

State Could Lose School Flood Aid

Harrisburg (AP) — State officials expressed confidence Wednesday that the federal government would reverse a ruling that could cause Pennsylvania to lose up to \$40 million in flood relief for schools.

If the ruling sticks, however, owners of property damaged by the June flood may not be able to get discounts on taxes paid to local school districts.

The possible loss of the funds was announced by Community Affairs Secretary William Wilcox, who asked U. S. Sen. Hugh Scott, R-Pa., to "discourage this piece of bureaucratic game-manship."

Wilcox said an official of the U. S. Department of Health,

Education and Welfare informed him Pennsylvania was ineligible for the funds because it passed its own state law providing relief to flood-damaged school districts and property owners.

But state officials said the federal government is misinterpreting the law, which they said was passed as a supplement to federal aid, not as a substitute.

The legal counsel of the Office of Education in Washington is now reviewing the case and expects a decision in a few days.

"We're going to win this one," said Albert Hydeman, a Community Affairs Department official. "The foundation for which they base their decision is made of sand."

The state law, which was passed last November, allows flood-hit property owners to petition for tax rebates from their local municipality, county and school district. The state would then reimburse the taxing body for any loss above whatever the federal government chipped in.

The \$40 million potential loss would only affect school districts. It would cover both loss of revenue from tax rebates and damage to school property.

Federal law forbids giving aid to school districts when the state is also providing aid for the same purpose.

The dispute centers around whether the state law or federal law comes first in giving relief to school districts.

The last line of the state law says: "no payment under the authority of this act shall be made to school districts unless the district has applied for assistance from the federal government . . . and that application has been denied."

State officials said they would probably go to court if the ruling is upheld, but they don't believe it will go that far.

"The feds have taken the same kind of position before, and when push came to shove, they backed down," said Hydeman.

1-25-73

T.L.E.N

State Will Act on \$212,000 Earmarked for City Police

An application for \$212,000 earmarked for restructuring and beefing up the Wilkes-Barre Police Department will be reviewed tomorrow in Harrisburg by members of the Governor's Justice Commission.

Harry Russ, regional director of the Commission with offices in Kingston, said the proposed program will result in the creation of seven new positions on the force and calls for "concentrated patrols in the Heights section of the city." The proposed program, titled "Restructure of the Wilkes-Barre Police Department," also calls for reorganization of the entire force.

Officials of the Governor's Justice Commission have worked with members of the City Demonstration Agency, formerly Model Cities, and Wilkes-Barre officials in drafting the program. Of the \$212,000 involved, \$68,000 would consist of federal funding provided through the Governor's Justice Commission, and the remaining \$144,000 would come from the City Demonstration Agency and municipal sources.

The program, it was pointed out, has nothing to do with filling three vacancies already existing on the local police force. Those vacancies were created with the resignation of Patrolman Walter Pomanek and the retirement of Detectives William Davis and John Anstett.

Programs totaling nearly \$750,000 will be reviewed by the Governor's Justice Commission tomorrow for use in the region covered by the local office, in addition to the Wilkes-Barre program, Russ said, including a proposed training program for the Lackawanna County District Attorney Office.

2/4/73
S.I.

\$40 Million Flood Relief Fund Released

Harrisburg (P) — The federal government has reversed an earlier ruling and released up to \$40 million in flood relief to Pennsylvania school districts, Gov. Shapp said Friday.

The U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare had frozen the money, contending duplicate state funds were available for the same relief purposes. Federal law prohibits spending flood relief money where state aid is also available.

Atty. Michael Hudacek, solicitor for Wyoming Valley West School District, said Friday night that no portion of the \$40 million will be earmarked for regional school districts since flood-damaged schools in Luzerne County will be rehabilitated by special allocations approved late last year.

"The money local school districts were promised from the federal government is secure, and even if the \$40 million remained frozen, it wouldn't have affected local schools," Atty. Hudacek said. "Funds to Luzerne County schools already had been allocated."

Atty. Hudacek said the funds originally had been frozen due to a change in the tax assessment law.

The Community Affairs Department appealed the ruling to HEW, asserting federal officials were simply misreading state law.

Shapp, in a letter to Community Affairs Secretary William Wilcox, said he had been informed by HEW officials that the state law will not affect the \$40 million in federal money.

The money represents tax revenues that school districts may lose under a property tax rebate program.

2/10/73

TLEN

FROM HARRISBURG

By GEORGE CLARK

HARRISBURG—Rather than warring over proposed increases in state taxes and spending programs, the Shapp administration and politically-split legislature will battle over the size of a promised tax cut this year.

The stage for the new fiscal brawl already has been set and will be pinned down Tuesday when Gov. Milton J. Shapp presents his budget for the fiscal year starting July 1 to a joint session of the House and Senate.

Compared to the present outlay of \$3.6 billion for day-to-day operations of state government, the governor is expected to call for spending in the range of \$3.85 billion to 3.9 billion.

In so doing, Shapp also will be able to show, by his figures, that the state will be able to provide a reduction in the rate of both the personal income tax and corporate taxes.

His tax-cut recommendations will be modest. Most speculation has it that he will suggest the personal income tax can be trimmed from 2.3% to 2.2%.

HOWEVER, within the past few days, new speculation suggests that Shapp has been able to carve up his tax and spend plans to a point where the personal income tax can be chopped to an even 2%.

No matter what he will propose, the Republican-controlled House will be aiming for much more substantial tax cuts.

Last Tuesday, on a straight party line vote of 102-78, the

House adopted a resolution putting the assemblymen on record in favor of clamping a \$3.72 billion spending ceiling on new spending.

House Democrats contended the resolution was meaningless and even its sponsor, Rep. H. Jack Seltzer, R-Lebanon County, admitted the measure was not legally binding.

HOWEVER, Seltzer, chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, termed the resolution a "moral commitment" to control state spending which has risen 400% in the past 10 years.

He noted that if Shapp can be held to the \$3.72 billion ceiling the projected tax cut next fiscal year can total \$324 million.

This compares with initial plans by the administration to trim personal and corporate taxes by a bit more than \$100 million.

Rep. Martin P. Mullen, D-Philadelphia, minority chairman of the appropriations committee, argued that the House GOP ceiling was "unrealistic" because of soaring costs, particularly in education.

He said most of these soaring costs, are mandated increases, about which the legislature has no control.

AS THE BUDGET battle

takes shape, Republicans will try to pin Shapp with a tax-happy label, contending the 2.3% personal income tax and certain business taxes have been excessive.

The GOP will remind taxpayers that it tried hard last year to enact the personal income tax at the rate of 1.9%, but were outvoted by Democrats, who were in majority control of both chambers.

Assuming the Seltzer plan eventually will find its way out of the House, it likely will linger in the Senate where Democrats hold a bare majority.

Thus, after a trillion words are uttered on the House and Senate floors, much of it nonsensical, Shapp's budget request likely will wind up in a joint conference committee.

That bipartisan panel will come up with a tax cut somewhere between Shapp's and Seltzer's recommendations.

2-4-73

S.I.

FROM HARRISBURG

By GEORGE CLARK

HARRISBURG—Gov. Milton J. Shapp has presented a \$3.82 billion budget for the fiscal year starting July 1 that is remarkable beyond belief . . . at least from a political viewpoint.

Democratic legislative leaders will be able to defend it without too much difficulty.

Republican legislative leaders will be up a tree trying to find a nut in the proposed tax-cut and spending-increase plan to crack.

If the governor has his way, Pennsylvania wage and salary earners will begin paying a 2.1% personal income tax on July 1, a reduction from 2.3%.

Shapp's plan also calls for a cut from 11% to 10% in the rate of the corporate net income tax, effective Jan. 1, 1974.

And he wants to set aside \$30 million—over and above the \$26 million paid out this year—of the proceeds from the state lotteries for local government property tax relief.

The relief, to cover the poor, elderly, widows and widowers who own their homes, persons who rent and disabled people, would be expanded by July 1 this year.

BUT REPUBLICAN leaders say Shapp's budget presentation last Tuesday was an implied admission that his tax plan, enacted last year, was excessive.

So, the GOP leaders maintain, there still remains sufficient fat in what mostly has been described as a tight-fisted general fund budget

proposal to cut even more spending.

Senate Minority Whip Stanley G. Stroup, R-Bedford, envisions the legislature being able to trim the personal income tax rate back to 1.8%.

House Appropriations Committee Chairman H. Jack Seltzer, R-Lebanon County, will strive to whack another \$100 million from the governor's spending requests.

In presenting his fiscal plan, Shapp said it represented only an increase of \$175 million over present-year outlays for all of the state's programs and services.

This proposed increase is the smallest in the past 12 years.

HE ADMITTED that his tax-cut suggestions also were modest, but modest they must be if the state isn't to face another crisis hinging on bankruptcy.

Shapp took a bold, and politically unpopular step, by recommending that the scholarship and student loan program and the appropriations to all of the colleges and universities remain the same.

The average taxpayer likely will applaud this action, but parents of college students and university officials will scream about the likely possibility of a sharp tuition increase.

But as Sen. William E. Duffield, D-Uniontown, once a leader of a concerned taxpayers league back in Fayette

County, put it last Tuesday:

"If everyone wants to go to college, let them pay for it, not the poor middle-income wage earner who has been paying the higher tab for the benefit of everyone but himself."

SHAPP ALSO warned that the state is unsure what effect the budget cutback of the Nixon Administration will have on financing various state programs, noting the state may not get as much from Washington as it has in the past.

In any event, Shapp has presented a budget, more acceptable to more people than any in recent years, and, in so doing, he has left room for the legislature to develop a quick compromise.

The lawmakers have to agree on whether it is better to agree on a modest tax cut and screams from those recipients whose special projects are being pinched.

Or, by jacking up the spending a bit more, take the screams from the taxpayers, whose only connection with state government is forking over the cash.

2-11-73

A. I.

7,500 Ineligible Persons Swept From Relief Rolls In State

(Richard Haratine's Harrisburg Dateline has been discontinued. Today William DiMascio, Associated Press political writer, commences a special column for the Sunday edition, the Times-Leader Evening News, Record, covering events on the Harrisburg Scene.)

HARRISBURG—For the first time in nearly a decade, the public assistance rolls are declining.

And in support of Gov. Shapp's claim that government efficiencies helped hold his proposed budget to a minimal increase, the decline is largely due to the Welfare Department innovations.

In dollar terms, the state is trimming \$40 million from its allocation for cash grants to welfare recipients. Last year, 42,000 persons were taken off the rolls, according to the governor's budget message. The department says there are now 833,000 receiving grants.

Early in 1971 predictions were that the caseload would hit one million. It had been rising since the early 1960s.

In September 1971, Welfare Secretary Helene Wohlgemuth issued a directive requiring verification of information given when applying for assistance. The result, she says, was a 37 per cent rejection rate for new applicants in Philadelphia alone.

In December, the department began its Operation Sweep by sending a team of specialists into four county welfare offices to check eligibility of persons whose records were on file. The operation was expanded and has

probed records in 20 counties and 13 districts of Philadelphia. Mrs. Wohlgemuth says it is responsible for removing some 7,500 persons from the rolls.

During a two-week "Sweep" in Dauphin County, she said, 800 recipients were found ineligible.

One of the things discovered by the operation was that the state had been sending payments to persons that county welfare had no case records on. In some cases, recipients were filing through two different county offices and the state had never checked case records against its master payment list.

Another step in eliminating payments was development of the bank delivery system of checks. This curtailed duplicate payments to recipients who used to be able to get a second emergency payment by merely claiming the original was lost in the mail.

Now the department plans to check its master payment list against data compiled for unemployment compensation purposes.

Mrs. Wohlgemuth says the department recently sampled 500 cases in Fayette County that showed the recipients had no income outside of assistance grants according to welfare files. One out of every four cases checked, however, showed an unemployment compensation payment or evidence the person returned to work, she said.

The cases eliminated last year fell in the Aid to Families with Dependent Children or General Assistance categories. Other categories provide medical assistance or aid to the elderly, blind or disabled.

2-11-73

T.L.E.N.

Solons Split on Law Measure

(From Harrisburg Bureau)

Harrisburg — This is the voting record of area lawmakers during the week of January 29-February 3 — including passage by the House of Representatives of the controversial resolution giving it broad powers to investigate law enforcement including the alleged illegal wire tapping by state police—with voting as follows by local legislators, Representatives George C. Hasay, R-Shickshinny; Raphael Musto, D-Pittston; Bernard F. O'Brien, D-Wilkes-Barre; Frank J. O'Connell, R-Kingston; Fred J. Shupnik, D-Luzerne; James J. Ustynoski, R-Hazleton, and Senators Martin L. Murray, D-Ashley and T. Newell Wood, R-Harveys Lake):

Senate

Senate Concurrent Resolution 203 — (Passed) — A request by the State Legislature to Congress that January 15 be designated as a national holiday in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King. This resolution now goes to the State House of Representatives for a vote by that chamber before it can be presented to Congress. (Murray — Yes; Wood — No)

House of Representatives

HB 97 — (Passed) — Regulates the sale and display of baby chickens and rabbits which are often mistreated during Easter and other holidays. Forbids dyeing them or selling or giving away rabbits less than two months old and chickens, ducklings or other fowl less than a month old. (Hasay — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski — Yes)

HB 192 — (Passed) — Appropriates \$2 million out of the motor license fund for payment of approved claims for refunding liquid fuels taxes and fuel use taxes from municipal authorities. This bill brings the state into compliance with a recent court ruling. (Hasay-Yes; Musto-Yes; O'Brien-Yes; O'Connell-Yes; Shupnik-Yes; Ustynoski-Yes)

HB 193 — (Passed) — A deficiency appropriation of \$24.1 million for current spending by the Department of Education with \$20 million earmarked for paying school districts for annual rental or sinking fund charges on school buildings. (Hasay-Yes; Musto-Yes; O'Brien-Yes; O'Connell-Yes; Shupnik-Yes; Ustynoski-Yes)

HB 194 — (Passed) — A deficiency appropriation of \$31.4 million to cover a variety of spending for the current fiscal year such as \$14 million for the state's contribution to teacher's

Social Security payments, \$10 million for excess formula costs for school instruction and rental payments and \$3.5 million for maintenance of state medical and surgical hospitals. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

House Resolution 14—(Passed) — Sets up a House of Representatives committee to investigate the closing of Blossburg State Hospital last September by the State Department of Public Welfare. (Hasay — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Did not vote; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski — Yes)

House Resolution 21—(Passed) — This is the controversial resolution to set up a House of Representatives committee with broad powers to investigate law enforcement in Pennsylvania including the alleged illegal wire-tapping by State Police. The panel will consist of three Republicans and two Democrats. (Hasay — Yes; Musto — No; O'Brien — Did not vote; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — No; Ustynoski Yes)

House Resolution 21— Amendment — (defeated) to set a Jan. 31, 1974 deadline for a report by the House of Representatives committee that is to investigate law enforcement in Pennsylvania. (Hasay — No; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell—No; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—No)

House Resolution 21 — Amendment (approved) to eliminate from the forthcoming investigation by the House of Representatives into law enforcement the authority to use services and

personnel of any state agencies in its probe. (Hasay — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski — Yes)

House Resolution 21—Amendment (defeated) to enlarge from five to 10 members the size of the House of Representatives committee that will investigate law enforcement in Pennsylvania. (Hasay—No; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell — No; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—No)

House Resolution 21—Amendment (defeated) to mandate publication of expenses and expenditures within 30 days after the House committee established by this resolution completes its investigation of law enforcement. (Hasay—No; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—No; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—No)

House Resolution 21—Amendment (defeated) giving the Speaker of the House of Representatives the power to hire employees for that chamber's probe into law enforcement in Pennsylvania. The original resolution gives that power to the five-member committee that will conduct the investigation. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—No; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—No)

House Resolution 21—Amendment (defeated) to require complete public identification of prospective employees to be hired by the House committee investigating law enforcement in Pennsylvania. (Hasay—No; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—No; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—No)

2-13-73

T.H.E.N.

Referendum Before Building New Schools Asked by Solon

1-24-73

Harrisburg (P) — Legislation to require public approval before construction of new school buildings was introduced in the House Tuesday as a means of curtailing excessive school building costs.

"Exotic construction doesn't make Johnnie learn how to read, but it can make his parents pay more taxes than necessary," said the bill's prime sponsor,

Rep. Samuel E. Hayes Jr., R-Blair.

"Excessive building costs have contributed to our people's economic stress and tax overburden. In addition, and very important, unnecessary building costs can divert dollars from the students' instructional program."

His bill, similar to one that passed the House last year but which never came to a vote in the Senate, would require a referendum or public hearing before construction on new buildings or substantial additions can begin.

A referendum would be necessary in all cases where the estimated construction costs exceed an amount based on the number of students who will use the fa-

cility.

The formula would allow \$2,800 in construction costs for each pupil to use an elementary school; \$4,000 for each pupil of rated capacity in grades seven through nine; and \$5,200 for each pupil of rated capacity in grades 10 through 12.

If the construction cost did not exceed the maximum under the formula, a public hearing on the plans would be sufficient.

The state Department of Education would be responsible for reviewing all construction plans, offering advice, and investigating complaints against any building plans.

The education secretary would have the power to deny approval to any school construction failing to meet prescribed standards.

Special Parley Slated On Job Cuts in State

Philadelphia (P) — Gov. Milton J. Shapp has called for a special meeting of the Pennsylvania Congressional delegation in Washington Tuesday to discuss the proposed cutbacks in federal jobs in the Commonwealth.

A spokesman for Philadelphia Mayor Frank Rizzo said the mayor has accepted the governor's invitation to attend the meeting.

Labor officials and civic groups began marshalling their forces to block the federal cutbacks announced last week.

In addition to the 2,500 jobs involved in the shift of the Electronics Command, now headquartered on Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia, to Ft. Monmouth, N. J., the Nixon Administration announced last Wednesday it planned to elimin-

ate about 500 jobs at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard.

The action at the shipyard involves 263 layoffs in "direct labor" jobs and 272 through attrition.

Pennsylvania is being asked to absorb 18.4 per cent of the total Army cutbacks throughout the nation, according to Norval D. Reece, special assistant to the governor.

Reece said Shapp feels the percentage is exorbitant and will stress that at the meeting on Tuesday.

The governor will point out, Reece said, that Pennsylvania is still suffering from the effects of tropical storm Agnes which swept the state last June.

"The governor will tell the delegation that the loss of so many jobs at a time when Pennsylvania needs all the help it can get seems punitive in nature," Reece said.

Thomas Daniels, president of the American Federation of Government Employees, Local 1498, which represents the Electronics Command employees, said his union would send a group to Washington next Thursday to meet with Secretary of the Army Robert F. Froehlke and Pennsylvania Sens. Hugh Scott and Richard Schweiker.

Many of the workers at the Electronics Command, Daniels said are from low-income families and cannot afford to move to the New Jersey site. He said the only housing available in that area runs from \$20,000 up.

Jan. 24, 1973

T. L. E. N.

Attorney General Not In Favor of Proposal

1-24-73

Harrisburg (P) — Attorney Gen-

eral Israel Packel has objected to a proposal by two western Pennsylvania legislators that would make his \$27,500 post an elective office.

Sen. John N. Scales, D-Westmoreland, and Sen. Robert D. Fleming, R-Allegheny, plan this week to introduce legislation for a constitutional amendment that would remove the position of the state's top law officer from the appointive powers of the gov-

ernor.

"My preliminary reaction," said Packel, "is that the attorney general should not be an elective officer. I think the office of attorney general should be one viewed with great respect and carried on with no obligation to anyone but the people. That's the basis on which I took the position."

"If there were a way for a high independent court to make the appointment, I would see merit in such a system," he said.

Jan. 15, 1973

T L E N

State Legislature Faces Internal Battles on House, Senate Rules

Harrisburg (AP) — The legislature reconvenes Monday facing internal battles on House and Senate rules for the 1973-74 session.

House Republican majority leaders hope for a vote by Tuesday on major changes in operating procedures. Senate majority Democratic leaders are less enthusiastic about any changes but planned to follow the same schedule.

In both chambers, Democratic leaders took a lukewarm stance toward controversial GOP suggestions, particularly moves to open the committee system to public scrutiny.

A group of 10 House Republicans, handpicked by Speaker Kenneth B. Lee, R-Sullivan, has urged the public be admitted to all meetings where formal action is taken.

GOP leaders in the Senate have asked that committee voting records be open to the public. But they stop short of the recommendations of freshman Sen. Edward Howard, R-Bucks, who plans to ask that all committee meetings be open, save those relating to the security of the Commonwealth or the personal lives of individuals.

In previous sessions, committee meetings have been closed to the public, by regulation in the House and by tradition in the Senate.

None of the new rules proposals would change a committee's power to kill a bill by refusing

to report it to the floor. But depending on the outcome of the rules fights, the public may be able to find out which legislators wield the knife.

House Minority Leader Herbert Fineman, D-Philadelphia, and Senate Majority Leader Thomas Lamb, D-Allegheny, said they need more information before taking a stand on the GOP's proposals.

"I don't know what their proposal on committee meetings really means," said Fineman.

"Does the reference to 'formal action' mean the public will be admitted only at the time a vote is taken, or does it mean they'll be admitted from the moment the meeting opens? The same kind of situation prevails as to the other rules. They're vaguely worded, fuzzy and hazy . . .

"My public position has been that I will support open meetings in terms of the votes of members being disclosed. We don't want a representative taking one position in committee and another on the floor. That's dishonest.

"But I don't think it's prudent . . . to say all meetings will be open, allowing the public to listen to all the deliberations from A to Z. I think that would shackle the free exchanges of ideas."

Lamb who last month proposed new Senate rules that would enable open meetings at the discretion of the committee chairman, said he would take no personal position on the broader Republican suggestions.

"I don't intend to fight against

open committee meetings," Lamb said. "I am willing to be guided by the consensus of the Senate."

Aside from the rules controversies, little action was expected this week.

The House Agriculture Committee, which met last week while the state farm show was in progress, hopes to move a proposed constitutional amendment into position for final action by the legislature next week.

The amendment, identical to a measure approved in the last session, would allow special tax provisions for agricultural land, designed to end the high property tax assessments that have forced some farmers to sell out to developers.

The amendment would have to be approved by public referendum—possibly as early as next May—before going into effect.

Members of both the House and Senate were expected to introduce legislation to amend or reject the latest salary recommendations of the Commonwealth Compensation Commission.

The commission's report goes into effect Jan. 29 unless changed earlier by the legislature. The report calls for \$2,500 hikes in legislative expense accounts and raises ranging up to \$15,000 annually for state judges and cabinet members.

Jan. 15, 1973

T.L.E.N.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 1973

State Pockets \$44 Million in Profit In Lottery's First Year of Operation

By **BYRON BEARD**
(Associated Press Writer)

Harrisburg (AP)—It was a very good year for the new Pennsylvania lottery. The state pocketed \$44 million in profit, made millionaires of a few lucky people and gave the numbers racket a few anxious moments if nothing else.

Now there is talk among state officials of tacking on a daily lottery to the weekly system and legalizing sports pools.

"Our lottery is more successful than any other state," Revenue Secretary Robert Kane said in going over the 34-week financial statement of the lottery. The statement showed a gross of more than \$100 million, of which about \$36 million went for prizes, \$44 million for the state's general fund and \$20 million for lottery administration.

Since the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1, a profit of \$25 million has gone for property tax relief for senior citizens, the intent of lottery profits.

Kane, a man not given to superlatives, estimates the lottery will net \$60 million a year.

Six other states have lotteries—Michigan, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey. Maryland voters approved a lottery last November but it hasn't started yet. Ohioans will decide on whether to create one in the spring.

Why the success of a game of chance in a state where conservation finally allowed pari-mutuel flattrack horse racing only four years ago?

"Given demonstrations of proper conduct, programs like the lottery will be accepted," Kane said. "I do not know of a case where a person deprived his family because of playing the lottery."

Many people approve because of the cause—aid to senior citizens, he said, adding: "Only 12 other states have senior citizens programs. California is next to Pennsylvania and pays out \$9 million a year."

Most lotteries earmark lottery profits for education.

"If this was the case in Pennsylvania which has an education budget of nearly \$2 billion it would be like throwing a pebble in a pond," Kane said.

Pennsylvania has operated a 50-cent weekly lottery since March. A second, \$1-a-ticket weekly lottery started up Nov. 14 for a six-week trial run and already has been extended to Feb. 15. "If I had to make judgment on data I have now that lottery will continue indefinitely," he said.

Although 50-cent ticket sales have dropped off by about 300,000 a week, the \$1 tickets account for between 1 million and 1.5

million ticket sales a week to push the weekly gross to about \$3.5 million—about \$1 million more than when the 50-cent lottery had the field to itself.

As far as creating a daily lottery, Kane said he doesn't see one in Pennsylvania's future until 1974 at the earliest. He added:

"I am very reticent about going into a daily lottery now, given information available now. New Jersey which started a daily lottery a few weeks ago is disappointed with hers. The daily lottery presents a number of logistical problems . . . production of and distribution of tickets, increased payoff schedules . . . that are not all soluble at this point."

Kane said a state lottery official attended a lottery seminar in California recently where the "name of the game was legalizing game betting."

He said Pennsylvania was "three to five years away" from

legalizing that type of betting—like football and basketball cards—on which people across the nation wager as much as \$100 billion a year.

"Pennsylvania with its success in the lottery will tend to be one of the leaders in the nation looking at other legalized betting," Kane said.

Then there's the numbers game, which law enforcement officers estimate grosses \$10 billion a year nationwide and at least \$350 million alone in Pennsylvania. The lottery was created with the aim of curbing the numbers game, but officials don't feel it has come anywhere near realizing that goal—aside from causing perhaps brief periods of concern among numbers bookmakers.

Lottery experts believe that daily lotteries could be competitive if they could provide quick payoffs and a more flexible system of betting that the numbers game offers.

Calls Them 'Undertakers'

Min Matheson's Latest Targets: State Senators Wood and Murray

By ED KLIMUSKA

The Flood Victims Action Council continued its campaign "to educate the public" by passing resolutions on what it believes are four key issues in the recovery effort.

The action came at the FVAC's weekly meeting at the Gus Genetti Hotel where its chairman Mrs. Min Matheson criticized the SBA policy and local officials who are appearing on television to remind flood victims that tomorrow is the deadline for SBA loan applications.

Mrs. Matheson charged SBA head R. Keith Caudle with overplaying and overemphasizing the agency's role in the recovery effort. She said the charts and graphs used by SBA officials to show the extent of its aid are deceptive because "they don't show how many tears had been shed to make those charts or how many of the 'numbers' are not satisfied with what they got."

The FVAC chairman promised citizens help in getting extra money from SBA for rehabilitation or in reducing the number of years given in the repayment process. While the

law permits a 30-year repayment schedule, many people have complained about shorter schedules which they cannot meet, she said.

Tomorrow's deadline for SBA applications drew sharp criticism from Mrs. Matheson, who called it illegal. "SBA is wrong in setting up that deadline and wrong in harassing use to meet it," she said. "Eighty per cent of the time we are fighting against deadlines."

Her attack zeroed in on two state senators, Martin L. Murray and T. Newell Wood, for appearing on television and reminding people of the Jan. 15 deadline. "They sit there like undertakers telling us about deadlines," she said.

"I am outraged that those state senators and other Wyoming Valley officials didn't raise their voices when George Romney told us that no money was available for Wyoming Valley and that we must pull ourselves up by the boot straps. They should have been on their feet then, but nobody said a word."

She added: "I just want one person who didn't get their loan to come forth and we will get it for them—even if we have to go to Washington."

The first resolution passed by the FVAC was on the Interim Assistance program. It wants a system of controls which would provide homeowners with a copy of specifications, a detailed list of repairs to be done including costs of material and labor. The controls would be enforced by inspectors from the Redevelopment Authority and no contractor paid until an inspection is approved.

Many citizens complained about substandard repair work under the mini-repair program. Mrs. Matheson, who has frequently complained about faulty or non-existing repairs under the mini-program, called on the state to investigate fraud allegations. "I want the state to pursue the mini-repair contractor on these fraud charges and prosecute them for violations," she said.

The second resolution adopted requests the Redevelopment Authority, local, state and federal officials to seek a "fair share" of the redevelopment funds allocated by the federal government so that program of acquisition and rehabilitation of homes can begin.

Official figures show that while Wyoming Valley suffered 69% of the damage from Hurricane Agnes, the area will receive less than 50% of the funds allocated or \$180 million of the \$400 million appropriation.

The FVAC wants municipal, city, county and state officials to begin legal action to determine what standard was used by HUD in proportioning the funds. Atty. Paul Kanjorsky said: "This is taxpayers money and we deserve to know what standard was used to allocate it."

The third resolution calls on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to design and institute a flood protection system to protect the entire Valley and the engineers to begin the dike strengthening project at once.

The final resolution strongly supports the National Catastrophic Insurance Bill and asks Sens. Scott and Schweiker to introduce the same bill in the Senate.

Mrs. Matheson promised a strong citizens' lobby to pass

the bill before June 23, 1973. Part of the effort will include a state-sponsored seminar in the Spring in which flood victims and officials from other parts of the country would participate.

Thomas Garrity, Luzerne County assessor and guest speaker, told the group that the economical effects of the flood will be with Wyoming Valley for the next four to six years.

In assessing flood-damaged property, Garrity said the goal of his office was to insure that property owners pay taxes on the depreciated shell value of their homes. For example, a pre-flood home which was valued at \$10,000 may be worth \$2,000 now. The difference will be returned in tax decreases.

The policy the assessor's office wants to establish is to give cash refunds instead of tax rebatements. When the law permits, checks will be sent automatically to the property owners.

Jan. 14, 1973

TLEN

S.E.

The Pennsylvania Story

Shapp Pressured To Change Stand On Issue of Capital Punishment

By MASON DENISON
Editor, Pennsylvania News Service

HARRISBURG—The "expected" problems a governor must contend with are no easy chore, but the "unexpected" hits harder because of the surprise value.

One current example may be the sudden thrust of the death penalty issue back into the Pennsylvania spotlight after a years hibernation, what with some lawmakers proposing death penalty legislation enactment this year.

When Milton J. Shapp was running for Governor of Pennsylvania during 1970 his position on capital punishment was very clear: He opposed it.

Following his election and just as he was taking office, the out-going Attorney General Fred Speaker made national waves by declaring that capital punishment

was unconstitutional. In something of an (electrifying?) move, he ordered the electric chair at Rockview Penitentiary dismantled.

It was and now rests in storage.

This unexpected hot potato thus was thrust upon the governor and his new Attorney General J. Shane Creamer (recently removed) just as they took office.

Creamer said his predecessor could not rule on the constitutionality of death by execution. But, he added, since the governor clearly stated there would be no executions while he was in office the decision was made to leave the chair in storage.

Closed Issue

So the issue was closed and it appeared the lid would be shut for the next four years in light of the governor's firm opposition to capital punishment.

But several recent events have opened the lid and the issue may be back on center stage.

But Governor Shapp's position, although unchanged, has an added dimension.

Little more than a year ago, a Pennsylvania State Policeman was slain and two New Jersey State Troopers were murdered (in Pennsylvania) in two separate instances.

That revived in the minds of many the one school of thought that the death penalty should only apply to convicted murderers of police officers and prison guards. New York State, for example, has such a law.

(Pennsylvania law makes no distinction. The last execution was in 1962.)

Then there were the ongoing gang killings in Philadelphia.

Bill Introduced

Interestingly enough, last year a bill was introduced in the State Legislature by Representative Harry Comer, Philadelphia Democrat, that would have replaced electrocution with the gas chamber.

"This bill is a way of showing the governor that we want to retain capital punishment in Pennsylvania," quoth (fellow Democratic) Representative Comer at the time.

And last, but not least, Philadelphia's Mayor Frank Rizzo (who was its police commissioner the previous four years) blamed what he called leniency in the courts for the rising crime rate and added: "We've got to take the electric chair out of storage."

Shortly thereafter, the wives of 40 Philadelphia po-

by taking the market sharply higher.

But as the week moved on, and the talks apparently were stalled, traders ducked out. If anything analysts concluded, the peace talks would not have a positive effect on the market until a final agreement was signed.

Business leaders apparently were pleased Thursday with the suspension of the mandatory price and wage controls. But, as Herbert Kuhl of Moody's Investor's Service, noted "no one really understands it yet. Some think it will bring a new surge of inflation." The uncertainty of it all, drove prices lower.

List Moved Lower

Virtually all segments of the list moved lower. Steels showed some strength and oils were mixed. The troubled airlines were lower.

American Telephone & Telegraph was most actively traded, rising $\frac{3}{8}$ to 53 $\frac{3}{8}$ on 1,990,000 shares. It set a 1972-73 high of 55. Gulf Oil was second, up $\frac{5}{8}$ to 26 $\frac{3}{4}$ on 1,226,600 shares. Gulf announced plans to buy about 3 million shares of its own common.

Jan. 14, 1973

F.I.E.N.

S.I.

Fight Seen in Senate Democrat Caucus Over Majority Whip Post

Harrisburg (AP)—A minor skirmish is brewing in the Senate Democrat caucus over who will take over the majority whip position for the new session.

The two senators being mentioned as possible contenders are Henry Messinger of Allentown, a freshman, and Jeanette Reibman of Easton, in her second term.

Sen. Henry J. Cianfrani was elected to the leadership post when the party reorganized, but after the death of another Philadelphia Democrat—Sen. Benjamin R. Donolow—he was appointed to head the Appropriations Committee.

Indications were that Cianfrani, being given the most important committee chairmanship in the chamber, would step down from the whip post.

In the leadership chain, the whip is second to the floor leader with the principal job of lining up votes on party bills. The post carries an additional \$4,000 salary and a \$3,000 contingency fund.

Mrs. Reibman, currently chairman of the Education Committee, was being supported for the post by Sen. W. Louis Coppersmith of Johnstown and Louis G. Hill of Philadelphia.

"She's certainly qualified on the basis of seniority and experience, particularly in the field of education," Coppersmith said.

Before coming to the senate, where she is the only woman, Mrs. Reibman served 12 years in the House. She was vacationing Monday and not available for comment.

Although seniority is impor-

tant in getting leadership positions, other factors — such as past adherence to the party's position on controversial issues — are more important.

Mrs. Reibman was backed in an early move for caucus chairman but substantial support never developed and she was not nominated.

Messinger considers it unusual that he was elected caucus secretary because of his short tenure and views that as an indication that he is a viable candidate for whip.

President Pro Tem Martin L. Murray and floor leader Thomas Lamb have not decided how they will select a whip. One method is to advance everyone in the leadership chain.

However, Caucus Chairman Stanley M. Hoszka, next in line below the whip, has said he isn't interested in moving up and told Messinger he would support him.

Messinger said he was asked by Murray and Lamb if he would consider taking the post, although neither promised support.

Coppersmith said he suggested Mrs. Reibman for the post to Murray and Lamb but both were non-committal.

The question is expected to be decided when the legislature returns next week.

1-9-73

T.L.E.N.

State Says \$10 Million

JANUARY 8, 1973

Wasted in Flood

Mobile Homes Sites Termed Off Estimates

Harrisburg (AP) — State housing officials are charging that the federal government wasted \$10 million developing mobile home sites for Wilkes-Barre area victims of tropical storm Agnes.

The officials said 5,456 trailer pads were constructed and as of mid-December, all 2,257 qualified families were housed. That left an excess of 3,199 sites costing \$3,300 each to develop.

The charges were made in an article by two Community Affairs staffers, Eugene R. Eisman and W. Roy Newsome Jr., involved in flood recovery efforts.

The article was to be published by The Journal of Housing, magazine put out by the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, based in Washington, D. C.

During the Agnes recovery efforts, state and federal officials constantly feuded over the relief program. The bickering reached a climax in August when Gov. Milton Shapp and George Romney, then U. S. secretary of housing and urban development, publicly argued with each other before a group of Wilkes-Barre flood victims.

"One major difficulty was that no one knew how many mobile homes and mobile home pads were needed to house flood victims, Eisman and Newsome said.

"At one time the state was pressured by OEP (federal Office of Emergency Preparedness) to supply sites for 8,000 trailers in the Wyoming Valley. This number was arbitrarily arrived at because HUD was unable to give OEP accurate estimates as to what the need would be. In addition to these 8,000 pads . . . HUD itself placed hundreds of mobile homes on individual sites and on pads leased by the state in existing mobile home parks."

Using the 8,000-pad estimate, the federal government overestimated the number of sites by 5,743, the officials wrote. However, only 5,456 pads were built before the miscalculation became apparent.

HUD officials in Wilkes-Barre, however, claim that the surplus of trailer sites was not a "miscalculation" as charged in the state report. "At the time of the disaster," a HUD official said Sunday, "no one could determine how much housing we needed."

It has been estimated that as many as 80 thousand persons in the Wilkes-Barre area were forced from their homes last June when the rain-swollen Susquehanna river swept over its banks. HUD officials say that a total of 14,000 families have been housed under federal programs. But many of the families shunned the trailers and chose new housing options developed by officials following the flood, the spokesman said.

Some families moved into their damaged homes with the help of a mini-repair program, in which the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers did temporary repair work worth up to \$3,000. Other families chose to have smaller, camper trailers installed near their damaged homes, and still others rented apartments or homes under an expanded federal program.

"If we had not gone into the new programs," the spokesman said "we would have needed everything."

The article said it was six weeks after the flood before mobile homes began arriving in any significant numbers in the Wilkes-Barre area.

The two officials quoted their boss, Community Affairs Secretary William Wilcox, as saying after the flood, "I think we came very close . . . to having some riots in Wilkes-Barre last summer. At the Mackin School (where HUD received applications for emergency housing and where thousands of angry and frustrated flood victims gathered daily to demand mobile homes), we had something very close to a civil disturbance."

Wilcox also said, "Pennsylvania was the Waterloo of the mobile home as far as using it for temporary housing in a major disaster. There were delays in manufacturing. They were too numerous to store. They were too slow to ship, clogging the highways and needing huge staging areas. Mobile homes were never designed for the purpose to which they put in Pennsylvania . . ."

Wilcox suggested that in future disasters, governments make use of emergency shelter units, which can be flown to any spot in the country and put together in hours. As part of his plan, Wilcox called for training of special disaster teams that would fly to the scene on a few hours notice.

State Economy Seen Growing Slowly After 'Agnes' Wallop

Philadelphia (AP) — Pennsylvania economists predict. vania's economy, staggered by Professors F. Gerard Adams Tropical Storm Agnes in 1972, and Lawrence R. Klein of the will grow somewhat more slowly university's Wharton School said than the rest of the country Saturday the growth rate in the during 1973, University of Penn-state would be about 5 per cent

this year, compared to 6 per cent for the nation. Both figures allow for an inflation factor of 3 per cent or more.

The manufacturing sector, mainly because of a strong outlook for steel, should register production gains of 6.2 per cent, Adams and Klein said.

But otherwise, growth rates will lag. Mining, for example will increase by only 1.4 per cent in 1973 and contract construction by 2.9 per cent, even taking into account the large amount of capital rebuilding necessitated by Agnes.

One bright spot, however, will be the lessening jobless rate. In October, Pennsylvania's was 5 per cent, well below the national figure. Adams and Klein said unemployment will decline to as low as 4.5 per cent during the year.

Appointed by Lee

House Rules Committee Seat Goes to O'Connell

House Speaker Kenneth B. Lee announced yesterday the appointment of Rep. Frank J. O'Connell (R-Luzerne) to the House Rules Committee, which will have the responsibility of drafting new rules by which the House will be run.

"The only way we're going to do an effective job of caring for Pennsylvania's affairs, is to first bring our own House into order, and I believe that with the experience and knowledge Frank has acquired as a House Member since 1967, he will definitely be an asset to the committee," Lee said.

O'Connell pointed out that "if the Legislature is to ever again present itself as a co-equal to the Governor and the courts, it must regain the respectability and the public acceptance it enjoyed in past years.

"During the recent campaign, we contended that the public did have the right to know what was going on behind the closed doors of the committee meetings, and to expect that legislators would be required to be in their appointed position when they were recorded as voting on a specific bill or resolution," he added.

O'Connell continued: "When adopted, these new rules will

open the committee meetings, prohibit ghost voting and eliminate the secret payrolls that give the taxpayers no knowledge of what they are getting for their expenditures."

Another rule change would place a time limit on the amount of time the roll call is left open on votes.

"We also plan to bar registered lobbyists from the Hall of the House. They will be able to watch the sessions from the gallery like any other State resident," O'Connell said.

Other major rule changes which will be proposed include:

—No person shall hold the office of Speaker of the House for more than two terms.

—Members will be required to submit itemized statements of expenses for any reimbursements from "unaudited" accounts.

O'Connell said he was pleased to have been appointed to the Rules Committee and feels confident the House will act favorably on the changes to be presented.

Jan 8, 1973
TLEN

Jan. 7, 1973

S. I.

Senate Bill Aimed at Halting

SUNDAY INDEPENDENT, WILKES-BARRE, PA., JANUARY 14, 1973

Interim Appointments by Governor

HARRISBURG — The age-old practice of a governor making a judicial or other top state job appointments without Senate confirmation would be banned under a plan to be advanced this week.

Senate Minority Whip Stanley G. Stroup, R-Bedford, said he intends to introduce a constitutional amendment to strip the governor of his power to fill vacancies while the Senate is in recess.

Stroup said he also will propose at a later date a bill reducing substantially — from about 2,600 to less than 500 — the number of state and local

government offices requiring confirmation.

He said many of these "lesser" offices could be filled without Senate approval. Usually, he implied, the Senate gives routine confirmation to most of the appointments to the smaller offices.

While admitting that both Republican and Democratic governors have legally bypassed Senate confirmation on controversial appointments to top posts, Stroup explained:

"The primary intent is to close a loophole in our law through which armies of political appointees have marched.

"The practice of using the interim appointment

power to evade the right of the Senate to advise and consent to nominations seriously impairs our system of checks and balances.

"These men are appointed to serve the people, not the governor, and should be confirmed by the representatives of the people, rather than being the creation of one man in the governor's chair."

Stroup said Gov. Milton J. Shapp's appointment of four new judges of Allegheny County Common Pleas Court was a "fine example of the abuse" of the present constitutional provision.

The state's basic law requires a two-thirds vote by the Senate to confirm the

governor's appointees to cabinet-level jobs, judgeships and other high state offices.

It also permits the governor to fill these offices when the Senate is in recess by making what is known as an "interim" appointment, which doesn't require confirmation.

These appointees, such as the new judges in Pittsburgh, will serve until the end of the current session of the Senate.

Even then, after the Senate adjourns or recesses, the same "interim" appointees can be reappointed to another interim term without Senate approval.

"We have seen the spectacle of the appointive power being used and abused by several governors and even against the direct and expressed will of the entire Senate," said Stroup.

"One major appointee of the present governor was unanimously rejected by the Senate, without a single favorable vote, but he serves in his post today under an interim appointment."

This was a reference to Richard W. Lindsey, chairman of the state Probation and Parole Board, whose initial appointment by former Gov.

Raymond P. Shafer was rejected 38-0 by the Senate.

After Shapp took office, and while the Senate was in recess, Lindsey was reappointed to a second interim term, bypassing successfully the confirmation route.

Stroup said the constitutional provision for interims was intended originally as a "safeguard," but has "become a ludicrous legal loophole."

"When the provision was made, a century ago, the legislature met every two years and often was out of session for 21 months at a time," said Stroup.

"Today, the assembly meets for about 11 months every year and the Senate can be called into special session in a matter of hours. There is just no urgency for such a power today and it is being misused."

Stroup contended that "last-minute appointments, often of the midnight variety, have been made of people the Senate would seriously question."

"The present governor, for example, has filled more than 800 offices by interim appointments to evade the Senate's scrutiny and these include

judges of appellate courts, county judges, cabinet officers and many other important officials whose conduct affects the daily lives of our people."

Stroup said he will seek bipartisan leadership support on his constitutional amendment, which would have to be approved by two separately-elected legislatures and a vote of the people.

Senate Democratic staff aides are preparing a similar amendment for study.

It would require only a simple majority vote, not a two-thirds approval, to confirm gubernatorial appointments.

Democrats also are considering a proposed rigid schedule requiring the governor to fill a vacancy within 45 days, and action by the Senate on those appointments within the next 45 days.

If the Senate failed to confirm or reject within its deadline, the appointees would take office as if they were confirmed.

Democrats may suggest that a special Senate committee be created to study the whole confirmation process.

State Funds Sought for Study on Streamlining Local Government

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been asked to give urgent consideration to the funding of a study that would provide a blueprint for the streamlining of local government in Luzerne County.

The request was made early in the week in a letter to State Secretary of Community Affairs William H. Wilcox and signed by the heads of seven influential and concerned citizens' groups—including the presidents of the Chambers of Commerce in the county's four cities.

The action was made known yesterday in an announcement by Andrew Shaw Jr., executive director of Flood Recovery Task Force, after consultation with Secretary Wilcox and Federal Judge Max Rosen, who signed the request as chairman of FRTF

at the time the wetter was sent. Judge Rosenn resigned due to heavy judicial commitments on Friday and was succeeded by Andrew J. Sordoni III as Task Force chairman.

Others who endorsed the request for state funds that would be used to take a new post-flood look at the way local governments are functioning are: John Hibbard, president, Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania; Min Matheson, chairman, Flood Victims Action Council; Roy E. Morgan, president, Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce; William C. M. Butler Jr., president, Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce; Frank Knorek, president, Greater Nanticoke Chamber of Commerce; and Floyd Evans, president, Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce.

The letter to the State Community Affairs Secretary introduced the request for funds by pointing out that all the organizations had discussed the matter and had arrived at general agreement that some action was needed.

"One of the compelling conclusions that was driven home to each of the undersigned organizations by Hurricane Agnes," the letter to Wilcox said, "is the necessity to improve and modernize governmental operations in Luzerne County, a need which you have previously noted.

"We should make government in Luzerne County more in tune with the needs of the people and the problems of the forthcoming 21st Century. A superficial examination of the government structure reveals that it is designed and geared to the 18th century.

"We do not suggest what changes or improvements ought

to be made. We believe that is a decision which must be made by the concerned people of Luzerne County. The people should know however, what are the options open to them to secure better and more modern services from their government. They want to be informed what kind of government can serve them effectively and efficiently, one which will deliver to them the most services at a fair cost.

"The Great Flood of 1972 has shown only too well that the people of Luzerne County need the kind of government that can serve them truly in time of disaster as well as hopefully on election day.

"As you know, there is more than one way by which the people can improve their governmental operations in the county. The question is which is the best?

"One of the steps could be through an improved county governmental organization constituted through a County Home Rule Charter. We understand, in fact, that four counties in Pennsylvania have already activated Charter Study Commissions. Before a Charter Commission is activated, either by action of the County Commissioners or by initiative of the voters, the potential for delivering more services to the people more effectively and more efficiently needs to be documented.

