

Highway Toll Climbs To 28 Over Weekend

A GRIM RECORD death toll was set this weekend on Michigan highways as 28 persons died in traffic accidents. Eighteen of the victims perished in six multiple-fatality accidents—the worst claiming the lives of five persons Saturday at Paw Paw. In an accident Sunday, a 14-year-old boy and his 17-year-old sister were killed in Marne when the separate cars in which they were riding collided almost head-on. Four teenagers were killed Friday night when their car ran off a road at Three Rivers. The worst period this year previously had been New Year's weekend when 27 died.

LANSING -- A bill that would prohibit county boards of supervisors from meeting in secrecy was among 11 measures which the Michigan Senate moved to third reading Friday before adjourning for the weekend. Passage of the bill was urged on grounds that there was an increasing tendency for boards to conduct their meetings behind closed doors and thus remove themselves from public scrutiny. The House passed a Senate-approved bill providing that vacancies in county offices would be filled by midterm elections. Currently, vacancies in such offices as county clerk, auditor or prosecutor are filled by appointment and the appointee serves the remainder of the four-year term.

State And Local

News Round Up

LANSING -- Petitions to put the American Independent Party, which supports former Alabama Gov. George Wallace for president, on the November ballot in Michigan were filed in Lansing Friday. The group needs at least 13,771 valid signatures to qualify as a party and an affidavit filed with the petitions claimed there were signatures of 32,101 registered voters.

LANSING -- Michigan Democrats have announced that Vice President Hubert Humphrey will visit Lansing and Detroit May 14. Humphrey will address a joint session of the Michigan Legislature in the morning and a Democratic Party Century Club fund-raising reception in the evening. Both of the other announced Democratic presidential candidates, New York Sen. Robert Kennedy and Minnesota Sen. Eugene McCarthy already have visited the state.

WASHINGTON -- G. Mennen Williams, nominated by President Johnson to be ambassador to the Philippines, was examined Friday by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Chairman J. William Fulbright, D-Ark., said there "is no opposition to Williams' appointment and that he expects the committee to approve the appointment and send it to the full Senate in the next few days. Williams told the committee he has asked the State Department for a month to wind up his affairs in the United States.

LANSING -- A public hearing on a bill to outlaw the customer prize contests which have flourished in the state recently brought conflicting testimony from gasoline station owners and independent food retailers. Various independent gasoline dealers charged that they were being coerced by oil companies to participate in the promotions. Several retail food dealers defended the promotions as essential to free competition. The bill being considered would outlaw the contests by bringing them under the definition of lottery.

LANSING -- The Open Housing Bill passed by the Senate should come up for initial discussion on the floor of the House this week. The bill will come to the House floor in the same form as it passed in the Senate. Attempts to amend the bill in the House Civil Rights Committee were defeated. Committee Chairman Rep. Melvin Diegel, R-Muskegon, said the committee would try to keep the bill intact and get a vote on it. House Speaker Robert E. Waldron, R-Grosse Pointe, however, predicted that there might be some changes in the bill before it was passed by the House.

DETROIT -- Efforts of Gov. George Romney and the Michigan Legislature to take a hand in resolution of the Detroit newspaper shutdown have become stalled in a complicated legal tangle. A special panel of seven federal judges refused to lift a court order won by Detroit News Publisher Peter B. Clark in his fight to keep from being forced to testify before the governor and the legislature. In Lansing, Romney told a news conference he didn't "think anyone can say with certainty at this time that there will be an early settlement."

DETROIT -- Detroit's Common Council has chopped out large sections of Mayor Jerome P. Cavanagh's proposed budget for fiscal 1968-69. The council pared or shuffled about \$15.9 million of the spending proposals. Cavanagh's record \$460 million budget proposal was based on planned increases in the city's property tax and income tax. The council rejected the proposed 2.8 mill property tax increase.

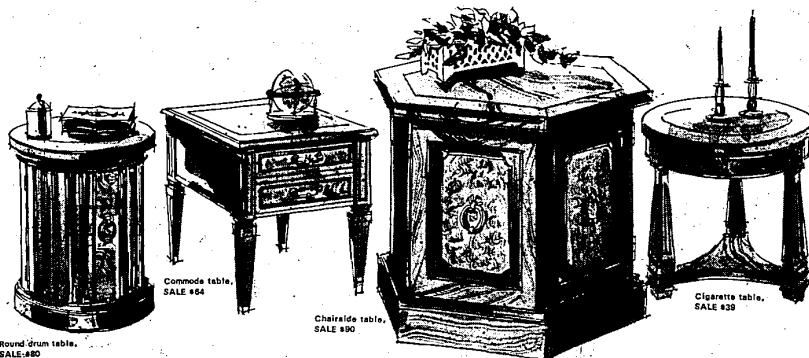
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FIRST BIG WEEKEND

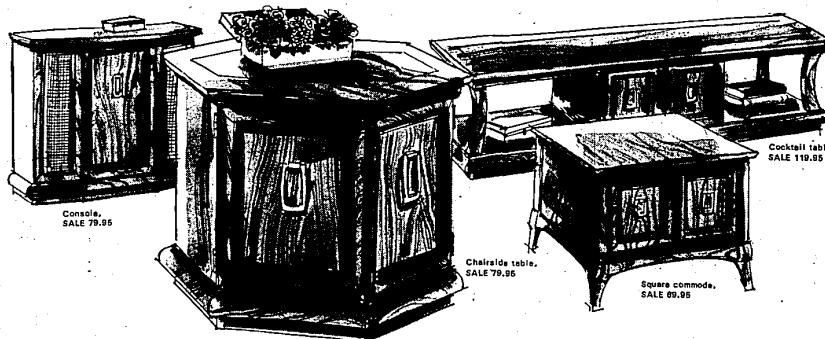
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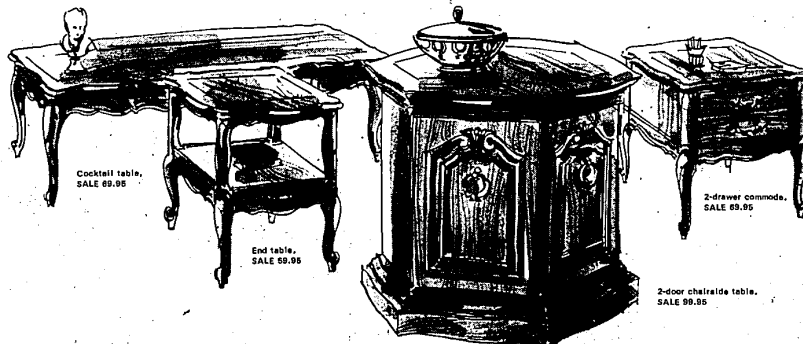
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