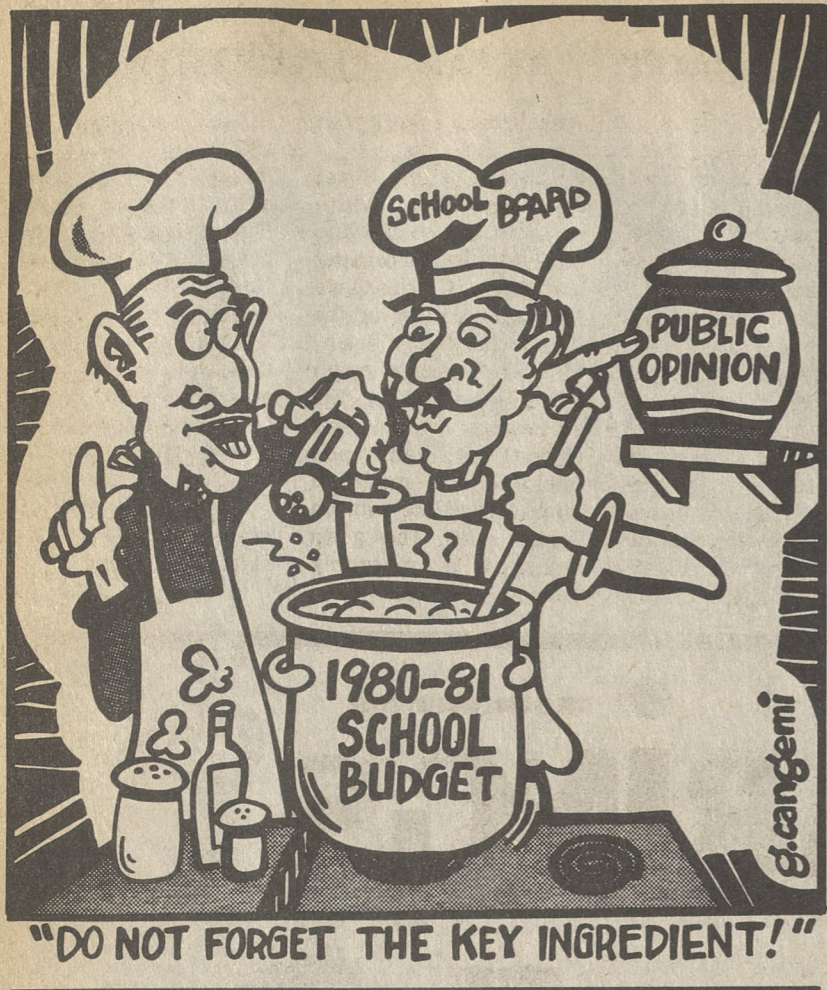


Comment/Opinion

The vote counts.....



State Notes

by Rep. Frank Coslett

AFTER considerable behind-the-scenes maneuvering and a House floor debate that lasted until 3 a.m., the General Assembly finally passed a new state budget. No tax increases are contained in the \$6.8 billion spending plan, which was adopted more than two weeks ahead of the June 30 deadline. In the course of its marathon session, the House also passed a separate \$1 billion budget for the state Transportation Department.

AS A curtain-raiser to the budget votes, the House approved a key piece of legislation that will permit heavier trucks to travel on Pennsylvania's highways in exchange for higher registration fees. The revenue measure is expected to generate an additional \$95 million for road repairs. In another important vote, the House overwhelmingly passed a bill that would make \$13 million in mass transit funds more readily available to rural and suburban counties.

A BIPARTISAN group of 17 state representatives has launched a legal assault on a federal program that would require many Pennsylvania motorists to have the pollution-control devices on their cars inspected annually. The inspection program was triggered by two lawsuits filed several years ago, and the House members are now asking federal court to determine whether they have the right to intervene in those proceedings.

AT THE request of Gov. Thornburgh, the statewide grand jury began an inquiry into allegations that the April 24th drawing of the Daily Number Game was rigged. Winning number 666 produced a record payoff of \$3.5 million, and there have been persistent rumors that Pittsburgh mobsters engineered a fix in order to discredit the state lottery system and thereby boost their own illegal gambling profits.

SB 10—Bigger Trucks

During its all-night session last week, which resulted in adoption of a Pennsylvania general fund budget well ahead of the deadline for only the eighth time in the past 19 years, the House of Representatives felt obliged to first act on a partial solution to the PennDOT fund shortage.

By a vote of 105 to 85, the House passed Senate Bill 10, which had gotten through the Senate a week earlier by a bare majority of 26 to 22, to generate an estimated \$95 million for PennDOT through higher license and other fees.

About \$32 million of that will be paid by truck owners, who will be allowed to operate trucks weighing up to 80,000 pounds, compared to the current limit of 73,280 pounds as allowed in neighboring states.

The bill passed over the strenuous opposition of lawmakers from western Pennsylvania, who argued the heavier rigs would be more dangerous and would damage highways.