"The purpose of this letter, therefore, is to suggest that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania consider funding a preliminary study of local government in Luzerne County. We ask that you consider favorably this suggestion for a grant to an appropriate agency for the proposed study at the earliest opportunity."

Jan. 7, 1973

TLEN

SE

Federal Programs Here Facing Fund Freeze

Massive Cutbacks Expected

By LOU RAUSCHER

Highly placed sources in Washington last night confirmed reports made available to the Sunday Independent that a massive cutback in federal aid programs, involving a number of operations in the Wilkes-Barre area, will soon be announced.

Funds for most federally sponsored projects have already been frozen, according to the sources, leading to a curtailment of further employment opportunities in such undertakings as the Concentrated Employment Program, National Youth Corps, Emergency Employment Program and Model Cities planning.

Mounting opposition from taxpayers and budgetary slashes are said to be responsible for the drastic reduction in 'Great Society' programs which many say have been mushrooming out of proportion since former President Lyndon Johnson pushed the proposals during his tenure in the White House.

"It looks like the end of most federal programs," said one disgruntled local official who heads a federally sponsored project.

A spokesman for the Concentrated Employment Program office, headed by former Wilkes-Barre mayor Frank Slattery, said orders have been received which state that further enrollment of CEP trainees is hereby terminated.

Jobs Frozen

Similar reports came from the county-based Emergency

Employment Program. A spokesman in that office, headed by Wilkes-Barre School Director John Farrell, said all jobs have been frozen.

He said no new employees will be hired, nor will vacancies be filled under terms of the new federal orders.

In addition, the spokesman said his office has received word that the federal government has indicated it will not provide additional monies under the emergency flood provisions of EEA.

However, an extension has been granted on all unspent monies already earmarked under the flood emergency program.

Typical of the federal retrenchment is the notice received by Thomas F. O'Donnell Jr., coordinator of federal and state funds for Luzerne County, from Floyd H. Hyde, assistant secretary in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Request Denied

In the notice, Hyde informs O'Donnell that the county's request for a Model Cities planning grant has been turned down. The federal official indicated further that HUD is "no longer making Model Cities planning grants nor do we intend to in the future."

Perhaps even more ominous, as far as local planners go, is the admonition that "the Model Cities program has only a relatively short time to run under its present form."

A spokesman for the Wilkes-Barre Model Cities office last night said it was not clear precisely what the retrench-

ment will eventually mean as far as the myriad of plans and proposals by that agency are concerned.

O'Donnell Concerned

O'Donnell yesterday said he shares the concern of those who feel the cutback will seriously hamper Wyoming Valley's post-flood efforts.

Rep. Daniel J. Flood's office also expressed disappointment over the turn of events, especially in view of the many proposed projects for the flood area which desperately require federal funding if they are to get off the ground.

The letter from Assistant HUD Secretary Hyde to County Coordinator O'Donnell follows:

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

This is in response to your proposal for a model cities planning grant. Secretary Romney and Assistant Secretary Jackson have asked me to also respond to your letters to them.

The proposal contains a great many useful ideas for coordinating activities to achieve a solution to the many problems afflicting Luzerne County in the aftermath of Hurricane Agnes. However, we are no longer making model cities planning grants nor do we intend to in the future. The model cities program has only a relatively short time to run under its present form and no more cities will be added to the program. I regret any misunderstanding which may have arisen about this.

The discussions with local officials which Secretary Rom-

ney and I had while we were in the disaster area were oriented to what could be done with existing model cities programs in approved model cities to provide disaster assistance. As I recall, some of our discussion touched upon the usefulness of the model cities process as a way of approaching more comprehensive solutions to problems caused by Hurricane Agnes.

In Luzerne County the only approved model cities program is the Wilkes-Barre program. The Philadelphia Area Office is working with Wilkes-Barre officials to determine a course of action based on the existing model cities program there. We also are doing our utmost to provide assistance from all our other program resources.

The Economic Development Commission for Northeastern Pennsylvania has received recently some federal and state planning funds. A number of the planning activities the EDC will undertake appear to coincide with the planning effort described in your proposal. You may wish to get in touch with Mr. Howard Grossman of the EDC to explore further your mutual concerns.

The impact of Hurricane Agnes in your area calls for an unprecedented response by the Federal Government. The President has indicated that such a response is justified and will be implemented. I am confident that we will be able to ensure the cooperation of Federal, State, local and private endeavors in the rebuilding of your county.

FLOYD H. HYDE
Assistant Secretary

Jan. 7, 1973

TLEN

S.E.

Owners of Flood-damaged Properties To Get Tax Relief Under State Bill

Owners of property damaged by last year's devastating floods should find tax relief on the way this year, state officials say.

Under legislation signed into law by Gov. Shapp, property owners will be able to get their property taxes for 1972-73-74 either waived, in full or part, or rebated, if they've already been paid.

Property owners have until April 1 to petition their local taxing body for the rebate. The local community would then be reimbursed by either the state or federal government, depending on complex formulas.

State officials say they don't anticipate any local government refusing to grant the rebates and the state "without a doubt" will pick up the tab.

Estimate of Costs

Rough projections place the cost of the program to the state at anywhere between \$14 and \$36 million over the three-year period of 1972-73-74, according to Albert Hydeman, a top official in the Community Affairs Department at Harrisburg.

The federal program, unless U. S. Rep. Daniel Flood, D-Pa., succeeds in revising it, will pick up "a very low percentage" of the total cost of the program, Hydeman said.

Local governments will be asked to pick up some of the cost of the program in the second and third years, Hydeman said. "The state will pay 100 percent of the cost in the first year, minus whatever the federal government pays. The second year the state's share will probably decrease to about 80 percent with the local government picking up the rest. Figures for the third year are undecided, Hydeman said.

Example Is Cited

As an example of how the program will work, Hydeman gave the case of a home assessed at \$20,000 before the flood. The owner paid, for example, \$200 in property taxes in 1972. The home, damaged by the flood, will be assessed again and may now be worth \$10,000. The home owner will then be rebated \$100 in property taxes by the local community.

Only flood-damaged property is eligible for the rebate under the legislation.

Hydeman said public outcry would compel any reluctant local community to participate in the abatement program. He added that the cost to them in the second and third years should be minimal.

Hearing Here Jan. 18

The state's share of the program will be financed out of the \$150 million approved by the legislature last summer.

Public hearings on proposed regulations administering the law are scheduled for Wilkes-Barre on Jan. 18; Williamsport, Jan. 22, and Harrisburg, Jan. 23.

Luzerne County officials have not received official Harrisburg notification concerning State legislation on tax rebates on flood damaged properties.

It was reported Thursday that when the official notice is received, the county commissioners will be asked to pass a resolution stating that no one will be required to file an appeal. The appeals will be automatic for the flood-affected properties.

If the resolution is not adopted, it is stated, the assessors' office will be swamped with appeals.

Meanwhile, the county assessors' office continues to mail out new assessment figures to owners of flood-affected properties. As of this date, 10,015 such notices have been distributed. This figure includes the following: Wilkes-Barre City, 4,958; Kingston, 4,324; Conyngham Township, 150; Edwardsville, 400; Exeter Township, 28; Exeter Borough, 79; Duryea, 76. New assessments are being prepared for other flood-affected communities.

The county has not received any word on the 1972 property tax assistance claim forms for certain county residents. The forms are still being prepared in Harrisburg. The aged, certain widows and disabled persons are eligible for rebates from the State on property taxes paid in 1972.

The public will be notified as soon as word is received, it was stated.

Senator Murray Again Will Sponsor No-Fault Measure 'Lost' Last Session

Sen. Martin L. Murray, D-Luzerne, will join Sen. Joseph Ammerman, D-Clearfield, and Sen. Edwin Holl, R-Montgomery, in sponsoring a no-fault automobile insurance bill identical to the measure that died in the closing moments of last year's session.

The bill is expected to be one of at least five no-fault measures introduced this month. The Shapp Administration is now drafting its own no-fault bill and House Republicans are planning to introduce three no-fault bills, each with a different slant.

Sen. Ammerman, prime sponsor of the Senate bill, said he had neither talked to nor sought the endorsement of either Governor Shapp or Insurance Commissioner Herbert Denenberg for his plans.

"I would certainly anticipate the support of this legislation from Governor Shapp and Denenberg since they both endorsed the first report of the conferees

in the closing days of the (last) session," Ammerman stated.

A joint House-Senate conference committee, trying to reconcile differences between the two chambers' versions, reached agreement only hours before the legislature went out of business on Nov. 30. That agreement received both Shapp's and Denenberg's support, but the measure was never acted on as anti-no-fault lawmakers instituted delaying tactics until the session ended at midnight.

15% Mandated Reduction

The bill, which would go into effect Jan. 1, 1974, calls for a 15% mandated reduction in bodily injury auto insurance premiums. The measure would provide up to \$10,000 for medical expenses, lost wages or fu-

neral expenses. These benefits would be paid automatically to the accident victim regardless of who caused the accident.

Accident victims would be barred from asking for pain and suffering unless their medical expenses exceeded \$1,000 or they suffered loss of a major body function or severe disfigurement. Up to \$250 of the \$1,000 medical threshold could be spent for diagnostic expenses, x-rays or rehabilitation.

Commenting on the bill, Denenberg said: "It's obvious it can be improved on," but said he endorsed it before since it's "acceptable."

"We have endorsed the bill, unless, of course, a decision is made where we can get something stronger," he added.

No-fault Auto Insurance Gets Fresh Senate Support

Harrisburg (AP)—Three senators announced Thursday they will introduce in two weeks a no-fault automobile insurance bill identical to the measure that died in the closing moments of last year's session.

The bill is expected to be one of at least five no-fault measures introduced this month.

The Shapp administration is now drafting its own no-fault bill to be introduced probably on Jan. 15.

And House Republicans are planning to introduce three no-fault bills, each of which will have a different slant.

Sen. Joseph Ammerman, D-Clearfield, prime sponsor of the Senate bill, said he had neither talked to nor sought the endorsement of either Gov. Shapp or Insurance Commissioner Herbert Denenberg for his plans. But added:

"I would certainly anticipate the support of this legislation from Gov. Shapp and Denenberg since they both endorsed the first report of the conferees in the closing days of the last session."

A joint House-Senate conference committee, trying to reconcile differences between the two chambers' versions, reached agreement only hours before the legislature went out of business on Nov. 30.

That agreement received both Shapp's and Denenberg's support, but the measure was never acted on as anti-no-fault lawmakers instituted delaying tactics until the session ended at midnight.

Ammerman, a member of the conference committee, said Sen. Edwin Holl, R-Montgomery, another conferee, and Sen. Martin Murray, D-Luzerne, would join him in sponsoring the measure.

The Ammerman bill, which would go into effect Jan. 1, 1974 calls for a 15 per cent mandated reduction in bodily injury auto insurance premiums.

The measure would provide up to \$10,000 for medical expenses, lost wages or funeral expenses. These benefits would be paid automatically to the accident victim regardless of who caused the accident.

Accident victims would be barred from suing for pain and suffering unless their medical expenses exceeded \$1,000, or they suffered loss of a major body function or severe disfigurement. Up to \$250 of the \$1,000 medical threshold could be spent for diagnostic expenses, x-rays or rehabilitation.

Asked to comment on the bill, Denenberg said, "It's obvious it can be improved on," but noting he endorsed it before, said it was "acceptable."

"We have endorsed the bill, unless, of course, a decision is made we can get something stronger," he said.

He said the administration's bill will contain more no-fault

benefits than the Ammerman measure, but declined to provide details.

Ammerman was sharply critical of the administration's handling of the issue last year, par-

ticularly blasting Denenberg for alleged publicity hounding.

The conference committee had reached agreement on another compromise in October, but Shapp, with Denenberg's advice, said he would veto it, contending the bill was faulty.

The agreement then fell apart.

The compromise that was reached on Nov. 30, and the same bill that will be introduced in two weeks, were virtually the same as the original bill that Shapp had condemned, Ammerman said.

The administration, however, said substantial changes were made.

Murray, in a release, pledged to exert all his influence to promptly bring the bill before the Senate for a favorable vote.

It was the Senate Insurance Committee's refusal to report out the administration's no-fault bill that blocked movement for more than a year. No-fault finally started moving through the legislature when it was attached onto a bill already on the calendar.

Although Murray was unavailable for amplification on his statement sources said he might refer the bill to a friendly committee rather than the Insurance Committee, still headed by Sen. Freeman Hankins, D-Philadelphia. Hankins opposes Shapp's no-fault plans.

An administration source said its bill was nearly drafted, but it was undecided in which chamber it would be introduced or by whom.

House Speaker Kenneth Lee, R-Sullivan, said his staff worked out three bills which will be referred to the Consumer Protection Committees which will then decide on one or a combination.

"There is such a divergence of opinion on what kind of approach the state should use we thought it would be better to look at all of them," Lee said, adding he expected a House vote in February.

One of the no-fault bills is patterned after the type now in use in Massachusetts, the other after the Delaware plan and the third is similar to the final conference committee report, Lee said.

Lee said neither he nor the Republican caucus were committed to any one particular bill.

Jan. 5, 1973

TLEN

Reduction of 2.3% Income Levy to Be Key

Amount Hinges On Budget Review

Harrisburg (P) — Gov. Shapp said Tuesday he plans a tax cut for 1973 that will be keyed to reduction of the 2.3 per cent state income tax.

The exact amount of tax relief awaits a "final budget review on Thursday and Friday of this week," Shapp wrote in a letter to new House Majority Leader Robert J. Butera, R-Montgomery.

Shapp's top aide, Richard Doran, said administration advisors and strategists were still trying to decide on how much of a cut should be proposed.

Asked if it might be lowered a full point to 1.3 per cent, Doran said, "That's pretty high. I don't see how we can do that."

The six-page letter was Shapp's reply to Butera's memo last week outlining the new House majority's legislative priorities and the warning:

"We intend to act as an independent branch of government in cooperation with your office instead of reacting to administration recommendations or special interests."

Shapp wrote: "Last fall, I predicted that there would be no need for new or increased taxes during this administration."

"Now I can confidently state that dramatic savings, resulting from our efforts to reform the welfare system and implement the recommendations of the Businessman's Task Force which recommended cutting government spending by more than \$250 million a year, coupled with our own determination to hold down the general level of spending, have made a tax cut possible."

"At the top of my list for 1973 will be a tax cut for the working people of Pennsylvania who are saddled with the 2.3 per cent tax which was forced upon the citizens of Pennsylvania by the uncontrolled spending policies of my predecessor."

"Such a program should include tax relief for business while providing tax exemptions from the income tax for the poor, the elderly and the disabled."

Shapp also wrote: "My proposals will also include measures to make property tax assessments more equitable, to help the farmers of Pennsylvania who are currently threatened with massive assessment increases, and also proposals to simplify procedures for business and industry..."

"The exact amount of state tax relief which I will have proposed must await a final budget review on Thursday and Friday of this week. I expect to furnish this information in detail during my budget presentation to the legislature on Feb. 6."

Shapp also told Butera he intended to push, "more strongly than ever before," for a graduated tax system.

"Although you have stated your opposition to this measure, I hope you will change your mind," Shapp wrote.

By law, a constitutional amendment allowing for a graduated tax must pass by two sessions of the General Assembly before going to the voters in a referendum. There's a new session every two years.

Both the House and Senate approved in 1971 legislation for a graduated tax, but controversy developed between Democrats and Republicans over whether the measure was advertised during the allotted time after passage. Democrats claim it was and want to push it through the new General Assembly in time for a spring referendum. Republicans claim last year's vote doesn't count because the advertising deadline wasn't met thereby necessitating a new vote and a delay of two years—until 1975.

Butera, in his earlier memo, said a graduated tax proposal would be a top Republican priority this year.

Legislators Find Salary Checks 'Short'

Harrisburg (P) — State legislators are again grumbling about their salaries after finding this week that their paychecks are up to \$300 lower than last year's despite a pay increase.

Lawmakers discovered that the juggling last summer of their salaries and expense accounts exposed more of their \$15,600 earnings to payroll deductions.

The increase in payroll taxes may also eat up much of the additional \$2,500 in expense money which is being held up pending approval by the Federal Pay Board.

That \$2,500 represents the raise lawmakers voted themselves last year.

Originally, the Commonwealth Compensation Commission recommended \$19,000 salaries and \$6,000 in accountable expense accounts.

However, to mollify the public clamor over the raises, legislators lumped their previous \$7,200 salary and \$8,400 unaccountable expense account into a larger salary and tacked on a \$2,500 accountable expense account.

The seemingly simple change brought about other effects, however.

In the old setup, only the \$7,200 was taxable with only social security sometimes being deducted from the \$8,400, according to Thomas J. Kalman, chief clerk of the Senate.

But now the entire \$15,600 is taxable, cutting sharply into take home pay.

"It appears the raise was just a paper one," remarked one Democratic senator.

Further confusing the picture is the pension deduction. Pensions were frozen by the compensation commission at the \$7,200 level. But Senators found pensions deducted at a level that would have them paid up for the whole year in only about five months.

Kalman said, however, this will be changed in the next check to spread the deductions over 12 months. This procedure was used in the House, according to Jean Francis, the comptroller.

The drop in take-home salary affects all legislators except 24 senators who are in the middle of four-year terms.

Dec. 31, 1973

TLEN
S.E.

Jan 5, 1973
TLEN

By GEORGE CLARK

HARRISBURG — The Shapp administration this week begins the second half of its four-year administration with a big plus in its ability to tackle effectively the state's welfare mess.

Much of the credit for reducing the total number of relievers and the number of ineligible persons on the dole should be given to Mrs. Helene Wohlgemuth, secretary of the Public Welfare Department.

The key to the cleanup of the welfare rolls—there's still much room for further improvement—has been a tightening of administrative procedures.

Last March, about 14 months after Gov. Milton J. Shapp took office and appointed Mrs. Wohlgemuth to the job, 872,942 men, women and children were on welfare in Pennsylvania.

As of two weeks ago (mid-December) that figure dropped to 830,268. A county by county investigation of all persons collecting public assistance checks helped disclose ineligible persons on the rolls.

In 1972, the first 12 counties whose relief records were inspected, showed an ineligibility rate of 5.4%, compared to 8.5% last year.

Statewide, the rate was 9.4% for the last fiscal year, which ended June 30.

MRS. WOHLGEMUTH, under the gun by two opposing sides—the Welfare Rites Organization (WRO), which

seems to encourage any growth of the relief numbers, and hard-nosed legislators and taxpayers — tackled another problem.

This had to do with an unbelievable number of relief checks, being mailed to eligible relievers, who never received them.

At least, some relievers claimed they didn't receive their monthly check in the mail.

So, on the presumption that some thief stole the check out of the mail box, the recipient was issued an emergency check.

Little, if anything, was done in an attempt to learn who had cashed the first check.

In some cases, the eligible recipient cashed both, claiming he didn't get the first one in order to double his monthly income by filing for an emergency second check.

Now, there's a two-day waiting period before the replacement check is issued. The result has been a 25% reduction in such claims—and a like drop in the state's cost of public assistance.

DUPLICATE checks also are dwindling by another innovation—relievers now must go to a designated bank each month on a day assigned to them to pick up their check,

instead of waiting for the mailman.

Started as an experimental program in Philadelphia and Allegheny counties, the bank delivery system is expected to spread to most other counties, including those in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Still another reform was a more detailed examination of the eligibility of persons applying for welfare benefits for the first time.

The WRO tried to put a hammerlock on this proposal in a complaint to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare on the grounds it was hampering some applicants.

* * *

"WE'RE NOT denying anyone welfare benefits to which they are entitled," Mrs. Wohlgemuth said in reply to the WRO charge. "We're just rejecting those who are not eligible."

It's about time someone in Pennsylvania government is taking a firm stand for those unfortunates who have been deprived of a full share of public help because of the cheats and frauds who have infiltrated the rolls.

The last time this was illustrated was during the Scranton Administration when his welfare secretary, Arlen Adams, now a federal judge in Philadelphia, dropped the number of relievers appreciably.

Dec. 31, 1972

T.L.E.N.

S.E.

Development Council Gets Word

Flood Recovery Leadership Will Shift to Local Level

The federal government intends to keep its commitment and play a strong supportive role in post-Agnes recovery efforts in Northeastern Pennsylvania but the time is "now" for local people to move front and center and take over.

This was the word given to the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Council of North-

eastern Pennsylvania on Thursday night at the board's quarterly meeting in the Sheraton Motor Inn, Scranton, by Theodore R. Robb, Regional Administrator, Region III, Philadelphia, U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"Agnes made us grow up in many ways," Robb said. "Our Federal council intends to maintain a presence here and continue to work on disaster programs, but our profile is going to be a lot different. The HUD disaster office in Scranton will be beefed up by additional personnel coming on. We'll be announcing more planning grants in substantial dollar amounts very soon. One thing you've done here is to make believers

out of federal agencies who learned how important it is to have empathy with local problems and to work together."

Robb emphasized that the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, the non-profit organization serving the seven counties of Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Schuylkill and Wayne, is the "lead agency" in the recovery planning role. "We are looking for continued high performance from the Council. It has a reputation for excellence."

The federal official, a former Pennsylvania Secretary of Labor and Industry, said government agencies must learn to "orchestrate" their limited funds, separate "myth from reality," and "put it all together" by under-

standing people's problems. "We must distinguish between production and process," Robb said.

Program Reviewed

Council President John B. Hibbard and Executive Director Howard J. Grossman reviewed the EDCNP work program and goals before and following Robb's talk. Hibbard said the Council is undergoing a "changing role" from its original concept as a research, development and data assembling organization to one of "advocacy in promoting the interests of this area's future."

"The occurrence of Tropical Storm Agnes put us in a different position. Today we are called upon to evaluate proposals of local units of government not only in support but some-

times in opposition when these proposals are against the regional interest. We are challenged to criticize, reject or recommend proposals by reason of having been designated as the lead agency for the coordination of planning for flood recovery."

Hibbard added: "The Council has a basic responsibility to try to make sense out of different courses of action. The tenor of our thinking today is to take a strong, clear, definitive position as to what is desirable or undesirable, what is good or bad for the area at large. This has happened in other areas of the country where disaster has occurred. It is important to have a single point of firm opinion, straightforward policy as to what should and should not be done." But Hibbard said flood recovery emphasis will not be to the exclusion of the Council's overall work in the entire seven-county area.

Grossman reported on a many-faceted variety of the Council's current work program. He stressed that a large part of the Council's responsibility is devoted to long range recovery planning. The Council now has a central headquarters "situation room" which permits the monitoring of all projects and utilizing the system in the field throughout the seven counties. There are 106 federally related programs that require coordinating under the Project Notification and Review System, Grossman said. "We in Northeastern Pennsylvania have a tremendous opportunity," he said. "With hard work and awareness of that opportunity, by being optimistic and not pessimistic, we will make all our assets and resources come together," Grossman concluded.

State Pocketed \$44 Million Profit in 1st Year of Lottery

Harrisburg (AP) — It was a very good year for the new Pennsylvania lottery. The state pocketed \$44 million in profit, made millionaires of a few lucky people and gave the numbers racket a few anxious moments if nothing else.

Now there is talk among state officials of tacking on a daily lottery to the weekly system and legalizing sports pools.

"Our lottery is more successful than any other state," Revenue Secretary Robert Kane said in going over the 34-week financial statement of the lottery. The statement showed a gross of more than \$100 million, of which about \$36 million went for prizes, \$44 million for the state's general fund and \$20 million for lottery administration.

Since the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1, a profit of \$25 million has gone for property tax relief for senior citizens, the intent of lottery profits.

Kane, a man not given to superlatives, estimates the lottery will net \$60 million a year.

Six other states have lotteries — Michigan, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey. Maryland voters approved a lottery last November but it hasn't started yet. Ohioans will decide on whether to create one in the spring.

Why the success of a game of chance in a state where conservation finally allowed pari-mutuel flattrack horse racing only four years ago?

"Given demonstrations of proper conduct, programs like the lottery will be accepted," Kane said. "I do not know of a case where a person deprived his family because of playing the lottery."

Many people approve because of the cause—aid to senior citizens, he said, adding: "Only 12 other states have senior citizens programs. California is next to Pennsylvania and pays out \$9 million a year."

Most lotteries earmark lottery profits for education.

"If this was the case in Pennsylvania which has an education budget of nearly \$2 billion it would be like throwing a pebble in a pond," Kane said.

Pennsylvania has operated a 50-cent weekly lottery since March. A second, \$1-a-ticket weekly lottery started up Nov. 15 for a six-week trial run and already has been extended to Feb. 15. "If I had to make judgment on data I have now that lottery will continue indefinitely," he said.

Although 50-cent tickets sales have dropped off by about 500,000 a week, the \$1 tickets account

for between 1 million and 1.5 million ticket sales a week to push the weekly gross to about \$3.5 million—about \$1 million more than when the 50-cent lottery had the field to itself.

As far as creating a daily lottery, Kane said he doesn't see one in Pennsylvania's future until 1974 at the earliest. He added:

"I'm very reticent about going into a daily lottery now, given information available now. New Jersey which started a daily lottery a few weeks ago is disappointed with hers. The daily lottery presents a number of logistical problems . . . production of and distribution of tickets, increased payoff schedules . . . that are not all soluble at this point."

Kane said a state lottery official attended a lottery seminar in California recently where the "name of the game was legalizing game betting."

He said Pennsylvania was "three to five years away" from legalizing that type of betting — like football and basketball cards — on which people across the

nation wager as much as \$100 billion a year.

"Pennsylvania with its success in the lottery will tend to be one of the leaders in the nation looking at other legalized betting," Kane said.

Then there's the numbers game, which law enforcement officers estimate grosses \$10 billion a year nationwide and at least \$350 million alone in Pennsylvania. The lottery was created with the aim of curbing the numbers game, but officials don't feel it has come anywhere near realizing that goal—aside from causing perhaps brief periods of concern among numbers bookmakers.

Lottery experts believe that daily lotteries could be competitive if they could provide quick payoffs and a more flexible system of betting that the numbers gave offer.

Dec. 26, 1972

T. L. E. N.

Abortion Sparked Debate, Legislative Skirmishing

BY DEE WEDEMEYER
(Associated Press Writer)

Abortion—murder or medicine? That question prompted fresh debate and legislative skirmishing in 1972, but most of the action took place in the courts.

The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments last month on appeals from Georgia and Texas; abortion cases from 13 other states are pending before the court.

Several states were left without abortion statutes at all when old laws were declared unconstitutional and new measures failed to win legislative support.

"It was a seesaw year," said Michael Taylor, executive director of the National Right to Life Committee, a group that supports strict abortion laws.

Only four states—Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New York and Florida—passed abortion bills.

The Connecticut case started in April when the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals invalidated the state's 19th century laws which prohibited abortion except to save the life of mother or baby.

"We think that by these statutes Connecticut trespasses unjustifiably on the personal privacy and liberty of its female citizenry," the court said.

A special session of the legislature adopted another, equally strict measure with a preamble declaring that it was state policy to protect human life "from the moment of conception."

The circuit court again invalidated the law, ruling 2 to 1 that "a fetus is not a person within the meaning of the 14th Amendment."

The state appealed, and the U. S. Supreme Court issued a stay of the circuit panel's order, pending the outcome of the appeal.

Pennsylvania legislators passed a bill in November that would allow abortions only when a woman's life was threatened, but Gov. Milton Shapp vetoed the measure, calling it inhumane, unenforceable and unconstitutional.

An earlier state law, prohibiting unlawful abortions, was declared unconstitutional by a county court because it failed to define unlawful, and appeals in the case are pending.

In New York, Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller vetoed a bill that would have repealed the state's liberal abortion law, passed two years ago and permitting abortion for any reason during the first 24 weeks of pregnancy.

The law—the most liberal in the nation—contains no residency requirement. Officials reported there were 181,821 abortions — 98,084 of them on out-of-state women—during the first year after the law was enacted and 266,910 abortions — 164,095 on out-of-staters — during the second year.

Only in Florida did an abortion measure become law this year. Gov. Reubin Askew signed a bill that permits abortion to protect a mother's life or health, in the case of rape or incest or if the baby would be born deformed or retarded. The measure replaces an 1868 statute which banned abortions except to save the mother's life and was declared unconstitutional by the Florida Supreme Court earlier in the year.

Among other developments:

The Vermont Supreme Court ruled that the state's 125-year-old abortion law was unconstitutional because it allowed a woman to abort her child, but did not allow a physician to help unless the woman's life was endangered. No new law has been passed and the issue has fallen under common law which allows abortion until the quickening of the fetus, set by the state attorney general at 12 weeks.

The California Supreme Court declared invalid a section of the state's abortion law requiring

that abortions be approved in advance by a hospital committee. The court ruled the standards for such committees were too vague. The ruling leaves the decision on an abortion up to a woman and her doctor.

A county court in Michigan declared all state laws unconstitutional, ruling that they violated the rights of privacy of women. The decision is being appealed and Michigan voters rejected a referendum on the November ballot that would have permitted abortion on request.

Supporters and foes of abortion both found reasons for optimism.

Jimmy Kimmey, executive director of the Association for the Study of Abortion, said she was encouraged by a Gallup poll taken for Planned Parenthood-World Population. Fifty-seven per cent of those surveyed said they agreed with the statement: "The decision to have an abortion should be made solely by a woman and her physician."

can't afford to seek abortions outside the state, that it is vague and that it violates a woman's right to decide whether she wants to bear a fetus.

Both sides are waiting for the U.S. Supreme Court ruling, but neither feels a decision will end the battle.

Taylor said that if the court rules that the fetus is not a human being, protected by the Constitution, his group will seek to change the Constitution.

He also said Right to Life groups are preparing "positive, alternative legislation" for 1973, including measures that would make vaccinations against Rubella mandatory, Rubella, or German measles, can cause severe birth defects, and supporters of abortion argue that a woman who contracts the disease during pregnancy should be allowed abortion.

Miss Kimmey also said her organization would continue to work for reform, even if the court rules favorably.

"Now that I have seen the fierceness of the opposition, I no longer feel if we got a favorable ruling it would be over . . . Instead of it being the end, we are at the beginning of a tough new era."

Some of the most vocal controversy over abortion stemmed not from real life but from fiction.

A two-part episode of the CBS television show "Maude" dealt with Maude's decision to have an abortion.

The show prompted numerous complaints and an appeal to the network by an antiaortion group that sought equal time. The written appeal is pending and the abortion foes say that if they don't get satisfaction, they'll go to the Federal Communications Commission.

Taylor, however, said better indicators of people's feelings were referenda such as the one in Michigan and a similar vote in North Dakota where a proposal that would have allowed abortions up to the 20th week of pregnancy was defeated.

"To me, these are the best polls," Taylor said. "It wasn't somebody asking you in a detached manner, 'What do you think?'"

Taylor also observed that the state supreme courts in South Dakota, Missouri, Kentucky and Indiana upheld restrictive abortion laws.

Indiana's 1905 law, prohibiting abortion except to save the mother's life, was upheld in a 4-1 ruling, with the court rejecting arguments that the law discriminates against the poor who

Dec. 26, 1972

TLEN

Shapp Administration Having Tough Time Spending Flood Funds

Harrisburg Earmarks \$39- of \$150-Million For Recovery Projects

HARRISBURG—After all the talk about how Pennsylvania's flood recovery program might cost up to \$2-billion, the Shapp administration now is having "trouble" spending a \$150-million appropriation.

The federal government seems to be picking up the bulk of the cost of replacing or repairing the property which was destroyed or damaged during tropical storm Agnes last June.

Gov. Milton J. Shapp has instructed his staff to maintain a close check—and make it public twice a month—of the disbursement of state funds.

So far, only \$39-million has been spent or earmarked by the administration for a variety of flood relief and recovery programs.

Six months after Agnes struck the state, the governor's office says it believes the remaining \$111-million eventually will be spent, much of it for long-term contracts still being planned.

Fiscal strategists add that they presently don't expect to have to ask the legislature for additional funds.

A big chunk of the \$15-million appropriation, approved last Summer in an emergency session, is a \$30-million allotment set aside for short-term commercial loans for industry.

At a low 1% interest rate, these loans will be repaid into a revolving account, meaning that the administration expects to get most of the \$30-million back within a few years.

Administration spokesmen contend it is not unusual that only \$39-million has been spent or committed thus far.

Neither Democratic nor Republican legislators have questioned whether the governor has in his lap what could become a slush fund to spend as he sees fit, despite the fact Shapp initially said he needed only \$50-million to begin the emergency program.

Budget Paved

Instead, the lawmakers pared his general fund budget of \$3.6-billion by \$150-million, then specified this amount—with few strings attached—for exclusive funding of flood projects.

Before last month's election, the flood was a popular and emotional issue without opposition.

Unlike most appropriations, the flood money will be available for spending without yearly approval by the legislature until it is either all used up or declared by Shapp as an unneeded surplus.

The legislature also could pass a bill to redirect any surplus.

A review of his latest bi-weekly report of the flood account shows that several state agencies haven't spent much of the allotment the governor directed their way.

And some won't.

For instance, the governor set aside \$4-million to be spent by the Military Affairs Department for salaries and expenses of the National Guard, which were pressed into service during the flood.

Only \$754,000 has been spent or committed, leaving Military Affairs with an unspent balance of \$3.4-million.

Asked about this, an administration spokesman admitted that the National Guard has not been on flood duty for months—and won't spend the \$3.4-million.

That amount, the spokesman added, eventually will be transferred on paper to another departmental flood account, which is running short of cash.

The Environmental Resources Department, which was allocated \$9-million, probably will need another \$5-million to \$6-million to finance its long-term flood protection, stream improvement and other environmental projects still being planned, he explained.

The Community Affairs Department, handed \$19.9-million for housing, redevelopment, recreation, planning, site development and grants to volunteer fire departments, probably will need another \$10-million to \$20-million.

This extra money—to come from other departments within the \$150-million framework—will be used to pay for the development and construction of thousands of "pads" on which mobile homes will be located.

Project Plans

Plans for this project are still in the preliminary stages.

The Education Department, which was earmarked for \$2.1-million, hasn't committed or spent a dime of it and doesn't intend to use it.

And the Health Department, the governor's office says, will spend only about 25% of its \$10-million allotment for the restoration of health delivery systems.

But both Education and Health are listed yet on the bi-weekly rackup of the flood program as having major unspent balances.

Shapp's aides said that as soon as other specific programs are ready for implementation by other departments, these funds will be transferred to pay for them.

The Public Welfare Department, which was given \$29.7-million, likely will spend "only" \$15-million to \$20-million of it, much of it for public assistance to individuals who will be dropped from the unemployment compensation rolls.

Aside from the departmental programs, the administration hopes to begin handing out millions of dollars—rough estimates put it as high as \$100-million—in direct grants to individuals and businesses.

Direct grants were prohibited by the state constitution, but the legislature and the voters agreed with Shapp to amend the basic law to allow the grants in emergency situations.

The constitutional amendment was part of Shapp's emergency

flood package he presented to the legislature last Summer.

The grants will be awarded with no strings attached, but this has posed a problem for the state.

The governor must firm up the estimated cost and determine whether the program is in violation of federal law.

One plan would give \$500 free for every \$3,000 an individual recipient incurs in damage above the federal Small Business Administration's (SBA) \$5,000 forgiveness feature.

In other words, if a person shows he suffered damages totaling \$11,000, he would be eligible for \$1,000 in a state grant—or \$500 for each of the \$3,000 that surpasses the \$5,000 level.

But the federal law governing SBA loans maintains that any separate grants given to its borrowers must be used to help pay off the SBA loan.

This flies in the face of Shapp's intentions to make the state grants without strings attached for repayment.

Another plan would reimburse local government for property tax rebates extended owners whose real estate suffered flood damage.

The rebates—on taxes for a three-year period starting with last year's real estate tax bill—is expected to cost anywhere between \$12-million to \$14-million.

No one in the administration is sure of the potential impact of the tax rebate plan.

And everyone—both executive and legislative leaders—are wondering when the final tab will be rung up.

Dec. 24, 1972

T. L. E. N.

S. E.

Senator Murray to Make History When He Takes Oath as President Pro Tempore

History will be made Tuesday when Martin L. Murray of Ashley is sworn into his second term as president pro tempore of the Pennsylvania Senate.

The ceremony to be conducted at noon in the Senate Chambers, Harrisburg, will mark the first time this century that a Democrat has succeeded himself as president pro tempore of the Commonwealth's upper legislative body.

Murray, who represents the 14th Senatorial District, all of which is in Luzerne County, will receive his oath of office from Federal Judge Charles Weiner, Philadelphia. The jurist, a former colleague of Senator Murray, was himself a State senator for nine years, from 1956 through 1965, before being appointed to the Federal judicial post. He will administer the oath of office to all 25 Democrats who will serve in the Senate.

Judge Raymond Broderick, an unsuccessful GOP aspirant for Governor of Pennsylvania, will administer the oath to the Republican senators.

Senator Murray, who was initially elected Senate president pro tempore in 1971, is the first Luzerne County resident to hold the position which is the third ranking office in the Commonwealth coming immediately after the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

The Ashley resident sees his election and reelection to the post as a "great honor," especially since he was elected unanimously by "both sides of the aisle," that is by both the Democrats and the Republicans in the Senate.

In his capacity as president pro tem, Murray presides over the Senate in the absence of the lieutenant governor. In addition, if for any reason the office of lieutenant governor were ever vacated, Senator Murray would automatically ascend to that position.

Powerful Office

The office of president pro tem is a powerful one in that the person holding the position is not only an important part of the State leadership, but also exercises direct control over such things as chairmanship and committee appointments, assigning bills to committees, appointment of conference committees and the like.

The president pro tem appoints the chairmen of all Senate committees and assigns committee memberships. Additionally, he has supervision of Senate employees and the officers of the Senate, such as the chief clerk, librarian and secretary.

Senator Murray, by virtue of his office, is an ex officio member of each of the Senate committees and has a vote on each committee. He also serves on a multitude of State boards and commissions such as the General State Authority, the High



SENATOR MARTIN L. MURRAY

Unfortunately, he noted, there was no pre-agreement with the House where there was a solid bloc of Representatives opposed to no-fault.

As a result, Murray said, there was no such legislation enacted during the last session of the General Assembly.

Predicts Passage

The Senate president pro tempore predicted, however, that there will be a no-fault insurance bill passed by the new General Assembly during the coming year. In addition, Murray said he foresees a "tightening of the belt" in Harrisburg during the coming year; no increases in State taxes for the next two years; more consumer protection legislation, and an economy move which would include such things as welfare reforms aimed at cutting down on the size of the State's welfare rolls.

The power Senator Murray can exert as president pro tempore while chairing meetings of State boards or authorities was evidenced some months back when he had the Wyoming Valley West School District's proposal for construction of a new, central high school "tabled" by the State School Authority. Murray said he had taken the action at

the request of "a lot of taxpayers" and also because the building plan had been submitted by what he termed a "lame duck" school board. The Senator stated that he felt the measure should be tabled at least until it could be "looked at" by the incoming school board.

The Ashley legislator, beginning his 15th year as a Senator, said he works "seven days a week" at his job and noted that he does not have a telephone answering service, but instead "takes" all of his phone calls. He also noted that he receives "as much mail as probably three Philadelphia senators." In explaining the reason for this, he said people living in big cities such as Philadelphia frequently don't even know their legislators.

Elected First in 1956

Murray was first elected to the State Senate in 1956 and was re-elected in 1960. In 1964, however, his Senatorial district was eliminated under the reapportionment plan and he was out of office for two years. He ran for office again and was elected in 1966, then reelected to another four-year term in 1970.

The Ashley resident represents most of Luzerne County in the Senate. That part of the county not included in Murray's 14th District is represented by T. Newell Wood, Harveys Lake, whose 20th Senatorial District also takes in Wyoming, Susquehanna, Wayne, Pike and part of Monroe County.

Senator Murray describes his relationship with Wood as being "very good" despite the fact that Wood, as a Republican, sits on the minority side of the Senate aisle and is therefore a member of the "opposition" party.

According to Senator Murray, he and Senator Wood were instrumental in having a "new" North Street Bridge erected in an exceptionally short period of time following the June flood. Murray recalls that he, and Senator Wood met with State Transportation Secretary Jacob Kassab in the Dan Flood School, Wilkes-Barre, during the height of the flood disaster. The North Street Bridge had collapsed and all indications were that the span could not be rebuilt in less than two years.

The State officials chanced to meet Al Roman, an employee of Pagnotti Enterprises, who told them he saw no reason why the bridge could not be rebuilt in six to eight months. Murray and Wood invited Mr. Roman to Harrisburg where he met with State highway engineers and Federal personnel, explaining his ideas for reconstruction. Thereafter, Senator Murray reported, through the intercession of the two Luzerne County senators and with the assistance of Secretary Kassab "we got things going" and the newly-reconstructed bridge will be reopened next Wednesday.

Senator Murray said that he and Senator Wood "disagree on many matters, but cooperate when it is in the best interest of northeastern Pennsylvania."

Reflecting on his first year as president pro tempore of the Senate, Murray recalls that he "shook the Harrisburg establishment" when, after ascending to the position of power, he ordered all lobbyists off the floor of the

• A Base Cabinet
• A Wall Cabinet
• A Counter Top

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administer the oath to the Republican senators.

Senator Murray, who was initially elected Senate president pro tempore in 1971, is the first Luzerne County resident to hold the position which is the third ranking office in the Commonwealth coming immediately after the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

The Ashley resident sees his post as a "great honor," especially since he was elected unanimously by "both sides of the aisle," that is by both the Democrats and the Republicans in the Senate.

In his capacity as president pro tempore, Murray presides over the Senate in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor. In addition, if for any reason the office of Lieutenant Governor were ever vacated, Senator Murray would automatically ascend to that position.

Powerful Office

The office of president pro tempore is a powerful one in that the person holding the position is not only an important part of the State leadership, but also exercises direct control over such things as chairmanship and committee appointments, assigning bills to committees, and committee assignments, appointments of conference committees, and the like.

The president pro tempore points the chairman of all Senate committees and assigns committee memberships. Additionally, he has supervision of high school "tabled" by the State School Authority. Murray said he had taken the action at four-year term in 1970.

Senator Murray, by virtue of his office, is an ex officio member of each of the Senate committees and has a vote on each committee. He also serves on a multitude of State boards and commissions such as the General State Authority, the Highway and Bridge Authority, the Higher Education Facilities Authority, the Joint State Government Committee, and the like. Through his power to appoint Senate members to conference committees charged with resolving differences between House and Senate-passed legislative measures, Murray frequently serves as a legislative "referee."

He can, through use of his appointive powers and his power to assign bills to committee, do much to expedite or thwart the enactment of legislation.

The fact that Pennsylvania currently does not have a no-fault auto insurance bill, Senator Murray suggests, is through no fault of his own. He stated that he favors enactment of such legislation and had attempted to get it passed during the past year by appointing "pro" no-fault Senators to the House-Senate conference committee as assigned to iron out differences between bills passed respectively by the Senate and the House.

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Unfortunately, he noted, there was no pre-agreement with the House where there was a solid bloc of Representatives opposed to no-fault.

As a result, Murray said, there was no such legislation enacted during the last session of the General Assembly.

Predicts Passage

The Senate president pro tempore predicted, however, that there will be a no-fault insurance bill passed by the new General Assembly during the coming year. In addition, Murray said he foresees a "tightening of the belt" in Harrisburg during the coming year; no increases in State taxes for the next two years; more consumer protection legislation; and an economy move which would include such things as welfare reforms aimed at cutting down on the size of the State's welfare rolls.

The power Senator Murray can exert as president pro tempore while chairing meetings of State boards or authorizing when he had the Wyoming Valley West School District's proposal for construction of a new, central office for two years. He ran for office again and was elected in 1966, then reelected to another four-year term in 1970.

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Murray was first elected to the State Senate in 1956 and was re-elected in 1960. In 1964, however, his Senatorial district was eliminated under the reapportionment plan and he was out of the State for two years. He ran for office again and was elected in 1966, then reelected to another four-year term in 1970.

SENATOR MARTIN L. MURRAY



- A Base Cabinet
- A Wall Cabinet
- A Counter Top

"We design, advise & build"

The State officials changed to meet Al Roman, an employee of Pagnotti Enterprises, who told them he saw no reason why the bridge could not be rebuilt in six to eight months. Murray and Wood invited Mr. Roman to Harrisburg where he met with State highway engineers and Federal personnel, explaining his ideas for reconstruction. Thereafter, Senator Murray reported, through the intercession of the two Luzerne County senators and with the assistance of Secretary Kassab "we got things going" and the newly-reconstructed bridge will be reopened next Wednesday.

Senator Murray said that he and Senator Wood "disagree on many matters, but cooperate on the position of power, he ordered the lobbyists off the floor of the Senate," when, after ascending to "shook the Harrisburg establishment" when it is in the best interest of the State, Murray recalls that he is in the best interest of the State.

Reflecting on his first year as president pro tempore of the State Senate in 1956 and was re-elected in 1960. In 1964, however, his Senatorial district was eliminated under the reapportionment plan and he was out of the State for two years. He ran for office again and was elected in 1966, then reelected to another four-year term in 1970.

State Grant Given City

A grant of \$4.5 million in State funds to the City of Wilkes-Barre for use in repairing flood-damaged homes was announced by Governor Milton J. Shapp at a press conference Saturday morning in the Wilkes-Barre Catholic Youth Center.

The Governor also used the occasion to announce that he will submit to the General Assembly, when it convenes in January, proposed legislation to implement a recently-approved Constitutional amendment providing for State grants to homeowners and farmers severely affected by the Tropical Storm Agnes flood.

Shapp said that the 4.5 million being given to the City of Wilkes-Barre will enable some 1,500 Wilkes-Barre families to have minimum repairs made to their homes so that they can move back into them in the weeks ahead.

These funds, he noted, were granted to the Wilkes-Barre Redevelopment Authority which had applied to the State Department of Community Affairs for 90 percent State funding to continue its highly successful interim assistance housing repair program.

The 10 percent local share for the project, \$500,000, has been approved by Wilkes-Barre City Council, the Governor stated.

It was pointed out during the press conference that additional State funds will be made available in the future to finance similar programs in flood-hit communities on the West Side. Governor Shapp said the money will be forthcoming "just as soon as they (the West Side communities) work out their administrative problems."

Regarding the State/local funded program in Wilkes-Barre, Shapp said it "will permit the return to their homes of nearly all the residents of the City of Wilkes-Barre whose residences were not structurally damaged beyond repair by the Agnes flood."

In his announcement regarding proposed legislation for grants to flood victims, the Governor said the bill would provide grants to homeowners and farmers who suffered a severe loss in the flood, that is a loss in excess of \$7,500.

The maximum payment for any recipient, he said, may be up to \$3,000, with the grant adjusted to account for some type of services or payments received from the Federal government, the Commonwealth or from other public sources.

