

# Good Year For State Conservation Legislation

**LANSING** — Michigan lawmakers have challenged another outstanding year for conservation by passing more than 25 bills relating to water pollution, game, recreation, development, pesticide control, and other facets of natural resource use and management.

In addition to these approved bills, several others are still on the calendar awaiting final action as the 1968 session of the State Legislature heads down the home stretch.

**STILL ALIVE**, but not yet passed were:

HB 3347, the Conservation Department's operating budget bill. This apparently will have to go to conference committee to iron out differences between Senate and House versions. The House first approved a total budget of \$30.5 million. The Senate later passed a substitute calling for \$775,000 less. The House declined to go along with the Senate substitute, thereby setting the stage for a conference between representatives of the two chambers.

HB 3317, to give the Conservation Department authority to regulate the commercial fishing industry. The bill has passed both houses, but with differences which will have to be resolved. The legislation is in-



## Women IN THE KNOW

### Retirement Planning

At one time, the average man's life expectancy was 47; today, any American-born can expect to live past 70. Now, with more than 16-million people past the age of 65 in America, the ranks of our retirement age citizens are growing—and by the year 2000 there will be over 28 million older persons.

Although retirement is basically a period of relaxation and enjoyment, like any new situation it presents its own problems. Chief among these is balancing the budget. According to a survey taken by the U.S. Department of Labor, older people spend proportionally more than younger people on housing and household operations, health care and food purchased for home preparation.

Another problem may be what to do once you're retired. There are organizations of retired people around the country who offer special courses and leisurely sight-seeing trips. You could develop an interesting hobby—one you never had time for previously—or start a small business of your own.

Before starting any business venture, however, check with your lawyer. If you must sign a contract or rent expensive equipment, consult him, for there may be hidden expenditures of which you may not be aware. At this time, it's also a good idea to update your will.

Because retirement means planning for the future as well as the present, women in the know understand the necessity of checking now with their Traveler's man to make sure their families have proper life insurance coverage. Remember, a happy and carefree retirement is up to you.

## Sportsman Show Goes Statewide

"The Michigan Sportsman" becomes a statewide television program on July 5 when it makes a debut on WXYZ-TV, Ch 5, Bay City.

The program began in 1966 on WXYZ-TV Detroit. It will be available to an estimated 90 per cent of state television viewers on a five-station hook-up. It is carried at 6:30 Saturday evenings in Detroit and 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays by the four update stations. Already receiving the program are stations serving Kalamazoo, Cadillac and Sault Ste. Marie.

## Name Campbell WXYZ President

The American Broadcasting Company announces the appointment of John E. Campbell as president of WXYZ-TV's Owned Stations Division.

John J. McMahon will leave as vice-president and general manager of WXYZ-TV to assume Campbell's job on the west coast.

Dean McCarthy will return to Detroit as general manager of WXYZ-TV after spending six months as program director for WBKB-TV Chicago.

ended to allow the department to limit numbers of commercial fishermen, designate areas where they can operate and the amounts of fish they may take, and regulate the gear they can use. The Department view is that such controls are essential to protect the Great Lakes fishery and to insure at the same time a healthy commercial industry.

HB 3978, to authorize a statewide Nov. 5 referendum on a proposal to issue \$100 million worth of bonds for recreation purposes. Each house has passed a bill by the necessary two-thirds vote, but again there are differences to be resolved. A compromise means authorizing a referendum on a \$335 million bond issue for water pollution control has already been approved.

HB 2157, to rename the Department of Conservation as the "Department of Natural Resources." This measure has passed both houses but such amendments by the Senate require action by the House.

**BILLS APPROVED** during this year's session include:

SB 808 -- Authorizes township boards to spend township funds for tourist promotion.

SB 807 -- Prohibits importation of fish or fish eggs into Michigan without a Conservation Department permit. This protects against introduction of undesirable species.

SB 806 -- Corrects an oversight in the law allowing Armed Forces personnel officially stationed in Michigan to purchase resident hunting and fishing licenses, by specifying that Air Force and Coast Guard personnel are included.

SB 809 -- Permits the Conservation Commission to join with other states in establishing uniform fishing regulations for the Great Lakes.

SB 810 -- Makes it illegal to catch fish solely for the purpose of taking their eggs. This will stop the practice of catching female steelhead trout, stripping their eggs and returning them to the water. Unless done by an expert, this injures or kills the fish.