BURNHAM

by L.D. Burnham

So finally summer is here. Ah, vacations, picnics, swimming, tennis...summer at last. Along with summer there comes certain dangers and considerations. Many people are poorly informed concerning this, the most toasty season of the year.

One must be cautious. One must be prepared. One must be thoughtful. Of course, there are the basics. Summertime is time to enjoy the water. Splashing and splashing, one can easily lose one's head and forget basic pool maintenance. Pool grease is a must. Yes, it's pool grease that insures smooth entry into and exit from the water.

And remember, after swimming for extended periods of time, flex muscles into the tensed state for at least an hour. This will aid in smoothing wrinkly, prune-like skin. Grimace to clear up the face. Who

Rep. Fred Trello (D-Allegheny) quoted an Illinois authority when he argued that a truck only five percent above the current limit—at 76,940 pounds—will damage a highway as much in eight years as a 73,280 pound rig in 20 years.

Truckers aren't very happy about the final bill, either. Although they have long sought the 40-ton weight allowance, they say the high fees to be charged truckers from other states will cost Pennsylvania truck lines \$100,000 or more as other states retaliate.

House members voting FOR SB 10 included Frank Coslett, Rep. House members voting AGAINST the bill included Fred Shupnick, Dem.

HB 1623—Budget

Moving on to the budget itself, House members refused to go along with a proposal of Gov. Thornburgh to reduce the gasoline tax from 11 to five cents per gallon, and to make gasoline subject to the six percent sales tax instead, which would have generated an additional \$100 million

for highway repair and maintenance.

A Thornburgh proposal for funding benefits for the elderly directly from state lottery proceeds, deleting that cost from the general fund budget, was also ignored.

Having passed the truck bill a little after midnight, the House then disposed of the budget in relatively short order, taking the final 118-69 vote at about 3 a.m. on Thursday.

Again Coslett favored the bill and Shupnik opposed. HB 1623—Senate Budget The Senate, which had been waiting since 6 Wednesday evening for the House to act on the budget, wasted little time in debate. At about 4:30 a.m. it adopted the House-passed budget bill, 33 to 15. Senators voting FOR the budget included Frank O'Connell, Rep.

HB 1527—Liquor Sales

Last week the Senate also approved but amended a House bill to allow alcoholic beverages to be sold

on election days by certain hotels and restaurants; the ones already allowed to operate on Sundays. The vote was 36-10.

The original bill was designed to make penalties more strict for out-of-state brewers and distillers selling products in Pennsylvania, who violate Pennsylvania law. Along with the existing suspension of the right to ship beverages into Pennsylvania for periods of six months to three years, the bill adds fines of \$500 to \$10,000.

That part was allowed to stand by the Senate, which also changed the definition of the term "incorporated unit of a national veterans' organization" to require that the local organization have at least 50 members and have been organized before January 1, 1978, to obtain a liquor license.

Because of the Senate changes, the bill must now go back to the House for concurrence.

Senators voting FOR the bill included O'Connell.

Skin-tights taboo

wants to spend the summer looking like a piece of crumpled paper?

And need I add, never go swimming in your Calvin Kleins. No, never. Even your Jordaches are taboo. This popular fad can cause calamity, nay...disaster. What happens when these skin-tights you've poured yourself into get wet? They shrink as soon as they contact the sun and open air. Yes, they shrink right on your lower body.

This shrinkage can cause everything from voice change to sterility. Many a summer has been cut short by a pair of impacted jeans.

What else comes with summer? Why, the grill and the barbecue, naturally. Avoid prolonged chewing of hamburgers and hot dogs. Better yet, don't chew them at all. Stuff them in and wash them down with your favorite summer beverage.

Yes, swallow them whole. It's so much safer. First, it's common

knowledge that such grilled summer favorites are composed mostly of bone and hoof. Would you consider it wise to chew a cow hoof?

More startling are the recent reports that exaggerated use of the jaw hinge can lead to cancer. That's right. You never thought all that grinding and mashing didn't take its toll? Two cases of jaw-hinge cancer were reported last year. Both victims had chewed food for their entire lives. Conclusive proof.

What's the newest summer rage? Why, it's testing the charcoal in the store. And while it's still in the bag! It's driving store owners simply crazy. Some customers use the smoke as a diversion to rip off proof of purchase tags from other products. While this may sound like great summer fun getting that burning charcoal bag home can prove to be a hot time.

But then again, isn't summer supposed to be a hot time? Well...? Is that good or bad? "Some like it

hot," the saying goes. That's good. But sometimes it gets "hot as hell." That's bad.

A gambler might yell, "I'm hot, baby!" That's good. But if the place gets raided someone might later explain, "Things got hot so we left." That's bad.

If business is going well someone might say, "We're red hot." That's good. But when the boss gets nervous his employees might complain, "The heat's on." That's bad. You may come up with a great idea and people might say, "We're really hot on this new thought." That's good. But then someone else might say, "It's not so hot." That's bad.

So the summer is hot. Is that good or bad? I guess there's not much we can do about it one way or the other. The seasons come and go. Nothing ever changes much. So summer is finally here... and as the old saying goes, "If you can't stand the heat..."