Community Affairs Secretary William H. Wilcox, who also participated in the conference, said the percentage formula for the grants is still being worked out and added that a "still unknown quantity" is the cost the Federal government will levy upon the State for disaster relief services it provided on behalf of the Commonwealth, such as development of emergency mobile housing sites. Wilcox expressed a hope that the Federal government will be "generous" in this regard since the size of the levy will have a direct effect on the amount of money which ultimately will be available for State grants to the flood victims.

The State officials expressed the view that announcement of the Governor's intention to submit legislation to the General Assembly will encourage families to rehabilitate and return to their homes.

Governor Shapp said he is also considering a State program un-

der which the Commonwealth would provide 20 percent matching funds under the Federal Land Restoration Program, and another program to make it possible for small businesses closed by the flood to reopen. He stated, too, that he has asked his staff to do everything possible to restore essential railroad service over flood-ravaged and idle lines. Shapp noted that there some 12 rail lines out of service here and the State feels it can put up funds needed for restoration of service, then force the railroads to do so.

During a question and answer period following the Governor's announcements, it was brought out that the State government is still looking into possible legislative means of rectifying a financial disparity which has arisen between flood victims who "sat waiting for free handouts" and those others who "went ahead and worked on restoration of their properties." There have been frequent complaints about the apparent injustice of providing no means of compensation for flood victims who undertook repairs at their own expense while others received "free" rehabilitative work under the interim assistance program.

Additionally, area residents have asked how the government can justify some flood victims being "made whole" through Redevelopment Authority acquisition of their flood-hit properties at pre-flood values while others are saddled with the expense of borrowing money to make repairs to their properties.

On this latter point, Secretary Wilcox said the redevelopment laws of Pennsylvania are written such a way that pre-flood values are to be paid for acquired properties. He acknowledged that there is some disparity and said that the State grants to be provided under Governor Shapp's proposed legislation would aid in to rectifying this situation.

When asked about what the State can or will do to "force" railroads to restore service on flood-ravaged or idle lines, Governor Shapp said the Commonwealth would resort to fighting through the Interstate Commerce Commission and the courts since restoration of the railroads involves many jobs, many families and the economy as a whole.

In a discussion on the possibility of having the Federal government enact catastrophic insurance which would provide payments to victims of floods just as payments are made to fire victims, Governor Shapp charged that the Federal agencies have given "absolutely no indication of interest" on this matter. He went on to say, however, that he had met last night with his Washington staff and had discussed the scheduling of a meeting with the entire Pennsylvania Congressional delegation sometime after Congress reconvenes. The purpose of that meeting, he said, would be to push for enactment of a retroactive catastrophic insurance plan at the Federal level. Shapp said he thought there might be a "chance" of having such legislation enacted by having the Pennsylvania delegation join with the Congressional delegations from other States which have experienced disasters in re-

12-5-72

TLEN

S.E.

County Legislators Split on 100 Days Harness Racing Season

Harrisburg—This is the final voting record for 1972 of area lawmakers during the week of November 27-30 which marked the final days of the 1971-72 Legislative Session — including the House of Representatives' decision to uphold the Governor's abortion veto — with voting as follows on major legislation by local legislators (Reps. Stanley A. Mehlochick, Ashley; Raphael Musto, Pittston; Bernard F. O'Brien, Wilkes-Barre; Frank J. O'Connell, Kingston; Fred J. Shupnik, Luzerne; James J. Ustynoski, Hazleton; and Senators Martin L. Murray, Ashley and T. Newell Wood, Harveys Lake):

SENATE

SB 290—Concurrence in House amendments (approved) to this bill requiring confidentiality of information learned from a student by a school counselor, nurse or psychologist. (Murray — Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 455—Concurrence in House amendments (approved) to this bill representing Pennsylvania's first new Crimes Code in 111 years. The code reclassifies and revises the Criminal Code to contradictions on different statutes dealing with the same project. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 875—Conference report (approved) on this bill designed to ensure the financial integrity of municipal pension programs by requiring actuarial studies and reports to be made of the funds and submitted to the Department of Community Affairs. (Murray — Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 1532—Concurrence in House amendments (approved) to this bill increasing the per day and mileage allotments to school board members attending educational conventions. The per diem goes from \$25 to \$30 and the mileage rate from 10 cents to 12 cents a mile. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 842 — Amendment (approved) excluding the Liberty Bell track in Philadelphia from this bill permitting expansion of harness racing days from 62 to 100 days. (Murray—No; Wood—No)

HB 842—(Passed) — Expands the number of permissible harness racing days from 62 to 100,

with the exception of those licensees utilizing Liberty Bell Track which remains the same. (Murray—Yes; Wood—No)

HB 1000 — Conference report (approved) to this bill forbidding colleges or universities receiving state aid to discriminate on the basis of sex in admitting students. (Murray — Yes; Wood — Yes)

HB 1022—(Passed)—Gives power to the Secretary of Health to contract with any state institution having adequate facilities for alcoholic treatment programs. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 1220—(Passed)—Severely limits the use of phosphorus and other environmentally harmful substances in cleaning agents. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 1990—(Passed)—A proposed constitutional amendment to permit surplusses from the Korean Bonus fund to be used for an educational loan guarantee program for Vietnam veterans. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 2142—(Passed)—Requires the wife of a soldier missing in action to forfeit her husband's estate if she remarries before her husband is found or declared dead. (Murray — Yes; Wood — Yes)

HB 2280—(Passed)—Appropriates \$8.6 million to cover union-negotiated salary and fringe benefit increases for 12,000 Motor License Fund employees. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 2281—(Passed)—Appropriates \$35 million to cover union-negotiated salary and fringe benefit increases for 68,000 state employees covered by the general fund. (Murray — Yes; Wood — Yes)

HB 2329 — (Passed) — Includes under the term "veteran" all those who have served in the Vietnam conflict. (Murray — Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 2627 — (Passed) — Requires coal companies to assume black lung benefit payments to those miners who become afflicted after next July 1. Those payments would rise from the current \$60 a week to \$100. The changeover from state to company payment would take place over a three-year period. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

Vote to confirm (approved) the

nomination of John C. Petten-ger as State Secretary of Education. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

House of Representatives

HB 800 — Motion to override (failed) veto by Governor Shapp of a strict anti-abortion bill. The bill would have permitted abortions only in cases where three-doctor panel would have ruled that the woman's life was in danger. (Mehlochick — Did not vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 9842—Concurrence in Senate amendments (approved) to this bill increasing the harness racing days from 62 to 100 to each of the licensees with the exception of those racing at Liberty Bell race track. (Mehlochick — Did not vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 867—Concurrence in Senate amendments (approved) to this bill requiring that at least one member of the nine-member board of trustees at each state college be a fulltime undergraduate students of sophomore level or above. (Mehlochick — Did Not Vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 918—Concurrence in Senate amendments (approved) to this bill which, for the first time, covers loan-sharking. It makes the extension of credit by extortionate means a felony. (Mehlochick—Did not vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1480 — (Passed) — Extends to non-public school pupils the same bus transportation rights as public school pupils. Federal revenue sharing money would be involved. (Mehlochick — Did not vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski — Yes)

HB 1572 — Conference report (approved) on this bill for mandatory state-sponsored training of municipal police officers hired after next January 1. They would undergo this training within a two-year span following their appointment. (Mehlochick — Did not vote; Musto (see COUNTY, page 35)

— Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski — Yes)

HB 2280 — Conference in Senate amendments (approved) to this bill appropriating \$8.6 million to cover union negotiated salary and fringe benefits increases for 12,000 Motor License Fund Employees. (Mehlochick Did not vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski — Yes.)

HB 2281—Concurrence in Senate amendments (approved) to this bill appropriating \$35 million to cover union-negotiated salary and fringe benefit increases for 68,000 state employees covered by the general fund. (Mehlochick — Did not vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2319 — Conference report (approved) to this bill appropriating \$49.7 million to Temple University. (Mehlochick — Did not vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2320 — Conference report (approved) to this bill appropriating \$47.6 million to the University of Pittsburgh. (Mehlochick—Did not vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2321 — Conference report (approved) to this bill appropriating \$83.8 million to the Pennsylvania State University. (Mehlochick—Did not vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2479—Concurrence in Senate amendments (approved) to this bill allowing school districts to lease school buildings instead of constructing new ones. (Mehlochick—Did not vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

SB 1629 — (Passed) — Appropriates \$900,000 in deficiency funds to the Department of Education to support intermediate unit offices. (Mehlochick — Did not vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

SB 1669 — Concurrence in Senate amendments (approved) to this bill providing \$41.1 million to Pennsylvania's school districts for courses for exceptional children. The money would come from federal revenue sharing. (Mehlochick — Did not vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell—No; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—No)

SB 1685 — (Passed) — Provides for state lottery funds to finance free mass transit service to the elderly (65-years-old and older) during non-rush hours and on holidays and weekends. (Mehlochick—Did not vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

SB 1686 — (Passed) — Authorizes the Community Affairs Department to provide grants to local municipalities which provide free mass transit service to those persons 65-years-old and older during non-peak transportation hours. Money to finance the program would come from state lottery funds. (Mehlochick —Did not vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

Dec. 5, 1972
TLEN

Shapp Signs Mine Cave-in Insurance Bill at Airport

Gov. Milton Shapp on Monday mixed business and politics in an approximate one-hour stop at the Wilkes-Barre-Scranton Airport.

After his plane touched down at the airport at approximately 10:30 he signed into law House Bill 1752 amending the Commonwealth's subsidence insurance plan to provide residents with more adequate coverage at a reduced premium.

His brief stop was necessitated by a "tight" schedule which also included business and politics.

Observers were quick to point out the signing of the measure marked the first official action of its kind in the 25-year-history of the airport.

After the signing, Gov. Shapp conferred with Senate Pro Tem Martin Murray and Secretary of Community Affairs William Wilcox who is the coordinator of flood emergency for the governor.

Also witnessing the signing were Reps. Bernard O'Brien, Frank O'Connell and Raphael Musto of Luzerne County and Sen. Robert Mellow and Reps. Joseph Wargo and Michael Needham of Lackawanna County.

While thanking the legislators for their support, Gov. Shapp emphasized the subsidence plan is of no value if people do not sign up for it and continue to patronize the plan.

Gov. Shapp evoked considerable surprise when he mentioned Sen. Hubert Humphrey as one of his choices for a "good national (Democrat Party) chairman."

He said C. DeLores Tucker, secretary of the Commonwealth, would be a good choice "for a change in the Democratic Party national committee" which he described as "the main thing to bring the party together."

Gov. Shapp mentioned as his other choices for the national committee chairman Larry O'Brien and Sargent Shriver to replace Mrs. Jean Westwood.

He urged serious consideration of a proposal for consolidation of local governments noting "barriers between the communities formed a tremendous amount of red tape which hindered progress in the flood recovery."

Gov. Shapp stated it is the responsibility of the state government to make suggestions for better government and then it's up to the people to make the decision.

He said he did not think new

legislation was needed to solve the problems of the mentally retarded in Pennsylvania, adding the solution "could be made administratively with existing legislation."

Gov. Shapp said one of the highlights of the new subsidence insurance bill provides for expenses of administration of the fund to be paid by the Department of Environmental Re-

sources rather than from premium income.

He also pointed out the rates will be lower than in the past for another reason, "we'll absorb more at the state level so that it will double the base for lower rates."

The measure also removes the right of the subsidence fund's to repair damages to insure structures rather than pay claims.



SHAPP SIGNS BILL — Amended mine cave-in subsidence insurance bill was signed by Gov. Milton Shapp, seated at center, during a one-hour visit to Northeastern Pennsylvania on Monday.

The governor signed the bill at Wilkes-Barre-Scranton Airport.

Standing, from left, State Reps. Ray Musto, Bernard O'Brien, State Sen. Martin L. Murray, State Sen. Robert Mellow and Rep. Joseph Wargo.

Seated, Rep. Frank O'Connell, Gov. Shapp and Lackawanna County Rep. Michael J. Needham.

Nov. 28, 1972

TLEN

Senators Murray, Wood

Vote for Silent Prayer in Schools

Harrisburg—This is the voting record of area lawmakers during the week of November 20-25—including final legislative passage of an anti-abortion bill—with voting as follows on major legislation by local legislators (Reps. Stanley A. Meholchick, Ashley; Raphael Musto, Pittston; Bernard F. O'Brien, Wilkes-Barre; Frank J. O'Connell, Kingston; Fred J. Shupnik, Luzerne; James J. Ustynoski, Hazleton; Senators Martin L. Murray, Ashley, and T. Newell Wood, Harveys Lake):

Senate

SB 3—(Passed)—Allows tax rebates for flood-damaged real estate to be financed through the special \$150 million flood recovery package. The bill also spells out how the municipalities will be reimbursed. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 225—Conference report (approved) to this bill requiring political candidates or their committees to notify the opposition before running ads in the news media mentioning other candidates. The bill is aimed at curbing misleading or false advertising in final days of campaigning. (Murray—Yes; Wood—No)

SB 1407—Concurrence in House amendments (approved) to bill expanding the powers of the Pennsylvania Housing Agency by permitting it to grant loans for rental as well as private housing for low income persons. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 1463 — (Passed) — Requires the Transportation Secretary to suspend the driving license of any motorist who abandoned his vehicle on a public street or highway. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 1632 — (Passed) — Proposed Constitutional Amendment exempting permanently totally disabled veterans from payment of local real estate taxes. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 1669 — (Passed) — Gives school districts \$41 million in special education subsidies immediately rather than on a one-year delayed basis. The funds are to come through federal revenue-sharing money earmarked for Pennsylvania. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 1685 — (Passed) — Provides for state lottery funds to finance free mass transit service to the elderly (65-years-old and older) during non-rush hours and on holidays and weekends. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB-1 — Conference report (approved) to this proposed Constitutional Amendment that would pave the way to a graduated income tax. Another vote by the Legislature is required before this proposal can go on the ballot. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 74—(passed)—Sets up educational standards for real estate salesmen to qualify for a professional licensure exam. Salesmen licensed before July 1, 1972, would be exempt. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 126—(Passed)—Permits a brief period of time to be set aside at the beginning of each school day for silent meditation or prayer so long as it is authorized by the school board. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 867—(Passed) — Requires that one member of a state college board of trustees be a full-time undergraduate student of sophomore level or above. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 966—(Passed)—This bill is aimed at curtailing the cost of public school education building by requiring advance referendums and giving the Secretary of Education powers of review and inspection. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 1108 — (Passed) — Permits all area vocational technical schools to establish technical institutes offering post-high school training programs. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 1630 — Conference report (approved) — Establishing the Housing Replacement Authorization Act and authorizing the appropriate agency to provide replacement housing for persons displaced by housing projects. (Murray—Yes; Wood—No)

HB 2137 — (Passed) — Requires landlords to pay interest on any security deposits of more than \$100. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 2239 — (Passed) — Adds breakfasts to the school food program for children. Schools now provide lunches under the federal-state program. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 2255 — (Passed) — Empowers the Department of Revenue to enter into reciprocal agreements with other state with regard to collection of personal income taxes. Withheld taxes could be remitted by the employer to the employee's state of residency. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 2277 — (Passed) — Increases from 50 to 60 per cent the grants made by the Department of Public Welfare to county institutions for child welfare programs. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 2342 — (Passed) — Adds 150 persons to the State Police force of 3,790 individuals. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 2432 — (Passed) — Makes it illegal to alter state inspection certificates and subjects the violator to the same penalties for altering driver licenses or registration cards. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

House Of Representatives

HB 34 — Amends the Civil Service Act to provide a veteran with an honorable discharge shall be given the opportunity to qualify for a position if he has the experience but lacks a col-

lege degree. (Meholchick — Did Not Vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 800—Concurrence in Senate amendments (approved) to this strict anti-abortion bill which outlaws all abortions unless continued pregnancy might result in the woman's death. (Meholchick — Did Not Vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 842—(Passed) — Increases the limit of harness racing days for each corporation licensed to 100 days per year (at present 62 days) and determines the distribution of pari-mutuel funds. (Meholchick — Did Not Vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 963—Concurrence in Senate amendments (approved) to this bill to be known as the "Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers Act." The amendments were minor ones dealing with acquisition and notice provisions. (Meholchick—Did Not Vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—No; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1802—(Passed)—Forbids any State Liquor Store to be placed within 300 feet of any public school. (Meholchick—Did Not Vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1947—(Passed)—Amends the Public School Code to require that all children be immunized against diseases specified by the Advisory Health Board. (Meholchick—Did Not Vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2190—(Passed)—Amends the motor boat law by adding a separate definition of "ice boat" and changing the definition of "motor boat" to include boats equipped with propelling machinery. (Meholchick — Did Not Vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2280—(Passed)—Appropriates \$8.6 million to cover union—negotiated salary and fringe benefit increases for 12,000 Motor License Fund employees. (Meholchick — Did Not Vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2281—(Passed)—Appropriates \$35 million to cover union-negotiated salary and fringe benefit increases for 68,000 state employees, covered by the general fund. (Meholchick—Did Not Vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2329—(Passed) — Includes

under the term "veteran" all those who have served in the Vietnam Conflict. (Meholchick—Did Not Vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2587—(Passed)—Appropriates \$10,708,639 to the Department of Labor and Industry from funds available under the Federal Social Security Act, with \$2.8 million for administering unemployment compensation claims and \$2.5 million for union pay increases. (Meholchick—Did Not Vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

SB 263—(Passed)—Amends the Military Code to provide for approval by the Adjutant General of appointments of "technicians" in order to conform with recent Federal law. (Meholchick—Did Not Vote; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

SB 290 — (Passed) — Severely restricts the divulgence of information by any guidance counselor, school nurse or school psychologist in any elementary or secondary school to a judicial, legislative or administrative body. (Meholchick — Did Not Vote; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

Nov. 28, 1972

TLEN

Bill Would Limit Role of Commission

Harrisburg (AP)—A bill stripping the Human Relations Commission of power to order school desegregation has been reported to the Senate floor for possible action.

The Senate State Government Committee, reversing itself from a week ago, released the bill Wednesday. It reportedly refused to release the bill last week because it was too late in the session to consider such a controversial measure.

Sen. Frank Mazzei, D-Alleghe-ny, the committee chairman, was on his way home and unavailable for comment. Other sources, however, said Mazzei was under pressure from Pittsburgh groups to get the bill passed.

The Pittsburgh school district, along with four other school districts, is under a Jan. 2 deadline from the Human Relations Commission to submit a plan to integrate its schools. The board voted Tuesday to develop a plan to achieve racial integration but with no busing.

The measure, which passed the House in June, 1948, would give the Human Relations Commission only an advisory role in school desegregation. Under current law it can order a district to desegregate its schools if it finds the schools are racially unbalanced.

The Senate will have sufficient legislative time to vote the bill next week if it wishes.

11-24-72

TLEN

Consumer Affairs Head To Visit Wilkes-Barre

Virginia Knauer, head of U. S. Office of Consumer Affairs, who appeared with Mrs. Milton Shapp at a "Report to the People" news conference of Frank Carlucci in August, will return to Wilkes-Barre Friday for a news conference in the President's Consumer Aid Center on Public Square.

Jeanne Devers, West Pittston native, is in charge of the center located in a mobile unit. The center had been inaugurated Aug. 28 in the IBE Building also on Public Square and later shifted to the van. Miss Devers is a consumer specialist for the Federal Food and Drug Administration.

Mrs. Knauer plans to discuss the program which attempts to resolve consumer problems of flood victims.

Miss Devers, who learned late Monday of Mrs. Knauer's plans to visit the area Friday, said the news conference will begin at 3 p. m.

11-28-72

TLEN

House OK Expected on Tax Rebate Changes

The State House of Representatives is expected to act by next Wednesday on amendments to the bill providing for tax rebates to flood-affected municipalities.

The Senate passed the amended legislation on Tuesday by a 45-0 vote, and no problems are anticipated in the House where the original bill met approval.

As sent to the desk of Gov. Milton Shapp for his signature, the original bill authorized the rebates but did not provide the necessary appropriations. The amended bill allows the rebates from the \$150,000,000 flood recovery package passed shortly after the June flood.

Local municipalities will have the ability to waive or rebate property taxes for home owners hit by the June flood. In Luzerne County alone, assessor Thomas J. Garrity has estimated about \$13,000,000 will be needed each year for three years to make up for tax losses by municipalities, school districts and the county.

Municipalities had collected the bulk of their 1972 property taxes prior to the June disaster, but school district billings went

out after the flood and in many districts the bills went to property owners who sustained heavy or complete flood losses.

The rebates will be necessary to offset large millage increases in area communities for 1973. Had the Legislature not acted, flood communities would have been forced to boost millage, to the detriment of non-flood victims, to meet operating and capital expenses.

Citing Forty Fort as an example, Garrity said 43.6 mills would be needed in 1-973 to collect the same revenue generated by 19 mills in 1972.

Legal limits also exist as to how far a community can go in raising taxes.

The Constitutional amendment which passed in the Nov. 7 election paved the way for relief in the form of tax rebates,

credits, grants and exemptions to individuals, companies and non-profit institutions affected by the flood.

Nov. 22, 1972
TLEN

Legislature OKs Bill Aimed at Easing State Housing Shortage

Harrisburg (P)—The legislature has given final approval to a major Shapp administration proposal aimed at stimulating construction of housing for low and moderate-income families.

Sent to Shapp on a 39-8 Senate vote Tuesday, the measure is seen by the administration as ultimately easing Pennsylvania's chronic housing shortage. In the last decade, the state

built half as many houses as the national average.

Other Bills Approved

The legislature, in a busy day as it strove toward adjournment, also approved several other bills Shapp wanted enacted before the session expires on Nov. 30.

The Senate passed and sent to the House bills to provide free transit rides for the elderly

and to halt construction of costly, lavish school buildings. The House passed and sent to the Senate a bill forcing employees to take over black lung payments from the state.

Under the housing measure, a state housing agency would approve low-interest loans to private developers, non-profit groups or individuals for construction of single or multi-family housing for low-and-moderate-income families.

The maximum family income to qualify for the housing is now being computed, but officials said the ceiling might range as high as \$15,000 a year, depending on local economic conditions.

Rents or mortgage payments could be reduced by \$40 a month from going rates through a combination of the tax-free financing and federal subsidies.

New Agency

The agency, to be called the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, would raise money to lend out by selling tax-exempt bonds. Officials figure that loans to builders will carry an interest rate some 2½ percent below the market rate.

Organizations such as church groups, civic associations labor unions and individuals could borrow up to 100 percent of the cost of building the homes or rental units. Private firms can borrow up to 90 percent.

The state is shooting for the first housing units to be started next year. The total number of units that might be built yearly is unknown now, an official said, but he noted that in Michigan, where a similar program is in effect, some 15 percent of annual new housing resulted from the program.

No Appropriations

The state agency will not require an appropriation from the legislature but will be self-supporting through fees from loan applications.

The bill has built into it safeguards to avoid what has plagued other housing programs which involve private enterprise backed by government, such as the scandal-racked Federal Housing Administration program.

The FHA now finds itself owning hundreds of thousands of dilapidated homes because the owners couldn't afford the mortgage payments and repair bills and defaulted on their loans. The FHA then assumes payment on the mortgage.

Safeguards

To prevent this, the new agency is required to consider the proposed project's design, quality of construction and type of community to be built in, such as number of school children, auto movement and employment patterns.

One official said the key element in making the program work would be to ensure the project is well-maintained and offers auxiliary services such as recreation space, community centers, swimming pools and day care centers.

Nov. 22, 1972
TLEN

NOVEMBER 21, 1972

House OKs Strict Anti-abortion Bill; Measure Faces Shapp Veto

By LARRY MARGASAK
(Associated Press Writer)

Harrisburg (P)—Gov. Milton Shapp may have the opportunity to veto a strict anti-abortion bill after the legislature adjourns, thus killing the lawmakers' chance of overriding his decision.

The House passed the measure Monday night on a 127-50 vote that technically approved an amendment added by the Senate. It was the final legislative action before the bill goes to the governor, who said he opposes the measure.

The exact time it arrives on the governor's desk is now the key issue, since he has 10 days to sign a bill, veto it or allow it to become law without his signature.

After the bill passed, House legal officials ruled the measure need not reach Shapp's desk until Wednesday, if it is not delivered until then, the 10 days would be up Dec. 1—a day after the legislature adjourns.

Shapp could wait until that date, and veto the bill with the lawmakers gone.

If supporters had another crack at the legislation, they well might muster the two-thirds vote needed to override the governor. The bill initially passed the House in June, 157-34, and the Senate approved it 39-9 last week.

Senate Action

Meanwhile, the Senate passed 39-9 a proposed constitutional amendment that could give the state a graduate income tax by 1974. The legislation must pass another legislative session before going to the voters.

The senators also approved 41-6 and sent to the House a \$41 million public school aid bill that now includes funding through federal revenue sharing. The measure had passed both houses earlier, but was never signed by the governor because funding was not available.

Abortion Bill

There was little actual debate on the abortion bill Monday night, since its merits were argued last June, during the first House vote.

Rep. Hardy Williams, D-Philadelphia, an opponent, did bring up an oft-repeated argument that "It's the poor people who will be victims of the butcher shops."

Other pro-abortion legislators offered motions to amend or delay the bill, but were voted down easily.

The chief backer of the legislation, Rep. Martin P. Mullen, Philadelphia called on Shapp to take quick action regardless of his decision.

"We delayed the bill time after time," Mullen said. "The governor has to be fair to us."

Mullen said if the governor vetoes the bill before the session ends, he would try to have the lawmakers override the decision with the necessary two-thirds vote in each house. The Senate had approved the measure 39-9 last week.

Abortion Rollcall

Harrisburg (P)—Here is the rollcall by which the House Monday passed an anti-abortion bill, 127-50.

Democrats against: S. A. Anderson, Barber, Berson, Dreibebis, Fryer, Gelfand, Hetrick, Hovis, Irvins, J. Johnson, Kaufman, Kury, Lynch, Melton, Rappaport, Ritter, Savitt, Toll, Williams, Fineman.

Republicans against: Alexander, W. W. Allen, J. H. Anderson, Burkardt, Crowford, Fawcett, Fischer, Fox Geesey, Gring, Haskell, Hill, Horn, Horner, Knepfer, Lehr, Lynch, Mebus, Miller, Pancoast, Piper, Rowe, Schaeffer, Scirica, Seltzer, Spencer, Weidner, Wells, Yohn, Searfoss.

Not Voting: Berkes, Blair, Rowley, A. P. Kelly, Klunk, Manderiino, Meholchick, Morris, O'Donnell, Parker, Pievsky, Schmitt, Shelton, Steele, Stemmler, Stone, Taylor, Good, G. Johnson, Lynch, Mastrangelo, Moore, Moscrip, Saloom, Wilson, Wright.

State Legislators Gathering to Elect Leaders

Harrisburg (AP)—Sen. Richard C. Frame, a Franklin City attorney, was elected Republican leader in the Senate Tuesday, upsetting the current leader, Sen. Robert Fleming, R-Allegheny.

Frame, 46, who has served in the Senate since 1962, will take over the position in January when the next Legislature Session begins.

Fleming was the GOP floor leader for the last two years and has served in the Senate since 1950—as president pro tem for two sessions. He also served in the House from 1938 to 1950.

Frame, of Venango County who rarely takes the floor during Senate debate, said he challenged Fleming "because I was requested to do so by a responsible number of colleagues."

The vote was by secret paper ballot.

The minority leader position carries with it a \$6,000 contingency fund.

Other leadership positions elected:

Minority whip—Stanley Stroup, 68, Bedford County.

Caucus chairman—Wilmot Fleming, 56, Montgomery County.

(Sen. T. Newell Wood of Luzerne County reportedly was seeking this post.)

Caucus secretary—Clarence Bell, 58, Delaware County. Policy Committee chairman—Wayne Ewing, 43, Allegheny County.

Also selecting leaders today were House Democrats and Senate Democrats. The House Republicans will hold their meeting Nov. 30.

The present Legislature expires on Nov. 30. The new one, the 157th, officially takes over on Dec. 1, but will not be sworn in until Jan. 2.

The most dramatic change of positions will occur in the House, where Democrats will lose their control next year.

Republicans, now on the short end of a 112-90 split, will become the majority party in the House, capturing at least 105 seats in the election. Two seats are still contested.

Republicans will take over the House Speaker's chair, which carries with it a \$15,000 contingency fund. The GOP also will control the committee system, which has life and death say over legislation.

In the Senate, Democrats will retain their current 26-24 edge in January.

A rundown of the respective caucuses meeting today:

HOUSE DEMOCRATS

The fight for floor leader originally had all the makings of a bang-up, drag-out political fight, but it's now apparently turned into a simple matter of recording the votes. The battle for minority leader was between the current House Speaker, Herbert Fineman of Philadelphia, and the current majority leader, K. Leroy Irvis of Pittsburgh.

Traditionally, when the majority party became the minority, the speaker moved down to the honorary position of minority policy chairman. But Fineman would have none of this and after actively seeking his colleague's support he apparently secured enough votes to capture the minority leadership.

Irvis is expected to be elected minority whip, or assistant leader.

The current majority whip, Rep. James F. Prendergast of Northampton County, is expected to move down to minority caucus chairman.

Rep. Harry Englehart, of Cambria County, the current caucus chairman, may take the post of minority caucus secretary.

The liveliest part of the session may come when Rep. Robert C. Wise, D-Lycoming, introduces a resolution to vote by secret ballot. In the past, Democrats have voted openly in their secret caucus session.

SENATE DEMOCRATS

Majority Leader Thomas Lamb of Allegheny County and **President Pro Tem** Martin

Murray of Luzerne County are expected to be re-elected easily—either is facing challenges. **The majority whip**—currently Sen. William Sesler of Erie, who was defeated in the primary—is expected to be Sen. Henry Cianfrani of Philadelphia.

A wide-open race is expected for the caucus chairman spot, now held by defeated Donald Oesterling of Butler County. Among those vying are Sens. Henry Messinger, Lehigh; Louis Hill, Philadelphia; Joseph Ammerman, Clearfield, and Thomas McCreesh, Philadelphia.

Sen. Stanley Noszka of Allegheny County, appears to have won the caucus secretary position, now held by Robert Erhart of Berks who was defeated in the primary.

Nov. 21, 1972

TLEN

Shapp Requested To Do Something To Help Anthracite

Mine workers, union leaders and anthracite operators have urged the Shapp administration to help stop the decline of the hard-coal industry.

They met with Shapp and two cabinet members Wednesday on behalf of a committee created by the 1972 contract between mine companies and the United Mine Workers.

Emmett Thomas of Hazleton, a member of the UMW's International Executive Board, said the administration agreed to:

- Push research at Penn State on ways to turn hard coal into natural gas.

- Pressure for continued coal shipments to military installations in West Germany.

- Appoint a liaison between state government and the broad-based Anthracite Industry Study Committee.

"We're hoping that through cooperation it may be possible to stabilize the anthracite industry," Thomas said. "Despite the nation's energy crisis, the anthracite industry is still declining."

The meeting included Environmental Resources Secretary Maurice Goodard, Labor and Industry Secretary Paul Smith, officers of five anthracite-mining companies in Northeastern Pennsylvania, five UMW officials and nine miners.

Most of the men met with federal officials in Washington earlier this month.

According to Thomas, only 6,000 miners are currently at work in anthracite regions, compared to a peak of 183,000 during World War I. They produced 8.7 million tons last year, compared to 100 million tons in anthracite's heyday.

Thomas said that modern devotion to convenience is probably most responsible for the decline. Anthracite remains the cheapest way to heat a house, he said, but the most unpopular

because of the ashes that must be disposed of.

Another factor, he said, was increased environmental concern, which has put stringent regulations on most strip-mining operations, forbidding them in some cases and making them unprofitable in other situations.

Besides the 6,000 men depending on the industry for jobs, Thomas said, some 14,500 are struggling to live on pensions whose levels depend on annual anthracite production.

Pension levels were set at \$100 per month in 1948, Thomas said, but reduced to \$50 in the mid-1950s and to \$30 monthly in the early 1960s.

Nov. 22, 1972

TLEN



the governor's corner

by Clint Morse
Wyoming Valley Observer Columnist

Recently Governor Shapp vetoed the so called Abortion Bill", H800. As a result of his veto of the basically anti-abortion bill, the Governor has come in for sharp criticism from many quarters and has gone to considerable effort to justify his action. He gives as his reasons for the veto: 1. The legislature acted hastily. 2. H800 does not contain provisions for rape, incest and severe harm to the health of the mother. 3. Recommendations of the Abortion Law Commission have been ignored. 4. The bill threatens the rights of our women.

Shapp says that the Minority faction of the Abortion Law Commission, which basically recommended anti-abortion legislation, clearly recognized the problem and made numerous suggestions that were ignored by the legislature. The minority faction of 8 made a full 12 page report of social recommendations, which were ignored.

The Governor says that on the very day that the Abortion Law Commission made its report, a bill came out of the legislative committee that completely ignored the recommendations of the commission.

Shapp says he has always believed in the "sanctity of life" but he says it applies equally to the born and the unborn. He says that H800 is solicitous of the rights of the unborn, but potentially casts aside the rights of every woman in the Commonwealth.

The Legislature failed to over-ride the Governor's veto on bill H800.

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In a related issue, Lawrence J. Beaser, Acting Counsel to the Governor, gave the opinion to Shapp that H800 is unconstitutional and would be so ruled by the courts if it were to pass. Beaser said that in a similar case a three judge Federal Court ruled that a similar statute violated the right of single and married women to choose whether to have children. This, the court ruled, is a "fundamental right...protected by the Ninth Amendment, through the Fourteenth Amendment.

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Beaser suggested that the Governor veto the Bill on legal grounds.

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A bit of irony out of the Governor's office this week. The Governor has signed House Bill 963, the "Scenic Rivers" Bill under which the scenic beauty of our rivers will be protected for future generations. The signing of the bill came at a time when Valley residents were demanding structural protection against the ravages of the Susquehanna River and an "Environmentalist-be-damned" attitude has been frequently expressed.

+++

Governor Shapp has signed Senate Bill S1407 which will provide financing for the development of low and middle income housing through the sale of bonds, thereby costing the taxpayers "not one dime". The plan will provide money for builders at lower than market interest rates and make such money more abundant. Shapp said the bill will also allow money at reduced mortgage interest rates for private home owners.

+++

In swearing in two members of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, Governor Shapp said that he has discussed with them a complete review of the Board's operations and has specifically requested: 1. No price increases without prior public hearing. 2. A study of the feasibility of creating privately owned liquor stores. 3. A study of the location and density of tap rooms throughout the Commonwealth. 4. Review of enforcement procedures. 5. Study of security measures. 6. The Governor is instructing the Attorney General to take court action against the practice of on set price for liquor to all states regardless of the quantities purchased. "We are the largest single purchaser of alcoholic beverages in the country" the Governor said.

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Governor and Mrs. Shapp have announced that again this year they will not send Holiday Greeting Cards but instead will donate the money to charity. They suggest that any organizations or individuals wishing to send them gifts should consider instead sending a donation to their favorite charity.

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Dec. 10, 1972

W.V.O.



the governor's corner

by Clint Morse

The Governor seems extremely annoyed at the failure of the legislature to come up with a legitimate "no-fault" insurance program for the state. He said that Insurance Commissioner Denenberg has "refused to approve a single major auto insurance increase even though \$50 million in company requests" are sitting on his desk.

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Shapp gave Denenberg another pat on the back for his work in the Blue Cross contract fight in Philadelphia. Shapp says the commissioner saved consumers in Philadelphia \$50 million in insurance premiums. Further, he predicts similar situations all across the state.

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The Governor has announced that he is backing an amendment to the Lottery Act which would use lottery money to provide free transportation for elderly citizens of the Commonwealth.

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Governor Shapp announced that he will host a national Governor's Conference in Harrisburg November 30 and December 1 concerning the Pennsylvania system of "Direct Delivery" of Public Welfare checks. Shapp says that many governors have asked information about the Pennsylvania plan which was initiated in October 1971 and which helps eliminate

fraudulent cashing of lost or stolen assistance checks and reduces the number of replacement checks necessary. The Department of Welfare has estimated a saving of \$1 million this year alone with the new plan.

+++

Shapp has called on the state legislature to make haste in passing the following legislation:

1. A sound "no fault" auto insurance law.
2. Elimination of the retail price setting of milk.
3. Free public transportation for the elderly under the Lottery Act.
4. Additional tax relief for 850,000 senior citizens.
5. Put reins on construction of "Taj Mahal" school buildings so that local school costs and property taxes can be under better control.
6. Allocation of the States share in Federal Revenue Sharing so that local communities can benefit and hold the line on taxes or reduce taxes.

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The Governor is helping Dickinson College of Carlisle celebrate its 200th Anniversary today in Harrisburg. Tonight (Sunday) he will present the Dickinson Art Award to Eugene Ormandy and Orchestra.

Nov. 19, 1972

Wyoming
Valley
Observer

FROM HARRISBURG

By GEORGE CLARK

Sen. T. Newell Wood Scheduled to Become New Caucus Chairman of Senate Republicans

HARRISBURG—While House Democrats, reduced to a minority caucus in the 1973 legislative session, are battling over their floor leader's job, Senate Republicans this week may have their own brawl.

Senate Minority Leader

Robert D. Fleming, R-Alegheny County, has scheduled a GOP caucus session for 9:30 a.m. Tuesday for a reorganization meeting at which time he will ask to be retained as floor leader.

Sen. H. Newell Wood, R-Luzerne County, will figure prominently in the caucus discussion—if not debate or fight—when his name will be advanced as the party's new caucus chairman.

The present chairman is Sen. D. Elmer Hawbaker of Franklin County, who is ending a 12-year Senate career after deciding not to run for a new term this year.

Instead, Hawbaker ran unsuccessfully for Congress. He was defeated in the April 25 primary election.

Fleming and Wood are close personal and political friends and are regarded as moderates in their legislative persuasions.

IN ADDITION to the floor leader and caucus chairman, GOP senators will try to reach agreement on candidates for two other caucus officers—minority whip, the second top job, and caucus secretary, the fourth top.

Sen. Stanley G. Stroup, R-Bedford, the present minority whip, apparently will be unopposed to retain his post for another two years.

However, Fleming reportedly will face opposition in his bid from Sen. Richard C. Frame of Venango County for the floor leadership.

Frame and Fleming had been close political allies, but Frame has been voting more and more apart from Fleming.

For caucus secretary, Sen. Clarence F. Manbeck of Lebanon County said he will oppose Sen. Clarence D. Bell of Delaware County, who now holds the job.

Bell informed his colleagues he was candidate for either secretary or chairman of the caucus.

ANOTHER southeasterner, Sen. Wilmot E. Fleming of Montgomery County, was expected to have little trouble retaining his job as chairman of the Republican policy committee.

In the House, minority Democrats are staging a closed-door knife-and-dagger battle between House Speaker Herbert Fineman of Philadelphia and Majority Leader K. Leroy Irvis of Pittsburgh.

Each wants to become the new minority floor leader.

The two majority caucuses—House Republicans and Senate Democrats—are having relatively calm discussions over their respective list of leaders.

House Minority Leader

Kenneth B. Lee, R-Sullivan County, has solid caucus support to become the chamber's new speaker, replacing Fineman, when the Republicans take control of the House in January.

HOWEVER, a battle is brewing between Policy Chairman Matthew J. Ryan of Delaware County and Caucus Chairman Donald W. Fox of Lawrence County for the post of majority whip.

That spot, on the Republican side, is held by Rep. Robert J. Butera of Montgomery County, who wants to become Lee's successor as floor leader.

Senate Democrats will retain Sen. Martin L. Murray of Luzerne County as president pro tem, the No. 2 job in the Senate under the lieutenant governor, and Majority Leader Thomas F. Lamb of Pittsburgh for new two-year terms.

Some maneuvering is going on for some of the other Senate Democratic posts, but the only one up in the air yet is that of caucus chairman.

Sunday Independent

Nov. 19, 1972

In State Democratic House Shuffle

Fineman to Become Minority Leader While Irvis Is Slated for Whip Post

HARRISBURG (UPD)—House Speaker Herbert Fineman has won a battle with Majority Leader K. Leroy Irvis for the top job in the Democratic side of the House next January, it was learned.

Both Irvis and Fineman had vowed to fight for the role of minority leader during the next session, when the Republicans take control.

But a source said Fineman and Irvis made a "deal" to settle the dispute. Fineman will be the minority leader and Irvis will be the minority whip, he said.

"The deal was based on the fact that Fineman clearly had the majority of the votes," the source said.

The Democratic members of the House in the next session will meet in December to vote on their leadership. Harvey Thiemann, state party chairman, will preside.

Duel Created

The Irvis-Fineman duel was created when the Republicans won at least 105 House seats in the Nov. 7 election, putting the Democrats in the minority with at least 96. Two races still are undecided.

The Republican takeover means that the GOP will take over the speaker's chair, probably filling it with present

Minority Leader Kenneth B. Lee, R-Sullivan.

This left the Democrats with more leaders than it has leadership positions.

Both Irvis and Fineman characterized the problem as a battle between Philadelphia and Allegheny Counties. Fineman comes from Philadelphia and Irvis, a black man, from Pittsburgh.

Personality Fight

It also was a fight between personalities. Fineman characterized Irvis as "too philosophical." Irvis indicated he thought Fineman would be unable to compromise with the Republicans.

Fineman raised about \$50,000 for his fellow Democratic candidates during the last election campaign and doled it out to those he determined were "in trouble." Sources said this increased his popularity among the Democratic members.

Rep. James Prendergast, D-Northumberland, the current Democratic whip, has not yet

decided whether he will yield his position to Irvis without a fight, according to sources.

For the job of Democratic caucus chairman, Rep. Harry Englehart, D-Cambria, appears to have enough support to be re-elected. Englehart won by only 74 votes in the last week's general election and his seat will not be safe until the official vote count is finished.

Sources said Rep. Joseph Wargo, D-Lackawanna, the caucus secretary, will be replaced by a "younger man."

The job of policy committee chairman, originally created for retiring speakers like Fineman, will go to a member of the rural bloc, according to a source.

He mentioned the names of Rep. Ken Shelhamer, D-Columbia, or Rep. Robert Wise, D-Lycoming.

TAX OFFICE TO CLOSE

The Hanover Township tax office will be closed on Thursday and Friday due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

OCTOBER 2, 1972

Nixon Bill to Have U.S. Send County and 21 Local Towns \$5,019,123

Luzerne County and 21 of its municipalities will receive a total of \$5,019,123 in federal-revenue sharing funds before the end of this month, according to U. S. Senator Hugh Scott.

The senator said the revenue-sharing funds can be used by local governments for priority expenditures which include main-

tenance and operating expenses for public safety, environmental protection, public transportation, health, recreation, libraries, social services, financial administration and ordinary and necessary capital expenditures authorized by law.

The money comes from legislation proposed by President

Nixon when he took office. The President is expected to sign the act in early October.

"This is historic legislation which enables the federal government to share with local governments," Senator Scott pointed out. "Since the federal government has the biggest tax base we should assist communities and the states which bear the brunt of our more difficult domestic problems," the Senate Republican leader said.

Stating this is true "people-to-people government," Senator Scott said local officials can spend their funds where they believe they can do the most.

Pennsylvania will receive nearly \$274,000,000 from the \$5,300,000,000 in the first year. A total of \$91,300,000 goes to state government under the program.

Luzerne County government will receive \$1,848,437.

Grants to municipalities follow:

Ashley Borough	\$32,837
Dallas Borough	\$21,360
Dupont Borough	\$15,531
Duryea Borough	\$49,437
Edwardsville Borough	\$48,620
Exeter Borough	\$39,837
Forty Fort Borough	\$36,576
Freeland Borough	\$11,047
Hazleton City	\$353,906
Kingston Borough	\$118,575
Larksville Borough	\$39,581
Luzerne Borough	\$34,109
Nanticoke City	\$122,006
Pittston City	\$113,315
Plymouth Borough	\$73,463
Swoyersville Borough	\$119,412
West Hazleton Borough	\$51,850
West Pittston Borough	\$36,608
West Wyoming Borough	\$19,306
Wilkes-Barre City	\$1,053,397
Wyoming Borough	\$21,507

OCTOBER 10, 1972

Senate Passes Bill on Busing

Harrisburg — Rep. Frank J. O'Connell (R-Luzerne) Monday announced that H. B. 1480, providing for additional school busing, and as originally passed by the House, has been approved by the Senate and sent to the Governor for his signature.

O'Connell explained that Senator T. Newell Wood successfully amended the bill on the Senate Floor to reinstate a House amendment waiving the minimum required distance for busing when "highway, road or traffic conditions" are such that "walking constitutes a hazard to the safety of the child."

"I have been fighting for over a year to obtain busing for children who live within 1½ miles

of the schools and who must now walk along dangerous roads and highways, gravely endangering their lives for 180 days out of every year," he added.

"I am very pleased that Senator Wood was able to obtain the Senate approval of this proposal so that Pennsylvania's children

will no longer face the hazardous and unsafe traffic conditions of our highways every day."

H. B. 1480 will provide busing for kindergarten and elementary school children, living within 1½ miles of the school, where road and traffic conditions are such as cause hazards to the children.

T.L.E.N.

Question of Direct Aid to Flood Victims on November 7th Ballot

Pennsylvania voters will decide Nov. 7 if the state should provide direct grants and tax breaks to individuals and businesses hurt by the June flood.

The issue—the only statewide referendum on the ballot—would, if approved, eliminate a constitutional ban on direct aid.

Such aid would apply to damage from tropical storm Agnes as well as the Chester flood in September 1971.

The direct grants, part of Gov. Milton Shapp's flood relief program, would go to those whom the state felt didn't receive enough federal help.

Norval Reece, special assistant to the governor, said the direct grants would go mainly to small businessmen, and individuals who couldn't afford to pay back a loan—even a generous one.

The federal government's prin-

cipal means of providing flood relief is by Small Business Administration loans. The first \$5,000 of the loans are free, but the remainder must be paid at 1 percent interest.

Forms of Aid

Reece said the direct grant program could help such people as:

—A farmer whose cornfield was ruined, and needs \$90,000 to replace the topsoil. With his principal source of income gone, the men couldn't afford a loan that would require him to repay \$85,000, plus interest.

—An elderly homeowner with no income, who couldn't afford to repay a large loan even if he lived long enough to do so.

—A small businessman who lost everything.

Charles P. McIntosh, state budget secretary, said the administration doesn't know how

much money would be available for direct grants.

He noted the legislature has approved \$150 million for flood relief, with \$19 million already spent, and more bills coming due. However, it's unknown how much of that money will be reimbursed by Washington, McIntosh said.

The question reads:

"Should Article 8 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be amended to give The General Assembly authority to provide tax rebates, credits, exemptions, grants-in-aid, state supplementations or special provisions for individuals, corporations, associations or nonprofit institutions, including nonpublic schools to alleviate the danger, damage, suffering or hardship faced as a result of storms or floods of September 1971 and June 1972."

