

Legislators' Views Differ On New Taxes

Governor Romney's long awaited fiscal reform message was delivered to a joint session of the Michigan Legislature last week. Because of the importance of this program to the state, *The Observer* has contacted local legislators for their evaluation of the message and its chances for passage by the legislature.

"Unpalatable" Says Tierney

State Rep. James Tierney (Democrat), whose district includes all of Garden City, Plymouth, and most of the north half of Westland, made no bones of his feelings about the Governor's tax reform program.

"The program is extremely unpalatable to me. There is no relief for the hard-pressed school districts with a low per-pupil tax base and a rapid enrollment growth. The Governor's program does nothing at all for those districts."

Tierney, a member of the House Education Committee, indicated that the legislative action concerning the tax reform program would be evenly split as some of the more conservative Republican legislators would not favor a state income tax but there are about a half-dozen Democratic representatives

who may support the program. He pointed out that the House Democrats were scheduled to caucus Tuesday to discuss the issue.

Tierney reiterated his feeling on the need for additional state aid for school districts who are now hard-pressed to keep from raising their local property taxes.

An example of this is the Nankin Mills district in Westland which has a total school tax rate of 38.8 (\$38.80 per \$1,000) the highest in the state.

"No child should be dependent on the geographical accident of residence for his education," Tierney emphasized.

Faust Has "Grave Misgivings"

Democratic State Senator William Faust, whose district includes all of Westland and Garden City, was a bit more neutral on the matter, commenting that it is time that the legislature began considering "foremost all of the citizens of Michigan, not the differences of political parties."

"Anything as complex as a major overhaul of the state's financial structure is bound to raise controversy and fiscal reform is a much discussed — and cussed — subject," Faust pointed out. "Romney has made known his views and as expected, opposition to his proposals is mounting. Indeed, it appears fashionable to rip apart the ideas of this man, who is often mentioned as presidential material. Both Democrats and Republicans are doing it, sort of. I suspect, like

David trying to slay Goliath.

"It is my person feeling that a fiscal reform measure should reflect and project the educational needs of our state, both in the local and university levels. At this time, at least, this isn't done and I have grave misgivings if the Governor's plan is adequate. We are only as strong as the kids we educate."

The Governor is charged by law to present his views, and this has been done. The next step belongs to the legislature," Faust said.

"Education Needs More"—Schmidt

Statement from Louis Schmidt, State Representative from 35th District, which includes Livonia and Northville.

"On Thursday, Feb. 2 the Governor presented his budget message to the State Legislators. The budget was based upon the advice upon the consensus of a number of governmental agencies and the Governor's advisors."

"It appears as though a great deal of effort has been expended to bring about a balanced budget based on the tax proposals of the Governor which would involve a 2 1/2 per cent income tax, and relief in certain areas of property tax and sales tax."

"The budget, as proposed, would meet the present needs and some improvements in certain areas."

"However, in the field of education it appears as though funds would not be increased."

"It is incumbent upon the Legislators, therefore, to scrutinize the entire budget and to endeavor to find additional funds for the various school districts of the State of Michigan."

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Sights Physical Education Plant by 1968

College Studies Gym Plans

Although still in the talking stage with only authorization for the architects to prepare working drawings, members of the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees are

optimistic over the prospects of a physical education plant by the fall of 1968.

At the moment, the Trustees are thinking of such a structure but plan to await preliminary drawings and

estimates of the architects before giving final approval.

There is a matter of financing that will have to be resolved before the Board can move in any direction. College officials indicated the Trustees are hopeful of securing a grant from the State for half of the cost on a matching basis.

They are literally holding

their breath, hoping their application to state officials will be approved, guaranteed a portion of the funds available for building construction on a junior college campus.

At the moment, there isn't any indication from state officials as to whether the application for a grant will be approved or not.

"The Board is optimistic," said Howard Kahn, assistant to President Dr. Eric Brander and director of public relations and publicity. "There is a feeling among the members that Schoolcraft College will receive the requested grant on a matching basis and that we will be able to proceed with plans for a probable ground breaking in mid-summer."

"The Trustees have a strong feeling that the construction of the physical education facility will move along and will be ready for use by late 1968. However, the Board hasn't taken any official action on the matter—it hasn't been presented to them officially as yet and the only approval has been for the architects to present preliminary drawings. What the Board will do from that point is anybody's guess at this time."

The preliminary plans call for a \$2 million complex that will house a main gymnasium to seat upwards of 2,500; an auxiliary gym, swimming pool with a diving area and balcony seating 400; a wrestling room, handball courts, gymnastics area, classrooms, faculty offices and other facilities for a complete physical education program.

The college has been conducting its physical education program on leased facilities ever since it opened in 1964.

Development of playing fields adjacent to the gym is also on the planning board.

Construction of the athletic plant, along with a new classroom building to be started in the spring, will bring to nine the number of campus buildings.

The model of the physical education facility, developed by Eberle M. Smith Associates Inc., architects for the project, is on display in the college administration building.

Redford, Garden City Men Victims of Scheme

A Detroit man, charged with trying to defraud local men with a money-making machine, will be tried in Wayne County Circuit Court, following Monday's preliminary examination in the Garden City Municipal Court of Judge Richard L. Hammer.

