

Legislature Examines Controversial Proposals

RAYMOND L. BAKER (64TH DISTRICT)
Daylight Savings Time, legalized abortion and rights of automotive passengers to sue the driver were major topics in the State legislature this week.

The House State Affairs Committee this week reported the bill to exempt Michigan from the Federal Uniform Time Act out to the floor for debate. The Senate has passed the bill, but is waiting for House action before voting on giving the measure immediate effect, which is necessary if the bill is to mean anything. Both Houses must give the bill a two-thirds majority for immediate effect. That means 74 votes in the House and 28 in the Senate. The Senate passed the bill 24 to 11. The Federal Act would require Michigan to observe Daylight Saving Time going into effect on April 1, unless the exemption bill is passed with immediate effect and signed into law by that time.

A bill to permit abortion in certain cases and to legalize sterilization was introduced in the Senate Tuesday, March 7. The measure immediately sparked a hot debate among Senators, but the House may not get a chance to even discuss the plan this year. Protests were raised when the bill was assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee. Some Senators thought it should go to the Committee on Health, Retirement and Social Services because the workload in the Judiciary Committee might prevent the bill from being considered during this session.

The primary feature of the bill would be to allow abortion in cases of rape or incest. A county prosecutor and three physicians would have to agree before the operation would be allowed. Another feature of the bill is legal sterilization if a patient and doctor agree on the operation.

Supporters of the committee assignment for the bill indicated that legal questions involved could be handled only by the Judiciary Committee. Opponents of the assignment contended that the

measure is so controversial it would require considerable time for debate, study and public hearing which the Judiciary Committee might not be able to give it until next year.

Another heated debate was engendered at the opposite end of the legislative halls when the House took up a bill to allow passengers to sue the driver of a car involved in an accident. Similar measures, the most recent one last year, have been proposed before in the legislature and soundly defeated. The revival of the idea was roundly criticized from both sides of the aisle. Backers of the bill express no more than slight hope it will be passed this time around.

The bill's possible effects on car insurance dominated the debate, with opponents charging that the measure would push insurance rates up as much as \$40 to \$75 dollar per year. An amendment was tacked on to the bill during debate which would bar members of the driver's immediate family from suing.

While primary attention was focused elsewhere this week, the House and Senate Taxation Committees continued working against time to finish their deliberations on Fiscal Reform. The tax package proposed by Governor Romney will apparently come to a showdown in the Senate.

first where it is expected to face heaviest opposition. The five tax bills put forth by the Governor, including a two and a half per cent personal income tax, will probably be reported out on the Senate floor next week in their original form, with amendments to be taken up during debate. Identical tax reform legislation has been introduced in the House, but there's no indication yet when the House package will break out of committee. The Governor has called for passage of a fiscal reform package by April 1.

Hearings on fiscal reform are continuing across the state. Members of the House and Senate Taxation Committees held a public hearing last Friday afternoon in Escanaba.

Pays \$150 Fine, Jailed 5 Days
James Effinger, 26, of 1590 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, paid \$150 last week in Livonia for two traffic offenses and was sentenced to five days in jail.

Effinger pleaded guilty to driving while his driver's license was suspended, and driving carelessly.

Judge J. M. McCann fined him \$100 for the first count and gave him the five day sentence, while levying \$50 for the second charge.

Another Landmark
Al Kaline passed the 2,000 mark in base hits for the Tigers in 1956.



STEVE CAMPBELL, vice president of the Thompson-Brown Company, has been named Chairman of the National Association of Home Builders Sales & Marketing Council. The Council is made up of new home sales and marketing managers as well as marketing and sales managers of manufacturing firms allied with new home construction in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

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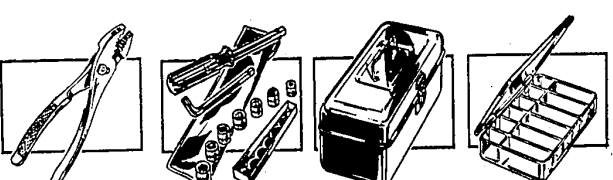
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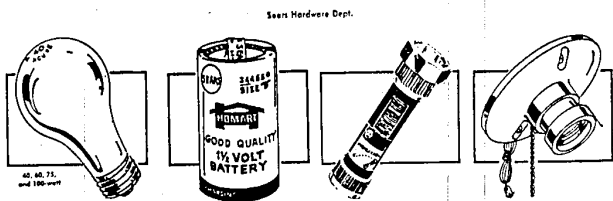
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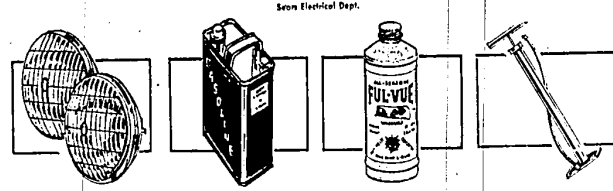
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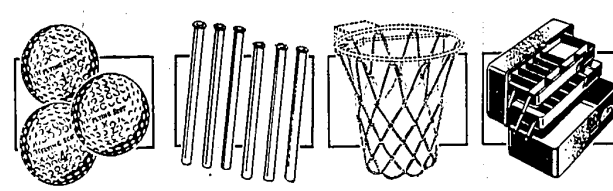
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