Oct. 17, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Governor Shapp has signed HB 777 which sets up a Commonwealth Compensation Commission to study salaries and emoluments of the State's principal officers in the executive, legislative, and judicial branches.

The bill also calls for an increase in legislative expense accounts of \$3,600 a year—a boost of 75 per cent. The expense account provision—which neatly circumvents the constitutional prohibition against legislators voting themselves pay increases—raises legislative income to \$15,600 a year. It is worth much more than that, however, because \$8,400 of it is unaudited and not taxable as income.

The money for legislative expense accounts comes, of course, from the 3.5 per cent State income tax, now being removed from the pay envelopes of every worker in the Commonwealth.

It is customary in Pennsylvania for the lawmakers to dip their hands into the taxpayers' pockets as early in the legislative term as possible in hopes the voters will forget the gouging before the next election rolls around.

Many do, of course, which explains why some legislators are returned to Harrisburg term after term in spite of mediocre records. If you feel those who voted for a larger expense account are unjustly benefiting themselves at your expense, you are urged to express your opinion the next time they stand for election.

Although not every member of the General Assembly voted for the expense account grab, every member of the delegation from Luzerne County was aboard the gravy train. We list them here, along with the Governor, for ready reference the next time their names appear on the ballot.

Meholchick, Stanley A., Ashley
Murray, Martin L., Ashley
O'Brien, Bernard F., Wilkes-Barre
O'Connell, Frank J., Jr., Kingston
Shapp, Milton J., Merion
Shupnik, Fred J., Luzerne
Ustynoski, James J., Hazleton
Wood, T. Newell, Harveys Lake

Meholchick claims to be a friendly Representative, yet he voted for the State Income Tax which costs YOU between \$200 and \$400 a year.

REPUBLICANS, DEMOCRATS, Vote for George Hasa
and he will vote AGAINST the State Income Tax

Nov. 6, 1972

T.L.E.N.

NOVEMBER 24, 1972

No-fault Auto Insurance May Be Cleared on Tuesday

Harrisburg (AP) — A no-fault auto insurance bill may yet survive the recent collision between Gov. Milton J. Shapp and a joint House-Senate conference committee over points in a proposed compromise on the measure.

"We're still discussing things," Sen. Joseph Ammerman, D.-Clearfield, one of the six conferees, said Wednesday, "but I would say there is a definite possibility we'll come up with some understanding by next Tuesday."

Richard Doran, a top administrative aide, said that "communications are very much alive and moving."

A self-imposed deadline of Wednesday came and went without a no-fault bill, but Ammerman said there's still time to iron out a measure. He said the deadline didn't pan out because a key conference committee member, Rep. William Yohn, R.-Montgomery, was out of Harrisburg to attend a vote recount in his district.

Ammerman said Yohn and Rep. James Ritter, D.-Lehigh, the two conferees doing the most talking, may meet Friday or early next week and be ready to report a bill to the whole legislature on Wednesday. At midnight the following day, the legislature expires.

The joint House-Senate conference committee agreed on a bill before the elections but the compromise exploded when Gov. Shapp threatened to veto it if it reached his desk.

Talks then were discontinued until after elections. Since the conferees have been meeting informally in small groups.

Yohn and Ritter have met with Shapp and Insurance Commissioner Herbert Denenberg on-and-off the last two weeks to sound out positions.

The major Shapp objection to the conference report was a provision that the administration said would fail to cut down, on the number of lawsuits, the key aim of no-fault legislation. The provision would allow suits to be

filed against anyone if it can be proven a defective part in the car caused the accident.

Ammerman said the stumbling block has largely been resolved by allowing suits for defective parts, but only against the car manufacturer.

No-fault legislation provides automatic benefits to auto accident victims, regardless of who's at fault, but restricts the power to file suits for pain and suffering.

6-member Committee To Work on No-fault

Harrisburg (AP) — A six-man conference committee made up of supporters and opponents of the Shapp administration's no-fault auto insurance bill was appointed Tuesday to iron out differences between House and Senate versions of the bill.

The committee, composed of three members, from each chamber, will begin its work of carving out a no-fault bill Wednesday. House Speaker Herbert Fineman said he hoped the committee would finish its work by week's end, ready for a legislative vote next Monday.

The Senate-passed bill, which the administration supports, was riddled with 11 amendments by the House last week. On a voice vote Tuesday, the Senate again supported its version, and sent the bill to conference.

The committee contains three strong no-fault backers, one strong opponent of the administration plan and two leaning against it.

However, two of three committee members from each chamber must approve a bill before it is put before the full legislature.

The Senate appointees are: William Sesler, D-Erie, and Joseph Ammerman, D-Clearfield, both strong administration supporters, and Edwin G. Holl, R-Montgomery, who is leaning against the administration.

The House appointees are Eugene Gelfand, D-Philadelphia, a staunch opponent of the administration plan, James Ritter, D-Lehigh, a no-fault supporter, and William Yohn, R-Montgomery, leaning against the administration.

Thus, the administration will have Sesler and Ammerman supporting the bill in the senate group but only Ritter in the House group. Because Gelfand is fervently against Shapp's no-fault bill, Yohn is considered the key committee member for the administration to get a bill to its liking.

Senate President Pro Tem Martin Murray, D-Luzerne, an administration supporter, appointed Sesler and Ammerman, and Minority Leader Robert Fleming, R-Allegheny, appointed Holl.

House Speaker Fineman, who opposes the Shapp bill, selected Gelfand and Ritter and Minority Leader Kenneth Lee, R-Sullivan, picked Yohn.

The conferees agreed in separate interviews that the crucial point to be resolved is a provision setting a ceiling on medical expenses before allowing "pain and suffering."

"If we get an agreement on this one, everything else will fall in line," said Ritter.

Both House and Senate bills provide that an auto accident victim must have \$1,000 in medi-

cal bills to sue for pain and suffering losses. The House amended the bill, however, to provide that if the courts find this restriction on suits unconstitutional the rest of the bill still stands.

The administration asserts that if that occurs, insurance costs could increase by up to 50 per cent because auto accident victims could receive double benefits — from their insurance company and by suing for pain and suffering.

Sesler said the clause must be removed, so that if it is found unconstitutional, the whole bill will be thrown out.

To get it removed, however, the administration may have to lower the \$1,000 medical threshold in return. The anti-no-fault legislators tried to lower it to \$500 in the House but the amendment was defeated.

The conferees were confident that a "good" bill would be produced in several days.

"The salient fact is that we have to have a bill that will work or we accomplished nothing," said Ammerman. "I'm not on the committee to produce window-dressing."

Ritter said many of the 11 House amendments were "frosting on the cake," saying they may have been thrown in simply as bargaining leverage in the conference committee.

"In any compromise, there has to be give-and-take," Ritter said. "Neither side is going to get everything it wants."

Yohn said the medical threshold provision "is a major departure in law" that "needs study to make sure we are enacting constitutional language."

He declined to say if he would push for removal of the House amendment or for a lower medical threshold.

The House bill calls for insurance companies to reduce liability premiums by 15 per cent while the Senate's provides for a 10 per cent reduction. The cuts would be made only if the insurance company were financially sound, however, and that would be determined by the insurance commissioner.

No-fault Legislation Compromise Collapses

Harrisburg (AP)—A compromise no-fault bill that had been expected to go to the legislature this week fell apart Sunday under the threat of a veto by Gov. Shapp.

Rep. William H. Yohn, R-Montgomery, said that because of the governor's position on the compromise, he was withdrawing his signature from a plan accepted earlier by a legislative conference committee.

"It would be an exercise in futility for the legislature to return to Harrisburg for the sole purpose of giving Gov. Shapp a no-fault bill to veto," said Yohn, whose earlier support gave the compromise plan the minimum of backers needed to release the bill from the six-member committee. Two other conferees also had refused to sign the plan.

An administration spokesman

said the committee was still alive and could work up another compromise.

Shapp, reacting to Yohn's statement, said, "I would hope that the conference committee would continue its work."

Shapp said he would be willing to work along with the conferees to develop another compromise.

"I said all along that we cannot have a bill which pretends to provide more benefits to the people while keeping provisions which could raise costs by 20 per cent more than the present system," Shapp said.

"But that is what a conference report does and that is why it is unacceptable."

Shapp said Friday he would veto the compromise because in the long run it would raise rather than lower, auto insurance premiums.

Oct. 16, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Oct. 11, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Committee Will Begin Work on No-fault Bill

Harrisburg (AP) — A House-Senate conference committee is expected to begin work this week on the accident-prone no-fault car insurance bill. The Shapp administration hopes to get it on the road by election day.

Both chambers return Tuesday for what are expected to be token sessions. The Senate is expected to refuse to accept the weakened House version of the no-fault bill, formally sending it to the conference committee.

The House passed a no-fault measure last Thursday, adding 11 amendments to the Senate-approved bill. These amendments, some unwanted by the administration, will be the focal points for the conference committee.

Whether Gov. Shapp gets his wish for a no-fault law before election day will depend on whom legislative leaders appoint to the six-man committee. Because of a Democratic split over no-fault, a stalemate could develop in the conference committee.

The administration fears that once pressure from back home is relieved after the elections, some legislators may change and vote against no-fault legislation. The administration also wants Democratic candidates to have a major consumer bill to present to the voters.

House Speaker Herbert Fineman and Senate President Pro Tem Martin Murray, on opposite sides of the no-fault issue, will appoint two of the three members from each chamber. House Minority Leader Kenneth Lee and Senate Minority Leader Robert Fleming will appoint one member each.

The names of conference committee members are expected to be announced formally Tuesday. The committee could get to work the same day. If the group can't reach a compromise, it would be dissolved and a new one appointed. This could take weeks, however.

Various leaders contacted were optimistic a no-fault bill would

be worked out, but were uncertain when.

Lee said he was "positive" the conference committee would agree on a bill, but only "hopeful" it would come before elections.

Fineman, who has fought no-fault, said he would push for a no-fault bill before Nov. 7.

Lee said the issue "won't die if not acted on before elections." He said no-fault is an issue that 85 per cent of the legislators agree has to be solved.

Rep. William H. Yohn Jr., R-Montgomery, whom Lee indicated he would appoint, also said he did not see election deadline as "significant."

"My interest in the thing is not to satisfy the trial lawyers or the insurance companies, but in trying to work out language that will be an effective compromise. I have no hard, fast position either for or against certain things," Yohn said.

Yohn said he considered the two major factors in a compromise were a mandatory premium reduction and any limits placed on pain and suffering suits.

The House bill calls for a 15 per cent liability premium reduction and the Senate, 10 per cent. "We've sold the bill to the public as reducing premiums and we have to keep to that," Yohn said.

Both House and Senate bills require an accident victim to have \$1,000 in medical bills before being allowed to go to court to recover for intangible losses resulting from the accident.

The House defeated an amendment to lower the threshold to \$500, a move that would have made it easier to sue.

The administration hopes to remove a provision that would keep the bill in effect even if the threshold clause is thrown out by the courts as unconstitutional. Insurance Commissioner Herbert Denenberg has said premiums would go up 20 to 30 per cent if this occurred.

Could Mean Bill's Demise

Committee To Postpone Next No-Fault Meeting

HARRISBURG (AP)—A special legislative committee will postpone its next meeting on no-fault auto insurance until after the Nov. 7 election, according to the chairman.

Most state officials believe this means the final demise of the bill.

"There would be no purpose in calling the legislature back before the election," Rep. Eugene Gelfand, D-Philadelphia, said. "We've decided to wait until after the election."

Gov. Milton J. Shapp had been pushing for no-fault passage before the election.

Insurance Commissioner Herbert Denenberg, who wrote the original bill, said there is no hope for it if it is postponed beyond Nov. 7.

"If nothing is done before the election," Denenberg, "you won't see any action on it when they come back."

Election Year Issue

Shapp and Denenberg appeared to be trying to make no-fault into an election year issue, forcing the legislature to pass it. But that failed, according to Gelfand.

"I've talked to a number of people who are campaigning," he said. "They have received very little flack about not passing no-fault."

"It is dormant as an issue. All the furor appears to be emanating from the governor's office and the editorial pages," Gelfand said most candidates

find the people do not understand no-fault.

People Confused

"People say they're confused about no-fault," he said. "It is not such a simplistic issue as the commissioner Denenberg seems to think."

The Senate passed a version of no-fault which Shapp wanted, but the House tacked on many amendments.

The conference committee came up with a so-called "compromise" Sept. 13. Shapp threatened to veto it, causing one of the conferees, Rep. William Yohn, R-Montgomery, to withdraw his signature.

Gelfand and Sen. William Sesler also refused to sign it. Gelfand is opposed to no-fault and Sesler favors it. Neither of them favored the compromise.

Shapp asked the conference committee to meet again to come up with a different version before the election.

Let Tempers 'Unfray'

Dick Doran, aide to Shapp, said he was not aware the conference committee had decided to postpone the discussion until after the election. But he indicated the governor was not applying any pressure.

"I think we should allow whatever tempers were frayed think it is a question whether any legislators would return to Harrisburg even if they were called back into session before the election."

"They want to campaign." The legislature officially is adjourned until Nov. 13.

Fineman said he considered this one of the key points of any negotiations. He indicated the continuance clause might be removed in return for the administration lowering the \$1,000 threshold.

"In a give-and-take proposition, the anti-no-fault people may want to yield up a considerable amount to get the threshold lowered," Fineman said.

Many legislators have attacked the medical threshold as unconstitutional because it restricts a person's right to sue.

Under no-fault, accident victims would get up to \$10,000 in out-of-pocket benefits from their own insurance company regardless of who caused the accident. In return for reduced premiums and prompt payments, a person is restricted in suing for pain and suffering.

Oct. 22, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Oct. 16, 1972

T.L.E.N.

No-fault Summary

Harrisburg (AP) — Here are the major changes made in the administration's no-fault bill in an effort to gain support. Compromise bill and original bill are compared.

BENEFITS—Compromise bill: \$10,000 total per accident victim for medical expenses wage loss, funeral expenses, substitute services, such as baby-sitter.

Original: \$69,225 total per accident victim, broken down as: \$50,000, medical expenses; \$9,100, loss of wages; \$1,000 funeral expenses; \$9,125 substitute services.

In both bills, the benefits are paid automatically by your own insurance company regardless of who was at fault.

MEDICAL THRESHOLD—An accident victim may not go to court to recover for pain and suffering if his medical expenses are below the threshold.

Compromise: \$1,000.

Original: \$2,500.

Included in the compromise threshold was a provision allowing up to \$100 in diagnostic and

x-ray expenses to be included in the \$1,000 threshold. Diagnostic and x-ray bills were not allowed in original.

DAMAGE THRESHOLD — A person may sue for pain and suffering if he is injured in the following ways, despite what his medical bills are:

Compromise: Severe, irreparable and cosmetic disfigurement or permanent, significant loss of an important bodily function.

Original: Severe, permanent and irreparable disfigurement, or permanent, significant loss of an important bodily function.

MANDATORY PREMIUM REDUCTION—Compromise: 10 percent.

Original: No reduction until it was amended on floor to provide 15 percent reduction.

COMPULSORY LIABILITY INSURANCE: Compromise: Compulsory in amounts of \$15,000 for one person, \$30,000 for all persons involved in accident, and \$5,000 property damage.

Original: \$10,000, \$20,000 and \$5,000.

Sept. 29, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Tax Relief Sought

Shapp Likes Scott Bill To Help Flood Victims

Sen. Hugh Scott, R-Pa., has introduced a bill that would exclude flood victims from having to pay federal income tax on the amount forgiven with Small Business Administration (SBA) loans.

Senate Bill 3971, introduced by Scott two weeks ago, has gone to the Committee on Finance.

A spokesman for the senator said he expects the bill to come out of committee this session.

The bill came out because of the federal government's two-handed treatment of flood victims.

With one hand, the SBA is giving flood victims up to \$5,000 in the form of forgiveness on SBA loans taken to repair or replace flood-damaged homes.

With the other hand, the government, through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), will tax that forgiven money as income.

That means, the Pennsylvanian who borrows \$10,000 from the SBA at 1% interest, will have to pay back only \$5,000.

But the other \$5,000, which is a grant, will be considered income and will be taxed accordingly.

Scott is attempting to retract one of those hands by amending the Internal Revenue code "so as to exclude from gross income amounts of disaster relief loans canceled pursuant to the laws of the United States.

"In this way," Scott told Congress, "the government is not placed in a position of giving money with one hand and tak-

ing it away with the other."

A spokesman for Gov. Shapp said he supports the Scott bill, but has asked Sen. Richard S. Schweiker, R-Pa., to obtain a formal ruling from the IRS on the tax question.

Will Take New Rule

A Scott aide said, however, that his office had already obtained such a ruling, being advised by the IRS that it would "take a new bill" to relieve flood victims from the tax.

The Shapp spokesman said, however, that the governor is also asking the IRS for an "important ruling" on the personal and casualty losses that flood victims will be able to write off on income tax forms.

Specifically, Shapp is seeking to determine whether the net loss will be considered the value of the home or goods, as depreciated, or the cost of replacing them.

The effect of computing the losses on the latter basis, the spokesman said, would be to offset the IRS tax on the forgiven money.

He added that he hopes to have a ruling from the IRS next week.

In noting the governor's sup-

port for the Scott bill, the spokesman said:

Unnecessary Hardships

"We don't think the flood victims should be hit with unnecessary hardships."

An aide to the senator said he does not expect any real opposition to the bill, stating it is "uncontroversial, and aimed at helping those who are 'less fortunate.'"

In pushing for passage of the legislation, Scott said it would allow the forgiveness feature of the SBA loan program to have its "full impact," and enable "victims of these terrible tragedies . . . to adjust more quickly."

Oct. 1, 1972

Sunday
Independent.

OCTOBER 3, 1972

T.L.E.N.

County Legislators Vote Death Penalty for Murder

Harrisburg — This is the voting record (again unusually heavy) of area lawmakers during the week of September 25-30—including House passage of a death penalty by lethal gas—with voting as follows on major legislation by local legislators. (Reps. Stanley A. Meholchick, Ashley; Raphael Musto, Pittston; Bernard F. O'Brien, Wilkes-Barre; Frank J. O'Connell, Kingston; Fred J. Shupnik, Luzerne; James J. Ustynoski, Hazleton; and Senators Martin L. Murray, Ashley and T. Newell Wood, Harveys Lake):

House Of Representatives

HB 816—(Defeated)—Requires insurance companies to reimburse individual and group policy holders who received treatment from chiropractors. (Meholchick — No; Musto — No; O'Brien — No; O'Connell — No; Shupnik — No; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 884 — (Passed) — Establishes a mandatory sentence of death by lethal gas for seven types of murder in Pennsylvania. It was drafted to comply with a recent U. S. Supreme Court decision against capital punishment. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto —No; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1108 — (Passed) — Permits post-high school technical institutes to be established anywhere in Pennsylvania, not just in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh as at present. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1969—Concurrence in Senate amendments (approved) to this bill requiring all state contractors to adhere to environmental protection rules and regulations. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2016—(Passed)—Excludes silos and storage bins from consideration in determining a farm's property value. The purpose is to hold down property taxes. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto —Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell —Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski —Yes)

HB 2088— (Passed)—Violators of third through eighth class county ordinances would be subject to a summary conviction and penalties up to \$300 or jail terms up to 30 days. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien —Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik —Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

quires automobile title certificates to state clearly if the auto up for sale had been submerged in water above its flood level. (Meholchick — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski — Yes)

HB 2491 — (Passed) — Creates a \$100,000 fund to pay moral claims for persons wrongfully imprisoned for 11 years or more. (Meholchick — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski — Yes)

HB 2512 — (Passed) — Prevents draft evaders and armed forces deserters from voting by absentee ballots. (Meholchick — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski — Yes)

SB 877 — (Passed) — Increases from \$10 to \$20 per member the maximum amount to be paid by municipalities to municipal police retirement programs. (Meholchick — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski — Yes)

SB 1669 — (Passed) — Appropriates \$16 million to Philadelphia schools and another \$25 million to some 200 other school districts across the State. (Meholchick — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — No; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—Yes) (Special Session No. 1)

SB 3 — (Passed) — Allows counties, boroughs, towns, townships and school districts to lessen the real estate taxes imposed for the year 1972 for any property owners suffering flood damages that total at least 10 per cent of assessed valuation. (Meholchick — Did Not Vote; Musto — Did Not Vote; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski — Yes)

HB 14 — (Passed) — Authorizes various departments of the state to make flood-related repairs and improvements for units of local government. (Meholchick —Did Not Vote; Musto—Did Not Vote; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

SENATE

SB 218 — (Passed) — Requires big game hunters to wear 250 square inches of fluorescent red or orange cloth on their back or else similar cloth as headwear. A \$20 penalty is stipulated. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 455 — (Passed) — Rewrites and modernizes the 11-year-old state criminal statutes. No change is made pertaining to

SB 1519—(Passed)—Permits 18-year-olds to sue and be sued. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes).

SB 1575—(Passed)—Spells out procedures for the retention election of judges of the Commonwealth Court similar to those for the Superior and Supreme Court. (Murray—No; Wood—No).

HB 69—Amendment (approved) which writes a mandatory 15 per cent premium reduction in the Shapp Administration's "no fault" auto insurance bill. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes).

HB 69 — Amendment (approved) providing automatic payment for property damage under this "no fault" auto insurance bill. (Murray — No; Wood—No)

HB 921 — (Passed) — Includes loan-sharking as a racketeering activity as set forth in the 1970 Pennsylvania Corrupt Organizational Act. (Murray—Yes; Wood —Yes)

HB 1343 — Move to override (approved) veto by Governor Shapp to this bill taking the power of selecting agricultural research projects out of the hands of the Secretary of Agriculture and placing it instead with a 15-member committee. Last week the House took similar action by a 143-43 vote, thus marking the first time a gubernatorial veto was upset since 1917 and even that (which was the first in Pennsylvania history) was done at the request of Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh. (Murray —No; Wood—No)

HB 1572—(Passed)—Creates a Municipal Officers' Education and Training Program within the Pennsylvania State Police. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 1725 — (Passed) — Expands the Anthracite and Bituminous Coal and Clay Mine Subsidence Fund by extending its provisions to all types of structures in these mining regions as well as homes. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 1829—(Passed)—Permits handicapped persons to hunt from an auto with a weapon having a three-shell capacity or a chamber with a plug. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 1999—(Passed) — Permits notices of cancellation of hunting privileges to be mailed by certified rather than registered mail. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 2000—(Passed) — Requires, for the first time, that turkeys be tagged. Bear would have to be presented to Game Officials for exam within 24 hours and deer kills would have tighter tagging and reporting provisions. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

[illegible]

2 State Bills Will Assist Flood Areas

Legislation Will Aid People, Governments With Tax Problems

Harrisburg (AP) — The House bills Tuesday designed to aid local governments and citizens in recovery from the floods caused by tropical storm Agnes.

The first measure, passed 183-5 and sent on to the Senate, would authorize the Department of Property and Supplies to provide flood-related services to units of local government throughout the Commonwealth, under contracts entered into by the state.

The second Senate-passed bill sent on to Gov. Shapp, permits local taxing authorities to grant real estate tax abatements on property suffering at least 10 per cent damage because of flood.

The taxing bodies would be permitted to refund taxes already paid for the current fiscal year to give credit for the amount paid against future real estate taxes.

Sept. 27, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Tax Rebate Bill For Flood Loss Passes Senate

Wyoming Valley persons whose properties were damaged by the flood will receive some financial relief through a tax rebate bill passed by the State Senate Monday night.

Chief sponsor of the bill in the Senate was President Pro Tempore Martin L. Murray and Sen. T. Newell Wood was among the cosponsors. Measure, which passed the House earlier, had Reps. Bernard O'Brien, Frank O'Connell and Fred Shupnik among the sponsors.

Bill has been sent to Gov. Milton J. Shapp for his signature. Last week, Sen. Murray reported Gov. Shapp gave assurance he would sign the bill.

To be eligible for the rebate, property must have been either completely destroyed or suffered damage in an amount equal to

or greater than the real estate tax paid on the property.

The taxing bodies, the county, municipality and school district, may either refund the tax or give future credit for it if the tax already has been paid for the year.

A person seeking a tax abatement or refund must petition the taxing body by Jan. 1, 1973.

Bill language indicates that anyone who suffered damage exceeding the amount of yearly taxes paid to local taxing bodies can qualify. In other words, if a property owner's taxes for the year were \$500 and his property damage from the flood was \$500 or more, he would be among those entitled to a rebate. However, the rebate will not be automatic, because the flood victim would have to file a petition for the rebate.

Oct. 3, 1972

T.L.E.N.

State Agency Receives 537 Applications For Repair Work to Flood-damaged Homes

The Commonwealth's Property Improvement Program began repairs to 336 homes during the last three weeks of September, including 235 dwellings that required repair or replacement of heating units.

PIP's report for the period September 11-30 indicates six projects have been completed and another 309 jobs are near completion.

Overall, the State agency has received some 357 applications for repairs to flood-damaged homes.

PIP is one of three home repair programs underway in the flood area. The others are the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' mini-repair program, and Wilkes-Barre Redevelopment Authority's South Wilkes-Barre repair program.

Mini-repair will end on October 31. About 700 of the 2,700 mini-repair projects have been completed, and the remainder are scheduled for completion by the end of this month.

The city redevelopment authority's emergency home repair program is an extension of mini-repair. All three programs have the same goal—to make homes of flood victims liveable prior to the onset of winter weather.

For those unable to repair their homes, the Federal government announced Wednesday that still another program—"Winterseal"—is available to board up windows and drain water and heating systems. Repair work then could start on these homes in the spring.

To date, some 3,200 people have applied for some type of home repair program.

Karl Nardell, director of PIP, said the 336 jobs contracted to date by the agency include such work as heating systems, plumbing, electrical, painting, carpentry and masonry. Most of the jobs are less than \$2,000, he said. PIP has 13 contractors at work, he added.

Many of the mini-repair program jobs also involve repair or replacement of heating systems.

All three programs have been or will utilize the services of out-of-town contractors. Some controversy developed late in the summer over the use of these firms. Local contractors and the Wyoming Valley Building Trades Council said an adequate supply of labor existed in the valley, but the government turned to out-of-town firms to assist in the recovery effort.

Oct. 7, 1972

T.L.E.N.

2 Agencies Are Held Ignoring Complaints

Gov. Milton Shapp said Friday that two Federal agencies, the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Small Business Administration, have been "particularly unresponsive" in handling complaints forwarded to them by the State.

The governor made the charge at an early-afternoon press conference at the Catholic Youth Center, headquarters for his Governor's Council of State Agencies for Flood Relief. The council is chaired by William H. Wilcox, Secretary of Community Affairs.

On other matters, Gov. Shapp presented a \$1,500,000 check to Wilkes-Barre Redevelopment Authority for use in making home repairs under the Interim Assistance Program, and he urged a "yes" vote on the Constitutional amendment question on the Nov. 7 ballot.

More than 400 people have asked the State to help them solve a wide variety of problems, Gov. Shapp said, and many of these complaints have been forwarded to HUD and SBA. Both Federal agencies have been unresponsive, he said.

The complaints came in to the State's Action Line, under the direction of Margo Mazeika, Wilkes-Barre, the governor said.

The SBA, he said, has the lowest percentage of problems solved, with only 23 of 79 forwarded by Action Line settled as of Oct. 30. HUD has also been slow to respond to complaints of lack of heat and other maintenance problems in HUD trailers, the Governor said.

Miss Mazaika reported that about 400 persons had responded to a newspaper advertisement which has appeared in several Wyoming Valley newspapers since September 28. The full-page advertisement included a check-list coupon which flood victims could use to indicate their problems. Among the items on the list were such problems as: "I need heat;" "My trailer is not hooked up;" and "I haven't received my SBA loan."

In addition to the advertisements, the Governor's Council is mailing the complaint form to every home in the flood area.

The Action Line staff, consisting of eight persons, mostly part-time students, called each person and obtained the details of their problems. Each problem,

Gov. Shapp said, received individual attention and handling.

Miss Mazaika said that the complaints were written-up and forwarded to the appropriate Federal, State or local agency for solution. As many follow-up calls as necessary were made both to the person with the complaint and the government agency until the problem was resolved, Miss Mazaika explained.

Miss Mazaika is assisted in the operation of the Action Line by Mrs. Jean Mazzanti, Sugar Notch.

The report to the Governor included figures for problems resolved for the period of October 2-October 30, 1972: HUD trailer problems, 93; SBA loan problems, 23; Property Improvement Program, 14; U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and Mini-Repair Program, 17; miscellaneous 61; and consumer protection, 9.

In addition, complaints of persons who were unable to be contacted by telephone were assigned to Operation AIDE, a state-funded program, which completed action on an additional 26 complaints.

The redevelopment authority check was accepted by Horace Kramer. Also on hand for the presentation were State Sen. Martin L. Murray and State Rep. Bernard O'Brien.

Gov. Shapp said repair contracts have been signed for 1,500 Wilkes-Barre homes, and he said he was pleased to learn from Secretary Wilcox that Interim Assistance was being extended to West Side communities.

The Governor said passage of the Constitutional amendment would permit direct aid to individual flood victims and corporations and non-profit institutions.

The Commonwealth is still pressing the Federal government for definition of the flood plain, Gov. Shapp said, to help resolve the uncertainty in the minds of many people over repair of homes, pre-flood value payments and urban renewal programs.

Asked if he was satisfied with the progress of the flood recovery program, Gov. Shapp replied in the negative. He said some progress has been made, but he expressed dismay at the debris still in some streets in Kingston and South Wilkes-Barre.

Nov. 4, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Harrisburg (AP)—The small businessman who lost his store and the farmer whose crops were destroyed would be eligible for direct state aid if a flood relief referendum to amend the state Constitution passes on Nov. 7.

The question of permitting direct state aid to victims of tropical storm Agnes and the Chester flood of September, 1971, is the only statewide referendum on the ballot.

Currently, the state Constitution prohibits direct state grants or tax breaks to flood victims.

Norval Reece, special assistant to Gov. Milton J. Shapp, said direct grants would help persons who either couldn't qualify or couldn't afford a federal loan—even on generous terms.

Reece said the direct grant program, for example, could help:

—A farmer whose cornfield was ruined, and needs money to replace the topsoil. With his principal source of income gone, the farmer might not be able to repay a loan.

An elderly homeowner with no income who couldn't afford to repay a large loan even if he lived long enough to do so. Reece said the state has received word of elderly persons not qualifying for loans because they're poor risks.

—A small businessman who lost everything, and likewise, couldn't afford a huge debt.

The federal government's principal means of providing flood relief is by Small Business Administration loans. The first \$5,000 of the loan is free, but the remainder must be paid back at 1 per cent interest.

Reece said state surveys indicate only 4,000 of 8,000 small businesses hit by the floods applied for SBA loans.

Of 60,000 individuals eligible for SBA loans in the state, some 50,000 have applied, Reece added.

The deadline for tropical storm Agnes victims to apply for SBA loans is Oct. 31, although the Commonwealth has asked for an extension.

Charles P. McIntosh, state budget secretary, said the administration doesn't know how much money would be available for direct grants.

He noted the legislature has approved \$150 million for flood relief, with \$19 million already spent, and more bills coming due. However, it's unknown how much of that money will be reimbursed by Washington, McIntosh said.

Proposition Will
Be on Ballot for
November 7 Election

Welfare Planning Council of Wyoming Valley, at its meeting Wednesday afternoon in Gus Genetti Hotel, called attention to a state constitutional amendment which will be on the ballot at the Nov. 7 election.

The proposed amendment would enable the General Assembly to enact special emergency legislation to provide for tax rebates, credits, exemptions and grants for individuals, corporations, associations or non-profit institutions, including non-public schools.

Purpose of the amendment would be to provide for disaster relief for the floods of Sept. 1971, and June, 1972.

It was noted the legislative action authorized by the amendment is not a general authority. It is limited to disaster relief of damages caused by the two floods.

At the General Election on Nov. 7, the ballot will carry only this one constitutional amendment for referendum. The question will be stated (so as to call for a Yes or No vote) as follows:

"Shall Article VIII of the Constitution be amended to give the General Assembly the authority to provide for tax rebates, credits, exemptions, grants-in-aid, State supplementation or special provisions for individuals, corporations, associations or non-profit institutions, including non-public schools (whether sectarian or non-sectarian) to alleviate the danger, damage, suffering or hardship faced as a result of storms or floods of September, 1971, and June, 1972?"

According to Community Services of Pennsylvania, advice from the special legislative aide to the Governor and legal counsel to the Speaker of the House indicates that specific legislation to implement the authority which the amendment would grant will probably not be considered until after the 1973 session of the General Assembly convenes in January.

Also discussed at the meeting were the Neighborhood Assistance Act and the Flood Recovery Task Force proposal.

Gottfried P. Csala presided.

Oct. 18, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Oct. 28, 1972

T.L.E.N. →

HOUSING HELD VALLEY'S MOST CRITICAL NEED

State, Federal Agencies Reach Agreement To Secure Needed Units

Agencies of the federal and state governments yesterday agreed the most critical situation in Wyoming Valley at the moment is housing and all agreed to work together in securing facilities to house families.

Meeting on the problems confronting the area was held in Daniel Flood School and concluded a visit to this area by Gov. Milton J. Shapp.

Attending the session besides Gov. Shapp were Congressman Daniel J. Flood, Sen. Martin L. Murray, Secretary of Community Affairs William Wilcox, Frank Tobin, chief aide of U. S. Office of Emergency Preparedness working in the flood area; officials of Small Business Administration; Reps. Bernard O'Brien, Fred Shupnik, and Raphael Mus-to; Leon Case, executive director, Wilkes-Barre Redevelopment Authority; Maj. Gen. John Remetta, Edwin Sites, Community Affairs.

Shapp stated that on his tour Sunday he noticed the Valley made remarkable strides in cleanup and noted he was impressed particularly on the West Side where the governor and Gen. Rematta noted cleanup is about 90 per cent complete.

However, Shapp and Tobin both concurred the most critical problem is housing because of studies which show that more than 23,000 dwellings in the flood-stricken area have sustained some structural damage.

Shapp then asked: "What can we do for these people," directing the question at Tobin?

Tobin said from his short stay in the area he has learned the persons affected want to return to their home and said it appears the mobile home idea is helpful but will not provide the full solution to the immediate problem. He said it is expected 200 smaller mobile homes will arrive Monday.

Tobin disclosed more than 6,000 families have made requests for mobile units, but many will decline or withdraw applications. He said the important thing the Federal government must do is prove to the people of Wyoming Valley the government is assisting.

He stated there is now a problem and the affected persons feel the government is letting them down. He stated: "We must act swiftly and show the victims we mean business. The first few days of the flood the people were in shock at their losses; then it was love and kisses because everybody wanted to help everybody, but now there is the letdown period because two weeks have passed and many families are without homes."

Tobin said when the first mobile home units arrive Monday, the first people chosen to receive them will be placed in a car with a plumber and a housing inspector. The mobile units, 12 feet by 24 feet, will be hooked to the vehicle and erected near the houses of those selected. These persons can work on their damaged homes and use the mobile units for living. They can lease the units free for one year and then will have an option to purchase them, Tobin reported.

However, Tobin said, this is only one small phase of the rehabilitation process. He stated on erecting modular homes on various sites through the Valley, it is expected more than 1,000 units will be erected on a joint project of the Federal and State governments.

Gov. Shapp agreed to give every consideration to a proposal advanced by Rep. Bernard O'Brien where persons in damaged homes would hire contractors to make repairs and the State would pay all labor costs except for materials which would be paid for through SBA

loans. State would also hire laborers to assist carpenters, electricians and plumbers who work on damaged properties.

No one at the session was able to estimate the availability of carpenters, electricians and plumbers in the area, but all agreed the situation was critical.

Tobin said the amount of mobile trailers and modular homes to be erected in Wyoming Valley, will be more than the number utilized following Hurricane Cammille.

Flood, Murray, Wilcox, O'Brien and Shupnik presented views on the housing issue, with the main point that the governmental agencies involved should purchase mobile units from the immediate area rather than from far-away points.

Tobin said many flood victims feel things will never be the same in Wyoming Valley, but he said this will not be the case because after all is done, Wyoming Valley will be better than ever.

July 10, 1972
T.L.E.N.

Shapp Charges 2 Agencies 'Particularly Unresponsive' on Handling Complaints

Gov. Milton Shapp said Friday that two Federal agencies, the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Small Business Administration, have been "particularly unresponsive" in handling complaints forwarded to them by the State.

The governor made the charge at an early-afternoon press conference at the Catholic Youth Center, headquarters for his Governor's Council of State Agencies for Flood Relief. The council is chaired by William H. Wilcox, Secretary of Community Affairs.

On other matters, Gov. Shapp presented a \$1,500,000 check to Wilkes-Barre Redevelopment Authority for use in making home repairs under the Interim Assistance Program, and he urged a "yes" vote on the Constitutional amendment question on the Nov. 7 ballot.

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Nov. 3, 1972

T.L.E.N.

HUD Sued by State to Fix Home Defects

**Suit Charges Fed'l
Agency With Failure
To Implement Law**

Harrisburg (P)—The state of Pennsylvania has filed suit to force the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to repair serious defects in federally subsidized low-income housing.

The suit charges the department has failed to implement a two-year-old law requiring it to fix defects in subsidized housing if the owner files a complaint.

Philadelphia-based Community Legal Services, Inc., joined the state in the suit, which was filed Wednesday on behalf of all families living in deficient subsidized housing.

Three owners of federally insured housing in Philadelphia are named in the suit. Two of the properties are allegedly without heat and plumbing and electrical systems need repair, and the third is structurally unsound and in danger of collapse, the suit contends.

Named as defendants are HUD Secretary George Romney and three Philadelphia area HUD officials. The suit was filed in the U. S. District Court in Philadelphia.

The suit asks the court to order HUD to repair the three homes in 48 hours and to repair all other defective housing under the program in Pennsylvania within 30 days.

A spokesman for the legal services group said he did not know how many homes in all are involved.

Scandal-Ridden Program

The federal government, under a program known as Section 235, ensures and subsidizes home mortgages for low-income families. The program has been wracked with scandal in recent years with charges of poor families being sold deficient homes at exorbitant prices.

In December, 1970, Congress enacted a law requiring HUD to fix defects in subsidized homes if the homeowner files a complaint.

George D. Gould, chief counsel for the legal services group, said "it took HUD four months to issue regulations and 10 months to set up an office in Philadelphia, although there were clearly thousands of people living in deplorable conditions."

Gould asserted although HUD determined about 10 months ago that the three homes cited presented a "clear and present danger to the occupants," it has failed to repair them.

Oct. 27, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Hails Senate For Passage Of Aid Bill

Murray Says Measure Assures Benefits to More Area Disabled

Senate President Pro Tempore Martin L. Murray, of Ashley Friday hailed Senate passage of a bill to make more disabled workers eligible for workmen's compensation benefits.

The bill rectifies disparities between Pennsylvania's Workmen's Compensation Act and Pennsylvania's Occupational Disease Act, Senator Murray, the bill's mover in the Senate, explained.

Terming the legislation "vital", Senator Murray said:

"At the present time a man disabled on the job is entitled to \$90 to \$95 per week in benefits.

"If the same man contracts lead poisoning as the results of his job, he is only eligible for \$60 per week.

"To correct these inequities we must enlarge the definition of the word injury to extend to certain occupational diseases."

According to Murray these illnesses are beryllium, arsenic, lead, mercury and other metal poisonings; poisoning by naphthas, acids, hydro carbons, caisson disease, cancer and ulceration due to pitch, bitumen, mineral oil, paraffin, anthrax, silicosis, asbestosis, tuberculosis, hepatitis and byssinosis.

"At this time," Murray said, "black lung disease is not covered because it is already covered under federal law.

We will continue to study this black lung problem with special attention toward the feasibility of changing this.

Additionally the bill extends the time for a worker to give notice of injury so that he can collect benefits.

Senate amendments extend the bill to Toluene Diisocyanate (T. D. I.) a chemically related disease.

Oct 7, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Gigantic Renewal Forecast by O'Connell

The groundwork has been laid for a gigantic urban renewal job in flood-ravaged Pennsylvania communities, according to Rep. Frank J. O'Connell.

Early in October the Legislature authorized the borrowing of \$100 million for a Disaster Relief Fund. Commonwealth obligation bonds will be issued under a provision of the Taxation and Finance Article of the Constitution which provides for unlimited borrowing "to rehabilitate areas affected by man-made or natural disaster," he said.

"The Federal Government will match the amount borrowed on a 3-to-1 basis. The original \$200 million set aside for urban renewal by Congress under the \$1.2 billion flood relief bill will be increased by \$250 million, with \$325 million of the total earmarked for Pennsylvania.

The Department of Community Affairs will distribute the funds to local urban renewal authorities. Thus far, requests for financial aid have received from 21 communities, and a total of 60 rebuilding projects are anticipated. The money will be used for the clearing of land, the construction of housing, and the restoration of business and commercial enterprise.

"The Disaster Relief Fund will be used for rehabilitation of areas affected by both the September, 1971 and the June, 1972 flood. Borrowing is expected to start in February.

"Emergency funds to begin the long-range task of rebuilding stricken communities have been allocated from the special \$150 million appropriation passed by the Legislature last July. Nine million dollars of this amount has been made available for housing and redevelopment, of which \$4 million has been spent,

and the remainder authorized for specific projects.

"A report from the Governor's office October 20, on the status of the \$150 million flood relief appropriation shows that \$99.8 million has been allocated to 15 state agencies, leaving \$50.2 million still to be allocated. Commitments and expenditures total \$23.5 million.

"Some of the larger allocations include: \$20 million for short-term commercial loans; \$1 million for an agricultural community effort; \$1.7 million to volunteer fire companies and ambulance services; \$1.2 million for stream clearance; \$3.3 million for restoration of damaged recreation areas; \$2.3 million for restoration of health delivery systems; \$1 million for special services to the aging; \$1 million for public library flood relief; and \$4 million to reimburse the National Guard.

"In making the \$159 million appropriation, the Legislature specifically earmarked \$25 million for additional public assistance for flood victims. Only \$193,122 of this amount has actually been spent thus far.

"Members of the Legislature are determined that flood relief funds shall be used only for flood-related purposes, and not diverted into programs or expenditures cut from the Governor's General Fund budget last July.

"The Legislature, by authorizing the borrowing of \$100 million for urban renewal, and appropriating \$150 million for a variety of flood-related assistance programs, has helped lay the groundwork for a long-range program of rebuilding. It is of vital importance that these funds be administered wisely, and that not a cent be wasted."

Nov. 4, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Scott Bill Would Realign Flood Help

SBA Would Handle Loans for Small Business Exclusively

U. S. Senator Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) has proposed legislation to sharpen federal services to those involved in disaster areas.

Citing Hurricane Agnes which devastated Pennsylvania in June, Scott said federal activities must be realigned to accelerate aid to the public.

The Scott proposal calls for consolidating the activities of many of the disaster activities now supervised by the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

While defending the massive federal effort put forth to help flood victims, Scott did point out, "We have all learned a great deal." His proposal "seeks to correct some of the disaster relief programs' deficiencies."

The bill recommends realigning the activities of four federal agencies to make them more responsive to the needs of those affected by the disaster. Scott says the agencies should work only in areas where they have the "expertise."

His proposal would have the Small Business Administration handle loans for small businessmen exclusively and all homeowner loans would be the responsibility of the Housing and Urban Development Department. The Farmers Home Administration would take care of agriculture loans and the Commerce Department would be responsible for larger businesses.

"We should not be asking the apple grower to start handling bananas, too," Scott said.

Scott has been deeply involved in disaster relief activities since flood waters raged through Pennsylvania. He introduced the original \$1.8 billion relief legislation calling for lower interest on long term loans.

The legislation also provided cash grants. Scott also successfully guided bills through Congress providing assistance to nonpublic schools and bankrupt railroads.

FLOOD AID BILL GIVEN TO CONGRESS

Scott Presents Program Based On \$1.7 Billion Help

U. S. Senator Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) introduced the Administration's \$1.7 billion Agnes Recovery Act Monday when the Senate reconvened after a two week recess.

The Senate Republican Leader said the legislation is designed to liberalize cash grants and loans to property owners, residents, communities and businesses in areas devastated by last month's floods. Funds also are provided for federal agencies to supplement relief work.

"This is the initial commitment by the Administration to help rebuild communities, keep businesses going and assist residents in this recovery effort," Scott pointed out.

The measure pumps funds into eight federal agencies and includes \$1.3 billion more for the Small Business Administration to provide higher cash grants and loans than the law now permits and lowers interest requirements.

Scott, who toured the ravaged Wilkes-Barre area in Northeastern Pennsylvania and from there called President Nixon at the Western White House to review the plight of Pennsylvanians said he expects the legislation to move swiftly through the Congress.

The Agnes Recovery Act is in addition to \$200 million authorized earlier by the Congress and signed into law by the President. This was a measure introduced by Pennsylvania's Senators Scott and Schweiker and supported in the House of Representatives by the Pennsylvania delegation.

The proposal by Scott makes residents of the states of Pennsylvania, New York, Florida, Maryland, West Virginia and Virginia, eligible for additional federal aid. Last week President Nixon said he would ask Congress for:

\$1.3 billion for the Small Business Administration

\$200 million for President's Disaster Relief Fund

\$200 million for the Federal Highway Administration

\$16 million for the Appalachian Regional Commission

\$55 million for the Economic Development Administration

\$12 million for the Corps of Engineers

\$30 million for the Department of Labor

\$1.85 million for the Farmers Home Administration

The \$1.3 billion for the SBA would be used to provide additional emergency loans for stricken home owners and small businesses.

In addition, the President proposes to liberalize loans to affected persons, making the first \$5,000 of loans non-repayable, compared to \$2,500 in existing law; and repayment of the balance in excess of \$5,000 would be 1 per cent rather than the Treasury rate of 5½ per cent under existing law.

July 18, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Oct. 2, 1972

T.L.E.N.

State Plans Flood Bonds

\$100 Million Eyed For Urban Renewal

Harrisburg (AP) — Gov. Shapp Thursday signed into law a bill allowing the state to raise \$100 million to help rebuild flood-damaged Pennsylvania.

Shapp said he considered the bill the most important of a package of bills he submitted to the legislature during the special session in August.

The state is empowered to float bonds for \$100 million over a period of years. The money will be awarded to local redevelopment authorities for urban renewal projects.

The Department of Community Affairs will be the judge of which projects are funded.

The department said it is reportedly already flooded with applications from local authorities seeking project funding.

The federal government is expected to chip in with another \$300 million in urban renewal funds through a 3-to-1 matching program.

Oct 6, 1972

T.L.E.N.

