

CONFLICTING BILLS.

Chapter 495, House Bill 636. This bill, relating to motor vehicles for hire, is in conflict with Chapter 282, Senate Bill 322, which has been approved.

Chapter 194, House Bill 448, embodying certain motor vehicle regulations, is in conflict with Chapter 281, Senate Bill 325, which has been approved.

I will, therefore, veto the bills first mentioned above.

CRIMINAL LAW—LARCENY

(Chapter 592, Senate Bill 165.)

This bill provides in substance that the theft of property under the value of \$25.00 shall be a misdemeanor and not a felony, and triable before a Police Magistrate instead of the court.

The Legislature of 1931 passed a similar bill, and upon the request of the State's Attorney of Baltimore and the Police Commissioner I vetoed it, because, among other reasons, if such cases are tried before the Police Magistrates there cannot be the same opportunity to investigate the record of the accused that there is if the trial is before the court, and thus persons who are really criminals and who ought to be detained might be released.

The bill, however, is much desired in the counties, chiefly in order to save them the expense of keeping accused persons in Jail during the comparatively long interval between terms of court, and when this measure was introduced in the Legislature it applied to the counties only, and exempted Baltimore City. It was, however, amended so as to include Baltimore, and therefore the situation which was presented in 1931 is now presented again.

Much as I would like to give the counties relief in the respect just referred to, the conditions to which the bill would give rise in Baltimore City make it unwise to do so, and, for this reason, the bill will be vetoed.

DUPLICATE BILLS.

Chapter 291, Senate Bill 82, relating to the limitation of actions, is a duplicate of Chapter 54, House Bill 196, which has been signed.