

A View From The Governor's Office

When the General Assembly sent the legislation which permits the State Government to spend money for the next year over to my desk for signature last week, a curious thought occurred.

What, exactly, does \$1,713,410,398 in general appropriations mean to us? What does \$1.71 billion really stand for?

People have always needed safety and the chance to gather the basic necessities of life. A long time ago we found there is safety in numbers. Some people could guard the group while the others worked. The guards were paid a percentage of the worker's goods.

As life became more complex, guarding the group and handling the politics of satisfying as many members of the group as possible became a very complex job. Government was created.

Land, water, fresh air, food, money — all are in demand in modern life. In a huge State, like Pennsylvania with more than 11 million people, there is competition for everything we value in life.

That's where politics comes in. The government is, in effect, appointed by the people to hear the demands of all the different groups of people in Pennsyl-

vania, weigh the advantages and disadvantages of giving some of our resources to one group or another, make decisions, and carry them out.

The Government's resources are money, from taxes and other sources. The demand for a share of the Government's resources comes from every corner of the Commonwealth.

Our job, in State Government, would be simple — if only there were enough resources available to the State to give everybody all he asked.

The truth is there are many more very worthwhile causes than there is money to spend.

For instance, education. For the last 200 years, the United States has pegged its hopes to the dream of educating every citizen to the highest possible level. But how do you give every man equal education?

The answer is, the Government attempts through its best judgment to provide facilities which can attract students and then teach them in a proper manner. To this end we are spending the better part of \$1 billion of State money on education in Pennsylvania.

And, then, there are those people who are seriously ill, infirm with age, or too young to

care for themselves. They, too, need help from State Government. When all else is said and done, Americans have a lot of human kindness.

For these people, we will spend about \$250 million in the next year. For example, \$13.4 million will be spent on mental health centers in communities across the State. With these centers spread out across Pennsylvania, disturbed persons can be treated better and closer to home.

Sewage must be removed. We entrust that job to our governments. This year the State Health Department will distribute \$8 million as the State share of the cost of operating 652 local sewage disposal plants in the Commonwealth.

There are more people today than ever before, so we need more jobs. There are many Pennsylvanians earning wages below the poverty level; they need better jobs. To create more jobs all across the Commonwealth, the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority will receive \$186 million. They will loan the money to businesses which need money to set up new plants or expand others, thus creating more jobs. We expect to gain 50,000 new jobs for that \$186 million in the next year.

There are several thousand severely handicapped children

New Honey-Fruit Spread Developed At Penn State

A promising new table spread, fruit-flavored honey, has been developed by the Agricultural Experiment Station at The Pennsylvania State University.

If as good as surveys indicate, fruit-flavored honey should increase sales of this product, says Robert Berthold, Jr., graduate assistant working on the experiments in blending honey and fruits.

"Our surveys found that many potential users of honey think it lacks variety in flavor or is too sweet. By adding dried fruits, we get a tangy, sweet-sour taste. In sampling honey blended with apricots, about 80 percent of the persons who said they didn't like honey, liked it with apricots," he states.

Large batches of the new hor-

in our State. They are deaf, blind, have cerebral palsy, or have muscular dystrophy. They are not able to attend schools, so we will spend \$8 million to give special education to some 4,300 of these youngsters.

With increased education, libraries and their facilities are very much in demand. We have tried to find some money to support them. Next year we'll spend about \$5 million to help support 533 libraries across the State.

The list of programs and services is long and shows that Pennsylvania is a State dedicated to investing in its people. The General Appropriation Bill is truly a human investment plan for all Pennsylvanians.

ey-fruit spread, made on commercial size equipment, were as tasty or better than small amounts made in the original experiments. Berthold used a very finely crystallized honey. Thicker than the liquid variety, it does not run, eliminating the complaint that honey is messy.

Both sun-dried apricots and freeze-dried strawberries were found to have long shelf-life and, if anything, the flavor improved in time. Concentrations of 7 percent apricot, or 2 percent strawberries, produced a balanced sweet-sour flavor. As other tangy fruits such as cherries, pineapples, and cranberries become available in dried form, they will be tested with honey.

One honey packer has already gone into production with the new product. At present only the apricot and strawberry flavors are being marketed. Sales may become a boon to beekeepers and packers. For a number of years beekeepers have seen the per capita consumption of honey decrease while per capita consumption of most other agricultural products has remained steady or increased.

Light Up

An effective farmyard lighting system is an aid to safety and convenience. Extension agricultural engineers at The Pennsylvania State University, suggest a combination of yard lights on poles and flood lights located over entrances to farm buildings.

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