

VETOES

BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF 1931 AND VETOED BY GOVERNOR RITCHIE AND HIS REASONS IN EACH CASE FOR THE SAME.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BILLS VETOED IS 32.

(All of these bills were vetoed by the Governor after the adjournment of the Legislature, either having been presented to him after the adjournment of the Legislature or not in sufficient time to require executive action before adjournment.)

FROZEN MEATS.

(Chapter 424, Senate Bill No. 183)

This bill makes it unlawful to sell in Maryland "any frozen steaks, chops or roasts from beef, lamb, veal and pork, also sausage or sausage products, in package form to the consumer ready for cooking and consumption."

Frozen meats have been sold in Maryland and elsewhere for years, but a process of quick freezing is now being perfected which, if introduced in this State, would enable such meat to be sold in local markets in small-sized cuts and packages. The purpose of Senate Bill No. 183 is to protect Maryland meat packers, retail meat dealers and groceries from what they feel may be disastrous competition from non-resident packers shipping such frozen meats into this State for sale here.

As a matter of fact, the bill, if approved, would not, and from the nature of things could not, accomplish its purpose.

The process is concededly wholesome, sanitary and healthy, and the meat treated by it is fit and proper for human food. This being so, it is perfectly clear that the State has no power