SB 898 -- Makes those state-owned lands in northern Michigan which have been purchased by the Conservation Department (but not those obtained through tax reversion) subject to payments in lieu of taxes based on assessed valuation, rather than flat 20 cents per acre. It is estimated that 675,000 such acres will be "taxed" at about \$700,000, payable by General Fund appropriation. Southern Michigan lands already are "taxed" according to assessed value.

SB 939 -- Increases the agent's fee on hunting licenses from 15 to 25 cents, by adding a 10-cent service charge to the cost of the license. The Conservation Department will get the same amount of revenue from the license as before.

SB 960 -- Gives the Water Resources Commission authority to regulate filling, grading and other uses of the flood plains, channels or beds of streams. This is intended as both a flood control and pollution prevention measure.

HB 2571 -- Strengthens the Inland Lakes and Streams Act by making it illegal to dig a ditch or channel connecting to an existing waterway without a permit. This is intended to control canal-type real estate developments.

HB 2621 -- Provides a simpler way for determining the ordinary high water mark of the Great Lakes. This will make it easier for lakefront owners to know where they can

and cannot dredge, fill or put structures of any kind.

HB 2846 -- Amends and strengthens a 1956 act providing for state grants to local governments for sewage treatment facilities, by making it possible for local units to take maximum advantage of federal aid programs. State grants of 25% of the total project cost could be matched by 50% federal grants, leaving 25% to be financed locally.

HB 2889 -- Does for the Great Lakes what HB 2571 does for the inland waters.

HB 2940 -- Allows cities and villages to create historical commissions and issue revenue bonds to finance their functions.

HB 3265 -- Provides that violators who take fish illegally must reimburse the state for their value at a rate of \$5 each for fish weighing less than a pound and \$5 to \$10 per pound for larger fish. This is similar to a law passed last year requiring such payments

for illegal game.

HB 3410 -- Establishes a "safety zone" around all buildings within 150 yards of any shooting without express permission of the owner. An exception is made for waterfowl hunters shooting over water in front of a building.

HB 3423 -- Extends to the Great Lakes the Conservation Commission's authority to restrict harvests in order to protect a fish or game species. This authority previously was limited to inland areas. The need to further protect muskellunge in Lake St. Clair was the immediate reason for the bill.

HB 3424 -- Adds moose and wild turkeys to the list of animals for which violators must reimburse the state. The price is \$200-\$300 for moose, \$100-\$200 for turkeys.

HB 3425 -- Makes a number of changes in the game laws, including establishing a statewide archery deer season Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, except during the firearms deer season (former closing date was Nov. 5 in Upper Michigan); extends the Upper Peninsula season on snowshoe hares and woodchucks through Mar. 31 (formerly closed Mar. 1); sets a more liberal grouse season in northern Zones 1 and 2, opening Sept. 15 and closing the day before the deer season (Nov. 14 this year). The former season was Oct. 1-Nov. 10.

HB 3430 -- Non-residents may not take minnows or wigglers for commercial sale. Both are in short supply, and available stocks will be reserved for resident dealers.

HB 3495 -- Extends the deadline for removing ice shanties from Lake St. Clair. Owners of 10 or more rental shanties must remove them when ice becomes

unsafe; others must get them off by the Sunday following Feb. 20.

HB 3521 -- Opens the season on pike, walleyes and muskellunge on May 1 (instead of May 21) in Whitney Bay, Pike Bay, Island Harbor, the Les Cheneaux Channels, Potagami Bay and some waters south of Drummond Island, all in northern Lake Huron.

HB 3575 -- Requires that snowmobiles be registered every three years for a \$5 fee and that registration numbers be displayed on the machines. Also restricts use of snowmobiles on public highways and prescribes various regulations for their safe operation.

control authority over commercial applicators of pesticides.

HB 3728 -- Transfers enforcement of the Watercraft Licensing and Tonnage Act from the Department of State to the Waterways Division. (This act applies only to certain boats used in the Great Lakes and should not be confused with the boat registration law.)

HB 3852 -- Authorizes a statewide referendum Nov. 5 on a proposed \$335 million clean water bond issue.

HB 3876 -- Prohibits sale in Michigan of pesticides for uses not specifically approved by the Department of Agriculture. This closes a loophole which permitted pesticides to be registered "under protest" and used for purposes which the Department did not approve.

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