\$137 Million Flood Fund Still Remains

Only \$13 Million Of Appropriation Spent by State

Harrisburg (AP) — The state has spent only \$13 million of a special \$150 million flood appropriation, Gov. Shapp's office disclosed Friday.

Another \$6 million was reported encumbered but not yet spent.

A breakdown showed flood relief plans totalling \$100 million. The remainder of the \$150 million appropriation "is being held in relief for future flood relief needs," Gov. Shapp said in an accompanying release.

He promised bi-weekly reports on the status of the flood relief funds, voted by the legislature last July.

The biggest expenditures so far have been by the Departments of Commerce and Community Affairs, the governor said. Commerce has allowed \$8 million for short-term commercial loans, while Community Affairs has spent \$9 million for housing and redevelopment.

"These were two of our most immediate needs, and we went right out and took care of them," Shapp said.

The figures do not include \$20 million to \$30 million spent for flood relief by various departments out of their general appropriations, Shapp said.

Oct. 7, 1972
T.L.E.N.

Emergency Housing Wins State Support

The State Council of Civil Defense, at a meeting Tuesday, formally adopted an order concerning the "continued use of emergency housing facilities by flood victims."

The order reads as follows:

"No governmental official or representative shall, within 12 months immediately following the date hereof, in any way act to remove, or cause to be removed, any emergency housing facility occupied or utilized by a flood sufferer or sufferers for essential family purposes, unless

the said official or representative shall first obtain written approval for such action from the State Department of Community Affairs and shall subsequently provide a minimum of 15 days advance notice of the proposed action to the occupant, or user, of the facility in question."

The order is signed by Richard Gerstell, director of the state organization.

The order has been forwarded to the county commissioners and officials of affected communities in the county.

Oct. 19, 1972
T.L.E.N.

Legislative Roundup

Harrisburg (P)—The major bills passed or introduced in the legislature Monday.

SENATE

Passed: H. B. 1739 providing that insanity or serious mental disorder be grounds for divorce.

S. B. 1397 providing scholarships to children of prisoners of war or missing in action.

S. B. 1413 allowing children to work until 10 p. m. from June to Labor Day.

Introduced: S. B. 1630 allowing capital punishment in certain circumstances.

S. B. 1632 exempting totally and permanently disabled veterans from payment of real property taxes in certain cases.

S. B. 1629 allocating a \$900,000 deficiency appropriation to the Education Department to fund intermediate units.

HOUSE

Passed: H. B. 2287 appropriating \$19.5 million to the Department of Community Affairs for housing and redevelopment assistance.

Introduced: H. B. 2483 removing the authority of the Milk Marketing Board to set minimum milk prices to consumers.

Sept. 12, 1972
T.L.E.N.

Legislative Roundup

Harrisburg (P)—Here are the major bills passed in the House and Senate Tuesday. No bills were introduced in either chamber.

HOUSE

Passed:

H. B. 1603, authorizing establishment of conservation commissions by political subdivisions.

H. B. 2375, broadening property tax relief for senior citizens, widows over 50 and the disabled, and making additional persons eligible.

H. B. 1 proposing a constitutional amendment to permit a graduated income tax.

SENATE

S. B. 1626 making a \$12 million appropriation for mental health and mental retardation.

S. B. 822 setting up a jury commission to select jurors in Allegheny County.

Nov. 15, 1972
T.L.E.N.

Legislative Roundup

Harrisburg (P)—Here are the major bills passed or introduced Monday in the state legislature.

HOUSE

Passed: H. B. 1969 forcing contracts between the state and private builders to include provisions that all federal and state environmental regulations will be strictly followed.

Introduced: none.

SENATE

Passed: S. B. 455 modernizing the state criminal statutes.

S. B. 1328 permitting the state to maintain stationary weighing scales to tighten checks on trucks violating the maximum weight limits.

S. B. 1351 allowing for early release of prisoners with court approval.

S. B. 1669 providing \$41 million to school districts for reimbursement for programs involving handicapped children.

Sept. 26, 1972
T.L.E.N.

Legislative Roundup

Harrisburg (P)—The major bills passed or introduced in the Senate Monday. The House was in session but did not take any action.

SENATE

PASSED: S. B. 63 reducing to 18 the age for licensing by various boards within the Education Department.

H. B. 398 increasing from 25 to 30 mills the maximum limit on taxes which may be levied by first class townships.

INTRODUCED: S. B. 1708 appropriating \$250,000 for creation of a program for hemophiliac treatment.

S. B. 1709 prohibiting employable males from receiving public assistance.

Nov. 14, 1972
TLEN

Legislative Roundup

Harrisburg (P)—Here are the major bills passed or introduced in the legislature Wednesday.

SENATE

Passed: H. B. 800 forbidding abortions unless a woman's life is threatened.

S. B. 1708 appropriating \$250,000 to start a program to treat hemophiliacs.

H. B. 2330 giving legislative employees a 5 percent cost-of-living increase.

Introduced: S. B. 1716 making observance of Veteran's Day on Nov. 11.

S. B. 1717 making it unlawful to distribute campaign literature near polling places.

HOUSE

H. B. 2142 removing inheritance rights of a remarried spouse of a soldier missing in action.

H. B. 2480 providing for students on boards of trustees of state colleges.

S. B. 1407 to expand the Pennsylvania Housing Agency's powers to finance low and moderate income housing.

S. B. 1523 to provide a permanent list of chronically disabled voters.

Nov. 16, 1972 - TLEN

Legislative Roundup

Harrisburg (P)—Here are the major bills passed by the legislature Monday. There were no major introductions.

HOUSE

Passed:

H. B. 2280 to finance raises for 12,000 transportation department employes.

H. B. 2281 to finance raises for 67,000 general fund employes.

H. B. 800 concurring in Senate amendments to strict anti-abortion bill.

SENATE

H. B. 1 a conference report amending the constitution to permit a graduated income tax.

H. B. 2342 increasing the State Police by 150 men.

H. B. 2137 requiring landlords to put security deposits in banks to obtain interest.

S. B. 1463 removing a person's driving license if he abandons his car on a public street.

Nov. 21, 1972

TLEN

Legislative Roundup

Harrisburg (P)—Here are the major bills passed by the legislature Tuesday. No major bills were introduced.

HOUSE

H. B. 2627 to force employers to take over black lung payments.

S. B. 455 to reclassify Pennsylvania's criminal code.

S. B. 1575 to permit appointed Commonwealth Court judge to go on the retention system.

SENATE

S. B. 1407 spurring housing for low-and-moderate income housing.

H. B. 966 bringing school construction costs under control.

S. B. 1685 providing free transit rides for the elderly.

Nov. 22, 1972

TLEN

Anti-abortion Bill Held Too Restrictive

Harrisburg (AP) — The Pennsylvania Medical Society has asked Gov. Shapp to veto a tough anti-abortion bill now on his desk because it is "entirely too restrictive from a medical standpoint."

Shapp has asked the Legislature, which passed the measure overwhelmingly, to recall the bill pending a decision of the U. S. Supreme Court on the subject. "I would expect a court decision shortly," he said.

Dr. Robert S. Sanford, president of the 12,000-member physicians society, said in a letter to Shapp the bill does not permit patient and doctor to use medical judgments in determining if an abortion should be performed.

The measure would only permit abortion if the women's life were threatened.

The society said it sanctions abortions under the following conditions:

—There is documented medical evidence that continuance of the pregnancy may threaten the mental or physical health or life

of the woman.

—There is documented evidence that the infant may be born with incapacitating physical deformity or mental deficiency.

—There is documented medical evidence that continuance of pregnancy resulting from rape or incest may constitute a threat to the mental or physical health of a patient.

The society said an examination by two physicians would constitute medical evidence. It also said abortions should be performed in an accredited hospital and not in a doctor's office.

In asking the legislature to recall the bill Wednesday, Shapp indicated abortions should be permitted for rape and incest and to protect the women's mental or physical health. Shapp has said he personally opposes abortion but would be guided in part by the more liberalized recommendations of the abortion law Commission.

Rep. Martin Mullen, D-Philadelphia, the chief proponent of the anti-abortion bill, has rejected outright Shapp's request for changes in the bill. He predicted that more than the necessary number of legislators would also refuse to recall the measure when they reconvene on Wednesday.

Shapp has reportedly promised Mullen that, if it comes down to it, he would veto the bill before Nov. 30 so lawmakers will be able to override him. The Legislature expires at Midnight Nov. 30.

Nov. 26, 1972

TLEN

2 Senators Back Bill on Registration Extension

Harrisburg — This is the voting record (heaviest this session) of area lawmakers during the week of September 18-23—including final legislative passage of a bill permitting the state to float \$100 million in bonds for flood relief—with voting as follows on major legislation by local legislators (Reps. Stanley A. Meholchick, Ashley; Raphael Musto, Pittston; Bernard F. O'Brien, Wilkes-Barre; Frank J. O'Connell, Kingston; Fred J. Shupnik, Luzerne; James J. Ustynoski, Hazleton; and Senators Martin L. Murray, Ashley, and T. Newell Wood, Harveys Lake):

Senate

SB 4—Conference report (approved) to bill extending until October 31 the voter registration period for some 173,000 Luzerne County citizens whose records were destroyed in the flood. It also contains a \$250,000 appropriation to handle the reregistration. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 1103 — (Passed) — Tightens state regulation and supervision of blood banks by providing for minimum operating standards and requiring a \$50 license for those participating in voluntary inspection programs and \$200 for all other blood banks. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 1407 — (Passed) — Permits Pennsylvania Housing Agency to float tax-free bonds to finance housing construction and rehabilitation in order to benefit the elderly and low-to-moderate income families. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 1523 — (Passed) — Provides for the automatic mailing of absentee ballots to chronically disabled persons. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 10—(Passed)—Allows the State to float \$100 million in bonds for flood relief to local governments which sustained damage in the historic flood last June. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 525—Motion (approved) to override an objection to having this bill sent back to committee. The bill itself is a non-controversial amendment to the Vehicle Code, but Senator William

G. Sesler had planned to use it as a "vehicle" to carry a highly controversial "no-fault" auto insurance proposal. (Murray—No; Wood—Yes)

HB 634—(Defeated)—Would allow a criminal defendant to be released on posting of 10 percent of total bail. (Murray—Yes; Wood—No.)

HB 681—(Passed)—Establishes regional community treatment centers throughout the state for the treatment and rehabilitation of women prisoners over 16 years of age. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes.)

HB 1333—(Passed)—Strengthens the state's enforcement powers in air pollution by giving the Department of Environmental Resources control, via permits, over potential air polluting devices. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes.)

HB 1723—Motion (approved) to have this bill sent back to committee. Although the bill itself is a non-controversial amendment to the Vehicle Code, there was a move afoot to tag on a controversial "no-fault" auto insurance proposal. (Murray—No; Wood—Yes.)

HB 1969—(Passed) — Provides that any project lettings for state or local construction projects shall outline steps to be taken by the successful bidder to comply with pollution and conservation laws. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes.)

HB 2070—(Passed) — Ratification of a proposed 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which is designed to guarantee women's rights. Pennsylvania thus becomes the 21st State to ratify this proposal which requires approval of 38 states. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes.)

House of Representatives

HB 121—(Passed)—Makes an employee eligible for unemployment compensation benefits if he is laid off more than one week prior to a work stoppage resulting from a labor dispute. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes.) (see 2 SENATORS, page 31)

HB 1020 — (Passed) — Revises maximum state subsidies for education of retarded or disabled children. The bill, estimated at

\$19 million this fiscal year, also calls for mandatory review each two years. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes.)

HB 1158—(Passed)—Prohibits destruction of textbooks until after the district school board has offered them to other districts. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes.)

HB 1343—Move to override (approved) veto by Governor Shapp to this bill taking the power of selecting agricultural research projects out of the hands of the Secretary of Agriculture and placing it instead with a 15-member committee. The Senate will now consider this matter. The last time the Legislature overrode a veto was in 1917. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1515 (Passed)—Allows the coroner in third through eighth class counties to appoint a solicitor to advise him. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—No; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1611 (Passed) — Changes the registration fee for snowmobiles from \$5 each year to \$10 every two years to convenience owners of these vehicles. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1783 (Passed)—Expands the cost to a county for judicial proceedings involving a captured escapee of a penitentiary who previously had been sentenced by a court of that particular county. (Meholchick—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1896 (Passed)—Provides a \$10,000 fine or five-year jail term, or both, for anyone planting a bomb or threatening to do so. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HR 2065 (Passed)—Raises from \$50 to \$100 the fine for nonresidents who hunt without having purchased the necessary license.

(Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2134—(Passed)—Authorizes reimbursement of \$25 a day and 10 cents a mile for school board members attending educational conferences (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—No; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 2174 (Passed) — Permits authorities created by municipalities, counties and townships the right to appoint police officers. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes).

HB 2396 (Passed)—Repeals the current law regulating state milk farms. However, the Department of Agriculture would continue its inspections. This bill is designed to bolster the state milk industry. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes).

SB 4—Conference report (approved) to bill extending until October 31 the voter registration period for some 173,000 Luzerne County citizens whose records were destroyed in the flood. It also contains a \$250,000 appropriation to handle the reregistration. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes).

SB 99 (Passed)—Lowers from age 21 to 18 the age of the individual with whom a child between the ages of 12 to 14 must be supervised before the child may hunt with a bow and arrow or with firearms. (Meholchick—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes).

SB 817—Attempt to force from committee (defeated) this bill which provides stricter controls on lobbying. (Meholchick—No; Musto—No; O'Brien—No; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—No; Ustynoski—Yes).

SB 1108—Motion (approved) to have this bill sent back to committee. The bill itself is non-controversial but there was a move afoot to attach a controversial "no-fault" auto insurance proposal. (Meholchick—No; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—No; O'Connell—No; Shupnik—No; Ustynoski—Yes).

Sept. 26, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Auditor General Probing State Clean

Post-Audits Are Made Of \$750,000 Allocation Spent by Shapp Forces

Auditor Gen. Robert P. Casey said yesterday his department has undertaken immediate post-audits of transactions involving \$750,000 in Commonwealth funds earmarked by the Shapp administration for cleanup operations in the Wilkes-Barre area.

"The audits are continuing and a report will be available in the near future," Casey said.

Casey acknowledged yesterday that Gov. Shapp has "complete discretion" in allocating the spending of a \$150 million flood relief appropriation voted by the Legislature two months ago, and "no auditor, government or private," has the power to dispute the purposes of his allocations.

Casey, however, said that despite the "broad discretionary power" given to the governor, his department "will scrutinize most carefully all expenditures within the categories the governor designates."

The Democratic fiscal officer made the announcement in a letter to House Minority Leader Kenneth B. Lee, R-Sullivan, in response to "increasing public statements" from Republican representatives and others expressing concern about whether state and federal flood relief funds "are being properly handled and spent in the most effective way."

Political Overtones

The tone of Casey's letter suggested that his continuing post-audits (after expenditures have been made) might have the potential of political developments to be used against the Shapp administration in the November presidential elections.

Shapp defeated Casey twice in a row for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, and neither of them has forgiven the other's political hostility.

A week ago Lee's staff disclosed a memorandum review of state and federal regulations which sought to dispel Shapp's running criticisms of federal post-flood rehabilitation efforts with regard to safeguarding assistance to minority applicants.

The memo contended that one item of Shapp's flood allocations — \$374,000 to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission to "monitor" the way minorities were being

treated—was unnecessary under existing state-federal regulations.

"The purpose of this letter," Casey said to Lee, "is to assure you, members of your Republican caucus and the people of Pennsylvania that the Department of the Auditor General is, and has been since the rains of Hurricane Agnes were falling, aggressively involved in carefully scrutinizing the expenditure of flood relief funds."

Special Audit

"Because some of the pronouncements from Republican lawmakers suggest that your caucus may seek a special audit of these funds, possibly by a firm of outside auditors, you should be aware that the Department of the Auditor General is designated under the federal-state flood relief agreement and the Commonwealth's Fiscal Code as the auditing agency for these funds."

"Any use of public funds to engage private auditors would be an illegal usurpation of this department's function, to say nothing of the waste of money since we are already engaged in extensive auditing."

Casey pointed out that **constitutional revision stripped his department of the pre-audit exercise (before funds have been expended).**

"Our involvement in the flood situation was immediate and explicit," Casey said.

"On Friday, June 23, at the height of the storm, Deputy Aud. Gen. John M. Lynch, in a meeting at the state civil

defense flood command post, personally advised Gov. Shapp's representatives to exercise caution and maintain proper spending controls over all expenditures, however worthy the cause.

"Mr. Lynch reiterated the need for spending safeguards at the meeting of the Civil Defense Council on June 27. He also had several discussions concerning the same subject with Budget Secretary Charles McIntosh and Secretary of Administration Ronald G. Lench during this period."

Perform Function

"Under the federal-state flood relief agreement dated June 29, the auditor general was designated and is required to carry out certain audits under that program."

We have already developed procedures to perform that function.

"In addition, because of the potential for mishandling of funds is greater in emergency situations, we began immediate post-audits of transactions of the \$750,000 in Commonwealth funds earmarked by the Shapp administration for cleanup operations in the Wilkes-Barre area. Those audits are continuing and a report should be available in the near future."

Casey said he wanted to assure Lee that "we intend to pursue vigorously the spending of public funds in the same aggressive manner we have followed in the past three and a half years. I am convinced that the activities

of this department have been effectively minimized by the wasteful use of funds."

Casey asked that he be conveyed to the Republican caucus surance "that will file regular reports on flood relief with the well as the government."

"Some of the members of your caucus appear to Gov. Shapp's \$113 million of relief under proved July 1 added."

*Sunday Independent
September 17, 1972*

(State)

Probing State Cleanup Funds in Wilkes-Barre

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Casey said he wanted to assure Lee that "we intend to pursue vigorously the spending of public funds in the same aggressive manner we have followed in the past three and a half years. I am convinced that the activities

of this department will effectively minimize the possibility of the mishandling or wasteful use of flood relief funds."

Casey asked that the letter be conveyed to the Republican caucus with his assurance "that this department will file regular and timely reports on flood relief spending with the legislative as well as the executive branch of government."

"Some of the pronouncements of your fellow lawmakers appear to be aimed at Gov. Shapp's allocation of \$113 million of the \$150 million unanimously appropriated by the Legislature for flood relief under Act 18-A, approved July 7, 1972," Casey added.

*Sunday Independent
September 17, 1972*

(State)

Wednesday for Public Institutions

ing Out for Schools to File Flood Damage Claims

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tant thing is to file the claims before the deadline."

In the private school sector, an official of the Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) said that his office hopes to process all aid applications from private schools and colleges and public facilities in local governments by Oct. 15.

Joe D. Winkle, who is coordinating OEP activity in Pennsylvania, said the total government aid under OEP to local facilities, private non-profit schools and medical fa-

cilities across the state could reach \$200 million.

Included in the "local facilities" category are repairs to streets, bridges, public utilities, dikes, levees, drainage, public buildings "and related equipment" and debris clean-up.

Winkle said although the 90-day deadline has been applied to public school aid applications (in which the claims are administered by the U.S. Office of Education), there will be some leniency for the pri-

vate schools and colleges because Congress only voted to allow federal aid to private institutions a month ago.

Previously, the non-public schools and colleges were ineligible for federal disaster aid. But a law signed by President Nixon on Aug. 16 will provide emergency assistance to these institutions.

According to the latest state Department of Education statistics, 17 private colleges and universities have applied for almost \$16.8 million in disas-

ter aid. The hardest hit was Wilkes College in Wilkes-Barre, which claimed more than \$12.1 million damage. Neighboring King's College reported just over \$4 million in flood losses.

Private institutions in the midstate area reporting flood damage include Bucknell University (\$302,226), University Center at Harrisburg (\$84,230), York College of Pennsylvania (\$67,411), Wilson College (\$20,291), Susquehanna University (\$20,112), Lebanon Valley College (\$16,452); Messiah Col-

lege (\$3,890); Dickinson College (\$500) and Albright College (\$5,839).

We're not going to deny these private schools aid because of the deadline," Winkle said. "There will be special consideration for private schools."

Dr. Musmanno said private institutions file their aid applications through the Department of Education, and OEP sends the checks to the department. Therefore, when President Nixon brought a \$4 million check to Wilkes College

during his surprise visit to Wilkes-Barre on Sept. 9, the college had to contact the department later in the week to get the check endorsed.

"We are still getting reports from some public schools," Dr. Musmanno said. "The situation is changing every day. Any private schools that have not been surveyed should get in touch with us immediately."

He added that a statewide total of damage to private schools has not been completed because survey teams are still checking damage.

Shapp Announces
Scholarships for

Federal Government Deadline Wednesday for Public Institutions

Time Running Out for Schools to File Flood Dam

Time is running out for public schools to file applications for federal aid to cover damages caused by Hurricane Agnes.

According to state Deputy Secretary of Education Dr. Neal V. Musmanno, public schools have a 90-day filing period from the time the state was declared a disaster area by President Nixon. That declaration was made June 30, so the deadline is Sept. 27.

Dr. Musmanno said the Department of Education's latest

figures show almost \$23.3 million damage to 289 buildings in 84 school districts and two area vocational-technical schools. He said the federal government has paid approximately \$13 million to the public schools in advanced payments after federal-state survey teams checked the damage.

He added that school districts which already have filed damage reports may revise them if they discover latent damage. "Further damage claims will be checked out," he said. "But the most impor-

tant thing is to file the claims before the deadline."

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lege (\$3,890); Lehigh University (\$500) and Lehigh Valley College (\$5,839).

We're not sure of these private cause of the damage, said. "There's no consideration of these schools."

Dr. Musmanno said that private institutions file damage reports through the Department of Education. He said the check for the damage is sent to the President Nixon for a final check to

Shapp Announces Scholarships for Victims of Flood

HARRISBURG (UPI)—Gov. Milton J. Shapp has announced that 4,300 students whose parents suffered flood losses will receive \$3.8 million in special state scholarships.

The money is part of a \$15 million emergency package approved by the General Assembly. The average award will be \$908.

"This special consideration for disaster victims puts Pennsylvania's aid programs in the cate-

TLEN

Sept 24, 1972

Sunday edition

\$50 MILLION FLOOD AID ASKED

June 30, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Suggestions For Budget Excluded By Gov. Shapp

By SARA FRITZ

HARRISBURG (UPI)—Gov. Milton J. Shapp asked the General Assembly Wednesday night for \$50 million to start helping in flood disaster relief.

But the governor made no suggestions to the legislators how they should begin to rearrange his proposed budget for 1972-73 to allow for enough disaster relief money.

"These moneys will be earmarked for materials, supplies, services, food, clothing, equipment, chemicals drugs and medicine for the alleviation of human hardship and suffering and for the protection of property," Shapp said.

Republicans wanted to appropriate more than \$50 million and the Senate already is working with a proposal that would allow \$100 million for flood relief.

Shapp indicated the legislature should earmark \$50 million and leave enough room in the budget for the figure to increase.

"I am willing to accept cuts in my proposed budget that, because of the recent disaster, now raise other programs to the status of priority," the governor said.

"Hopefully, I will have sufficient data available at the end of this week to start drafting required emergency legislation to put Pennsylvania back on its feet."

Shapp said it was possible the need for state money for disaster relief would go beyond \$50 million. If the federal government provides enough," he said, the state contribution could be less.

"The point is," he said, "that I do not know at this time and do not think anyone else really knows the precise measure of our needs for state funds.

"Therefore, let's get started now with a realistic amount and leave ourselves the flexibility to change that figure according to our needs."

Shapp spoke to the legislature about 72 hours before the end of the 1971-72 fiscal year. There still is no budget for the next fiscal year.

The governor said it might be necessary for the legislature to come back again next week to continue working on appropriations bills. A recess was scheduled to begin next week to allow Democrats to go to the party convention in Miami.

"Now," Shapp said, "let me be blunt. The state runs out of funds it can use legally Friday night. There is plenty of time for you to pass an equitable budget during the next three days.

"There is no need to complicate the process by even thinking of stop-gap appropriations."

The legislature often has used "stop-gaps," or short-term emergency appropriations, when it reaches the end of a fiscal year without a budget ready for the next year.

"This is a moment of crisis and the people of Pennsylvania have a right to expect that their elected officials in Harrisburg will put politics aside and get

on with the business of taking care of their urgent needs in a prudent manner," Shapp said.

The governor promised to propose a "comprehensive program to rebuild the commonwealth" after he determined the extent of flood damage and the amount of money the federal government would provide.

He offered to meet with both Republican and Democratic leaders of the legislature "tonight, tomorrow or anytime during the next 72 hours, so that we can reach an agreement on a program which will meet the needs of all our citizens before midnight Friday."

Shapp, who went to Washington Tuesday to discuss the situation with Pennsylvania's congressional delegation, repeated what progress was made on the federal level.

The U. S. Senate Tuesday passed a bill adding \$200 million for disaster relief. President Nixon Wednesday called for \$100 million in additional aid to the East Coast states hit by Hurricane Agnes.

The congressional delegation supports a plan for \$250 million in added federal aid.

Shapp said he also suggested that Nixon release some of the \$12 billion which was appropriated earlier this year by Congress and impounded by the administration.

At least 50,000 homes and 5,000 factories, stores, shops and service stations were damaged or destroyed during the flooding in Pennsylvania, Shapp said.

He has estimated damages to the state at \$1.5 billion.

Municipality Debt Bill Goes to Shapp

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — The legislature has sent Gov. Shapp a measure to revamp borrowing limitations for counties and municipalities throughout the state.

The bill, approved 176-3 by the House Thursday, ends a two-month period in which local government found itself unable to borrow any money at all.

The 1968 constitution mandated a new formula for debt limitations, tied to a community's annual revenues. Debts of counties, cities, boroughs, towns and townships, until now, have been based on assessed property values.

The constitutional provision became self-executing on April 23—exactly four years after the constitution was approved in 1968—and thus removed a community's power to go into debt.

The new formula would permit a municipality to borrow up to 250

percent of its average revenue over the previous three-year period.

Counties and school districts would be allowed to have outstanding debts totaling 300 percent of their income in the previous three years.

The city of Philadelphia, which has a constitutional provision of its own, is not affected by the legislation. But Philadelphia's school district would be limited to outstanding debts of 150 percent of average annual revenues over the previous three years.

The bill also allows counties a 100 percent formula bonus for specific projects such as flood control, medical services and other programs.

There's at least one out for the community which needs more money than the debt limitations permit. Officials could seek voter approval of a higher debt limit by public referendum.

July 11, 1972
T.L.E.N.

Flood Doubles Nixon's Request \$200 Million For Flood Relief Unanimously Approved By House

President Nixon's request for \$100 million flood relief was doubled by Rep. Daniel J. Flood's insistence for emergency disaster relief "with most of it earmarked for Pennsylvania, particularly from Danville to Pittston."

In addition, Rep. Flood has obtained \$92 million from the Office of Emergency Preparedness which he arranged through Rep. Tom Steed, chairman of the House appropriations committee, and an additional \$6 million "carry over" from the U. S. Treasury as of midnight June 30, marking the end of the fiscal year.

The total is \$298 million for the flood disaster and Rep. Flood emphasized he has been assured most funds will be marked for Pennsylvania. Rep. Flood is chairman of the subcommittee on appropriations for the Health, Education, Welfare and Labor Department.

Rep. Flood spoke Friday on the floor of the House in relation to the need for disaster relief funds and there was no other debate and the amended \$200 million received the unanimous approval of the House.

Success Outlined

Rep. Flood outlined his success in obtaining the funds at a

special conference of community leaders with the various agencies engaged in directing the flood disaster program.

At the same conference there

was outlined loan assistance for those hit by flood waters. Rep. Joseph McCade, 10th Congressional District, reported he was

(Please Turn To Page Three)

successful in having the House pass a measure reducing interest rate to one percent which was sent to Senate Banking Committee.

Housing To Be Provided

According to Jack McGraw, HUD representative in the flood region, that agency will provide temporary housing after it has exhausted all available federal housing, including those units subsidized by the Veterans Administration.

Nearly 5,000 applications have been received for mobile homes and HUD has 1,700 mobile homes in sight for the flood victims.

McGraw said he is certain enough homes will be available for the estimated 18,000 displaced houses. He noted the flood ravaged residential area is seven states creating a major housing problem from New England to Atlanta.

Housing was one of the main topics discussed by community leaders and officials at the special meeting in the WNEP-TV studios. Financial assistance and cleanup were the other major topics.

All Zoning Waived

Luzerne County Commissioner Edmund C. Wideman said the county has waived all zoning ordinances pertaining to housing thus enabling the mobile home program to be accelerated.

In addition, the conference weighed individual and community problems during which there were complaints of debris clogging thoroughfares leading to landfill sites in outlying communities.

Again Wideman noted the "emergency" and said he had obtained permission of the Luzerne County sheriff to have unrestricted traffic to landfill sites in these communities without interference from town officials.

John B. Hibbard, chairman of the Economic Development

Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, said the session was "to clear up confusion and misunderstandings."

The conference was on four television stations "live" from the studios of WNEP-TV and also 15 radio stations in the flood area.

OEP Directing Effort

Francis Tobin, area coordinator for the Office of Emergency Preparedness, explained OEP "by law is handling the task of directing the Federal effort to see your needs are met."

He explained directors from four of OEP in the United States are working here in cooperation with all State agencies in 20 centers of the flood area under the direction of State Welfare Deputy Secretary Elliott Knauer.

Individuals affected by the flood are entitled to a maximum of \$50,000, mainly for displaced homes and \$10,000 personal loans of a combination of \$55,000.

While the going rate is 5½ percent, Rep. McDade explained the House had reduced the figure to 1 percent and sent it to the House Banking Committee.

Business loans (one entity) go as high as \$500,000.

Immediate loan, termed a "magic amount" by the Chairman Hibbard of \$3,000 requires borrowers to repay only \$500 with the \$2,500 covered in a "forgiveness cause."

It was explained the only qualification for obtaining the loan is "suffering from flood waters."

Captain Donald McCullough said the OEP has a vanguard of public concerns, private concerns, Army, National Guard, Reservists and Seabees assisting in the cleanup.

July 5, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Shapp In Washington To Seek Flood Relief

Harrisburg (AP)—Gov. Shapp took pleas for more federal flood relief to Washington today, planning sessions with budget and housing officials.

He and several cabinet members were to meet with Frank Carlucci, deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget, and with Norman Watson, deputy secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(Frank Carlucci is a former resident of Bear Creek.)

Shapp said yesterday he would renew efforts at releasing \$12 billion in "impounded" federal money that has been approved by Congress for various uses but never spent, on orders from the White House.

The Nixon administration announced two weeks ago, when Shapp first mentioned the \$12 billion, that the money has been allocated for a number of projects and is not available for post-flood rebuilding.

Another goal of Shapp's trip was an additional \$200 million or \$250 million in federal urban renewal funds, limited to \$50 million under present guidelines.

Shapp told newsmen yesterday that increased federal aid was mandatory because the state's present tax structure makes it "impossible to accommodate repairs" in the flood-damaged state economy.

The Governor said he was considering increases in the liquid fuels taxes, but that the hikes would only begin to pay for an estimated \$500 million in

damages to the state's highways and bridges.

Increases in other state taxes would not be adequate or desirable, according to the governor. He said that most of the rebuilding would have to be accomplished through long-term bonds.

Shapp did not specify what fuel tax increases he might recommend to the legislature. The money would go directly into the Motor License Fund, which pays state Transportation Department expenses.

Earlier yesterday Shapp asked U. S. Sen. Hugh Scott, the Senate Republican Leader, to seek federal aid for Pennsylvania railroads suffering flood damage.

Estimating railroad losses at \$50 million to \$60 million, Shapp commented: "These railroads are absolutely essential to employment and industrial activity in Pennsylvania. Most freight that moves is not economically susceptible to highway transport."

In other action yesterday, the governor appointed a task force of 12 businessmen and four state officials to travel the state offering advice to small businessmen in securing federal disaster loans from the Small Business Administration.

Oct. 11, 1972

T. L. E. N.

Flood-Stricken Areas Due to Get \$10 Million

HARRISBURG (UPI)—Gov. Milton J. Shapp said Thursday some \$10 million in unspent federal and state funds will be funneled into flood-stricken communities for renewal and employment.

But the governor refused to discuss his negotiations with the legislature to get another \$50 million out of state coffers for disaster relief.

He said the disaster might prohibit him from going to the Democratic National Convention July 9 in Miami. "I may get down there for a day or two," Shapp, a Muskie delegate, said. "My place is here right now."

Shapp said \$9 million in federal urban renewal funds will go to redevelopment authorities in Harrisburg, Wilkes-Barre and Luzerne County.

A spokesman said the state previously had a "verbal commitment" to give that money to other communities. "But we had to break that commitment," he said.

The funds were divided this way: \$2 million to Harrisburg; \$4 million to Wilkes-Barre and \$3 million to Luzerne County.

Another \$800,000 will be used for hiring unemployed persons to help clean up the flood-ravaged areas, Shapp said. Some \$60,000 of it comes from unspent federal Emergency Employment Program money and \$200,000 from the state treasury.

Shapp Wednesday night asked the General Assembly to appropriate \$50 million for flood relief and keep the 1972-73 budget "flexible" to allow for more. The 1972-73 fiscal year starts Saturday.

Asked what programs he wants to cut to provide more flood relief, Shapp said. "I don't want to discuss it at this time."

He said it is possible the state later will float bond issues if it needs more than \$50 million. "It also depends on what we get from the federal government," he said.

The governor, who has been critical of the federal government's response to the crisis, noted Pennsylvania Republican Sens. Hugh Scott and Richard Schweiker are trying to get another \$250 million for flood relief from Congress.

"I don't think President Nixon has a clear picture of the damage in Pennsylvania," Shapp said. "We've been begging the federal government to cut out the red tape."

Shapp said Gov. William T. Cahill of New Jersey sent a 16-man task force of building inspectors to Pennsylvania to help in the cleanup effort.

Some 125 flood information centers have been opened around the state, the governor said. In the first three days, they collected more than 4,000 applications for home loans and relocation; 1,200 applications for medical assistance; 3,600 for welfare and 15,000 for unemployment help.

Shapp complained that only 35 of the state's counties have been declared disaster areas, making them eligible for federal aid.

"Our most recent survey indicates not a single county in the state was not damaged by flooding," he said.

A spokesman for the office of

Emergency Preparedness — the federal coordinating agency for disaster relief — said a decision on the other counties will be made by the end of the week.

The governor said people have been writing from "all over the world" asking if they could help the victims of flooding in Pennsylvania.

Donations should be sent to the Pennsylvania Emergency Relief Fund, P.O. Box 200, Harrisburg, 17100, he said. The fund will be administered by former governors of the state. Former Gov. William Scranton will be

the chairman.

June 30, 1972

T.L.E.W.

Nixon Fact-Finders Touring Flood Area

An inspection of the flood-damaged areas in Pennsylvania, with Wilkes-Barre and Harrisburg two key points of the tour, was begun Monday by a fact-finding team sent by President Nixon.

A spokesman for the Federal Office of Emergency Preparedness said the team arrived in Wilkes-Barre Sunday and met with business, civic and labor leaders.

The spokesman said "the purpose of the trip is to determine the best way for the Federal Government to help the State recover from the flood on a long-term basis."

Group included Labor Secretary James D. Hodgson; Commerce Secretary Peter G. Peterson; Gen. George Lincoln, head of OEP; Anthony Chase, deputy administrator of the Small Business Administration, and Robert A. Podesta, assistant secretary

for economic development in the Commerce Department.

After stops in Wilkes-Barre and Harrisburg, the team will hold a similar meeting the Corning, N. Y., area, which was also badly damaged by flooding from tropical storm Agnes.

The Federal Government, through a bill signed by President Nixon over the week end, will provide \$200,000,000 in emergency funds for disaster relief for areas devastated by the flooding.

Much of the total in the bill goes to communities in New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and Florida.

Money was expected to be used mainly for temporary housing, road and bridge repairs, debris clearance and the repair or replacement of public facilities.

It was about twice as much as President Nixon had requested for immediate aid to the stricken areas.

GOV. SHAPP VISITS AREA

Gov. Milton J. Shapp landed at the 10th Street School, Wyoming, this morning for a first-hand tour of the flood-damaged area.

Accompanied by several dignitaries from Harrisburg and area officials, his helicopter landed shortly before 10 a. m. and the governor then huddled with regional officials. He was briefed on what was taking place locally and left in a State Police car for a tour of the devastated areas.

July 3, 1972
T.L.E.N.



—Stan Warunek Photo

SHAPP VIEWS DAMAGE — Gov. Milton Shapp is shown as he arrived at the Wilkes-Barre-Scranton Airport last week to inspect area flood damage.

From the left are State Rep. Stanley Meholchick, Ashley; Cpl. Patrick Higgins, State Police; Gov. Shapp, State Sen. Martin L. Murray, Ashley, and newsmen.

FLOOD AID IS TIED TO HOUSE BUDGET VOTE

Senate Republicans Call Action 'Despicable And Unconscionable'

Harrisburg (P)—The Senate with majority Democrats successfully lining up its troops, passed a state budget Saturday 14 hours into the new fiscal year. The budget, amounting to nearly \$3.19 billion, was sent to the House for concurrence on Senate amendments. The House has passed a spending plan with \$150 million in cuts; the Senate version slashed \$117 million.

A separate bill providing \$150 million for flood relief remained in a Senate committee. Democratic leaders indicated they would not call it out until the House concurred on Senate changes in the budget. This tactic was described as "despicable and unconscionable" by Senate Republicans.

Passage of the budget came on a 26-23 vote, divided precisely along party lines with Sen. Zehnder Confair, R-Lycoming, absent.

The 1973 fiscal year began at midnight Friday. Without a budget the state isn't authorized to spend any money.

Shapp has asked all state employees involved in flood relief to remain on their jobs as well as other state employees. The governor also asked the state's vendors and suppliers to continue deliveries and the bill will be honored later.

Also still to be approved by the Senate was about \$350 million in appropriations for universities, hospitals and other state-aided institutions.

Senate approval was never in doubt when the chamber convened early Saturday morning, as the three Democratic holdouts of the earlier budget proposal had agreed to some new cuts. Democrats hold a 26-24 edge in the Senate.

Republicans, however, offered 10 amendments to cut the budget even more, but each one was beaten as the Democratic bloc voted each time.

It took five hours for a final vote. It almost went longer when Republicans invoked a rule forcing the entire 72-page budget to be read aloud. They did so after Democrats shut off debate.

The document was read alternately by Lt. Gov. Ernest Kline and Senate staff members for 15 minutes before Republicans withdrew their motion.

There was a touch of irony in the political maneuvering Saturday. Republicans offered amendments to place a flood relief measure into the budget while Democrats fought them off. For two days Republicans had sought to sever the budget from the flood relief issue and were, in the end, successful. At the same time Democrats had tried desperately to keep the flood money tied in with the budget as a lever.

The Republican reasoning this time, as victory was hopeless, was to have Democrats go on record as voting against money to help flood victims.

Sen. Elmer Hawbaker, R-Franklin, bitterly attacked Democrats for holding the flood money in committee until a budget is passed.

"They are using the flood money to extort our votes," Hawbaker said. "It's one of the most despicable things I've witnessed in the 12 years I've been in the Senate."

Sen. Benjamin Donolow, D-Philadelphia, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said the flood money would be voted on, but he skipped around questions pinning him down on when.

Sen. Stanley Stroup, a Bedford County Republican, claimed that the budget will force the personal income tax to be hiked by seven-tenths of 1 per cent in order to balance the budget of June 30, 1974.

To get the votes of the three dissident Democrats, leaders had to separate the flood money from the budget and change a formula

for distributing aid to county courts to give rural areas a greater proportion.

\$152 MILLION IN FLOOD AID CLEARS HOUSE

Emergency Aid Measure Given Senate; O'Brien Calls It 'Drop In Bucket'

Harrisburg — The House has passed and sent to the Senate a special appropriation bill calling for \$152,000,000 in emergency funds to help the flood-ravaged victims of Hurricane Agnes.

"Obviously, this will only be a drop in the bucket compared to the billions of dollars lost in this terrible tragedy, but it is a beginning that will at least give our people a ray of hope in the knowledge that we are trying to do something for them," declared State Rep. Bernard O'Brien, Democratic representative from the state's hardest hit area, Wilkes-Barre.

"And hope is the most important factor of all at this time. I've seen the dazed look of people in my area who have been completely wiped out by this disaster. I've seen mothers and little children standing deep in mud and water while their homes were destroyed. I've seen both small and large industries devastated beyond repair with little hope of ever coming back.

"Hurricane Agnes is now history, but the disaster it wrought will mark Pennsylvania forever. Throughout the state more than 50,000 homes and 5,000 factories, stores, shops and service stations have been partially or totally destroyed. Some \$50,000,000 of damage has been inflicted on our schools and colleges. And a total of 126 bridges and hundreds of miles of highway have been rendered useless."

O'Brien stated that while Federal aid probably will be forthcoming, the time to act is now as far as the state is concerned "because we've got to help ourselves."

Under the O'Brien bill, the \$152,000,000 would be appropriated to the governor's office to spend in three stages, based on studies of need and where the money can best be used. The first \$50,000,000 would be earmarked for use between now and September 30, the second \$50,000,000 would be set aside for use between October 1 and December 31, and the remaining \$52,000,000 is designed for use after January 1, 1973.

STATE SENDS MORE MONEY FOR CLEANUP

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania authorized spending of another \$200,000 Tuesday morning in the clean-up program in Wyoming Valley.

Amount now totals \$400,000, since the original allocation was \$2,000,000.

Peter Coleman, executive assistant to Lt. Gov. Ernest Kline who has been in Wyoming Valley since Saturday setting up the program, said: "The emergency clean-up program is meeting with tremendous success."

Under the program, persons, mostly youth, are hired by State Emergency Employment Bureau aides, and are placed in jobs cleaning up various houses, businesses, schools, etc.

As of Tuesday, 1,080 persons were working in these communities: Wilkes-Barre, Kingston, Swoyersville, Luzerne, Edwardsville, Pittston, West Pittston, Duryea, Plains Township, Jenkins Township, Hughestown, West Wyoming, Exeter, Wyoming. On Wednesday clean-up crews were sent into Plymouth, Shickshinny and Forty Fort. An additional 400 persons were hired for these communities Tuesday afternoon.

Coleman said as of Tuesday \$120,000 of the first \$200,000 had been spent and through the efforts of Lt. Gov. Kline and Sen. Martin L. Murray, Gov. Milton Shapp agreed to send another \$200,000 into the area Tuesday.

July 5-6, 1972

T.L.E.N.

LEGISLATION AIMED TO AID AREA BUSINESS

State Commerce Dept. Seeks Amendments To Finance Programs

In the wake of the flood which caused an estimated \$1.4-billion loss to Pennsylvania business alone, the State Department of Commerce has moved to bring two economic development finance programs to the business and jobs recovery effort.

State Secretary of Commerce Walter G. Arader has had legislation introduced to amend the state's Revenue Bond and Mortgage Act to make it applicable retroactively to disaster relief projects already begun in the flood recovery effort.

The amendment would permit use of the program's machinery for financing "any undertaking to rehabilitate, repair, reconstruct, clean-up, replace, or otherwise return to economic use any land, site, structure, or facility, including machinery, equipment and tools damaged or lost due to disaster of flood and fire or other casualty caused by the floods of June, 1972 and comprising or being part of an industrial, commercial, manufacturing or research and development project as defined in this act."

The Revenue Bond and Mortgage Program can provide for up to \$5-million in low interest rate loans when these loans will be used to replace or refurbish buildings and equipment. A loan under this program is sponsored by the state government, but is arranged between the local bank or other lender.

The Revenue Bond and Mortgage Program involves no state funds.

Secretary Arader has established a four man committee to expedite loan applications from flood-stricken businesses. John S. Cole, executive director of PIDA, is serving as chairman of the committee, and may be reached by telephone at (717) 787-6254.

Secretary Arader has written the presidents of Pennsylvania banks to remind them of the availability of financing under the two industrial development programs. He wrote, in part:

"At this time, it might be easy to lose sight of the value of our continuing industrial development programs as they could be applied to solving the problems presented by the devastation. Specifically, the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority and the Revenue Bond and Mortgage Program, which have been so useful to us in developing Pennsylvania's industrial base through the purchase of land, buildings and equipment, are even more valuable in this time of crisis. Counsel to the

Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority has opined that the Revenue Bond and Mortgage Law is available to assist industry in rehabilitation and equipment loans."

July 6, 1972
T.L.E.N.

JULY 6, 1972

State Establishes 21 Information Centers

'One-Stop' Offices Will Provide Assistance To Valley's Flood Victims

Twenty-one "one-stop information and service centers," each providing assistance to flood victims, have been established in various parts of the Wyoming Valley by agencies of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

These centers, opened Monday, will offer the following assistance to flood victims: Bureau of Employment Services, Department of Labor and Industry — emergency and normal unemployment compensation processing and arranging job placement; Department of Community Affairs — processing of applications for housing, arrangement of appointments with Small Business Administration officials, and arrangements for temporary housing; Department of Environmental Resources — investigation of environmental health problems, investigation and evaluation of landfill questions, evaluation of water pollution and mine subsidence information.

Department of Health — supply of needed health counseling and services, referral to other public and volunteer agencies; Department of Justice — investigation and action regarding illegal price increases, institution of legal action against fraudulent business practices; Department of Public Welfare — emergency food stamp applications, emergency check applications and county board of assistance services.

In addition, counselors for various volunteer social service agencies will be at the centers to provide help in completing applications, provide advice on personal rights, provide child care services at various locations, give information regarding care for the aging, provide personal counseling for human problems, and process applications for emergency clothing.

These Flood Information Service Centers have been established at the following locations.

Wilkes-Barre — Holy Savior Church, 54 Hilliard St; Wyoming Valley Mall, Route 115; Palmer School, New Grove St; Human Service Center, 69 S. Hancock St.; Guthrie School, N. Washington St.

Hazleton — 75 N. Laurel St.

Nanticoke — John Fine High School.

Pittston — 300 Kennedy Blvd.

Larksville — Borough Building.
Luzerne — Charles Street School, Charles St.
Shavertown — Westmoreland School, 106 South Lehigh St.
Shickshinny — Garrison School, W. Vine St.
West Pittston — Immaculate Conception Church, Luzerne Avenue, Pittston.
Dallas — Dallas Senior High School.
Kingston — Rutter Avenue School.
Hanover Township — High School Building, St. Mary's Road.
Mountaintop — Crestwood High School, 281 S. Mountain Blvd.
Tunkhannock — BES Office, Tioga Street.
Plymouth-West Nanticoke — Central School, Shawnee Avenue, Plymouth.
Wyoming — Fire Hall #2, East Third Street.
Pringle — Vocational-Tech School.