Charged with "Conspiracy to cheat and defraud" was Oranley H. Dunham, of 6272 Joseph Campau, who was said to have tried to triple a sum of money given him by Frank Swartz, of 33081 Barton, Garden City, and Jeremiah McBain, of 25515 Elsinore, Redford Township.

Garden City police officers are also continuing their search for George W. Smith, of Ypsilanti, and two other unidentified men.

The Garden City man told police that one of the two unidentified men showed them how a \$1 bill could be changed into a \$5 bill with a chemical solution.

The two then promised Swartz that they could triple their funds—if they could get together \$7,500. Swartz then contacted McBain and on Monday, Jan. 30, they went to Swartz's home and watched Dunham set up his apparatus in the bathroom.

Dunham then clamped the 75 \$100 bills supplied by Swartz and McBain between two boards and put the bundle into the bathtub which was filled with soapsuds and a greenish-looking "chemical" to prepare for the transformation of the money.

Then Dunham said that he had to go to a Detroit hotel to get a supply of "bleached" \$1 bills which would become \$100 bills after the chemical operation.

McBain drove Dunham to the downtown hotel and waited, on orders, in the rear of Dunham's return. When Dunham didn't show, McBain drove around to the front of the hotel where he saw Dunham get into another car with two men.

McBain fired at the car with a pistol he carried with him.

Of the \$7,500 in funds, \$7,100 belonged to McBain and the remaining \$400 to Swartz.

Garden City policemen found the "money making machine" in Swartz's bathtub.

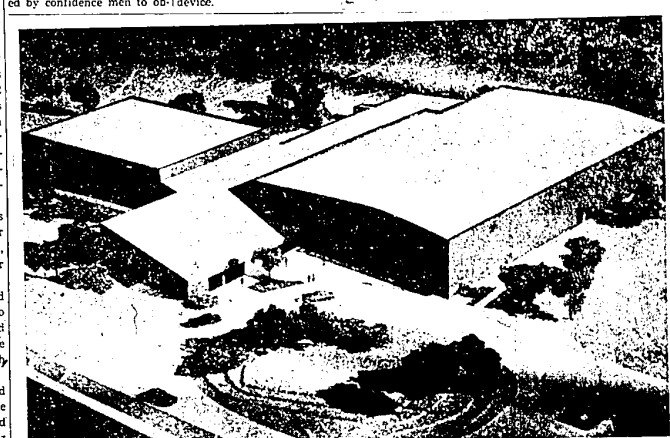
Driver Fined For No License

William J. Tront, 18, of 1949 Walton St., Westland, paid a fine of \$130 last week in Livonia Municipal Court where he was found guilty of driving on a revoked driver's license.

Municipal Judge James McCann put him on probation for one year and suspended a 60-day jail sentence.

along with a soggy bundle of 75 \$100.

Ironically, it was just four months ago that Garden City Police Chief Robert Behrendt outlined various schemes used by confidence men to obtain large sums of money from local citizens. One of the schemes he mentioned in his address before the Garden City Chamber of Commerce was the money making device.



SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE PHYSICAL EDUCATION PLANT—Working drawings are now being developed for a physical education plant—shown here as an architect's model—for Schoolcraft College. Schoolcraft has been conducting its physical education program in leased facilities since the college opened in 1964. A construction start on the building is now scheduled for early summer.

Plymouth "March" Nets Record Fund

Plymouth's Mothers March of Dimes Campaign, on Tuesday, Jan. 31, passed the goal of \$3,000 with a record of \$3,300, according to figures released by Co-Chairmen Mrs. Roger Corey and Mrs. Robert Olson.

The local committee had set its sights on the \$3,000 with the hopes it would go higher. It did and the total was some \$300 more than that of a year ago.

The Mothers marched on icy, snowy streets and sidewalks but were "greeted by warm hearts in the Community with donations higher than a year ago."

To aid in the security of the marchers, nine radio-equipped patrol cars were in the area from 7 to 9 p.m. They were manned by members of the Stu Rockafellow Amateur Radio Society of Plymouth.

More than 300 mothers and friends participated in the march.

To those residents of the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township, who contributed to the success of the March by organizing the campaign, marching or making donations, we give a most grateful thank you," said co-chairmen.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Witter, general co-chairmen of the March of Dimes campaign, expressed their appreciation for the generosity of community residents.

The Witters are working with Mrs. Donald Wee, chairman of the volunteer interest group of the Newcomers Club, to complete arrangements for the Feb. 18 Tag Day. Most of the 70 to 80 volunteers for this program will come from Junior High East. The workers will be on Plymouth streets from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. All funds will go into the March of Dimes Fund.

Airman Roger Hull, son of Rev. Troy Hull, 17301 Brady, Redford Township, has completed basic training at the Lakeland, Texas, Air Force Base and has been selected for special training at Lowry AFB in Denver, Colo.

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PLYMOUTH ROAD AT MIDDLEBOLT

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An Editorial . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

crats are being silly or stupid. I intend to say so in an editorial. I intend to do the same thing with the Republicans.

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