged in hawking and peddling. The delivery of food products to regular customers is not hawking and peddling within the meaning of the law, even though occasional sales may be made to persons who are not customers, and consequently only the ordinary traders' license would be required in such cases.

If, however, these large corporations or partnerships choose to operate as hawkers and peddlers and adopt the new method of door-to-door solicitation and in this way establish new routes, then it is only fair that they should pay a license fee