Legislature to Get Flood-relief Package

Harrisburg (P) — The Shapp administration, continually finding new financial problems wrought by Tropical Storm Agnes, plans to finance flood relief by floating longterm bonds, with at least a \$100 million issue its first goal.

That is one of the key parts of a flood-relief package which will be submitted to the Legislature during a special session beginning Monday.

Shapp, at a news briefing, said he expected the Legislature to act on the package before adjourning. "And if they don't, I'll call them back in another special session," Shapp said. "Some bills could be handled in three days, others in four or five days."

Proceeds from the bonds would be channelled through the De-

partment of Community Affairs for cleanup and reconstruction. The administration was counting on the federal government's putting up \$3 for every \$1 dollar to generate at least \$400 million overall.

Shapp said the Legislature would be asked to approve additional bond issues once the state knew how much more money is needed.

The flood-relief package also specifies spending of an uncommitted portion of \$150 million appropriated last month from the General Fund.

The largest item — \$50 million — would finance 90-180-day loans to businessmen and farmers pending federal approval of Small Business Administration loans of 1 percent interest. The state would charge 2 percent interest on its short-term loans to

induce borrowers to pay back the loans quickly and apply for the new federal loan at lower interest rates, thus creating a "revolving" loan fund that could be re-used constantly.

Despite Shapp's push for a quick approval of a flood package, there's been talk among legislators that flood relief legislation will be sidelined until its regular session in September and that the two houses would concentrate on the controversial pay raise issue during the special session.

A report by the new Commonwealth Compensation Commission, which recommends \$6 million in pay raises for legislators, judges and high government officers, becoming law August 21 unless the Legislature rejects or changes parts of it.

Aug. 13, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Mine Cave Insurance Cut Approved

Bill Decreases
Premiums to \$25
Over 2 Years

State Senate voted 47-1 in favor of a major amendment to the mine cave insurance program which could drop insurance rates from 55 to 65 cents a \$100 of coverage to 45 cents a \$100 in the next policy year and could drop rates as low as 25 cents per \$100 of coverage within two years.

Proposal, acted on on Monday night, calls for State Department of Environmental Resources to fund the administrative expenses of the insurance program instead of taking the money out of premiums paid by policyholders.

State Rep. Michael J. Needham, Scranton Democrat and chairman of House Mining Committee, sponsored the legislation in that body.

Sen. Robert Mellow, chairman of Senate Mining Committee, said the measure, expected to be signed by Gov. Milton Shapp, means that persons paying \$55 to \$65 a year for cave insurance on a \$10,000 home can expect their rates to drop to about \$45. After the plan has been in operation approximately two years, Mellow said, actuaries believe the premium on the same home could be cut to \$25 a year.

The legislative change is one of the biggest in the insurance program's history.

Since the program was begun, administrative costs have totaled \$1,040,000 while the benefits have totaled only \$372,000.

It is estimated that about 250,000 homes are eligible for the insurance in the anthracite area, but the 1970 annual report listed only 3,357 policies outstanding.

Bill Provides Training For Police Officers

Harrisburg (AP) — The Senate passed legislation Tuesday requiring a 10-week training period for all municipal police officers. Many now receive no training at all.

The bill was sent back to the House for consideration of Senate changes which give the state police commissioner more leverage over the program. The vote was 44-6.

The state would reimburse local police departments for the tuition, living and travel expenses of the officers in training. Their salaries during the training should be shared 50-50 by the state and local governments.

An officer would have to complete his training sometime during his first two years on the force or have his salary suspended.

About five training centers will be established under the program through the state. Training academies already in operation, such as in Philadel-

phia and Pittsburgh, would be accredited for the program.

The Senate version would make the state police commissioner chairman of a new commission, the House would have the commission elect its own chairman. The House version also would make the state pay the entire salary of the officer during training, but this was changed in the Senate.

A state police spokesman commented that now, "you give a gun and badge to a guy and he doesn't even know how to make out a traffic ticket."

Sept. 27, 1972

T.L.E.N.

U. S. and State Agree to Split \$1,682,000 Bill

The federal government and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have entered into a series of agreements concerning the management and maintenance of temporary mobile home parks in Wyoming Valley.

In a joint statement on the agreements, Frank Carlucci, President Nixon's personal representative to the flood area, and William Wilcox, head of the Governor's Council of State Agencies for Flood Recovery, said the agreements demonstrate, "what can be accomplished with all parties working

together to solve problems."

Wilcox reported the total cost of operations covered by the agreements is \$1,682,000 with the federal government paying \$860,000 and the state, \$822,000.

Carlucci said the two governmental bodies also have reached agreement on construction of public and commercial buildings at the temporary housing sites but these agreements have not yet been "costed out."

This is a breakdown of responsibilities under the management and maintenance agreements.

ACTIVITY SUMMARY	FUNDING SOURCE	ESTIMATED COST		TOTAL COST
		1st YEAR	2nd YEAR	
General upkeep, utility maintenance including staff and equipment.	Federal	\$ 400,000	\$200,000	\$ 600,000
Refuse removal	State	180,000	95,000	285,000
Snow Removal	Federal	120,000	30,000	150,000
Maintenance of streets on sites	State	85,000	40,000	125,000
Access roads to sites	State	250,000		250,000
Traffic signs on sites	State	32,000		32,000
Directional signs to sites	State	16,000		16,000
Street lighting on sites				
a. Installation	Federal	110,000		110,000
b. Monthly service including maintenance	State	76,000	38,000	114,000
TOTAL COST		\$1,279,000	\$403,000	\$1,682,000
COST SUMMARY				
Federal		\$ 630,000	\$230,000	\$ 860,000
State		649,000	173,000	822,000
TOTAL COST		\$1,279,000	\$403,000	\$1,682,000

The agreements covering public and commercial buildings assign these responsibilities to the State:

1. Acquire and retain title to all auxiliary buildings.
2. Bear full costs for inflatable "Bubbles." These will be used for recreation purposes.
3. Bear full cost for acquisition and installation of all UGI modular offices. These units will be used for social services.
4. Bear full cost for the acquisition and installation of all Craftech structures to be used for commercial buildings.
5. Bear full cost of utility charge and maintenance charges for Craftech structures to be used for commercial buildings.
6. Retain all revenues as a result of leases for all Craftech structures to be used for commercial buildings.

Federal government will be responsible for these activities:

1. Bear full cost for the acquisition and installation of structures to be used for public and community functions.

2. Bear full cost of utility charges and maintenance charges for structures to be used for public and community functions.

Army Corps of Engineers will provide these services:

1. Architectural and engineering work for site preparation for the installation of auxiliary buildings.
2. Installation of necessary footings and foundations for auxiliary buildings.
3. Installation of auxiliary buildings with the exception of structures to be installed by the manufacturers.

Sept 28, 1972

T.L.E.N.

Legislature Overrides Gov. Shapp's Veto On Agriculture Bill; 1st Action Since 1917

Harrisburg (P)—The legislature Wednesday overrode Gov. Shapp's veto of a bill taking away the power of the agriculture secretary to disburse certain research funds.

It was the first time since 1917 that the legislature has overridden a gubernatorial veto.

Wednesday's vote in the Senate was 38-9. The House voted 143-43, exactly one week ago to override.

With the bill restored, agricultural research funds fall under the control of a 15-member committee which is created under the act. The research funds come from a \$400,000 yearly allocation from the state harness racing fund.

The 15-member committee would consist of several factions including legislators, farmers and agribusiness officials.

Supporters of the override motion complained that Agriculture Secretary Jim McHale has been

diverting the money to rural poverty projects instead of research. Senate Majority Leader Thomas F. Lamb, D-Allegheny, arguing against the override, said: "I like to make history, but this is not the kind of history I want to make."

Last week, Shapp defended McHale's policy of using funds for rural poverty programs. He said, "The money that has been going to the Penn State research projects is not going to benefit Pennsylvania farmers."

The governor said that in the past there was too much emphasis on agribusiness rather than the problems of individual farmers.

The Pennsylvania Farmers' Association, which lobbied for the

override, issued a statement saying the action was not meant as a slap at Shapp.

"It is our belief that agricultural research funds should be used for agriculture," said the organization's president, John P. Pitzer.

The only other time a veto was overridden by the Pennsylvania legislature was when former Gov. Martin G. Brumbaugh requested that lawmakers overturn his veto.

2 State Bills Will Assist Flood Areas

Legislation Will Aid People, Governments With Tax Problems

Harrisburg (P) — The House bills Tuesday designed to aid local governments and citizens in recovery from the floods caused by tropical storm Agnes.

The first measure, passed 183-5 and sent on to the Senate, would authorize the Department of Property and Supplies to provide flood-related services to units of local government throughout the Commonwealth, under contracts entered into by the state.

The second Senate-passed bill sent on to Gov. Shapp, permits local taxing authorities to grant real estate tax abatements on property suffering at least 10 per cent damage because of flood.

The taxing bodies would be permitted to refund taxes already paid for the current fiscal year to give credit for the amount paid against future real estate taxes.

Sept 28, 1972
T.L.F.N.

Mine Cave Insurance Cut Approved

**Bill Decreases
Premiums to \$25
Over 2 Years**

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Proposal, acted on on Monday night, calls for State Department of Environmental Resources to fund the administrative expenses of the insurance program instead of taking the money out of premiums paid by policyholders.

State Rep. Michael J. Needham, Scranton Democrat and chairman of House Mining Committee, sponsored the legislation in that body.

Sen. Robert Mellow, chairman of Senate Mining Committee, said the measure, expected to be signed by Gov. Milton Shapp, means that persons paying \$55 to \$65 a year for cave insurance on a \$10,000 home can expect their rates to drop to about \$45. After the plan has been in operation approximately two years, Mellow said, actuaries believe the premium on the same home could be cut to \$25 a year.

The legislative change is one of the biggest in the insurance program's history.

Since the program was begun, administrative costs have totaled \$1,040,000 while the benefits have totaled only \$372,000.

It is estimated that about 250,000 homes are eligible for the insurance in the anthracite area, but the 1970 annual report listed only 3,357 policies outstanding.

OFFER MADE OF LEGAL AID TO VICTIMS

The Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association has offered the services of any of its member lawyers, without compensation, to assist the recent flood victims in processing insurance claims, filing claims for relief or in handling any private contractual arrangements with contractors or home repair companies.

David S. Shrager, president of PaTLA, sent a telegram to Governor Milton Shapp pledging these services. The telegram read:

"Dear Governor Shapp:
"You have properly taken and called for bold action on behalf of the tens of thousands of our citizens who have suffered devastating personal loss as a result of the recent flood disaster. Thousands have and will in the days ahead be filing claims for relief that may be available in the nature of services, grants in aid and/or loans. Many citizens may be approached by those active in the private sector in contracting, home repair and like type enterprises in circumstances in which fair dealing and a full understanding of legal rights and liabilities may not be well understood.

The Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association has pledged itself to assisting the flood ravaged consumer in his hour of stress and need to the maximum of its resources. Accordingly, the members of the trial bar are prepared to assist your administration in any fashion. I am confident this determination is shared by every segment of the bar. Specifically, we are prepared to call on skilled attorneys in the areas where the need is greatest and attorneys from other areas in the state who will come to any community to offer representation and advice to any flood victim, whether in connection with the processing of any claim or the handling of any private contractual arrangement. Of course these services will be rendered without any charge whatsoever. I await your directions and advice."

House GOP Leadership Charged With Undermining No-fault Bill

Philadelphia (AP) — State Insurance Commissioner Herbert Denenberg Monday charged the House Republican leadership with undermining passage of no-fault insurance legislation.

Denenberg made the statement during a news conference he called to reply to a letter from House Republican leader Kenneth B. Lee. Lee had questioned the Shapp administration's commitment to no-fault.

Lee's letter followed last week's threat by Gov. Milton Shapp to veto a revised bill worked out by a six-member legislative conference committee. The bill is still in that committee.

Shapp claimed the compromise bill would hike premiums

by 20 per cent and suggested several changes. It is doubtful the conference committee will get back together until after the Nov. 7 general elections.

Denenberg charged in his news conference that Lee and other important Republican members of the House tried to kill no-fault legislation by voting to recommit the insurance bill the administration had sought to attach to its proposed no-fault legislation.

"When the bill finally did reach the point of consideration by the full membership of the House," Denenberg said, "the Republican leadership all voted in favor of every crippling amendment which was offered for attachment . . ."

Lee's letter also asked Denenberg for information about the no-fault bill pertaining to cost and constitutionality.

Lee's request for information, Denenberg said, proved that House Republicans had not been working in good faith. He scored the Republicans for waiting until two weeks before election time to request the information.

"It is most surprising that you would wait until this late date, after a no-fault bill has been passed in both Houses of the Legislature and nearly reported out by the conference committee, to request such information," Denenberg quoted from his letter of response to Lee.

Asked about the future of no-fault in Pennsylvania, Denenberg said: "I know we're going to get no-fault eventually. If

we don't get one, Congress is going to force one down our throats. It's just a matter of time."

"They have pronounced no-fault dead about 12 times, and it's bounced back to life," he said. "The conference committee could sit down and in ten minutes come up with a bill if they wanted to."

On whether the public really understands what no-fault actually is, Denenberg replied:

"I think the public understands no-fault. They understand that it has delivered in Massachusetts . . . and that the only major group against no-fault is the trial lawyers."

The changes Shapp said he wanted the conference committee to make were:

- Reduction of minimum liability coverage required from \$16,000 for one person injured to \$10,000 and \$30,000 for more than one person injured to \$20,000.

- Removal of rehabilitation expenses from inclusion in the \$1,000 medical expenses bill necessary for an accident victim to sue. Shapp claimed rehabilitation service could easily be trumped up in order to water down the \$1,000 threshold.

- Removal of the amendment that would force insurance companies to pay the \$100 deductible in most cases in property damage. The governor said unless altered the provision would become a substantial burden on insurance companies.

Denenberg said the suggested changes would drop the cost of the bill by 12 per cent.

New Activism Proposed By Gov. Shapp as Key To Appalachian Gains

A "new activism" on behalf of the citizens of Appalachian states was proposed Tuesday night for the governors of those states and the Appalachian Regional Commission by Pennsylvania Gov. Milton J. Shapp. Speaking at the commission conference at Treadway Inn, Gov. Shapp called upon the commission to become the "watchdog for, and strong advocate of, interests of the Appalachian states in Washington."

Gov. Shapp addressed the representatives of 13 states who sat at tables placed in a square formation, against a backdrop of state flags and the American flag.

In describing a number of "pressing issues" on which the commission and the Appalachian governors must move strongly, Gov. Shapp urged an assessment begin immediately of the overall impact of the various railroad reorganization plans, as the basis for unified action by governors in an appeal to Congress to intervene before the railroad disaster hits. Shapp said he is supporting, "as the most desirable of a group of undesirable choices," the approach being taken by Sen. Hartke to have the ICC spend a year studying the situation and preparing a reorganization report, while Congress provides funds to keep the railroads functioning.

Gov. Shapp also made the point that the only source of energy which this nation has in abundance, to last for several centuries, is coal. "Coal also happens to be a plentiful resource of Appalachia," he said. "It was the reason for the earlier economic development of much of our region in the last century, and controlled use of this resource can bring economic rejuvenation today."

Shapp claimed this rejuvenation will not be achieved "as long as Washington is dominated by the oil and gas interests." He maintained rationing oil and gas, and increasing imports of foreign oil, "will result only in greater dependence on foreign countries and in the export of billions of dollars of American capital to other nations."

Commission can contribute to a real solution to the energy shortage by devoting increased amounts of its resources to the development of the region's coal, he stated. He suggested the commission fund projects to develop or demonstrate new technologies for mining and processing Appalachian coal. It also might support projects to insure

coal fields and joint ownership by mining interests and those who will use the land after mining is completed.

He also held that passage by Congress of a strong mine reclamation law is in the interests of the entire region, as it will enable the region to compete more effectively with Western coal and insure that the quality of life is preserved.

Shapp told the commission he was "most disturbed" by President Nixon's announcement Monday that strip-mining laws should be relaxed and read a copy of the letter he sent to the President in which he stated: "For you to suggest the relaxation of strip-mining laws when the benefits are so great and the cost is so low is inconsistent with the needs of this nation to both mine coal and to protect our environment." He offered to meet with the President or staff to present the facts.

County Commissioner E. C. Wideman introduced the governor and after recounting the extent of State help to flood victims, thanked the governor, on behalf of the people of Luzerne County, for what he has done to help.

The governor arrived by helicopter from Harrisburg, stopping at Lehighton to pay respects to the late retired State Police Commissioner Frank G. McCartney, who died Friday. Shapp was scheduled to go to Philadelphia last night.

Two Plains Township policemen provided security at the entrance to the rooms where the meetings are being held. It was anticipated a group from the Lower Broadway, Nanticoke, might be on hand to protest to the governor about the total-clearance project scheduled for that area. A reporter was told several were at the inn but none were seen in the vicinity of the conference.

The executive director of the Appalachian Regional Commission presented a wide array of immediate and long-range proposals before the commission earlier Tuesday to insure the ARC's "survival, life and growth."

Recommendations also were made to the commission by representatives of Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, the local counterpart of ARC in developing the area's economy.

The 13-state commission is holding two days of meetings at Treadway Inn, Plains, Sessions, which conclude Wednesday, are being co-hosted by the Commonwealth and EDCNP.

"This committee would determine the industrial picture of the region," Teter said, "and answer such questions as, 'Why does industry locate in Appalachia?' and 'Why doesn't industry locate in Appalachia?'"

Teter said the committee should look at the effectiveness of vocational education in the region, availability of industrial sites, manpower and the value of industrial promotion. He said a survey should be made of all other industrial development studies conducted to develop a source library.

In conjunction with the industrial survey, a land-use study is needed, Teter said.

Appalachian Regional Commission is more than just a public works project or an anti-poverty program, Teter said. Its goal is to develop an area economically to provide jobs, he said.

Regardless of proposed changes in ARC, it is sound institution which provides dollars that have a great multiplier effect on local areas, Teter said.

Donald W. Whitehead, Federal cochairman of the commission, suggested that Teter's proposals be taken up by the commission executive committee.

John B. Hibbard, president of EDCNP, officially welcomed the commission to Northeastern Pennsylvania and said he hoped ARC and EDCNP would continue to have a relationship in "bringing benefits to the citizens of Northeastern Pennsylvania."

Howard Grossman, executive director of EDCNP, told the commission that housing remains the crucial problem in this part of the state, and solution of the problem is the key to total flood recovery.

Grossman urged the ARC to encourage a more flexible housing program in the U. S. and to support legislation providing more subsidized and non-subsidized housing.

Railroad abandonments could bring about a disaster worse than Tropical Storm Agnes, Grossman said, and he urged the ARC to consider a rail study. A full-fledged program should be developed to "treat rails the same as highways," Grossman said.

The local EDCNP official said the lessons of Agnes should be passed on to others, and he urged passage of legislation to enable local development districts to cope with future disasters more rapidly than was possible in 1972.

Letters of regret were read from Congressman Daniel J. Flood and Joseph McDade and Sen. Hugh Scott on their in-

Tax Relief, No-fault Insurance Legislation Among Major Bills Awaiting State Solons

Harrisburg (AP) — The state legislature returns Monday from its summer recess, hoping to conclude action this fall on a series of major bills headed by tax relief and no-fault insurance.

The tax and budget haggling which before the seven-week break, dominated legislative energy, resulting in a relatively unproductive first six months.

Measures expected to be worked over in the coming weeks include extension of property tax relief to more elderly persons, reform of the whole property tax system, election campaign reform and easing of the tight home mortgage market.

Legislation restoring the death penalty in the state is almost certain to be enacted, perhaps in the next several weeks.

A Senate committee meets Tuesday and may decide to report to the floor a House-passed capital punishment measure.

Meanwhile a sponsor of a no-fault car insurance bill, Sen. Joseph Ammerman, said over the

weekend he's abandoned hope of resolving the no-fault issue by various ad hoc committees, and will try to push his own bill through, possibly this week.

A joint House-Senate no-fault committee has met four times, but Ammerman, a committee member, says there's "too much wrangling" and nothing will be accomplished.

This week, legislation action is expected to be light, as leaders begin talks centering again on taxes. The Senate may vote on bills prohibiting any type of discrimination, such as withholding funds against hospitals or doctors who either do or do not perform abortions.

A bill setting a uniform state-wide assessment system for property taxes may also be considered.

The House Rules Committee may release a bill to require legislators and staff aides earning \$12,000 or more annually to file yearly financial disclosure statements.

The listing of sources of income would be required although not the monetary value under the measure, sponsored by Rep. William Yohn, R-Montgomery, chairman of the House Ethics Committee.

As before the recess, the size of a tax cut bill will be the most politically sensitive issue this fall. The same positions staked out last spring continue.

Republicans, who control the

House, want less spending and a larger tax cut while Gov. Shapp says there are certain required programs, funding of which do not permit a large tax reduction.

Shapp and House Republicans, however, apparently concur on how to achieve a tax cut: exempt a certain amount of earnings from the 2.3 percent income tax. But Shapp says the GOP figure of the first \$2,000 of income is too high.

Shapp's original tax cut proposal would have sliced the 2.3 percent income levy to 2.1.

The governor also feels the GOP proposal to cut the corporate net income tax from 11 percent to 9 percent is too much.

Tied in with the tax is how to spend more than \$600 million, which was left over after the GOP version of the basic budget was accepted by Shapp on July 12.

The governor wants full funding of such programs as mental health, road repairs, state employee salary increases, mass transit and educating the retarded. Much of these would be funded by federal revenue sharing. So far, the GOP has balked.

The death penalty measure, which mandates execution for specific crimes, is expected to be amended by the Senate Judiciary Committee before it's released.

Chairman Louis Hill, D-Philadelphia, once a foe, is now sup-

porting reinstating capital punishment but is opposed to several features of the bill.

Shapp said recently he would sign a death penalty bill. He commented after his specially appointed commission recommended against the death penalty, on grounds that it was not a deterrent to murder.

Radio System Bid Opening Set Monday

Multi-million Dollar State Police Network To Be 10-year Lease

Bids will be opened Monday at State Police Headquarters in Harrisburg for the most modern statewide communications system in the country. The proposed new State Police Radio Communications Network will not only serve the State Police but will have the capability of being interconnected with all municipal police radio systems.

The multi-million dollar system has been under study and in various stages of planning since 1968. The specifications were developed through the efforts of an internationally recognized communications consulting firm and representatives of several Commonwealth agencies.

If the bid proposals meet specifications a contract could be awarded within 60 days and the system would be fully operational 16 months after that date.

State Police specifications for the new system call for the latest type of equipment available which will provide multichannel capabilities utilizing 8 frequencies throughout the Commonwealth, one of which would be a statewide emergency frequency. The specifications also require complete coverage in all State Police Patrol Zones, inter-connection with other police radio systems, and an alarm system for banks and other high risk institutions.

Communications Inadequate

This new system, to be provided on a 10-year lease basis with an option to purchase, will replace the current system which was installed in 1946. It was designed to take care of 250 patrol cars. Today the system attempts to handle more than 1500 mobile units and 100 base stations. Over the years this radio system has been expanded piecemeal with seven models of equipment from three different manufacturers. The present system leaves more than 50% of the State, including many high accident rate highway segments, without adequate radio coverage. The system cannot function properly in the event of a power failure since the number of emergency electric generators is extremely limited. Maintenance of the system has grown steadily more difficult and expensive.

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Col. James D. Barger, State Police commissioner, announcing next Monday's bid opening said, "The police agencies of the Commonwealth have too long been handicapped by inadequate communications. The disaster of Hurricane Agnes last Summer is a prime example of the need for a better emergency communication system among the public safety organizations. I am sure that the proposed new radio communication system will not only meet our emergency needs, but will support the routine day to day requirements of all police agencies in the Commonwealth."

Dan Flood Awarded Marywood Medal



Flood as a "... uniquely modern leader of men who skillfully directed the resources of government to the alleviation of human suffering ..."

Congressman Daniel J. Flood was a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Marywood College at an impressive dinner and reception held at the college.

In the upper photo are Wyoming Valley residents who attended the dinner. Seated from left, Joseph Corgan, Miss Margaret Corgan, Kingston, a member of Marywood's board of trustees and an alumna of the college; Mary Barrett, librarian at King's College, and Mrs. James Hannon; standing, from left, LeRoy Supplee, 293

South Street, Wilkes-Barre; Msgr. William Pakutka, former Marywood chaplain; Mrs. Supplee and Miss Theodosia Trotski, N. Welles Avenue, Kingston, also an alumna of Marywood.

In the upper photo Sister M. Coleman Nee, president of Marywood, displays the citation which accompanied the Marywood medal. Included are, from left, Most Rev. J. Carroll McCormick, bishop of the diocese of Scranton; Cong. Flood, Mrs. Flood and Sister Coleman. The citation hailed

Murray, Wood Back Pay Panel Ending

(From Harrisburg Bureau)

Harrisburg — This is the voting record of area lawmakers during the past week of April 9-14 on major bills — including a bill abolishing the Commonwealth Compensation Commission — with voting as follows by local legislators (Rep. George C. Hasay, R-Shickshinny; Raphael Musto, D-Pittston; Bernard F. O'Brien, D-Wilkes-Barre; Frank J. O'Connell, R-Kingston; Fred J. Shupnik, D-Luzerne; James J. Ustynoski, R-Hazleton, and Sens. Martin L. Murray, D-Ashley, and T. Newell Wood, R-Harveys Lake):

SENATE

SB9 — (Passed) — Abolishes the Commonwealth Compensation Commission, a panel created last session to study and recommend changes in the pay and pension scales of legislators, the judiciary and executive branches. (Murray — Yes; Wood — Did not vote)

SB129 — (Passed) — Requires the State Bureau of Correction to notify the sentencing court 20 days in advance before it places a prisoner on the pre-release program. Local law enforcement officers are also to be so notified. (Murray — Yes; Wood — Yes)

SB129 — Amendment (Defeated) that would have restricted pre-release privileges to prisoners who have served their minimum sentences. (Murray — No; Wood — Yes)

SB239 — Amendment (Passed) providing that a ten-member committee be established (5 House and 5 Senate members) to recommend by June 30 of every year what state boards, commissions and agencies should be abolished. Prior to this amendment the bill stipulated that all such boards and commissions would cease to exist as of November 30, 1974 unless specifically recreated by law. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB394 — Amendment (Passed) increasing from \$15 to \$30 million the allocation to the Department of Community Affairs, leaving intact the original \$15 million for local park and recreation development but adding \$15 million to local governments for land and conservation programs. (Murray—Yes; Wood—No)

SB553—(Passed)—Permits the

sale of beer in non-breakable containers in arenas or stadiums seating 7,000 or more in third class cities. (Current law only permits the sale of beer in first- and second-class city arenas and stadium seating 12,000 or more.) An amendment further limits beer sales in third-class cities to stadiums and arenas which are owned by the city. (Murray — Yes; Wood — Yes)

HOUSE

HB14—(Passed)—Would include in court costs payment to a political subdivision for furnishing its police officers in court proceedings. (Hasay—Yes; Musto — No; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — No; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB71—(Passed) — Amends the Vehicle Code by providing for registration fees for school buses and the disposition of certain fines and forfeitures. (Hasay—No; Musto—No; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — No; Ustynoski—No)

HB—323—(Passed)—Permits a police officer to arrest on sight persons suspected of driving under the influence of liquor, narcotics or habit forming drugs. (Hasay — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB347 — (Passed) — Permits state grants of up to \$5,000 for farm property owners with heavy losses from Tropical Storm Agnes last summer. (Hasay—Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB409 — (Passed) — Removes the stipulation that the compensation of second-class township managers be fixed by ordinance. (Hasay — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB494 — (Passed) — Permits grants to non-farm owners of homes or personal property damaged due to Tropical Storm Agnes. The sum of \$40 million is provided for this program. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB518—Motion to send back to committee (approved) this bill which would outlaw adultery and fornication in Pennsylvania. (Hasay — No; Musto — No; O'Brien — No; O'Connell — No; Shupnik—No; Ustynoski—No)

HB533—(Passed)—Creates the Pennsylvania Energy Council consisting of 15 members to study State energy needs and supplies. (Hasay — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

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HB533—(Passed)—Creates the Pennsylvania Energy Council consisting of 15 members to study State energy needs and supplies. (Hasay — Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB533—Amendment (Defeated) would reduce from eight to three the number of industry representatives on the 15-member Pennsylvania Energy Council and add an equal number of "environmental and consumer representatives." (Hasay — No; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — No; O'Connell—No; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski—No)

SB8 — (Passed) — This is the so-called "Taj Mahal" school bill requiring among other things local public referendum on new school buildings costing more than \$2,800 per pupil for elementary schools, \$4,000 for junior high schools and \$5,200 for senior high schools. (Hasay—Yes; Musto — Yes; O'Brien — Yes; O'Connell — Yes; Shupnik — Yes; Ustynoski — Yes)



SYMBOLS OF PENNSYLVANIA — The Commonwealth's "official" flower, dog, bird, tree, animal and flag are shown here.

The State flower, Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), gained its official status by Act of Assembly No. 107, approved on May 5, 1933. The Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis* Linnaeus) became the State tree by Act No. 233, approved June 22, 1931. Act 234, also approved on June 22, 1931, established the "king of game birds," the Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*), as the State's official bird.

The Whitetail Deer became the official State animal through Act 416 which was approved October 2, 1959, and the Great Dane became the official State dog through Act 178 which was approved on August 17, 1965.

The shield in the center of the State's gold-bordered, blue flag is divided into two parts by a gold band across the center. The upper part of the shield is sky blue; the lower part, green. A ship at full sail, facing left occupies the upper portion of the shield; a plough in natural color, the center portion, and three golden sheaves appear on the green lower portion of the shield. An eagle with its wings spread in the attitude of rising, in natural colors. The supporters are two caparisoned black horses, rearing and facing each other.

MAY 10, 1973

Mussari Says Lack of Consumer Protection Costly to Flood Victims

In testimony to be presented to the U. S. Senate Subcommittee on Disaster Legislation here Saturday, Anthony Mussari, chairman of Citizens United for the Future of Wyoming Valley (CUFF), will offer the opinion that the federal government "has wasted millions of dollars" following the Agnes Hurricane disaster because "of the lack of strict consumer-protection laws."

He will tell the committee, headed by Senator Quentin Burdick, D, of North Dakota, which will conduct two days of hearings starting Friday at Wilkes College, that strict laws and the utilization of the appropriate branches of the services to perform certain repairs "might go a long way toward saving tax dollars foolishly funneled into the hands of a few in the wake of a disaster."

Mussari, a member of King's College faculty and school director of Wilkes-Barre Area School District, will inform the committee that the Federal Consumer Protection Agency, which occupied a handsome mobile home in the center of Public Square with a gigantic sign telling the public that the President's Consumer Protection Representative was inside, arrived late and was poorly equipped to do the important task of protecting the public from the practices which the committee is expected to discover during the hearings here.

that time of the \$64,464 of approved damages certified by U. S. Health, Education and Welfare Department engineers, only \$34,090 has been approved for payment, leaving the taxpayers with a bill of \$30,374.

Mussari will tell how the bill for damages done to school buildings in Pennsylvania totaled \$900,000. To date, he will

say, the government has only paid \$240,000.

He will cite the case of Pittston Area School District, where a new \$10,000,000 high school was used as an evacuation center. Damages there, according to Mussari, totaled \$127,000 and federal auditors cut out the requests for damages.

In Crestwood Area School Dis-

trict, he will say, a bill for \$119,253 was submitted and only \$17,530 was paid.

He will advocate that Public Law 91-606 should be amended to read clearly that any damage done to a school or public building by the military or other agents of the federal government should be paid for by the federal government.

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In his report, Mussari will bring out that water faucets, which cost \$11 before the storm, cost \$17 after the disaster. A woman who needed two washers on a hot water faucet was quoted a price of \$17. The cost of the material to be used was three for 35 cents. In many instances, contractors would not quote prices; they would establish a parts, plus labor basis.

He also will bring out that rent control is a necessary reform which must become a part of legislation designed to help areas affected by natural disasters.

Other recommendations include the publication of a disaster manual which would be available to all who need it. He maintains such a manual should be written in language which is

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Other recommendations include the publication of a disaster manual which would be available to all who need it. He maintains such a manual should be written in language which is easily understood.

Another major recommendation is the need for the establishment of a single disaster strike force. He will note that this should be a cabinet-level position with adequate manpower, programs and resources to deal with the increasing number of disasters and to be responsible for improving the ways such disasters are handled.

Mussari will detail particularly how school districts were treated. As an example, he will claim, that Wilkes-Barre Area School District gave its full cooperation, under provisions of Public Law 91-606, during the disaster. The district, according to Mussari, housed 10,000 evacuees; served 850,000 meals and provided a home for several branches of the Armed Forces.

He will tell how the district submitted estimates of damages done to school properties as a result of the schools being used. On April 18, 1973, he will relate, he was at a meeting with Frank Kearney of Office of Emergency Preparedness and was told at

Legislative Roundup

Harrisburg (P)—Here are the major bills passed or introduced in the legislature Monday.

SENATE

Passed: S. B. 441 permitting court clerks and prothonotaries to deposit money collected through legal proceedings in interesting bearing accounts.

Introduced: S. B. 581 requiring an anti-pollution statement as part of state contracts.

S. B. 591 requiring an anti-pollution statement as part of state contracts.

S. B. 586 providing tax credits for campaign contributions.

S. B. 579 limiting construction of industrialized housing to three stories.

HOUSE

Passed: S. B. 7 waiving a high school diploma requirements for nursing home operators of at least three years standing.

Introduced: H. B. 692 setting a mandatory jail sentence of at least five days for a first offense of drunken driving.

H. B. 693 providing for injunctions against sale or other distribution of obscene material.

H. B. 700 setting a mandatory death sentence for certain crimes.

Shapp to Present 30-bill Package

Harrisburg (P)—A 30-bill Shapp administration package, designed to save \$37 million through government reorganization, is scheduled for introduction in the Senate this week.

The legislation is based on recommendations from a businessmen's study of state government operations last year.

The most controversial proposal would phase out the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission and transfer its responsibilities to the Transportation Department.

The plan has already brought charges of politics from the Republican chairman of the five-member commission, Lester Burlein.

Burlein said the Turnpike would be "just 470 more miles of pothole infested highway" if placed under the Penn DOT maintenance system. Shapp aides said the state could save \$1.8 million annually on maintenance and personnel reductions by merging the systems.

Turnpike tolls would remain in force under the Shapp plan, with most of the revenues still going for Turnpike maintenance and improvements, the administra-

tion says.

Another bill would create an executive director of racing to take charge of both the horse and harness racing commissions.

Both agencies would retain independent power. Currently, each commission has its own director and staff.

Other bills in the package would:

—Vest sole authority for the approval of state leases in the secretary of property and supplies rather than the Commission of Grounds and Buildings—compose of the governor, auditor general and state treasurer.

—Increase from \$50 to \$1,500 the cost of an item which may be purchased for the state by property and supplies without competitive bidding.

—Eliminate the flat 3 per cent commission paid to cigarette taxing agents on the basis of gross revenues collected, substituting a decreasing sliding scale with a maximum of 2 per cent.

—Require promoters of closed circuit boxing or other sporting events to be licensed by the State Athletic Commission as required for promoters of live events.

Death Penalty Measure Snagged

Harrisburg (AP) — Lawmakers reached the brink of no return on capital punishment last week but shied away from a final decision.

After 10 hours of amendment arguments, a bill intended to restore Pennsylvania's death penalty was returned to a House committee.

While the rest of the House spends the next several weeks hammering out a budget for the new fiscal year, the Law and Justice Committee will rework several death penalty provisions that torpedoed its original bill.

Republican leaders unveiled their budget proposal as soon as capital punishment was disposed of. The GOP budget undercuts Gov. Shapp's request by \$85 million, with additional cuts possible in relatively minor spending bills still to be introduced.

Senate action was limited. One significant step was the decision to establish a conference com-

mittee to work out minor differences with the House on a so-called Taj Mahal bill, aimed against excessive school construction costs.

Attention was focused on House attempts to pass a capital punishment bill that would satisfy the U. S. Supreme Court. The death penalties of most, if not all, states were struck down by a 5-4 court opinion last year.

The pending bill was aimed at Justice Byron White, who sided with the majority but indicated that his major objection to execution was discriminatory application of the penalty by judges and juries.

By mandating execution for specified crimes, sponsors of the House bill hope to eliminate the possibility of discrimination.

The controversy arose when the House tried to decide which crimes would be punished by death. The bill sent back to committee would have required execution for any accomplices in

a robbery or other felony that results in an unintentional death.

It originally mandated death for anyone furnishing drugs that lead to a user's death. That was changed on the floor to life imprisonment.

Opponents of the measure spent two days trying to convince other lawmakers that the bill was too harsh. They won a number of converts, but the final excuse for delay was simply a technical error: a Roman numeral "vi" appeared where there should have been a "vi."

Several lawmakers admitted privately that the misprint was a reprieve. Constituent pressures would have forced them to support the bill even though they thought it went too far. Major legislative action:

HOUSE

Bills passed:

HB 184, forcing businesses to submit their monthly sales tax receipts within 30 days instead of 45. The measure, permitting the state to invest the money more quickly, is expected to increase state income by \$3 million annually.

HB 574, eliminating permit fees for outdoor advertising by nonprofit organizations.

Introduced:

HB 837, excluding the first \$2,000 of income from the state personal income tax.

HB 842, allowing each House member \$7,200 annually to establish and maintain an office in his home district.

HB 846, setting a sliding scale of tuition rates in the state college system, depending on family income.

HB 850, proposing a general appropriations budget of \$3.4 billion for the year starting July 1.

SENATE

Passed:

SB 262, extending the current 8 per cent ceiling on mortgage interest through 1975.

SB 86, appropriating \$700,000 to libraries for the current fiscal year.

SB 510, appropriating \$5.1 million to the Department of Labor and Industry.

Introduced:

SB 704, establishing an executive director of the state Horse Racing Commission.

SB 712, merging the Turnpike Commission into the Department of Transportation.

12 States Will Have Aides At Conference

Richard W. Krimm, assistant administrator of the Federal Insurance Program in the Department of Housing and Urban Development at Washington, D. C. will come to King's College on Saturday, April 28, to participate in a program designed to analyze the adequacy of existing and proposed disaster insurance.

The session, one of the features of the Pennsylvania De-



RICHARD W. KRIMM

partment of Community Affairs Fifth Annual Conference, will be introduced by Albert L. Hydemann, Jr., Department of Community Affairs executive deputy secretary.

Mr. Krimm, whose speciality is flood insurance, will offer HUD's views on "Disaster Insurance—Is What We Have Enough?" A former deputy insurance commission of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department, he has been in charge of the Federal Insurance Administration's Flood Insurance Programs to each other.

He will share the platform with Dr. Herbert S. Denenberg, Pennsylvania's Insurance Commissioner and David Thomas, state-wide coordinator for the Department of Community Affairs' Flood Insurance Program.

At the conference luncheon, which will be presided over by James N. Wade, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs, Congressman Daniel J. Flood will discuss his proposed "National Catastrophic Disaster Insurance Act of 1973."

In view of the nationwide importance of the proposed legislation and in response to Gov-



RICHARD W. KRIMM

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portance of the proposed legis-
lation, and in response to Gov-
ernor Shapp's invitation, the
governors of 12 states are send-
ing their representatives. States
included are: Alabama, Minne-
sota, Kansas, North Carolina,
South Carolina, Maryland, Dela-
ware, Virginia, Tennessee, Ohio
and Nebraska.
New York and South Dakota
will be represented on the pro-
gram by urban renewal officials
from the flood-stricken cities of
Rapid City, South Dakota and El-
mira, New York.
Edwin A. Sites, regional di-
rector, will open the conference
at 9:30 a. m. and Secretary Wil-
liam H. Wilcox will welcome
those present.



(Photo by Ace Hoffman Studio)

SUPPORT FROM FLOOD — Congressman Daniel J. Flood voiced his support Thursday afternoon of the proposed \$14 million Wilkes-Barre, Scranton Wholesale Food Distribution Center planned for Dupont and Pittston Township.

Officers of the firm met with the congressman at his office to discuss available federal funds for the non-profit organization.

Basically the firm will provide one-stop shopping for retailers from assembled independent wholesalers or a central regional facility that warehouses and distributes the chain stores' foodstuffs.

Standing around the congressman from the left are: Sal Cognetti, president; Austin Burke, secretary; Harry Rothstein, vice president, and Dick Bridle, treasurer and financial adviser.

FROM HARRISBURG

By GEORGE CLARK

HARRISBURG—Insurance Commissioner Herbert S. Denenberg, believing he is cloaked with full protection against criticism because he is a self-proclaimed consumers' advocate, displayed his arrogance to those who question his motives here last week.

He appeared before the Republican-controlled House Appropriations Committee—both Republican and Democratic lawmakers were equal to the task of putting Denenberg in his place.

There's a basic risk for a legislator, who must face the voters every two or four years for reelection, to criticize anyone who may be highly popular, if not goofy, in his public stance.

But the Appropriations Committee members paid little attention to Denenberg's request for \$4-million to run his department in the new fiscal year starting July 1.

Instead, they zeroed in on his zany character, his bitter attitude toward anyone who disagrees with him and his absolute holier-than-thou mentality.

REP. FRANK O'CONNELL, R-Luzerne County, one of the committee members, suggested Denenberg was overly thirsty for personal publicity, spending taxpayers' money to feed his appetite.

O'Connell said Denenberg could buy "a whole printing shop" for the money he spends on copying machines.

Another lawmaker demanded to see copies of a contract which Denenberg signed for publishing one of his consumers' guides.

The committee criticized him for including one guide in a book which he published for personal profit.

Rep. James J. Gallen, R-Berks County, questioned Denenberg why he had not submitted to the legislature as required by law an annual

report of departmental operations.

DENENBERG replied—he always has the answer—that computer reports were late, then, in one of his bursts of arrogance and total disregard for anyone else, declared:

"I don't think little children are going to die because I didn't submit my report."

One or more of the committee members should have gotten up from the chair, punched him in the nose and tossed him out into the hallway on his ear.

But they didn't, for Denenberg, the consumer's martyr, would have made the best of that type of publicity.

The attack on Denenberg was led by Rep. Eugene Gelfand, D-Philadelphia, who is one of the chief opponents of the Shapp administration's drive for no-fault auto insurance legislation.

"**WHEN YOU** do something good, I'll be the first to congratulate you," said Gelfand.

"The problem is you do so few good things."

Denenberg countered by saying he had saved consumers millions of dollars by issuing the various shoppers guides and forcing insurance companies to initiate reforms.

"I don't think you pay much attention to the Insurance Department except for public relations," Gelfand shot back.

After the hearing, Denenberg said he "enjoyed every minute of it," and expressed confidence the legislature would approve his budget request without change.

"My style isn't exactly loveable and I don't expect others to be loveable toward me," said Denenberg.

FEBRUARY 13, 1973

Taxpayers Can Plan on Settling Public School Staffs Pension Bill

Harrisburg (AP)—For years the state has been paying less than its full share of the public school employee retirement fund. So Pennsylvania taxpayers can now figure on settling the bill—an estimated \$104 million.

The "oversight" supposedly came as a surprise to many people on Capitol Hill, including members of the legislature and the Shapp administration.

What happened? The Education Department's Public School Employees' Retirement Administration estimates salaries of personnel in the more than 500 school districts—rather than taking actual salary figures—in computing the state's share toward their retirement. These estimates, however, proved too low.

Pennsylvania and the school districts each pay 5.33 per cent of the total salary figures computed by the state. About 209,000 employees—teachers, administrators, cafeteria personnel, bus drivers and other full-time school workers—pay 5.5 per cent of their salaries toward retirement. The fund is paying out more than about \$170 million a year to 42,000 retirees. Another \$30 million plus goes for other payments to participants.

The story behind the underestimates vary, depending on who is doing the talking.

Rep. Martin Mullen of Philadelphia, the ranking Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee, said the situation has existed since the early 1960s. "It's hard to believe that we

could make that kind of a mistake," he said.

"Actually, a member of my staff found it. The fund was only estimating teacher salaries. It wasn't using actual salaries. . . . We had underestimated salaries by \$1.8 billion over a period of 10 years."

Last week the House approved a \$14 million deficiency payment proposed by the Shapp administration.

The \$14 million is said to cover the under-estimates for the 1971-72 school year only and that another \$90 million to cover years as far back as 1962 is expected to be appropriated over the next 10 years.

Frank Cashman, secretary of the retirement administration for the past three years, said salary estimates are used for several reasons: School districts are slow in getting out salary and personnel lists. The retirement administration lacks an adequate computer system that would speed up its own slow processing work. Certain income-like bonuses and sick leave payments—are excluded from the retirement computation formula, which makes it even harder to get an accurate figure.

The retirement administration usually has included previous deficits in its fiscal accounting from year to year, he said, but that these were usually cut. He noted his agency had applied for a \$82.5 million payment for this fiscal year but the appropriation was trimmed by \$14 million to \$68.5 million.

Though the state is now aware of problems created by the system, there is no firm move to change it. It's possible that these deficit payment problems will show up in the future.

The retirement fund is complicated and few, if any, of the legislators know anything about how it works.

Also, there are indications that state underpayments, while known in some high government circles, traditionally didn't arouse much concern because the money in question was always so small when compared with the \$2.4 billion bankroll of the retirement fund. The problem, as is were, was always put off until some other year.

The Pennsylvania Story

Simple Act of Introducing Bills Becomes Cause Celebre for Solons

By MASON DENISON, Editor
Pennsylvania News Service

HARRISBURG — There is more than meets the eye when a lawmaker introduces a bill in the Legislature, and for some, the mere introduction of a piece of legislation seems to be cause celebre to hammer the praise button—as illustrated repeatedly in the current legislative reelection campaigns under way throughout the Keystone State.

For example, each general session, flocks of bills are introduced on such subjects as education, conservation, state government, public welfare and motor vehicles, to name a few.

Take the last named category—motor vehicles—in which will be found a horde of “routine” bills running the gamut from specifying the size of an exhaust pipe on a putt-putt, through stiffening the penalty for failure to signal when changing traffic lanes (while another bill would eliminate the need for signaling), to increasing the stiffness of driver suspension point system, eliminating it all together, modifying it up or down, etc.

The point to be made is that a bill on mere introduction doesn't amount to more than a hill of legislative beans—except from the information and curio standpoint—or at least it doesn't to Capitol Hill veterans.

Not until a bill is reported out of committee (even this isn't really critical) or has cleared either the House or Senate does the legislative gem enter the arena as a serious piece of business.

Nevertheless, to the uninitiated, the fact that a bevy of bills has been introduced pertaining to highway safety, to illustrate the point, seemingly is a call to arms, a dire need for a toot on the horn to rouse the troops for a scramble in the legislative woods (the whereabouts of which they know not).

