

Area Lawmakers Split 5-6 On School Aid

Five of 11 Observeland legislators helped final passage of the 1970-71 state school aid bill Friday, a bill which authorizes \$22 million for parochial and \$89.3 million total expenditures.



TAKE A LAKE CRUISE — This replica of an old Mississippi riverboat makes 45-minute tours around Kent Lake in Kensington Metropolitan Park near Millford from noon through 6 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. Charges for the tours are 25 cents for children and 50 cents for adults. The Island Queen will run Wednesday through Sunday until Labor Day, with weekend tours scheduled in the fall.

Madonna Sets Fall Registration

Registration for fall classes at Madonna College will take place on July 18 and 25, from 9 to 11 a.m. and from 1 to 5 p.m., in the Registrar's office. The final day for late registration is Sept. 4. Classes begin on Sept. 9 at 8 a.m. Courses are offered in art, biology, chemistry, education, English, French, geography, history, home economics, journalism, mathematics, music, nursing, philosophy, science, sociology, Spanish, speech, theology and developmental reading for adults. Madonna College is a fully accredited four year college, offering bachelor of arts and a bachelor of science degrees. It provides young people and adults, with opportunities for development that is educational, cultural and professional. Class schedules can be obtained by writing or calling: The Registrar, Madonna College, 39600 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mich., 48150; call 425-8000, ext. 3.

County Spends \$79,000 To Save TB Program

The Wayne County Board of Commissioners has saved a highly successful tuberculosis out-patient treatment program which was threatened with curtailment. Federal funding of the program at Herman Kiefer Hospital expired at the end of June. TB care is a county responsibility. The Board of Commissioners, meeting June 29, appropriated \$79,000 to continue the program for the balance of the county's fiscal year. The alternatives revert back to in-patient care at the substantially higher cost of about \$65 per patient per day.

Requirement: Test Kids' Eyes

Some 75,000 tri-county youngsters will be required to have vision examinations before entering school this fall, according to a law passed by the Michigan Legislature. The new law, passed in 1969, becomes effective this September. It requires that all children entering school for the first time present evidence of having passed a vision examination. These tests may be given by a medical or osteopathic physician, an optometrist, or a state-certified vision technician, and must include tests for binocular vision, muscular vision, and muscle balance. One in every 20 pre-schoolers, age three to five, is affected by a vision problem which can be usually be corrected if discovered and treated before school. The most common problems affecting these youngsters are nearsightedness (myopia), farsightedness (hyperopia), and "lazy-eye" (amblyopia ex anopsia). "IT IS URGENT that parents be made aware of this law," William Harsen executive director of the Detroit Society for the Prevention of Blindness states, "so that every youngster in the tri-county area is prepared for the visual demands of his learning years. Since 80% of school work is based on vision, it is essential for a child to have two good eyes." Harsen also suggested that parents make examination appointments early because the demand will be great. Esti-

mate new enrollments in the tri-county schools for the fall term are in excess of 75,000 children. A child does not know how well he should see; he must depend on others to make certain his eyes are healthy. Harsen stated that many children's vision problems begin before or at birth. Without proper care, these problems can become worse. THE FOLLOWING are some warning signs of eye trouble in children: • Rubbing eyes excessively. • Shutting or covering one eye, tilting head or thrusting head forward. • Difficulty in doing work requiring close use of the eyes. • Blinking more than usual or becoming irritable when doing close work. • Stumbling over small objects. • Holding books close to the eyes. • Inability to see distant objects clearly. • Squinting eyelids together or frowning. On July 14, 15 and 16, a mobile testing unit will be set up at Farmer Jack's Supermarket at Grand River and Linwood, tests will be given between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. On July 22, pre-school vision screenings will be available, free of charge, on Kennedy Square, Woodward and Fort St., from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There were some interesting shifts. Seven lawmakers were consistent-four voting "no" and three "yes" on both bills. Two voted against the taxes but in favor of the spending. Two others voted for the taxes but against the spending bill. VOTING FOR the spending bill laws Friday were Reps. Richard Young (D-Deerborn Heights), John Bennett (D-Redford), Marvin Stempion (D-Livonia), Vincent Pettigrew (D-Westland) and Sen. William Faust (D-Westland). Voting against the aid bill were Reps. James Tierney (D-Garden City), Raymond

Baker (R-Farmington), Albert Krimer (D-Oak Park) and Sen. Lorraine Beebe (R-Deerborn). George Kuhn (R-West Bloomfield) and Saeed Lerin (D-Berkley). On raising taxes a week earlier, the lineup was: For: Stempion, Pettigrew, Kramer, Faust and Kuhn; against: Young, Bennett, Tierney, Baker, Beebe and Lerin. Thus, Rep. Bennett of Redford and Young of Dearborn Heights were against the tax bill but for the aid bill, while Rep. Kramer of Oak Park and Sen. Kuhn of West Bloomfield were for the tax bill and opposed to the aid bill. The vote on the aid bill was

57-49 in the House-one more than needed for passage-and 23-15 in the Senate, a three-vote margin. THE HISTORIC parochial issue allows the state to finance up to 2% of the total state and local education outlay to pay up to half the salary of lay leaders of secular schools in private and parochial schools, but not to exceed \$22 million in 1970-71. Michigan thus becomes the 14th state to directly support non-public school programs. The measure may face a referendum vote in November. Anti-parochial forces have filed referendum petitions.

Other features of the school aid bill include a \$49.3 million boost in aid to public schools to \$638.6 million from last year's \$589.3 million. THIS WILL BE DOLED by two formulas. One will be for districts having \$15,500 state equalized valuation per pupil or districts having \$15,500 state equalized valuation per pupil or more, and the other for those having less. Last year the dividing line was \$12,864. The richer districts will receive \$30.50 per pupil minus the revenue produced by 14


mills compared with \$408 minus nine mills last year. Poorer districts will receive \$623.50 per pupil minus the revenue produced by 20 mills, compared with \$549 and 20 mills last year. NO DISTRICT will suffer a loss of state aid because of increasing property values, thanks to a so-called "great-grandfather clause." The bill authorizes for 1971-72 a school district income tax and limits the operating revenue any district will be able to raise locally. This will provide for a minimum combined state-local income of \$720 per pupil in all districts.

Credit Union Heads Attend Conference

To find out what makes youth loan and how to reach them, six credit union leaders from Livonia and one from Westland recently attended the annual International Conference of Credit Union Executives at Madison, Wis. Those from Livonia at the conference were: Patrick J. O'Brien, vice president of

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