

# New law helps medical consumer

By ELMER E. WHITE

Michigan folks might be even better protected from those few incompetent doctors who may be practicing in the state. That's the aim of legislation signed into law recently by Gov. William Milliken.

The measure increases the authority of the Medical Practice Board to monitor Michigan doctors.

Lauding the law, the governor said it will help assure the public that doctors

are performing their duties in accordance with the highest professional standards.

Most Michigan doctors are highly skilled professionals, the governor pointed out. "And," he added, "this law will help remove from their ranks those few who are not competent to practice medicine."

How will that be accomplished?

Among other provisions, the law allows the board to start its own investigations and it establishes a procedure for hearing complaints.

In addition, it requires review of a licensee's file when information about malpractice, medical society disciplinary action, substantiated complaint, revocation, suspension or limitation of hospital staff privileges or notice of felony conviction reaches the board.

It also requires the board to decide within 60 days of getting such information whether or not it will begin disciplinary proceedings.

And it calls for the board to report suspensions, limitations or any action against doctors to the departments of public health and social services, malpractice insurance companies, professional societies, and appropriate licensed health facilities.

The bill is a revised version of one Milliken vetoed earlier this year.

WHILE SOME of our nation's harder lucks were rushing for gold in California, the Michigan Legislature was looking to the education of its children.

It was in 1949, the year that great gold

rush began, that lawmakers in our state established the Michigan Board of Education.

Back then, the board consisted of three persons: a Detroit lawyer named Samuel Baskin, Randolph Manning, a future justice of the state supreme court, and the Rev. Samuel Newbury of Jackson County.

Today there are eight people on the board, four men and four women. That's a 50 per cent ratio of women—the highest percentage of women serving on any state board of education in the country.

WITH THE mysteries of Mars a little less mysterious these days, the thoughts of colonizing space may also seem a little less fantastic.

A Lansing shoe salesman, Dick Christman, thinks human space colonization is far from far-fetched, and he thinks people should celebrate July 20, the day man first landed on the moon, as a special holiday.

Efforts to make "Moon Day" an official holiday in Michigan thus far have failed, although Christmas reportedly has spent some \$3,000 contacting state and federal officials around the country trying to round up firm support for his idea.

CROP PRODUCTION in the Republic of Tunisia is up—thanks in part to recommendations from the director of Michigan's Department of Agriculture.

Director B. Dale Ball proposed more efficient use of irrigation in that country when Tunisians asked for suggestions during an agricultural export trade mission to

the Mediterranean country three years ago.

This summer Ball received Tunisia's second highest medal, the Medal of the Republic, in appreciation for that farming assistance.

WOULD YOU believe a 40-pound, 15-ounce northern muskellunge? Or a 31-pound, eight-ounce brown trout? Or a 22-pound, one-ounce Atlantic salmon?

Sound like the tall tales of the fish that get away?

But these fish were caught, in Michigan, this summer, and set three of the six records tallied by Michigan fishermen for 1976.

The splake record was broken twice this season. First, a fisherman pulled in an 11-pound, eight-ounce specimen of the brown trout lake trout hybrid. Then just about four weeks later, another fisherman landed an 11-pound, 10-ounce splake.

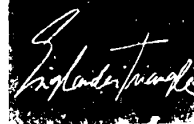
The sixth of the record-breaking fish taken was a 32-pound tiger muskellunge.

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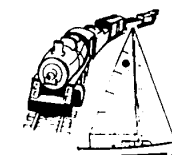
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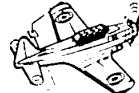
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## TM group honors Oakland residents

Ten Oakland County community leaders and residents were honored for their contributions to society Sept. 26 by the International Meditation Society.

The awards were presented at the first Festival for the Age of Enlightenment held in the Oakland County World Plan Center in Southfield and sponsored by the society.

Receiving an award for developing major programs to improve the quality of life in Detroit was James Glynn of Birmingham, vice president and director of public relations for the National Bank of Detroit.

Peter Treppach, a Southfield businessman, was given a progress and prosperity award for co-founding four local companies.

Receiving an award for contributions

made to the improvement of city life was Oak Park Mayor Frank Stephens. A development of consciousness award was given to Birmingham automotive engineer, Ats Berker. Timothy Gauchet of Birmingham received an education and enlightenment award for his contributions made to the founding of the first area transcendental meditation center.

Others honored at the festival were Oakland County Prosecutor L. Brooks Patter, Martin Weston of Southfield, president of the Greater Detroit Chapter of B.N.A. B. Roth, psychological researcher Joe Bonno of Taylor, Mrs. Victoria Gauchet of Berkeley and Roy Brenner of Southfield.

## State offers free firewood

Free firewood is available to Michigan residents at all state forest areas through the department of natural resources (DNR), forestry division.

Those wanting the free wood must obtain a DNR permit and provide their own saws for cutting.

More information on the program is available in any of the DNR's offices.

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