Long Way To Go

A bill upon introduction in either House or Senate has a long way to go before becoming any sort of serious threat.

In the first place it is referred to one of the standing committees where it is given a screening as to whether it is just a crackpot bill, a petulant piece of legislation, whether it makes sense in relation to overall programming and planning, whether it is a hardship bill, is it feasible, practical, does it fit in with the pattern of the administration in power at the moment—plus a host of similar factors.

The important point to bear in mind is that many bills are introduced each general session to pacify squawkers on the home or lobby front, to say nothing of the yelpers in the pressure and dogooder groups (plus the inevitable desire on the part of a local lawmaker to snow under constituents back home with his record of bill introductions).

The key on this, however, is not the number of introductions—but rather how many are finally enacted into law!

The past 1971-72 session perhaps illustrates the point!

That session saw a total of 4,325 legislative gems dumped into the legislative hooper (2,619 in the House and 1,706 in the Senate) of which number the Governor penned “Milton J. Shapp,” indicating gubernatorial approval, to only 368 bills covering general legislation, plus 70 appropriation bills.

Six bills covering general legislation (as opposed to appropriation bills) became law without action by His Excellency—that is, the time limit had expired for his veto or approval, in which event they automatically became law without his signature.

In other words, sponsoring or introducing a bill is simplicity itself but making it a piece of meaningful legislation is something else!

Nationalization of Railroad Favored by Governor Shapp

Philadelphia (AP) — Gov. Milton J. Shapp says he favors the nationalization of the Penn Central Railroad.

In an interview with the Philadelphia Sunday Bulletin, Shapp suggested nationalization "may be the only way out" for the financially strapped line.

"But if they are going to operate it like the Post Office — forget it," Shapp said.

Successful nationalization would have to be based on "finally realizing the importance to the nation of having a viable rail system," Shapp maintained.

The Governor said the bankrupt railroad's need for capital could not be satisfied from the private sector, because "nobody in his right mind would put money into it under the present management. . . ."

Shapp said he was referring

to the operations executives of the line not U. S. District Judge John P. Fullam, who is overseeing reorganization, or the court appointed trustees.

On other topics in the interview Shapp said:

—He has no power to come into Philadelphia and settle the public school teachers strike, which started Jan. 8.

—He doesn't know how milk prices can be reduced, but thinks there's a chance to do away with retail price-fixing by the milk board.

—For the Bicentennial, he said plans are under way to build an extensive cultural and recreational area in the Poconos, with Louis Kahn as the architect.

—Investigation is continuing in connection with the resignation of State Atty. Gen. J. Shane Creamer and the firing of State Police Commissioner Rocco P. Urella.

Wages and Salaries for County Total \$294,908,000

(Special to the Times-Leader,
Evening News, Record)

Harrisburg — Wages and salaries totaling \$294,908,000 were earned by Luzerne County manufacturing industry employees during 1971, according to a report by the State Department of Commerce.

A breakdown of this shows that production and related workers earned \$228,110,000 during the year, while all other employees in the county's manufacturing industries earned \$66,798,000.

The work force in the county on the manufacturing front to-

taled 50,061, including 42,546 in production and related fields and "all others," 7,515.

The manufacturing industries picture for the year embraced 759 establishments with capital expenditures listed as \$21,220,000 — of which amount \$4,840,000 went into new structures and plant additions, plus \$14,960,000 in new machinery and equipment, and \$1,421,000 in used plant and equipment.

The value of production of these manufacturing industries in the county was placed at \$1,027,144,000 — which includes \$1,016,389,000 in the products produced, \$3,999,000 in what is classified as "miscellaneous receipts," and \$6,757,000 in "net resale."

The value added by manufacture was placed at \$571,107,000.

By category this is where the county's 50,061 employees in the manufacturing industries are found:

Ordinance and accessories—112; food and kindred products—4,203; tobacco manufactures — 2,410; textile mill products—3,182; apparel and related products—16,625; lumber and wood products—213; furniture and fixtures—1,851; paper and allied products—839; printing, publishing and allied products—1,593; chemicals and allied products—1,064; petroleum refining and related industries—180; rubber and miscellaneous plastics products—1,649; leather and leather products — 2,793; stone, clay, glass, and concrete products—1,887; primary metal industries—726; fabricated metal products—2,489; machinery, except electrical—2,491; electrical machinery, equipment and supplies—2,981; transportation equipment—1,068; instruments and related products—five; and miscellaneous manufactures—1,700.

State Senate Will Tackle No-fault Insurance Issue

Harrisburg (P) — It's the Senate's turn this week to tackle no-fault car insurance — an issue that's been tossed back and forth like a hot potato.

Both the House and Senate have promised for a month to bring up a no-fault bill for consideration. But for one reason or another it's been delayed. The latest delay came last week when House Republicans indefinitely postponed moving on their bill for at least six weeks while awaiting cost information.

Senate Majority Leader Thomas Lamb said since the House is putting off action, he will push to get a bill through the Senate this week, possibly by Wednesday.

Some observers however feels that any legislative maneuvering is now meaningless and that a no-fault bill won't be passed this year.

The Senate bill, sponsored by Sen. Freeman Hankins, D-Philadelphia, is given little chance of passing in its current form. Sen. Joseph Ammerman, D-Clearfield, plans to introduce one sweeping amendment to the bill that will wipe it out and substitute his own.

The Shapp administration supports Ammerman's bill, which would provide up to \$10,000 for lost wages and medical benefits to an auto accident victim automatically, regardless of who caused the accident.

The bill provides for a 15 per cent reduction in bodily injury premiums. Hankins bill has no provision for a premium reduction.

If Ammerman's amendment is adopted more are expected to follow.

In other action, the Senate may vote on legislation giving the sentencing judge more say over whether a prisoner is prereleased or furloughed. Under the bill, if the judge objected to the early release the matter would go to the Board of Pardons for final determination. The judge and the Department of Justice would first have to try to settle their differences.

Some law enforcement officials contend prisoners with long records are being released and committing more crimes while out.

In the House, an amendment to the constitution may be taken up that would provide for the popular election of the state attorney general. He's now appointed by the governor.

Deeper Cut in Income Tax Possible, GOP Chiefs Say

Harrisburg (P) — Republican legislative leaders charged Tuesday Gov. Shapp's \$3.82 billion budget contains enough fat to permit more than the \$158 million in tax relief he proposes and indicated they might be able to reduce the personal income tax even more—to 1.8 per cent.

Democratic leaders, on the other hand, applauded Shapp for placing a "firm rein on state spending" and warned they would resist efforts to "inflate tax reductions to the detriment of essential services."

Lawmakers commented after Shapp addressed a joint session Tuesday. He asked for a cut in the personal income tax from 2.3 per cent to 2.1 per cent effective July 1, and a 1 per cent reduction in the 11 percent corporate net income tax, effective Jan. 1, 1974.

Shapp said the budget represents a 2.6 per cent increase over current state spending.

House Appropriations Committee Chairman H. Jack Seltzer, R-Lebanon, disputed the claim and said the budget contains about \$300 million in new spending—an eight per cent hike. He said he hasn't been able to identify the programs after only a preliminary look at the budget.

Seltzer said he's "very optimistic" that spending can be held to \$3.719 billion, the ceiling approved by House Republicans last week.

Senate Minority Whip Stanley G. Stroup, R-Bedford, said "taxes have in fact been too high during the past two years . . . our people now deserve much more relief than he (Shapp) proposes."

"It is possible to reduce the state income tax from 2.3 per cent to 1.8 per cent," Stroup said. "We will work toward that goal."

"We can only agree with the governor on the need to hold down the skyrocketing spiral of state spending," he continued. "We can not agree that we should, at the same time, continue to burden our people with unnecessarily high taxes in order to produce a new surplus

for the governor's election year." Sen. Richard Frame, the minority leader, said it appears more revenue will be available than Shapp estimated. He said that could mean a "greater reduction in the personal income tax."

Senate Democratic leaders, meanwhile, said the budget al-

lows moderate tax relief "without any drastic curtailment of essential state services."

"We recognize the popular temptation to enlarge these tax reductions will be ever present," said Senate President Pro Tem Martin Murray, D-Luzerne, and Majority Leader Thomas Lamb, D-Allegheny, in a joint statement.

"It is our position that to inflate tax reductions to the detriment of essential services or programs is self-defeating and we will resist any such effort," they said.

Sen. William Duffield, D-Fayette, a key figure in passage of the personal income tax in 1971, said: "If we can cut two-tenths off the tax, we can cut it by three-tenths. That's probably why he (Shapp) suggested the 2.1 per cent figure."

Democrats held a 25-24 edge in the Senate with a special election for the 50th seat set for March 13.

Shapp's Budget: How It Rates With Others

Harrisburg (P) — Here is a comparison of the proposed 1973-74 budget to state spending the past five years.

Total Bdgt	Percent Increase	
in Billions. . .	from prvs yr	
1973-74	\$3.8	2.6
1972-73	\$3.7	17.8
1971-72	\$3.1	17.4
1970-71	\$2.7	10.0
1969-70	\$2.4	24.8
1968-69	\$2.0	14.9

Shapp to Start Merit System in Naming Judges

Harrisburg (AP) — Gov. Shapp said he would start a merit selection system for state judges, but warned they would still face partisan elections under the current constitution.

Shapp presented his views in a letter to Chief Justice Benjamin R. Jones of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. He will meet with Jones on the subject Feb. 23.

Under a merit system, a blue ribbon panel would suggest judicial candidates to the governor, who would then make the selections.

"I fully intend to implement a merit selection system following our discussion for all future appointments to the bench," Shapp told Jones.

Shapp offered this explanation of how politics would remain with judges no matter how they were selected:

"In the first place, confirmation by two-thirds of the State Senate is absolutely essential, except in sine die final adjournment situations. Secondly, the newly appointed judge will have to run in a partisan election shortly after his appointment.

In every case, this will invariably necessitate that the individual judge seek support of the political parties."

The Governor also said a merit selection would not always assure the Commonwealth of getting top judges.

"... Many of the best lawyers who express the greatest concern for qualified judges wouldn't go on the bench under any circumstances because they are making too much money as lawyers," Shapp said.

New Congressman Sends Out State Gubernatorial Feelers



Congressman John Heinz, left, a reported favorite for the Republican gubernatorial nomination, is shown meeting with Sen. T. Newell Wood, on his first appearance in the northeastern counties.

Senator Wood's 20th Senatorial District represents counties of Wyoming, Susquehanna, Wayne and Pike, and parts of Luzerne, Monroe and Bradford counties.

Congressman Heinz's swing through the northern tier was interpreted by veteran political observers to "test current public sentiment of the political climate of Pennsylvania."

The Pittsburgh congressman did not discuss plans for the 1974 elections, indicating it was not the opportune time in view of the many pressing problems in Congress.

Questioned after his meeting with Congressman Heinz, Senator Wood told newsmen they had a "very friendly and frank discussion of legislative and economic matters confronting the people of Pennsylvania."

Pressed further in Congress-

man Heinz would be the GOP candidate for governor, Senator Wood said they had not gone into the political situation and nothing had been said about the governorship.

Heinz was first elected to Congress in 1971, filling an unexpired term. He won a full term last November.

The congressman addressed Republicans of Wayne County and was scheduled to give another talk before GOP workers in Bucks County.

It is believed Congressman Heinz will visit other counties in Senator Wood's district during the next few months.

Congressman Flood Claims U.S. Faces Three-Pronged Assault on Canal Zone

In a major address in the House of Representatives last week, Congressman Daniel J. Flood of Pennsylvania, one of the country's leading authorities on interoceanic canal problems, warned the nation that crisis of explosive proportions may occur on the Isthmus during March 15-21 when the UN Security Council holds its sessions in Panama.

Asserting that as "constitutionally acquired domain of the United States" and "part of its coast line," the Panama Canal is "just as important in the defense of the Western Hemisphere as is that of the Chesapeake and San Francisco Bays" and that Panama has engaged in a "world wide campaign of hate against the United States" with "growing reliance on communist advisers" in the Panamanian Government.

In response to official Pana-

manian demands for surrendering U.S. sovereignty over the Canal Zone to Panama, Congressman Flood explained that Panamanians look upon the Canal as their "lunch counter" and that many of them, because they realize the weakness of their own country, oppose U.S. surrender of the Zone.

Key Target

Describing the Panama Canal as the key target for U.S.S.R. conquest of the Caribbean, he explained that the "real issue there is not United States sovereignty over the Canal Zone

versus Panamanian, but undiluted United States control of the Zone versus U.S.S.R. domination of the Panama Canal and the Caribbean region with the Canal Zone serving as a Soviet base."

Congressman Flood asserted that the time for "diplomatic dalliance and weakness" is over and called for our Government to prepare to meet a "potential three-pronged and outrageous assault on the Canal Zone" by the State Department, the United Nations and Panamanian mobs and the Junta's national guard.

To meet the potential challenge, he outlined a plan of action by our Government calling for—

1. Investigation by cognizant committees of the Can-

gress of the failure of our responsible officials to prevent the planned March 15-21 sessions of the UN Security Council on the Isthmus.

2. Adoption by the House of Representatives of the pending "Canal Zone Sovereignty and Jurisdiction" resolution (H. Res. 201, First Session, 93rd Congress).

3. Passage by the Senate of resolutions denouncing the pending UN intervention in the domestic jurisdiction of the United States.

4. Preparation by Canal Zone civil and military authorities to protect the lives of our citizens in the Canal Zone and the Canal itself.

5. Reactivation of the U.S. Naval Special Service Squadron with its home port in Balboa, Canal Zone.

FROM HARRISBURG

By GEORGE CLARK

HARRISBURG — The man who directed the Shapp administration's efforts in the flood recovery program in the Wyoming Valley today is at the crossroads in his political career.

Had the State Constitution not been changed in one section four years ago, Lt. Gov. Ernest P. Kline would be the strong front-runner now for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination.

But his boss, Gov. Milton J. Shapp, under the constitutional provision, will be the first governor allowed to succeed himself.

As of now, all indications are that Shapp will ask the voters to return him to a second four-year term to continue his "people's advocate" administration.

If so, it may leave Kline, one of the most popular "regular" Democrats in the state, as "always a bridesmaid, never a bride."

HOWEVER, the Beaver County Democrat has a couple of options open to him, as the 1974 statewide election campaign moves from the bud to blossom stage.

Kline can:
—Oppose Shapp in the Democratic primary for the top gubernatorial nomination.

—Seek the party's nomination for U.S. Senate in a bid to oust Sen. Richard S. Schweiker, Montgomery County Republican, in his request for a new term in Washington.

—Agree to keep the Shapp-Kline team intact and run again for lieutenant governor.

For openers into what Kline may be thinking, he is unlike

his predecessor, Raymond J. Broderick, in the lieutenant governor's office.

Broderick, now a Federal judge in Philadelphia, broke with Republican Gov. Raymond P. Shafer about mid-term over Shafer's push for a personal income tax and declared his candidacy for governor.

Kline does not give the impression he has ever thought about cutting up Shapp. Indeed, he has been one of the governor's most ardent supporters.

But his friends privately say Kline doesn't relish the thought of being second man for another four years in a job that carries out the shots called in the huddle by the top man.

SO, HE IS being pressured into giving some consideration to making a run for the U.S. Senate, which ideally would suit Kline.

He has good legislative experience, not only as the president of the Senate, his main responsibility as lieutenant governor, but also as a senator and the Democratic floor leader.

But it will be a major undertaking—plus loads of money—to beat Schweiker, who acts in Washington often more as a liberal Democrat than a moderate, or certainly, conservative Republican.

Schweiker virtually is the darling of all political and

Republican Committee Head Rapped

Harrisburg (AP) — The House Democratic floor leader attacked the Republican chairman of the State Government Committee Saturday for delaying action on a bill to expand tax relief for senior citizens.

The committee met Thursday but the measure was not on the agenda. The proposal would make more senior citizens eligible for property tax rebates and create a program of rent rebates for tenants 65 and over.

"What seems to be developing here is a situation whereby a committee chairman can control a bill simply by never placing it on the committee agenda," House minority leader Herbert Fineman said. "The property tax assistance proposal is just too vital to become ensnared in such maneuverings."

The chairman of the committee is Rep. Guy Kistler, R-Cumberland. The meeting Thursday was the committee's first of the new two-year session.

economic elements in the state, watching closely not to step on many toes.

"What Ernie will decide to do will depend on what Milt will do," said one top political strategist in the administration the other day, when asked what may be in store for 1974.

If Shapp has any doubt about running for a second term, he likely would tip off Kline first about his decision in order that he quickly could start developing his own campaign.

But the governor has not hinted anything like that and as long as he implies he is going to run again, Kline will continue to stare at those political crossroads.

The Pennsylvania Story

Lurking Behind Shapp's 'No New Tax' Is \$120-Million Spending Increase

By MASON DENISON, Editor
Pennsylvania News Service

HARRISBURG—No question about it—the star attraction in Governor Shapp's near \$4-billion budget for the coming fiscal year is the hallelujah declaration of no new or increased taxes!

With this thought in mind, John Q. Taxpayer wipes the sweat of anticipation from his brow and all is sweetness and light on the fiscal banks in beautiful, downtown Harrisburg.

Or is it?

For lurking behind this facade of "no new taxes" is a proposed spending increase over last year of around \$120-million.

"Oh", the administration fiscal experts may reply, "that is largely mandated spending, so it can't be touched!"

Quoth His Excellency in presenting to the Legislature his proposed \$3.8 billion spending document for upcoming fiscal 1973-74:

"The State is locked into many expenditures which have been enacted into law — and expenditures which rise dramatically with each passing year."

The point lost sight of is that if something is mandated then it can be un-mandated.

A look at this financial scared cow of "mandated spending" may be in order.

Normally it amounts to a Legislature in one year passing a spending bill that will be financed out of state income in the next or even future years.

In short, it puts the lock of the law on certain amounts of future income.

What is frequently overlooked, however, is that the

"key" this very same lock rests in the hands of the Legislature in existence when the moment of mandated spending arrives.

In other words, what a previous Legislature has done can be "undone" by the Legislature of the moment, as it were, providing the undoing is not unconstitutional.

Another type of mandate has cropped into existence over recent years which can be described as a "gubernatorial mandate."

This usually takes the form of executive orders; that is, decrees from a Governor.

Executive orders do not have the strength of law and, technically, can go out of existence once a new governor takes over — unless, for some reason or the other, the new Governor decides to let a program keep rolling that was initiated by his predecessor.

The point here is that the current Legislature should take a long, hard look at any proposed spending in the new budget that has as its basis an executive order. If any fat is spotted, then on with the fiscal knife!

Although it has been said before, a good thing is worth repeating: "The Governor pro-

poses but the Legislature disposes."

Final say on any budget rests with the Legislature providing a Governor does not veto (either in whole or in part) a budget that has passed the House and Senate.

Even then, a Legislature can over-ride a veto.

It would therefore seem

economically "mandatory" for the incumbent legislators to carefully screen Mr. Shapp's spending blueprint and apply the knife to any bulges with perhaps the first slicing directed at mandates of the executive order ilk and thence to the more difficult (but yet legitimate) target of spending mandated by previous Legislatures.

It is not too late for Governor Shapp to suggest to the Legislature that it consider repealing some of these mandates. (All a Governor can do is suggest or recommend.)

But the Legislature would do well to grasp the initiative on its own on these annual spending splurges which steadily approach the \$4-billion mark.

Actually, the fiscal hot potato now rests in the hands of the Legislature—and the fact of "no new taxes" doesn't sprinkle too much cold water on the plant.

Shapp Loses Extension of Rent Subsidy

The federal government has turned down the Shapp administration's request for an additional four months of rent-free housing for last year's flood victims. Most victims will lose their entitlement to temporary quarters in September.

An estimated 12,000 persons will now have to either move out of federally supplied house trailers or can continue living there and pay rent.

Community Affairs Secretary William Wilcox said the state is not in financial shape to pick up the additional rent for the flood victims. He added that legislation before the House to provide direct grants of some \$40 million would, if granted, be "much more generous than us picking up a few months rent."

Shapp asked for the extension last month, contending the Office of Emergency Preparedness had extended rent-free housing for victims of West Virginia's Buffalo Creek disaster in February 1972.

Darrell M. Trent, acting director of the OEP, wrote Shapp that

the extension for West Virginia was an administrative mistake and said neither state could be granted the extra months.

In West Virginia however, Gov. Arch Moore announced Thursday that the Buffalo Creek victims would be allowed to live in housing rent free for an extra three months. He refused to answer reporters' questions on where the funding was coming from, but observers said the state would probably assume the cost.

Wilcox said if he learns the federal government is paying for the extra months, Pennsylvania officials would "yell loud and long."

Wilcox said he expected families living in the trailers homes to resist moving out when their one year is over. "They like it," he said.

He said federal officials are quietly working with the people now to make their transition from the trailers to other living accommodations smooth.

Wilcox, meanwhile, called on the federal government to lift its freeze on subsidized housing for disaster areas.

He issued a report showing that 1,284 housing units will not be built as a result of the subsidy moratorium in three hard-hit counties—Luzerne, Dauphin and Lycoming.

"I'm not saying that every unit would have been occupied by a flood victim," Wilcox said, "but the freeze cuts back the available overall units."

The report also showed that the three counties and York County, also flood-damaged, will lose about \$37.8 million in federal funding because of the Nixon Administration's budget cutbacks.

These cutbacks affect housing, urban renewal, recreation, education, welfare and rural programs, the report said.

"The general affect of these cutbacks is to reduce general assistance for flood victims in those counties," Wilcox said.

Federal Government Never Promised Free Rent for One Year

Confusion over the length of time that area residents would receive rent-free housing in federally supplied trailers or in other housing continued for some time following the flood.

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Initial reports placed the length of stay in these units at one year. However, on Dec. 12, 1972, HUD officials Jack Gibbons, director of resident advisory committee, and Patricia Trompetter, housing resource coordinator, explained that the length of stay in rent-free housing provided by the federal government was not necessarily one year.

In a press conference they explained that the period depended upon individual problems with rebuilding, repairing, construction or the finding of alternate housing.

On Jan. 3, 1973, Federal Housing Director Jack McGraw explained to State Secretary of Community Affairs William H. Wilcox that no flood victim would be forced to leave temporary housing before the year's residence was up but that the law does not entitle the disaster victims to a one-year stay but, rather, allows for a maximum stay of up to one year.

As early as December, 1972, some area residents began receiving notice that their rent-free housing subsidies would be cut. Some were notified that the cut off date was April 1. Recently HUD aides have been visiting persons receiving rent subsidies and have been reappraising their situation. In at least one case the person involved was given only an 18-day notice that her subsidy would end.

MARCH 20, 1973

Senate Approves No-fault Bill Which Would Cut Premium Rates

Harrisburg (AP)—A no-fault car insurance bill that would cut bodily injury premiums 15 percent has been approved by the Senate in the first key no-fault vote this session.

The measure, which would mean about a \$10 cut in average premiums, has been called "acceptable" by the Shapp administration, although it prefers a broader bill still stuck in committee.

Legislative Roundup

Harrisburg (AP)—Major bills passed or introduced Monday in the state legislature:

HOUSE

Passed: H. B. 197 permitting local governments to set up conservation commissions.

H. B. 180 allowing the Department of Property and Supplies to make purchases of up to \$1,500 without competitive bidding.

Introduced: H. B. 508 outlawing dissemination of "explicit sexual material" to minors.

H. B. 599 requiring big game hunters in Pennsylvania to wear fluorescent orange clothing.

H. B. 600 creating a temporary commission of 12 judges to pass on minimum qualifications for the judiciary.

H. B. 608 forbidding closure of nursing homes without notice of at least 60 days to all patients, except where the Welfare Department finds removal of patients necessary for their health or safety.

SENATE

Passed: None.

Introduced: S. B. 481 allowing horse racing on Sundays.

S. B. 488 authorizing installation of mass transit facilities within medial strip of limited access highways.

S. B. 508 requiring a public list of each state employee including name, address and salary.

The Senate approved the bill, offered by Sen. Joseph Ammerman, D-Clearfield, on a voice vote Monday, by inserting it into Sen. Freeman Hankins' no-fault bill, which was strongly opposed by the administration.

Amendments to the Ammerman bill, which makes insurance compulsory, were expected Tuesday with a final Senate vote possibly on Wednesday.

Action Postponed

The House has postponed indefinitely action on its no-fault bill, awaiting a study on whether it will reduce premiums.

Several senators unsuccessfully asked for a similar cost study of Ammerman's bill, contending no one knows now whether it will actually reduce rates. Hankins said he believed rates cannot be reduced, under the bill, despite the mandatory 15 percent slash.

In the House, meanwhile, two lawmakers Monday introduced a resolution to rescind Pennsylvania's approval of the equal rights amendment aimed at ending sex discrimination. One legislator said the amendment is a "wolf in sheep's clothing" that will eliminate women's rights and give them nothing in return.

The House also voted 179-1 to allow noncompetitive bidding on state purchases of paper, fuel and supplies up to \$1,500.

The Ammerman no-fault bill, which would be effective Jan. 1, 1974, would provide an auto accident victim up to \$10,000 medical and lost wage benefits regardless of who caused the accident. The motorist's own insurance company would have to pay the benefits within 30 days or pay a penalty.

The bill does not require automatic no-fault-type payments for damage to the car, but makes it optional. Property damage would be covered as under the present system.

Lawsuits Prohibited

Lawsuits to recover pain and suffering damages, such as mental anguish, would be prohibited unless the accident victim's medical expenses exceeded \$1,000 or the accident resulted in loss of a major body function, severe disfigurement or death.

Hankins said he planned to offer an amendment Tuesday that would reduce the amount of medical bills needed to sue to \$500, to make it easier to go to court to recover for intangible losses.

Liability insurance to cover you in case of lawsuits would be compulsory in amounts of

2 Solons Seek to Nix Equal Rights Approval

Harrisburg (AP)—Two lawmakers want the state to rescind its vote for the floundering Equal Rights Amendment.

Reps. Richard J. Frankenburg, R-Allegheny, and Amos K. Hutchinson, D-Westmoreland, introduced a resolution Monday asking for the House and Senate to withdraw Pennsylvania's vote for the change in the U. S. Constitution.

Frankenburg said the amendment is "a wolf in sheep's clothing" that will eliminate women's rights and give them nothing in return.

The proposed article reads: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

29 Give Approval

The amendment has won approval from 29 state legislatures, including Pennsylvania. Ratification by at least 38 states—three-quarters of the union—is necessary for the article to become law.

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The amendment, he said, would strip women of their exemption from the military draft; abolish discriminatory features of laws on rape, seduction and prostitution; deprive elderly women of some social security benefits, and "take away from wives and mothers their right to be provided with a home and financial support by their husbands."

Plan Opposed

Rep. Patricia Crawford, R-Chester, a leader in last year's fight to get the amendment through the legislature, disputed Frankenburg's claims and called his proposal "a backward step."

"I hope the gentleman does not wish to relegate women to the role they have had in the past, that of a non-person," she said.

Rep. G. Sieber Pancoast, R-Montgomery, questioned the legislature's power to reverse its vote. The U. S. Supreme Court, he said, has ruled that ratification votes cannot be changed at a later date.

House Speaker Kenneth Lee, R-Sullivan, added: "What the gentleman is saying is that the legislative process does not have the prerogative of a woman—it cannot change its mind."

Frankenburg cited a vote by the Nebraska legislature last week to rescind its approval of the amendment.

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Liability insurance to cover you in case of lawsuits would be compulsory in amounts of \$15,000 per person, \$30,000 for all persons in an accident, and \$5,000 property damage. The limits now are \$10,000, \$20,000 and \$5,000 respectively.

The Ammerman bill is identical to the no-fault bill agreed upon by a conference committee last year. The legislature adjourned, however, before it could come to a vote.

Communities Will Share \$1,857,686

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation is preparing to distribute \$1,857,686.95 to Luzerne County's 74 communities as their share of the record \$77.8 million collected in liquid fuels taxes during the 1971-72 fiscal year.

Transportation Secretary Jacob Kassab said the Bureau of Municipal Services will mail checks to the local municipalities in April. He noted that the \$77.8 million distribution represents an increase of \$3.3 million over last year.

The funds, Kassab said, are to be used by the communities for maintenance and improvement of streets and roads in their jurisdiction.

The municipalities and their respective shares follow:

Cities: Hazleton, 141,445.89; Nanticoke, 63,946.59; Pittston, 45,485.46; Wilkes-Barre, 246,109.66.

Townships: Hanover, 61,846.23; Newport, 26,708.02; Plains, 50,593.66; Wilkes-Barre, 16,466.28; Bear Creek, 9,044.69; Black Creek, 21,416.85; Buck, 2,206.82; Butler, 27,458.01; Conyngham, 13,767.99; Dallas, 35,725.19; Dennon, 8,000.85; Dorrance, 17,996.01; Exeter, 13,864.63; Fairmount, 29,166.02; Fairview, 17,206.97; Foster, 22,939.50; Franklin, 11,431.05; Hazle, 43,752.98; Hollenback, 15,985.75; Hunlock, 16,769.87; Huntington, 33,818.10; Jackson, 17,799.44; Jenkins, 16,524.45; Kingston, 39,378.89; Lake, 20,098.46; Lehman, 27,357.50; Nescopeck, 16,671.57; Pittston, 19,110.70; Plymouth, 23,440.28; Rice, 7,563.77; Russ, 26,083.04; Salem, 31,062.80; Slocum, 3,950.20; Sugarloaf, 20,324.80; Union, 20,563.01; Wright, 17,340.97.

Boroughs: Ashley, 17,513.96; Avoca, 16,480.55; Conyngham, 7,550.62; Courtdale, 5,014.34; Dallas, 14,628.99; Dupont, 17,059.82; Duryea, 24,560.50; Edwardsville, 23,275.63; Exeter, 21,655.23; Forty Fort, 25,645.50; Freeland, 23,111.99; Hughestown, 6,731.35; Jeddo, 583.14; Kingston, 78,052.32; Laflin, 1,833.98; Larksville, 19,204.06; Laurel Run, 3,223.44; Luzerne, 19,042.64; Nescopeck, 9,463.12; New Columbus, 3,927.65; Nuangola, 4,971.50; Plymouth, 39,957.69; Pringle, 6,529.28; Shickshinny, 7,906.98; Sugar Notch, 6,566.09; Swoyersville, 31,127.13; Warrior Run, 3,848.06; West Hazleton, 25,621.36; West Pittston, 33,145.04; West Wyoming, 16,947.28; White Haven, 11,065.38; Wyoming, 18,646.73; Yatesville, 2,017.37; Harveys Lake, 10,355.38.

Nixon Veto of Flood Relief Bill Flayed

Shapp Joins 2 Governors to Urge Congress Override

Harrisburg (AP)—Gov. Shapp has joined his counterparts in Illinois and Vermont in urging an override of President Nixon's veto of a flood relief bill.

In a telegram Tuesday to each state's congressional delegation and the Congressional leadership, Shapp, Gov. Dan Walker of Illinois and Gov. Thomas P. Salmon of Vermont asked for affirmative action on Senate Bill 1672.

The bill would have given disaster victims a choice of Small Business Administration loans with either a 1 percent rate or a 3 percent rate with a \$2,500 forgiveness. The current rate is 5 percent or above with no forgiveness.

Nixon vetoed the bill last week, claiming it would have benefited the wealthy.

"The main beneficiaries of this bill would be middle-income families who, through no fault of their own, have had to go into heavy debt to restore damaged property and possessions," the governors wrote.

The Nixon administration's refusal to deal with the problem, already recognized by past legislation, is "unconscionable," according to the governors.

Nixon's Veto of Loan Sustained by Senate

Washington (AP)—The Senate Tuesday sustained President Nixon's veto of a bill sharply liberalizing the disaster loan program.

The vote was 59 to 36 or five short of the required two-thirds. Nixon had assailed the bill as too costly and as administratively unworkable.

The vote kept intact the President's record of winning each of the veto fights this year. He has killed seven bills by this method.

It was the second time the Senate had sustained the President. The House has upheld him five times.

The bill would have given all disaster loan recipients a choice of a \$2,500 forgiveness feature with a 3 percent interest rate or a 1 percent loan with no forgiveness. The forgiveness feature means the recipient does not have to pay back the first \$2,500 of the loan.

This is considerably more liberal than the present terms, which call for 5 per cent in-

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Previously there was a forgiveness feature in the loan program but it was ended in April.

They said the administration's own proposal for special aid to low-income families after a disaster would create a new class of welfare recipients while ignoring the needs of middle-income families.

"Flood victims want help not a handout," the governors said.

If passed, the bill would be retroactive to April 20, 1972. It would cover persons in 10 Pennsylvania counties which were declared disaster areas following the flooding of tropical storm Agnes in June 1972.

Those counties are Berks, Bucks, Chester, Columbia, Delaware, Lancaster, Monroe, Northampton, Wayne and Montgomery.

In addition, Montgomery County would be eligible for aid for flooding that occurred August 2-3, 1973 and Butler County for floods of July 25-26, 1973.

Insurance Commissioner Releases Updated List of Companies Offering Deductibles

An updated list of insurance companies offering lower deductibles and full coverage for homeowner and automobile insurance coverage in Pennsylvania was released Thursday by the State Insurance Department.

Insurance Commissioner Herbert Denenberg said insurance companies still are required to offer deductibles, but the consumer has the choice of purchasing deductible programs or full insurance coverage.

Last spring, Denenberg rescinded the Insurance Department program of mandatory deductibles of \$100. The commissioner cited consumer demand for lower deductibles and full coverage as reasons for the change.

Denenberg recommends that policyholders purchase deductibles. He said he personally takes deductibles to get good insurance buys.

The deductible is the first part of the policyholder's loss not covered by an insurance policy. The purchase of this type of insurance leads to reduced premiums by eliminating both payments on small claims and the administrative inefficiencies involved in handling them.

Denenberg noted that some agents and companies are still telling policyholders that deductibles are not available because of the ruling of the Insurance

Department. "This is simply not so," Denenberg said.

Denenberg also said the department has taken special steps to make sure policyholders are advised of the availability of deductibles.

"In renewal notices, companies that have filed for lower deductibles are required to advise policyholders of the availability of the deductibles," Denenberg said.

Here are examples of the money saving potential of deductibles:

—By going from full coverage to a \$50 deductible on comprehensive auto insurance, you can cut your premium by 45 percent. By going to a \$100 deductible, you can cut your premium by 56 percent.

—By going from a \$50 to a \$100 deductible on collision, you can cut your premium by 15 percent. By going to a \$1,000 deductible, you can cut your premium about 79 percent.

—By going from a \$50 to a \$100 deductible on homeowners, you can save about 10 percent. By going to a \$500 deductible, you can save about 25 percent.

Meanwhile, the Insurance Department has received a request from Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association Insurance Company for 10 percent reductions in homeowners policies and auto

Following is a list of the companies which have filed for lower deductibles:

AUTOMOBILE DEDUCTIBLE PROGRAM COMPANIES OFFERING FULL COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE AND \$50 DEDUCTIBLE ON COLLISION	
Name of Company	Date Approved
State Farm Mutual Insurance Company	July 1, 1973
State Farm Fire & Casualty Company	July 1, 1973
Keystone Insurance Company	July 1, 1973
Celina Mutual Insurance Company	July 13, 1973
National Mutual Insurance Company	July 13, 1973
Selected Risks	July 20, 1973
Harleysville Insurance Company	July 27, 1973
Aetna Casualty & Surety Company	Sept. 1, 1973
Royal Globe Companies (10)	Sept. 1, 1973
Kemper (5 companies)	Aug. 15, 1973
Statesman Insurance Company	Aug. 29, 1973
State Auto Association	Aug. 29, 1973
Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company	April 25, 1973
Erie Insurance Exchange	July 1, 1973
Pennsylvania General Insurance Company	May 16, 1973
West American Insurance Company	June 12, 1973
Ohio Casualty Company	June 12, 1973
Employers Mutual Casualty Company	July 1, 1973
Emcasco Insurance Company	July 1, 1973
Sentry Insurance Company	July 1, 1973
Paxton National Insurance Company	June 18, 1973
Federal Mutual Insurance Company	July 1, 1973
Government Employees Insurance Company	Aug. 1, 1973
Liberty Mutual Insurance Company	Aug. 29, 1973
American States—American Economy	Sept. 10, 1973

HOMEOWNERS DEDUCTIBLE PROGRAM COMPANIES NOW OFFERING \$50 DEDUCTIBLES ON HOMEOWNERS	
Name of Company	Date Approved
Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company	May 18, 1973
Erie Insurance Exchange	July 1, 1973
T.I.R.B. (this bureau represents 263 companies)	May 8, 1973
American States Insurance Company	June 20, 1973
American Economy Insurance Company	June 20, 1973
Keystone Insurance Company	July 1, 1973
State Auto Mutual Insurance Company	Aug. 1, 1973
U.S.F. & G. Company	July 17, 1973
Aetna Casualty & Surety—Standard Fire Insurance Company	Aug. 1, 1973
Southern Home Insurance Company	Sept. 14, 1973
State Automobile Insurance Association	Sept. 17, 1973
Statesman Insurance Company	Sept. 17, 1973
Harleysville Mutual Insurance Company	Pending
General Accident F&L Assurance Corporation, Ltd.	Pending
Potomac Insurance Company	Pending
Camden Fire Insurance Association	Pending
Pennsylvania General Insurance Company	Pending

policy rate. The latter request excludes Philadelphia and Bucks Counties.

The request was made on the heels of a Denenberg letter to major insurance writers asking them to look at their rates and submit new rate proposals. Other companies which have lowered premiums since May, when the letter went out, are Transamerica, which reduced auto premiums, and Aetna and Erie, which reduced homeowner premiums.

Area Lawmakers: How They Voted

(Sunday Edition Special)

Harrisburg—This is the voting record of area lawmakers during the past week of June 4-9 on major bills with voting as follows by local members of the State Senate and House of Representatives (Representatives George C. Hasay, R-Shickshinny; Raphael Musto, D-Pittston; Bernard F. O'Brien, D-Wilkes-Barre; Frank J. O'Connell, R-Kingston; Fred J. Shupnik, D-Luzerne; James J. Ustynoski, R-Hazleton, and Senators Martin L. Murray, D-Ashley and T. Newell Wood, R-Harveys Lake):

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Resolution 82—(Adopted)—Establishes a special House bipartisan committee to investigate reasons for the loss of professional personnel in mentally retarded institutions. (Hasay-Yes; Musto-No; O'Brien-No; O'Connell-Yes; Shupnik-Yes; Ustynoski-Yes).

HB 173—(Passed)—Requires the use of red ink in those sections of insurance policies that exclude or limit a person's right to recovery. (Hasay-Yes; Musto-Yes; O'Brien-Yes; Shupnik-Yes; Ustynoski-Yes).

HB 187—(Passed)—Creates by statute in the Governor's Office a Cost Reduction Bureau which has been in existence but the Governor Shapp's executive order. One of the Bureau's responsibilities would be to handle cost-saving suggestions from state employees. (Hasay-Yes; Musto-Yes; O'Brien-Yes; O'Connell-Yes; Shupnik-Yes; Ustynoski-Yes)

HB 367—(Defeated)—Would place under Civil Service all employees of housing authorities in Scranton, third class cities and all counties but Philadelphia and Allegheny. (Hasay-No; Musto-Yes; O'Brien-Yes; O'Connell-Yes; Shupnik-Did not vote; Ustynoski-No).

HB 582—(Passed)—Expands the definition of "highway" in the Vehicle Code to include roads of state colleges and universities and those receiving state aid if those roadways are open to the public; aim of bill is tighter traffic control. (Hasay-Yes; Musto-Yes; O'Brien-Yes; O'Connell-Yes; Shupnik-Yes; Ustynoski-Yes)

HB 689—(Passed)—Spells out the procedures to be used to secure custody of a child when there is a conflict over jurisdiction between states. (Hasay-Yes; Musto—Did not vote;

SB 841—(Passed)—Provides \$1,270,000 for payment to judges between now and the end of this fiscal year June 30. (Murray-Yes; Wood-Yes)

SB 882—(Passed)—Appropriates \$10 million for anticipated salary increases for state employees paid through motor license taxes. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 920—(Passed)—Appropriates \$118 million in Federal Revenue Sharing funds. (Murray-Yes; Wood-Yes)

SB 922—(Passed)—Appropriates \$27 million for anticipated salary increases for general fund employees. The State and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) is finalizing a labor contract and this bill anticipates it will be at least \$27 million more than the existing contract. (Murray-Yes; Wood-No)

HB 250—(Passed)—Increases resident hunting license fees from \$6.70 to \$8.25. Antlerless deer licenses would go from \$1.15 to \$2.35 this year and to \$3.35 on Sept. 1, 1974. (Murray-Yes; Wood-Yes)

HB 296—(Passed)—Increased resident fishing license fees from \$5 to \$7.40. The age minimum for nonresident teenagers to fish without a license was raised from age 12 to age 16. (Murray-Yes; Wood-Yes)

HB 495—(Passed)—Permits Third Class Counties to implement an act of last year permitting rebates for taxes paid on land whose value dropped because of the flood. (Murray-Yes; Wood-Yes)

HB 850—(Passed)—The \$3,530,473,000 General Appropriations bill which is to account for the bulk of State spending in the fiscal year 1973-74 which begins July 1. This bill previously passed the House but the Senate added another \$30 million. (Murray-Yes; Wood-Yes)

HB 874—(Passed)—Provides \$306,000 to carry the Bicentennial Commission through now and the end of the fiscal year this coming June 30.

HB 173—(Passed)—Requires the use of red ink in those sections of insurance policies that exclude or limit a person's right to recovery. (Hasay-Yes; Musto-Yes; O'Brien-Yes; Shupnik-Yes; Ustynoski-Yes.)

HB 187—(Passed)—Creates by statute in the Governor's Office a Cost Reduction Bureau which has been in existence but the Governor Shapp's executive order. One of the Bureau's responsibilities would be to handle cost-saving suggestions from state employees. (Hasay-Yes; Musto-Yes; O'Brien-Yes; O'Connell-Yes; Shupnik-Yes; Ustynoski-Yes)

HB 367—(Defeated)—Would place under Civil Service all employees of housing authorities in Scranton, third class cities and all counties but Philadelphia and Allegheny. (Hasay-No; Musto-Yes; O'Brien-Yes; O'Connell-Yes; Shupnik-Did not vote; Ustynoski-No)

HB 582—(Passed)—Expands the definition of "highway" in the Vehicle Code to include roads of state colleges and universities and those receiving state aid if those roadways are open to the public; aim of bill is tighter traffic control. (Hasay-Yes; Musto-Yes; O'Brien-Yes; O'Connell-Yes; Shupnik-Yes; Ustynoski-Yes)

HB 689—(Passed)—Spells out the procedures to be used to secure custody of a child when there is a conflict over jurisdiction between states. (Hasay-Yes; Musto—Did not vote; O'Brien-Yes; O'Connell-Yes; Shupnik-Yes; Ustynoski-Yes)

HB 1023—(Passed)—This is the House Republican plan for tax relief. It would provide a \$372 million cut in taxes based on a \$2,000 exemption per taxpayer and a reduction in the corporate net income tax from 11 percent to 8 percent. (Hasay-Yes; Musto-No; O'Brien-No; O'Connell-Yes; Shupnik-No; Ustynoski-Yes)

HB 1023—Motion (defeated) to send back to committee this House Republican bill designed to provide a \$372 million cut in taxes by lowering the individual and business tax schedules. (Hasay—No; Musto—Yes; O'Brien-Yes; O'Connell—No; Shupnik-Yes; Ustynoski-No)

SENATE

SB 251—Concurrence in House amendments (approved) to this bill appropriating \$1 million to continue funding 75 social service programs for the aged through the end of this month. (Murray-Yes; Wood-Yes)

SB 443—(Passed)—Protects the rights of those physicians and hospitals which refuse to perform abortions or sterilization procedure if contrary to their policy. (Murray-Yes; Wood-Yes)

SB 675—(Passed)—Permits county commissioners to designate the date on which county personal property taxes must be paid. (Murray-Yes; Wood-Yes)

deer licenses would go from \$1.15 to \$2.35 this year and to \$3.35 on Sept. 1, 1974. (Murray-Yes; Wood-Yes)

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HB 874—(Passed)—Provides \$306,000 to carry the Bicentennial Commission through now and the end of the fiscal year this coming June 30.

County to Get \$90,000 Surprise

Settlement of 8-year-old Suit Brings Windfall

Luzerne County and a number of municipalities in the county received an unexpected windfall recently as the result of settlement of an almost forgotten law suit filed eight years ago.

The county received a check for about \$90,000 as a result of the settlement of an anti-trust suit filed by the City of Philadelphia in 1965 against 12 major oil companies.

Among the municipalities in the county who benefitted, were Wilkes-Barre City, Kingston Borough, Nanticoke City, Newport Township and Shickshinny Borough. There were many more, according to reports.

They are among hundreds of political subdivisions in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware that received checks as shares of a \$28 million settlement from the firms for alleged price-fixing from 1955 to 1965.

The suit was a class action but Judge Anthony T. Augelli agreed to permit payments to the political subdivisions rather than attempt to pay individuals in the three states.

The settlement reportedly came earlier this year, but was not publicized. The amount of each check was determined by population of the community.

The payments went to taxi cab companies and bulk oil suppliers as well as political subdivisions.

The oil producers cited in the suit included Amoco, Atlantic Richfield, Chevron, City Service Company, Gulf, Exxon, Mobile Sun Oil, Sinclair, Texaco and Getty.

The oil firms entered a consent decree — an action indicating they felt nothing illegal had occurred but agreed to make reimbursement on an agreed-upon amount rather than continue litigation.

Some of the big winners reportedly were the attorneys involved in the case.

Borough Officials May Get Pay Raise

(Capitol Special)

Harrisburg—Legislation awaiting the Governor's approval would raise the rate of compensation for mayors and members of borough council of the 33 boroughs in Luzerne County.

In the case of borough mayors, the rate of compensation is on a sliding scale determined by the population of the individual borough, as for example, for the mayor of a borough with a population of 1,000 or under the annual reimbursement would be \$450, as opposed to the \$300 maximum at present.

Thereafter, the rate of pay increases in increments of \$300

for each 1,000 population in excess of the first 1,000. At present this increment-per-thousand is \$200.

As for members of borough council, the pay — per month — currently is \$25 where population is under 1,500, this would go to \$35 under the bill now before the Governor.

