

## Esch offers benefit plan for injured

The Select Labor Subcommittee approved a bill by Congressmen Marvin L. Esch (R - Ann Arbor) and Dominick Daniels. (D - N.J.), to reduce the extraordinary red tape which government employees encounter when applying for compensation because of on-the-job injuries.

The traditional method of compensation - an application and review process - has caused delays of up to two months. In many instances, employees have had to resort to their savings or take out loans to make it through the application period while their causes are bogged down in the review process.

Under the proposed Daniels - Esch reform legislation, a federal employee who suffers an injury may continue to receive his pay for 15 days to provide him with financial support while his application is being reviewed.

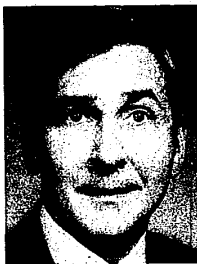
If the government finds that the claim is unjustified, the employee would be required to subtract the amount from accumulated vacation or sick leave or make repayment.

There are additional efforts in the legislation to address other inequities in the existing law. One provision amends the time for the accrual of the rights for compensation by changing the 21-day waiting period for retroactive benefits to 14 days. This change conforms to the recommendation of the National Commission on Workmen's Compensation Laws.

A second provision allows employees free choice of physicians approved by the Secretary of Labor rather than being limited to U.S. medical facilities.

A third provision eliminates the five-year waiver for the filing of claims and changes the statute of limitations from one to three years.

One of the more important aspects of this legislation is the assurance provided an injured worker that if he is incapacitated for less than a year, he will retain full job rights and if for more than a year, he will be given priority in finding new employment.



RICHARD FOERSTERLING of Plymouth has been appointed a vice-president in the trust division of National Bank of Detroit. An NBD employee for 18 years, he is officer in charge of a group in the personal trust administration department. Foersterling is a graduate of University of Detroit and a member of Meadowbrook Country Club.



ROBERT FREW (left), Wayne State University bookstore manager, helps Detroit Public Librarian Christian Holmes load almost 1,300 books for delivery to the Detroit House of Correction in Northville. The books were recently dis-

played at WSU by 13 publishers for faculty members of educational institutions in southeastern Michigan. After exhibiting the books, the publishers donated them to Dehoco to expand the library for inmates.

## Citizens' groups discuss political reform

Representatives of 16 Michigan citizens' organizations met with Common Cause leaders recently in Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn to discuss organizing a coalition to promote political reform legislation in Michigan.

David Cohen, national Common Cause vice president and director of operations, flew to Detroit specifically to help organize such a coalition. "Legislative leadership in Lansing should not be permitted to escape the obvious political lesson of the recent election in Grand Rapids," said Cohen.

The Watergate questions on Michigan voters' minds in the 1974 elections will not be what deed Watergate conspirators committed, but rather what steps have Congress and Michigan legislature have taken to prevent future Watergates," he predicted.

"So far Michigan is not one of the 25 states which have enacted one or more strong reform bills since Watergate," Cohen observed.

Most of the meeting was devoted to an interchange of ideas suggestions, and questions and answers among the diverse types of organizations attending. They included religious, consumer protection, business, union, environmental and professional groups.

Besides discussing strategies of lobby-

ing for legislation, they also considered Common Cause's contingent plans for future use of the initiative referendum procedure.

"This is the first of an ongoing series of issue-oriented coalition meetings open to all organizations in Michigan," Cohen explained.

"United action by interested citizens' groups throughout Michigan will help generate the necessary political pressures necessary to achieve effective reforms," Cohen said.

Organizations attending the meeting included: American Association of State, County and Municipal Employees, Local 345; American Association of University Women; Democratic Party of Michigan; East Michigan Environmental Action Council; Equal Justice Council, Inc.; League of Women Voters of Michigan.

Others were: Metropolitan Detroit Council of Churches; Michigan Association for Consumer Protection; National Association of Social Workers; National Organization For Women; United Auto Workers; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; and Young Women's Christian Association.

## Egnor, Reuther in Democratic primary race

Ronald W. Egnor, an Ypsilanti attorney and probable congressional candidate, has welcomed John Reuther into the 2nd Congressional District's Democratic primary, while urging Reuther to take time to learn the district if he is to be a serious candidate.

Egnor's remarks came at a gathering of Eastern Michigan University students and faculty members. Egnor, 33, is an EMU alumnus. He later attended the University of Michigan Law School.

"I'm glad to see Reuther enter the race," Egnor said. "It not only demonstrates that the Democratic party remains a truly open political organization, but it also speaks well of his courage that he has decided to wade into such a major undertaking after only being here a short time." Reuther moved into the 2nd Congressional District in 1973.

"I do urge Reuther to use every available moment to try to learn the needs and concerns of the residents of Monroe, Livonia, Plymouth, Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. That knowledge is essential if he is to run a serious race. "It is fortunate he is in the financial position to be able to resign his executive position at Ford Motor and devote full time to campaigning.

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