From 1,500 to 3,000 population members of borough council would have their monthly pay upped from \$30 to \$50; from 3,000 to 5,000 population, from \$50 to \$75; from 5,000 to 10,000, from \$75 to \$100; from 10,000 to 15,000, from \$100 to \$125; from 15,000 to 20,000, from \$125 to \$150; from 20,000 to 25,000, from \$150 to \$175; from 25,000 to 30,000, from \$175 to \$200; from 30,000 to 35,000, from \$200 to \$225; from 35,000 to 40,000, from \$225 to \$250; from 40,000 to 45,000, from \$250 to \$275; from 45,000 to 50,000, from \$275 to \$300; from 50,000 to 55,000, from \$300 to \$325; from 55,000 to 60,000, from \$325 to \$350; from 60,000 to 65,000, from \$350 to \$375; from 65,000 to 70,000, from \$375 to \$400; from 70,000 to 75,000, from \$400 to \$425; from 75,000 to 80,000, from \$425 to \$450; from 80,000 to 85,000, from \$450 to \$475; from 85,000 to 90,000, from \$475 to \$500; from 90,000 to 95,000, from \$500 to \$525; from 95,000 to 100,000, from \$525 to \$550; from 100,000 to 105,000, from \$550 to \$575; from 105,000 to 110,000, from \$575 to \$600; from 110,000 to 115,000, from \$600 to \$625; from 115,000 to 120,000, from \$625 to \$650; from 120,000 to 125,000, from \$650 to \$675; from 125,000 to 130,000, from \$675 to \$700; from 130,000 to 135,000, from \$700 to \$725; from 135,000 to 140,000, from \$725 to \$750; from 140,000 to 145,000, from \$750 to \$775; from 145,000 to 150,000, from \$775 to \$800; from 150,000 to 155,000, from \$800 to \$825; from 155,000 to 160,000, from \$825 to \$850; from 160,000 to 165,000, from \$850 to \$875; from 165,000 to 170,000, from \$875 to \$900; from 170,000 to 175,000, from \$900 to \$925; from 175,000 to 180,000, from \$925 to \$950; from 180,000 to 185,000, from \$950 to \$975; from 185,000 to 190,000, from \$975 to \$1,000; from 190,000 to 195,000, from \$1,000 to \$1,025; from 195,000 to 200,000, from \$1,025 to \$1,050; from 200,000 to 205,000, from \$1,050 to \$1,075; from 205,000 to 210,000, from \$1,075 to \$1,100; from 210,000 to 215,000, from \$1,100 to \$1,125; from 215,000 to 220,000, from \$1,125 to \$1,150; from 220,000 to 225,000, from \$1,150 to \$1,175; from 225,000 to 230,000, from \$1,175 to \$1,200; from 230,000 to 235,000, from \$1,200 to \$1,225; from 235,000 to 240,000, from \$1,225 to \$1,250; from 240,000 to 245,000, from \$1,250 to \$1,275; from 245,000 to 250,000, from \$1,275 to \$1,300; from 250,000 to 255,000, from \$1,300 to \$1,325; from 255,000 to 260,000, from \$1,325 to \$1,350; from 260,000 to 265,000, from \$1,350 to \$1,375; from 265,000 to 270,000, from \$1,375 to \$1,400; from 270,000 to 275,000, from \$1,400 to \$1,425; from 275,000 to 280,000, from \$1,425 to \$1,450; from 280,000 to 285,000, from \$1,450 to \$1,475; from 285,000 to 290,000, from \$1,475 to \$1,500; from 290,000 to 295,000, from \$1,500 to \$1,525; from 295,000 to 300,000, from \$1,525 to \$1,550; from 300,000 to 305,000, from \$1,550 to \$1,575; from 305,000 to 310,000, from \$1,575 to \$1,600; from 310,000 to 315,000, from \$1,600 to \$1,625; from 315,000 to 320,000, from \$1,625 to \$1,650; from 320,000 to 325,000, from \$1,650 to \$1,675; from 325,000 to 330,000, from \$1,675 to \$1,700; from 330,000 to 335,000, from \$1,700 to \$1,725; from 335,000 to 340,000, from \$1,725 to \$1,750; from 340,000 to 345,000, from \$1,750 to \$1,775; from 345,000 to 350,000, from \$1,775 to \$1,800; from 350,000 to 355,000, from \$1,800 to \$1,825; from 355,000 to 360,000, from \$1,825 to \$1,850; from 360,000 to 365,000, from \$1,850 to \$1,875; from 365,000 to 370,000, from \$1,875 to \$1,900; from 370,000 to 375,000, from \$1,900 to \$1,925; from 375,000 to 380,000, from \$1,925 to \$1,950; from 380,000 to 385,000, from \$1,950 to \$1,975; from 385,000 to 390,000, from \$1,975 to \$2,000; from 390,000 to 395,000, from \$2,000 to \$2,025; from 395,000 to 400,000, from \$2,025 to \$2,050; from 400,000 to 405,000, from \$2,050 to \$2,075; from 405,000 to 410,000, from \$2,075 to \$2,100; from 410,000 to 415,000, from \$2,100 to \$2,125; from 415,000 to 420,000, from \$2,125 to \$2,150; from 420,000 to 425,000, from \$2,150 to \$2,175; from 425,000 to 430,000, from \$2,175 to \$2,200; from 430,000 to 435,000, from \$2,200 to \$2,225; from 435,000 to 440,000, from \$2,225 to \$2,250; from 440,000 to 445,000, from \$2,250 to \$2,275; from 445,000 to 450,000, from \$2,275 to \$2,300; from 450,000 to 455,000, from \$2,300 to \$2,325; from 455,000 to 460,000, from \$2,325 to \$2,350; from 460,000 to 465,000, from \$2,350 to \$2,375; from 465,000 to 470,000, from \$2,375 to \$2,400; from 470,000 to 475,000, from \$2,400 to \$2,425; from 475,000 to 480,000, from \$2,425 to \$2,450; from 480,000 to 485,000, from \$2,450 to \$2,475; from 485,000 to 490,000, from \$2,475 to \$2,500; from 490,000 to 495,000, from \$2,500 to \$2,525; from 495,000 to 500,000, from \$2,525 to \$2,550; from 500,000 to 505,000, from \$2,550 to \$2,575; from 505,000 to 510,000, from \$2,575 to \$2,600; from 510,000 to 515,000, from \$2,600 to \$2,625; from 515,000 to 520,000, from \$2,625 to \$2,650; from 520,000 to 525,000, from \$2,650 to \$2,675; from 525,000 to 530,000, from \$2,675 to \$2,700; from 530,000 to 535,000, from \$2,700 to \$2,725; from 535,000 to 540,000, from \$2,725 to \$2,750; from 540,000 to 545,000, from \$2,750 to \$2,775; from 545,000 to 550,000, from \$2,775 to \$2,800; from 550,000 to 555,000, from \$2,800 to \$2,825; from 555,000 to 560,000, from \$2,825 to \$2,850; from 560,000 to 565,000, from \$2,850 to \$2,875; from 565,000 to 570,000, from \$2,875 to \$2,900; from 570,000 to 575,000, from \$2,900 to \$2,925; from 575,000 to 580,000, from \$2,925 to \$2,950; from 580,000 to 585,000, from \$2,950 to \$2,975; from 585,000 to 590,000, from \$2,975 to \$3,000; from 590,000 to 595,000, from \$3,000 to \$3,025; from 595,000 to 600,000, from \$3,025 to \$3,050; from 600,000 to 605,000, from \$3,050 to \$3,075; from 605,000 to 610,000, from \$3,075 to \$3,100; from 610,000 to 615,000, from \$3,100 to \$3,125; from 615,000 to 620,000, from \$3,125 to \$3,150; from 620,000 to 625,000, from \$3,150 to \$3,175; from 625,000 to 630,000, from \$3,175 to \$3,200; from 630,000 to 635,000, from \$3,200 to \$3,225; from 635,000 to 640,000, from \$3,225 to \$3,250; from 640,000 to 645,000, from \$3,250 to \$3,275; from 645,000 to 650,000, from \$3,275 to \$3,300; from 650,000 to 655,000, from \$3,300 to \$3,325; from 655,000 to 660,000, from \$3,325 to \$3,350; from 660,000 to 665,000, from \$3,350 to \$3,375; from 665,000 to 670,000, from \$3,375 to \$3,400; from 670,000 to 675,000, from \$3,400 to \$3,425; from 675,000 to 680,000, from \$3,425 to \$3,450; from 680,000 to 685,000, from \$3,450 to \$3,475; from 685,000 to 690,000, from \$3,475 to \$3,500; from 690,000 to 695,000, from \$3,500 to \$3,525; from 695,000 to 700,000, from \$3,525 to \$3,550; from 700,000 to 705,000, from \$3,550 to \$3,575; from 705,000 to 710,000, from \$3,575 to \$3,600; from 710,000 to 715,000, from \$3,600 to \$3,625; from 715,000 to 720,000, from \$3,625 to \$3,650; from 720,000 to 725,000, from \$3,650 to \$3,675; from 725,000 to 730,000, from \$3,675 to \$3,700; from 730,000 to 735,000, from \$3,700 to \$3,725; from 735,000 to 740,000, from \$3,725 to \$3,750; from 740,000 to 745,000, from \$3,750 to \$3,775; from 745,000 to 750,000, from \$3,775 to \$3,800; from 750,000 to 755,000, from \$3,800 to \$3,825; from 755,000 to 760,000, from \$3,825 to \$3,850; from 760,000 to 765,000, from \$3,850 to \$3,875; from 765,000 to 770,000, from \$3,875 to \$3,900; from 770,000 to 775,000, from \$3,900 to \$3,925; from 775,000 to 780,000, from \$3,925 to \$3,950; from 780,000 to 785,000, from \$3,950 to \$3,975; from 785,000 to 790,000, from \$3,975 to \$4,000; from 790,000 to 795,000, from \$4,000 to \$4,025; from 795,000 to 800,000, from \$4,025 to \$4,050; from 800,000 to 805,000, from \$4,050 to \$4,075; from 805,000 to 810,000, from \$4,075 to \$4,100; from 810,000 to 815,000, from \$4,100 to \$4,125; from 815,000 to 820,000, from \$4,125 to \$4,150; from 820,000 to 825,000, from \$4,150 to \$4,175; from 825,000 to 830,000, from \$4,175 to \$4,200; from 830,000 to 835,000, from \$4,200 to \$4,225; from 835,000 to 840,000, from \$4,225 to \$4,250; from 840,000 to 845,000, from \$4,250 to \$4,275; from 845,000 to 850,000, from \$4,275 to \$4,300; from 850,000 to 855,000, from \$4,300 to \$4,325; from 855,000 to 860,000, from \$4,325 to \$4,350; from 860,000 to 865,000, from \$4,350 to \$4,375; from 865,000 to 870,000, from \$4,375 to \$4,400; from 870,000 to 875,000, from \$4,400 to \$4,425; from 875,000 to 880,000, from \$4,425 to \$4,450; from 880,000 to 885,000, from \$4,450 to \$4,475; from 885,000 to 890,000, from \$4,475 to \$4,500; from 890,000 to 895,000, from \$4,500 to \$4,525; from 895,000 to 900,000, from \$4,525 to \$4,550; from 900,000 to 905,000, from \$4,550 to \$4,575; from 905,000 to 910,000, from \$4,575 to \$4,600; from 910,000 to 915,000, from \$4,600 to \$4,625; from 915,000 to 920,000, from \$4,625 to \$4,650; from 920,000 to 925,000, from \$4,650 to \$4,675; from 925,000 to 930,000, from \$4,675 to \$4,700; from 930,000 to 935,000, from \$4,700 to \$4,725; from 935,000 to 940,000, from \$4,725 to \$4,750; from 940,000 to 945,000, from \$4,750 to \$4,775; from 945,000 to 950,000, from \$4,775 to \$4,800; from 950,000 to 955,000, from \$4,800 to \$4,825; from 955,000 to 960,000, from \$4,825 to \$4,850; from 960,000 to 965,000, from \$4,850 to \$4,875; from 965,000 to 970,000, from \$4,875 to \$4,900; from 970,000 to 975,000, from \$4,900 to \$4,925; from 975,000 to 980,000, from \$4,925 to \$4,950; from 980,000 to 985,000, from \$4,950 to \$4,975; from 985,000 to 990,000, from \$4,975 to \$5,000; from 990,000 to 995,000, from \$5,000 to \$5,025; from 995,000 to 1,000,000, from \$5,025 to \$5,050; from 1,000,000 to 1,005,000, from \$5,050 to \$5,075; from 1,005,000 to 1,010,000, from \$5,075 to \$5,100; from 1,010,000 to 1,015,000, from \$5,100 to \$5,125; from 1,015,000 to 1,020,000, from \$5,125 to \$5,150; from 1,020,000 to 1,025,000, from \$5,150 to \$5,175; from 1,025,000 to 1,030,000, from \$5,175 to \$5,200; from 1,030,000 to 1,035,000, from \$5,200 to \$5,225; from 1,035,000 to 1,040,000, from \$5,225 to \$5,250; from 1,040,000 to 1,045,000, from \$5,250 to \$5,275; from 1,045,000 to 1,050,000, from \$5,275 to \$5,300; from 1,050,000 to 1,055,000, from \$5,300 to \$5,325; from 1,055,000 to 1,060,000, from \$5,325 to \$5,350; from 1,060,000 to 1,065,000, from \$5,350 to \$5,375; from 1,065,000 to 1,070,000, from \$5,375 to \$5,400; from 1,070,000 to 1,075,000, from \$5,400 to \$5,425; from 1,075,000 to 1,080,000, from \$5,425 to \$5,450; from 1,080,000 to 1,085,000, from \$5,450 to \$5,475; from 1,085,000 to 1,090,000, from \$5,475 to \$5,500; from 1,090,000 to 1,095,000, from \$5,500 to \$5,525; from 1,095,000 to 1,100,000, from \$5,525 to \$5,550; from 1,100,000 to 1,105,000, from \$5,550 to \$5,575; from 1,105,000 to 1,110,000, from \$5,575 to \$5,600; from 1,110,000 to 1,115,000, from \$5,600 to \$5,625; from 1,115,000 to 1,120,000, from \$5,625 to \$5,650; from 1,120,000 to 1,125,000, from \$5,650 to \$5,675; from 1,125,000 to 1,130,000, from \$5,675 to \$5,700; from 1,130,000 to 1,135,000, from \$5,700 to \$5,725; from 1,135,000 to 1,140,000, from \$5,725 to \$5,750; from 1,140,000 to 1,145,000, from \$5,750 to \$5,775; from 1,145,000 to 1,150,000, from \$5,775 to \$5,800; from 1,150,000 to 1,155,000, from \$5,800 to \$5,825; from 1,155,000 to 1,160,000, from \$5,825 to \$5,850; from 1,160,000 to 1,165,000, from \$5,850 to \$5,875; from 1,165,000 to 1,170,000, from \$5,875 to \$5,900; from 1,170,000 to 1,175,000, from \$5,900 to \$5,925; from 1,175,000 to 1,180,000, from \$5,925 to \$5,950; from 1,180,000 to 1,185,000, from \$5,950 to \$5,975; from 1,185,000 to 1,190,000, from \$5,975 to \$6,000; from 1,190,000 to 1,195,000, from \$6,000 to \$6,025; from 1,195,000 to 1,200,000, from \$6,025 to \$6,050; from 1,200,000 to 1,205,000, from \$6,050 to \$6,075; from 1,205,000 to 1,210,000, from \$6,075 to \$6,100; from 1,210,000 to 1,215,000, from \$6,100 to \$6,125; from 1,215,000 to 1,220,000, from \$6,125 to \$6,150; from 1,220,000 to 1,225,000, from \$6,150 to \$6,175; from 1,225,000 to 1,230,000, from \$6,175 to \$6,200; from 1,230,000 to 1,235,000, from \$6,200 to \$6,225; from 1,235,000 to 1,240,000, from \$6,225 to \$6,250; from 1,240,000 to 1,245,000, from \$6,250 to \$6,275; from 1,245,000 to 1,250,000, from \$6,275 to \$6,300; from 1,250,000 to 1,255,000, from \$6,300 to \$6,325; from 1,255,000 to 1,260,000, from \$6,325 to \$6,350; from 1,260,000 to 1,265,000, from \$6,350 to \$6,375; from 1,265,000 to 1,270,000, from \$6,375 to \$6,400; from 1,270,000 to 1,275,000, from \$6,400 to \$6,425; from 1,275,000 to 1,280,000, from \$6,425 to \$6,450; from 1,280,000 to 1,285,000, from \$6,450 to \$6,475; from 1,285,000 to 1,290,000, from \$6,475 to \$6,500; from 1,290,000 to 1,295,000, from \$6,500 to \$6,525; from 1,295,000 to 1,300,000, from \$6,525 to \$6,550; from 1,300,000 to 1,305,000, from \$6,550 to \$6,575; from 1,305,000 to 1,310,000, from \$6,575 to \$6,600; from 1,310,000 to 1,315,000, from \$6,600 to \$6,625; from 1,315,000 to 1,320,000, from \$6,625 to \$6,650; from 1,320,000 to 1,325,000, from \$6,650 to \$6,675; from 1,325,000 to 1,330,000, from \$6,675 to \$6,700; from 1,330,000 to 1,335,000, from \$6,700 to \$6,725; from 1,335,000 to 1,340,000, from \$6,725 to \$6,750; from 1,340,000 to 1,345,000, from \$6,750 to \$6,775; from 1,345,000 to 1,350,000, from \$6,775 to \$6,800; from 1,350,000 to 1,355,000, from \$6,800 to \$6,825; from 1,355,000 to 1,360,000, from \$6,825 to \$6,850; from 1,360,000 to 1,365,000, from \$6,850 to \$6,875; from 1,365,000 to 1,370,000, from \$6,875 to \$6,900; from 1,370,000 to 1,375,000, from \$6,900 to \$6,925; from 1,375,000 to 1,380,000, from \$6,925 to \$6,950; from 1,380,000 to 1,385,000, from \$6,950 to \$6,975; from 1,385,000 to 1,390,000, from \$6,975 to \$7,000; from 1,390,000 to 1,395,000, from \$7,000 to \$7,025; from 1,395,000 to 1,400,000, from \$7,025 to \$7,050; from 1,400,000 to 1,405,000, from \$7,050 to \$7,075; from 1,405,000 to 1,410,000, from \$7,075 to \$7,100; from 1,410,000 to 1,415,000, from \$7,100 to \$7,125; from 1,415,000 to 1,420,000, from \$7,125 to \$7,150; from 1,420,000 to 1,425,000, from \$7,150 to \$7,175; from 1,425,000 to 1,430,000, from \$7,175 to \$7,200; from 1,430,000 to 1,435,000, from \$7,200 to \$7,225; from 1,435,000 to 1,440,000, from \$7,225 to \$7,250; from 1,440,000 to 1,445,000, from \$7,250 to \$7,275; from 1,445,000 to 1,450,000, from \$7,275 to \$7,300; from 1,450,000 to 1,455,000, from \$7,300 to \$7,325; from 1,455,000 to 1,460,000, from \$7,325 to \$7,350; from 1,460,000 to 1,465,000, from \$7,350 to \$7,375; from 1,465,000 to 1,470,000, from \$7,375 to \$7,400; from 1,470,000 to 1,475,000, from \$7,400 to \$7,425; from 1,475,000 to 1,480,000, from \$7,425 to \$7,450; from 1,480,000 to 1,485,000, from \$7,450 to \$7,475; from 1,485,000 to 1,490,000, from \$7,475 to \$7,500; from 1,490,000 to 1,495,000, from \$7,500 to \$7,525; from 1,495,000 to 1,500,000, from \$7,525 to \$7,550; from 1,500,000 to 1,505,000, from \$7,550 to \$7,575; from 1,505,000 to 1,510,000, from \$7,575 to \$7,600; from 1,510,000 to 1,515,000, from \$7,600 to \$7,625; from 1,515,000 to 1,520,000, from \$7,625 to \$7,650; from 1,520,000 to 1,525,000, from \$7,650 to \$7,675; from 1,525,000 to 1,530,000, from \$7,675 to \$7,700; from 1,530,000 to 1,535,000, from \$7,700 to \$7,725; from 1,535,000 to 1,540,000, from \$7,725 to \$7,750; from 1,540,000 to 1,545,000, from \$7,750 to \$7,775; from 1,545,000 to 1,550,000, from \$7,775 to \$7,800; from 1,550,000 to 1,555,000, from \$7,800 to \$7,825; from 1,555,000 to 1,560,000, from \$7,825 to \$7,850; from 1,560,000 to 1,565,000, from \$7,850 to \$7,875; from 1,565,000 to 1,570,000, from \$7,875 to \$7,900; from 1,570,000 to 1,575,000, from \$7,900 to \$7,925; from 1,575,000 to 1,580,000, from \$7,925 to \$7,950; from 1,580,000 to 1,585,000, from \$7,950 to \$7,9

Wilcox Hits Insurance Industry

Harrisburg (AP) — Community Affairs Secretary William Wilcox said Monday the insurance industry has made "an entirely indifferent and unsatisfactory" effort to encourage people to buy flood insurance.

In a letter to major insurance companies, Wilcox said talks with victims of the 1972 flood and smaller floods this year indicated there was a problem.

Pennsylvanians may get flood coverage through a relatively low-cost plan financed by the federal government. Communities, however, first must become eligible by complying with certain flood protection standards.

At the time tropical storm Agnes struck last year, there were but a few hundred policies in force in the state. Community Affairs reports nearly 30,000 now.

Wilcox urged the companies to encourage the purchase of flood insurance by families and businesses, particularly when homes or businesses are located in flood-prone areas.

"Our experience has indicated that lesser streams can . . . be as devastating in their effect in a small area as major rivers, especially when the up-stream portions of the terrain have been subject to extensive development," Wilcox wrote.

Charter Study Panel to Hear City Officials

Leighton, McHugh to Appear Before Unit On Wednesday

Wilkes-Barre Charter Study Commission will meet at City Hall Wednesday at 4:30 p. m., during which two city officials, Controller Carl A. Leighton and Solicitor Michael McHugh will expound their views on city government.

According to John McGlynn, commission chairman, the next scheduled meeting will be October 10 when City Manager Bernard J. Gallagher and Deputy City Manager Robert McGinley will put in an appearance to present their views.

During the intervening weeks, members of the commission will take trips out of town to meet with officials in other municipalities having different types of government. Possible visits include Pottstown, Allentown and Williamsport.

The trips will be arranged by Andrew Shaw, director of Wilkes College Institute of Regional Affairs, who is serving as consultant to the study commission.

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When Gallagher and McGinley have completed their testimony, it probably will mark the end of testimony by all city elected and appointed officials. With the exception of Joseph Burns, all members of city council have appeared before the commission to give their views. Burns has been invited but so far has declined to appear.

McGlynn said invitations to testify will be extended to a number of businessmen and members of the Chamber of Commerce to get a well rounded opinion on all phases of government.

He said the commission has 18 months in which to arrive at a recommendation if it opts for a charter.

OCTOBER 3, 1973

Flood Grant Petitions Exceed Allotted Funds; Cut May Be Up to 25%

With 43,500 applications filed for flood relief grants being made available through a \$40,000,000 state appropriation, a reduction in the maximum \$3,000 for individual grants may be necessitated, according to James Guest, director of Flood Grant Relief Office, Harrisburg.

When contacted Tuesday, Guest explained at present his office has no figures to estimate the total amount for the applications filed, as thousands of late-filed applications had to be returned for additional information, clarification and/or corrections for processing.

Guest, using hypothetical figures, said that if 25,000 applications were filed for grant money, then an average claim of \$1,600 would use up the available \$40,000,000.

Proportionately, with 43,500 actual applications filed, the average claim using the same \$40,000,000 for distribution is reduced to approximately \$920. With such the case, an estimated additional \$13.7 million in funds would be necessitated to maintain the "hypothetical" \$1,600 average claim.

Asked about the possibility of additional money to offset the large number of applications whereby the maximum of \$3,000 for grants could be maintained, Guest said that he had no information about measures being taken to secure additional money.

Viewing the large number of applicants and the \$40,000,000 to work with, Guest stated the \$3,000 maximum may have to be reduced. He added that currently there are no information on how much of a decrease would

be necessary, but he noted the average claim will become such that payments will require prorating.

Guest further said that few of the 43,500 applications will be eliminated due to ineligibility. While 85 percent of the grant applicants have filed SBA estimates of losses which requires no supporting evidence, verification is more difficult and time consuming for the 15 percent not accepting the SBA estimate of loss, he stated.

The director also reported it will be "some time" before the total amount for grants to applicants in Luzerne County would be available. He said he did not feel figures for individuals or Wilkes-Barre and other flood-affected municipalities will be available.

According to figures from the Department of Community Affairs, Wilkes-Barre office, 77,994 application forms for grants were distributed as of Sept. 10, in areas of Wilkes-Barre, Kingston, Nanticoke, Wyoming, Lock Haven, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, at the central processing center and through circuit riders, the local DCA office reported.

DCA Secretary William Wilcox's office at Harrisburg Tuesday reported that DCA, aware of the probability that approved applications will surpass the \$40,000,000 available, has notified the governor's office and the budget secretary of the possible dilemma and the need for more money, possibly between \$10 million and \$15 million.

Wilcox Will Administer State's Fuel Allocations

Harrisburg (P) — Community Affairs Secretary William H. Wilcox was named Thursday to head Pennsylvania's fuel allocation program.

Wilcox promptly announced a special toll-free telephone line would be established for Pennsylvanians having problems getting fuel oil.

Until the line is hooked up, Pennsylvanians may use the already established Governor's Action Line: 800-932-0784.

Wilcox asked citizens to attempt to locate suppliers on their own before calling the state.

Gov. Shapp, who appointed Wilcox, said, "Your function under this appointment will be to make recommendations to the federal fuel allocation officer . . . for exceptional hardship assistance when, in your judgment, such allocations of fuel should be made.

"You are hereby advised and instructed to be particularly sensitive in the recommendations which you make to the needs of moderate and low income families of this commonwealth."

Wilcox said individuals and businesses running out of fuel oil could call the toll free action line. State employees there would locate a dealer to help them.

Under the federal fuel allocation program, citizens are entitled to receive the same amount of fuel oil as last year, providing the supply is available. If the supply is low, each customer is to be cut back an equal percentage.

Pennsylvanians already experiencing problems are mainly those who just moved into a new area, state officials said.

Wilcox said the federal fuel allocation officer, David Barton, will have a desk near the new phone line. He'll be able to immediately authorize a fuel allocation recommended by state personnel.

By Dec. 3, the operation should be computerized, with the computer quickly locating fuel oil dealers and keeping track of callers.

Area Lawmakers: How They Voted

(Capitol Special)

Harrisburg—This is the voting record of area lawmakers during the past week of February 4-9 with voting as follows on major bills by area members of the State Senate and House of Representatives

(Representatives George C. Hasay, R-Shickshinny; Raphael Musto, D-Pittston; Bernard F. O'Brien, D-Wilkes-Barre; Frank J. O'Connell, R-Kingston; Fred J. Shupnik, D-Luzerne; James J. Ustynoski, R-Hazleton, and Senators Martin L. Murray, D-Ashley and T. Newell Wood, Harveys Lake):

SENATE

Confirmation (Approved) of Vincent X. Yakowicz as Secretary of Revenue. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 114—Amendment (Approved) excluding the State Senate from this proposed Constitutional Amendment reducing the size of the State Legislature. As the bill now stands the only change would be in the House of Representatives which would be trimmed from 203 to 121 seats. Originally, the Senate would have been reduced from 50 to 40 members. Final approval by the voters would be required before this reduction could go into effect. (Murray—No; Wood—No)

SB 554—Motion (Defeated) to recommit this bill permitting banks to open branches anywhere in the state. Banks are now restricted to opening branches only in counties surrounding their home county. (Murray—No; Wood—No)

SB 684—Concurrence (Approved) In House amendments increasing Capitol Facilities Debt Enabling Act from \$61.6 to \$66.7 million. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

SB 1366—(Passed)—Provides by law the control and regulation of motor vehicle messenger service agencies by the Department of Transportation. At present this is done only by administrative procedures. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HB 659—(Passed)—Permits the Secretary of Transportation to designate and license field agents for the distribution of temporary registration plates. (Murray—Yes; Wood—Yes)

HOUSE

HB 108—(Passed) Permits the Department of Community Affairs to contract for research, development and demonstration projects with local governments corporations and other organizations not to exceed 5 percent of its appropriation for housing and redevelopment. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

power of attorney to pay back taxes for the redemption of property which has a tax claim against it. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1460—(Passed)—Requires public hearings and possible court determination before any state institution can close or reduce services. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Did not vote)

HB 1485—(Passed)—Allows Third Class City Councils to permit the participation of fire, rescue and ambulance companies in city purchase contracts for petroleum products. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1617—(Passed)—Changes residency requirements of District Attorneys in Third through Sixth Class counties from two years to one year. In Third through Eighth Class counties it lowers from two years to one year the period of time the individual must have practiced before the Supreme and Superior Courts of Pennsylvania. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1655—(Passed)—Makes it easier for judges to free prisoners on the "pre-release" programs, giving judges the authority to provide these early releases for any "necessary and appropriate reason". (Hasay—No; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1656—(Passed)—Provides means by which Clerk of Courts in Third through Eighth Class counties could be relieved of the responsibility to collect a fine or cost that they deem uncollectible. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

SB 596—(Passed)—Gives the state the power to raise \$488 million for capital projects with \$253 million earmarked for highway building projects and \$200 million for General State Authority building projects. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

SB 597—(Passed)—Provides authorization for \$1.2 million in spending for purchase of furniture and equipment for completion of authorized capital

stitutional Amendment reducing the size of the State Legislature. As the bill now stands the only change would be in the House of Representatives which would be trimmed from 203 to 121 seats. Originally, the Senate would have been reduced from 50 to 40 members. Final approval by the voters would be required before this reduction could go into effect. (Murray—No; Wood—No)

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HB 124 — (Passed)—Requires all local government agencies to conduct their formal business at public meetings; the so-called "sunshine bill." It applies to some State agencies as well. Specifically excluded are the State Legislature and the courts. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 351 — (Passed)— Forbids discrimination against a person because of his or her martial status, particularly in the area of housing. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 509 — Conference report (Defeated) representing a compromise on limiting the use and sale of studded tires in Pennsylvania. (Hasay—No; Musto—No; O'Brien—No; O'Connell—No; Shupnik—No; Ustynoski—No)

HB 771 — Amendment (Defeated) Giving each member of the State House of Representatives a secretary. (Hasay—No; Musto—No; O'Brien—No; O'Connell—No; Shupnik—No; Ustynoski—No)

HB 1309—(Passed) Permits a

residency requirements of District Attorneys in Third through Sixth Class counties from two years to one year. In Third through Eighth Class counties it lowers from two years to one year the period of time the individual must have practiced before the Supreme and Superior Courts of Pennsylvania. (Hasay—Yes; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

HB 1655—(Passed)—Makes it easier for judges to free prisoners on the "pre-release" programs, giving judges the authority to provide these early releases for any "necessary and appropriate reason". (Hasay—No; Musto—Yes; O'Brien—Yes; O'Connell—Yes; Shupnik—Yes; Ustynoski—Yes)

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SB 597—(Passed) — Provides authorization for \$1.2 million in spending for purchase of furniture and equipment for completion of authorized capital

Shapp Proposes \$2-Million for Student Loans

HARRISBURG (UPI)—Gov. Milton J. Shapp said yesterday he would ask the legislature for a \$2-million revolving fund to help college students from middle income families get school loans.

"Students used to be able to depend on the federal government to back them up in seeking low interest bank loans," Shapp said, "but the Nixon Administration put a crimp in that program last March."

Shapp said the money would be directed to the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) which already operates a loan and scholarship program for state students.

"The new federal rules in effect since March have burdened our students," Shapp said. "It is now impossible for most students to get the full amount they want to borrow."

Shapp said he would propose that the legislature allow PHEAA to set up a clearing house for student loan paperwork and relieve the banks of that task.

He also will ask for a \$350,000 annual appropriation to cover the salaries and expenses for operation of the clearinghouse.

The \$2 million revolving fund, according to Shapp, would allow PHEAA to "cover the monthly pause between payment

to the banks and actual receipt of money from the borrowing students."

Finally, he will ask the legislature for a change in rules that would allow state banks to include the \$475 million currently on loan to students in their "credit due" columns.

Currently, the banks cannot count that money as "credit due," Shapp said the change would increase the stature of the banks when they go to the Federal Reserve Bank to borrow money.

"If the legislature concurs, and we make these low interest student loans inviting and interesting to local banks, our middle-income students should encounter fewer hassles in borrowing for school expenses," Shapp said.

\$19,463,835 Spent on State Roads in County

(Capitol Special)

Harrisburg — A total of \$19,463,335 was spent on highway programs in Luzerne County during the last fiscal year, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)—up from \$18,031,613 the year before.

Largest single category of highway spending in the county covered highway maintenance costs — \$7,536,944 (\$4,153,834 the preceding year) — which included such activity as general maintenance, winter traffic services, traffic line and sign painting, and the maintenance and operation of equipment, machinery and buildings.

Highway project costs for Luzerne County highways involved an expenditure of \$5,093,679 during the year (\$7,851,907 during 1971-72) including right-of-way acquisition, engineering, utility relocation, and construction costs.

Other highway programs for

the county, such as general administration, capital outlay, planning and research, plus State Highway and Bridge Authority rentals gobbled another \$1,784,174 (versus \$1,534,643 a year earlier).

Payments of liquid fuels tax funds direct to political subdivisions accounted for \$1,854,114 (\$1,759,997 in 1971-72) while pay-

ments of liquid fuels tax monies direct to the county for redistribution to political subdivisions amounted to \$915,649 during the year (\$844,319 the previous year).

Miscellaneous expenditures for the county for related highway functions — State Police, Department of Education, etc. — totaled \$2,278,775 according to PennDOT records — up from \$1,887,023 in 1971-72.

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OCTOBER 24, 1973

Unused Appropriations May Supply \$18 Million For Flood Relief Grants

Flood relief grant applications sit in "limbo" as of Tuesday afternoon with no developments in statistics or figures reported by the responsible Flood Grant Relief Office at Harrisburg.

On another side in Harrisburg, Rep. Frank O'Connell, Kingston, reported his dismay with the Department of Community Affairs operation in handling the grant applications through a reviewing and screening process. He noted DCA has unquestionably "made an error in its interpretation of the law."

Whoever is to blame, current unconfirmed estimates indicate additional money will be needed to provide substantial grants to the more than 40,000 tallied applications. O'Connell, appearing optimistic on potential avenues for more funding, said Tuesday he thinks "there's a possibility of substantial surpluses in flood related appropriations" to con-

ceivably get the total applications requested at \$1,600 and increasing the allotted \$40,000,000 appropriations by up to \$18,000,000.

O'Connell preparing for a "busy day" Wednesday stated Tuesday night the legislature briefly discussed the additional funding for flood relief grants during a Tuesday caucus in Harrisburg which was absorbed with general business topics.

He said that while nothing has

been finalized and realizing that "there's not too much left to go around" in the balance of the \$150 million flood relief appropriations, the West Side representative stated surpluses in other areas were foreseen, such as money allotted to farmers victimized by the flood disaster and the tax rebate bill. From the former, O'Connell sees at least a \$4,000,000 left-over to be rechanneled to other state agencies and conceivably another \$10,000,000 in tax rebates. Whatever money is remaining after allotments are finalized, the flood relief grant program "will have no trouble getting the money," he reported.

For the Flood Grant Relief Office the estimated 40,000 grant petitions awaiting clearance for grants involve a "long tedious process" which is expected to carry processing into December and possibly affect the proposed January 1 starting date for distribution of the grants.

Indication of the drawn-out processing came Tuesday when James Guest, director of GRO, reported no estimate of figures for total grant claims, speculated average claim or maximum on claim had been established. He stated that after most of the 40,000 grant applications have been cleared, several thousand will probably fall into "exceptional categories" to complicate matters. He stressed that his office will carry the processing "well into December" before any answers on grant distribution and proportions will be available.

The FGRO director stated he is hopeful that distribution of grants will begin around the projected January 1 starting date.

Contact with Department of Community Affairs Secretary William Wilcox's office reported no new developments on additional money for grants or course of action to be taken in providing adequate flood grants to all applicants.

Last report October 10 on remaining funds in the \$150 million flood relief appropriations showed a balance of \$55.3 million to be allocated to 18 state agencies.

It was reported of the balance, there will be "not much left" for increasing the \$40 million figure allotted for flood relief grants.

Suit Claims SBA Feud Cut Off Aid

Harrisburg (P) — Pennsylvania filed suit in federal court Thursday to force the Small Business Administration to reopen its flood assistance program in the state.

The suit, filed in U. S. Dis-

trict for the District of Columbia, charges that the state was denied additional flood assistance because of a feud within the SBA.

Instead of getting a Class A designation, the state secretly was classified Class B, depriving 6,000 flood victims of federal

loans and cutting administrative staff and resources available for the program, the suit contends.

The state maintained that the designation was lowered to help promote the personal political aspirations of SBA administrator Thomas S. Kleppe, named as one of five defendants in the suit.

Calling the action "unlawful, unauthorized, arbitrary and capricious," the state charged that proper assistance and relief was denied victims of "the worst disaster in the history of the United States."

SBA officials involved did not have the authority to lower the state's classification and did not publicize the priority system, the state said.

In addition, the state continued, SBA did not inform flood victims of the loan program, permitting the deadline for applications to pass with many flood persons still unaware of the program.

The state asked the court that all SBA files relating to tropical storm Agnes in Pennsylvania

be impounded, that flood applications be reconsidered and approved in accordance with disaster relief legislation and that sufficient personnel be sent to Pennsylvania to handle the needs of victims.

The other SBA officials named as defendants were Russell Hamilton, director of policies and procedures and former director of Region 3, which includes Pennsylvania; Elinor Johnson, acting director of Region 3; James Higgins, disaster coordinator for Region 3; and Joseph Clark, deputy director of Region 3.

The suit was filed by Gov. Milton Shapp; Community Affairs Secretary William H. Wilcox; Atty. Gen. Israel Packel; and four flood victims, Martha N. Specht and Alvin L. Wagner, both of Lewistown, and Harold and Mary Domino of Milton.

SBA officials in Philadelphia denied the state's contentions.

"There's no difference between Class A and B," said Higgins. "There's no difference in the amount of aid, personal or administrative expenses."

Trimming Frills From School Budget Is Seen by Some as C

By DAVID VIDAL

Hector Vasquez liked to stay after school to do exercise and play basketball and shoot pool in the gymnasium of Intermediate School 139 in the South Bronx. But that was last year. This year, in a money-saving measure dictated by the fiscal

This is the third in a series on the status of New York City's public schools.

crisis in the school system, the doors have been shut on after-school programs.

"Now we have nothing to do," said the raven-haired eighth-grader, who seemed big for 15.

"We go outside, hang around. Maybe play handball in the park. And we go hunting for girls," he said.

Like many of the 1.1 million other pupils in the New York City school system, Hector Vasquez does not look upon I.S. 139 merely as a center of academic instruction. Rather, schools to him are what

"Everything that made the school the center of the community is being cut to ribbons," said Allen Cappalazzi, a member of the District 10 school board in the Bronx.

Outside the school that Hector Vasquez attends in the Bronx, there are visible signs of the changes wrought in the last year.

Groups of youngsters sit idly on the stairs, amble toward a playground — where a fight has broken out — or slowly make their way home.

Classes Out Early

It is Wednesday, when school is let out just after lunch, to meet the new requirement for two shortened school periods a week. Here, the requirement is fulfilled on a single day.

The I.S. 139 building, at the corner of East 141st Street and Brook Avenue, rises like a monument to survival in an ashen area of empty, burned-out tenements along a block known as "Gasoline Alley" because of the heavy incidence of fires.

it was built in the late 50's. At a time when youth gang warfare between Italians, Puerto Ricans and blacks characterized relations between those groups, the school, but more particularly the Robert F. Wagner Youth and Adult Center it maintained, was the only "neutral" ground in the battle of "turf."

With a membership of more than 1,500 schoolchildren using the 2351 First Ave site on an average night, the after-school and community service center offered weightlifting, boxing, basketball, volleyball, arts and crafts and swimming in an Olympic-sized pool that was the only one of its kind in the area.

Christmas and Easter were the only days of the year that the center was closed. For the last school year, every day has been like Christmas and Easter.

Waste Is Assailed

"To close down a school with facilities like this is probably one of the greatest wastes that I can think of," said Howie

three kids in my class who just don't belong there. They've got problems we can't help them with," he said.

At the I.S. 139 attended by Hector Vasquez, the principal, John Quinn, said, "We've always felt like a family here."

"But there is no denying there has been some problem in maintaining our sense of family this year," he added, referring to some of the problems produced by even the small number of staff changes there.

Health Fair Held

On Thursday, May 13, a communitywide health fair project was held at the school. Blood pressure, hearing, vision and dental screening tests were given at no charge to students and area residents, with the financing supplied by a pilot state project.

In an earlier impact of the fiscal crisis, the neighborhood Segundo Ruiz Belvis Health Care Center was being proposed for shutdown, and for a while at least, the school was taking up the slack.

During the health fair in the

Public School 112 is in an area of two-family and three-family houses in the Dyker Heights section of Brooklyn. The neighborhood has been traditionally Italian and on a recent Ascension Day most chairs in the freshly painted classrooms were empty as children observed the religious occasion at home with their families.

However, Mary Ellen Purificato, the new head of the Parents' Association, was there. And to her, one aspect of the school year was clear.

"I can't even begin to tell you how parents have cooperated this year," she said. "This has probably been the best year in parent cooperation."

The principal, Carl Geraci, said that six reading kits worth \$100 each had been purchased with funds raised by the parents through events such as the recent observance of Italian Cultural Week. Potholders, homemade jewelry and woven goods went on sale to raise money for the purchase of books or for upgrading extra-curricular programs.

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was the focus of eventually successful efforts by activist parents and teachers to decentralize the school system in 1969.

The rows of brownstone houses on McDonough Street and Lewis Avenue seem cheerful. But according to Mrs. Williams, who is a former student in the predominately black school, some of the parents who live in them "are so overwhelmed with their economic frustrations that they have laid down their arms and turned to us."

Frustration Encountered

In that turn toward the school, many parents this school year, accustomed to the school's availability as an economic resource, have met frustration.

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THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1976

From School Budget Is Seen by Some as Cutting Fiber of Life

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"We used to have a bilingual liaison, but she was cut," he said, adding this meant that problems "are not solved as smoothly as before."

The dentists' room on the first floor was empty, too. In many areas of the city, the only dental attention given poor children comes from such rooms in schools now available for use only once or twice a week.

Librarian Dismissed

In Room 200, a group of children leaf through books that they read once a week when the teacher has time to squeeze in a library lesson. The librarian was dismissed, so a volunteer was helping to keep the books in order.

"We were very upset," said Mr. Pacheco, remarking on the impact of cuts on his school.

"Some places just threw up their hands and gave up, but here we just decided to adapt," he added.

On a breezy Thursday in the Coney Island section of Brooklyn, Bernard Fishenfeld, the principal of Mark Twain Junior High School, watched as nearly all the 553 seventh-graders in his school for gifted children filed neatly into buses taking them home.

There are tennis courts in the park alongside the school on Neptune Avenue. The students get tennis lessons there with the help of a professional, and since the school opened as one for the gifted only in September (after a long and bitter dispute over integration), little of the impact of the cuts was felt.

"There is no question but that we have been insulated from many of the problems of other schools," said Mr. Fishenfeld, feeling that his school was lucky.

"But no one knows what the budget is going to be next year," he added.

HEALTH CARE/

Many Area Collegians Being Notified State Educational Aid Not Continued

Aug. 4, 1975

Hundreds of area students have received notification from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency, Harrisburg that they do not qualify for a State Higher Education grant for the 1973-1974 academic year to attend institutions of higher learning, despite the fact they were assisted last year.

This action, taken after what the agency describes as a careful evaluation of applications for a state grant, formerly called state scholarship, is in contrast to the flood scholarship grant of \$1,200 and other assistance for each student from the Governor's Special Flood fund created by the General Assembly to aid flood victims in the 1972-73 academic year.

Area legislators report they have been besieged with complaints from parents, most of whom claim they have been turned down on all aid for the 1973-1974 academic year by the PHEAA.

PHEAA Executive Director Kenneth R. Reeher has also been deluged with calls from parents who were completely surprised at the lack of any funds from the agency for the coming year.

Reeher explained the reason for the cutback as "simply a lack of funds."

"The Governor's Special Flood fund" apparently is without the necessary money," he said.

He also said losses incurred by families in the flood were not taken into consideration in evaluating the need for PHEAA assistance for the coming semester.

Adding to the blow for most families, is a cutback in federal funds for colleges in the area. It had been hoped that some of the aid formerly provided by the state but not granted this year

failure to receive their award notice. He said it will take that time to get all the notices in the mail and allow for delivery.

The grand total of grants for 1973-75 is expected to be about the same as last year, 100,000 to be valued at \$65.4 million. Reeher said, "this means the program has become of a age from the standpoint of numbers, but we

continue to struggle to make certain the program is reaching and benefitting a cross-section of students who need financial help to attend the postsecondary school or college of their choice."

Reeher pointed out the new federal Basic Education Opportunity Grant program launched earlier this month by the U. S. Office of Education will help the

plight of students from low income families who are entering college, trade, business and nursing schools for the first time. "This new program could mean as much as \$6 million in new student aid monies for these students," Reeher said, "and has helped us to be more attentive to the needs of middle income families and veterans."

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Adding to the blow for most families, is a cutback in federal funds for colleges in the area. It had been hoped that some of the aid formerly provided by the state but not granted this year would be picked up by the colleges.

A number of parents told the PHEAA officials that their flood losses last year were larger than their annual income and reminded the losses could not be recuperated in a short time.

It also was reported the shortage of funds is responsible for the PHEAA ruling of granting one third of the amount of funds to which the student is entitled under the evaluation procedures.

Most parents will have to come up with \$1,800 they had not anticipated for the higher education because of the reported lack of funds by the PHEAA.

Some families reported added income for 1972 as they attempted to gain more money to pay for losses and other unexpected expenses as a result of the flood, and they claim they are being penalized through the lack of scholarship grants.

The PHEAA has a set parental income ceiling of \$14,999 for eligibility "after certain allowances."

PHEAA explains the certain allowance in the form of reductions the parental income have been made for brothers and sisters enrolled in most secondary schools and colleges, working mother, special education costs for a handicapped child, exceptional medical expenses and the number of dependent children in the family. No mention is made of merit or achievements in considering the eligibility.

PHEAA emphasized no allowance has been considered flood losses in the 1973-1974 evaluation of the applications.

Three years ago there was considerable pressure exerted in the commonwealth for the elimination of the state grants but the bid died when legislators were equally pressured to keep the program in operation.

Grants range from \$100 to \$1,200. The higher cost of education has reduced the normal full scholarship aid to about two thirds of the needed funds for the academic year.

Reeher said that about 65,000 notices are being mailed this week and additional notices will be mailed on a daily basis until all applications have been processed. Reeher urged the applicants not to contact the agency over the next two weeks about