Does Kingston Twp. give 'squeaky wheel service'?

Thomas Peeler, 3rd, Warden Street, Trucksville, notified the Kingston Township Board of Supervisors Wednesday night of his concern regarding a very unusual situation which occurred at his home recently.

Peeler's experience with the township road department could come as a surprise to those homeowners who think they own all of their driveway, beautiful dogwood trees, and forsythia bushes bordering their alleged property line.

Peeler, in his letter to the supervisors outlined his story in a two-page typewritten document. It stated that without any prior notification, his wife was awakened by the sound of a jackhammer on their property. When asked, the jackhammer operator told the Peelers he was working in their driveway under the authority of Kingston Township. By the time the worker had left, Peeler claimed one quarter of his driveway, blacktop and all, had been destroyed.

He also related that this is not the first time his property has been entered by officials unannounced and been tampered with.

In this latest incident, Peeler said

he not only received no prior notification of the action, but he was not even aware a problem existed. If so, he continued, he might have been given a chance to correct it.

According to reports at the meeting, a water drainage problem existed in the area of the Peelers and the supervisors believed their action could remedy the situation.

Peeler's letter advised the supervisors to eliminate this "squeaky wheel" approach to service. Standing in for Solicitor Ben Jones, township manager Mark Kunkle gave the township's legal view of the issue. The portion of Peeler's driveway destroyed by the township belonged to the township as it was on their right-of-way. Kunkle insisted the township had every legal right to do what they did, and Peeler will understand.

However, the Peeler driveway destroyed by the township will be completely restored by Kingston Township including blacktopping.

All five supervisors made little or no comment regarding the incident. Chairman Ed Price, Jr., said he believes the major problem is "he (Peeler) was not notified."

Peeler said he hopes other tax-

payers of the township are not treated in the manner he was.

Because the township has a 33 ft. right-of-way, it may be wise for residents to check with them regarding installation of driveways or border shrubs or fences and even trees.

Kingston Township owns a right-of-way, 33 feet from the middle of the road in front or to the side of one's property. On that right of way, the township may, as in Peeler's case, rip up a driveway, or erect traffic signs. There may exist a potential for abuse, and the Peeler case certainly attests to that.

In other action brought before the board, David Thomas, Shadestree Road, Shavertown, was hired as supervisor of the summer recreation program at Center Street Park. Aides will be Donna Garber and Lorraine Kanasky. About nine applications were submitted. There is no parking allowed on the road by the Center Street park.

Mrs. Sharon Mathers asked the supervisors for use of a room for young boys wrestling conditioning. Dan Wisnieski said the meeting room would be the likely spot, "as the other rooms are much too small

to work out in."

Manager Mark Kunkle will discuss the matter with the custodian, Harry Owens as "it is up to Harry as he is in charge of maintenance." Supervisors suggested to Mrs. Mathers the morning hours would be preferable as there are many nighttime activities at the building.

Bids for 213 new street signs were opened and held in abeyance for review as Bradco's was not tabulated but the bid was assumed to be five percent of the bid bond enclosed. Bids were Bradco, \$6,778; Finer Lines of Pottstown, \$7,817.32; and Quaker Empire Construction Company, \$10,260.50. A grant will pay most of the costs.

Asked what the township is going to do with the old signs which are still serviceable, Manager Kunkle said they will be used as replacements. Some have indicated a desire to purchase certain ones for rec rooms, etc., but they are not for sale.

(Continued from P. 3) WEPCO

unemployment in Luzerne County has averaged 9.1 percent over the past 12 months," Stengel said.

Wepco Inc. is a family business owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. William E. Paulsen, with offices located in the Dallas Shopping Center.

Paulsen is president of Wepco and his wife, Winnie, is secretary-treasurer. As spokesman for the corporation, Mrs. Paulsen said that several sites in the Back Mountain and Pittston areas are under consideration and they hope to make a decision in the very near future. Once the site is determined the Paulsens plans to have the ground breaking for the new 10,000 square foot facility in August. Target date for completion is December and Paulsens hope to be in the new building by Christmas. They will re-locate both their Dallas office and the storage area they now lease in the Back Mountain.

Mrs. Paulsen said that plans for the building are now being finalized. She also expressed their sincere appreciation to Richard Teichman, Jr., director of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce Industrial Development, who was extremely helpful in

Gary McGoog may visit Daley benefit

Mrs. Allan Ridall, friend and former neighbor of the Daley family, reports that a benefit for Michael Daley, Dallas 18-year-old, who was severely burned in an automobile accident, will be held June 19, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Hearstone Pub, Dallas.

The benefit will be a Blue Grass and Country music concert featuring the Back Mountain String Band, Northeastern Country Band, Citizens Band and folk singer, Gary McGoog. A surprise visit from a

(Continued from P. 3)

Dallas schools

Horn, custodian in the district, effective July 22 was approved with regrets. Van Horn will be retiring after 10.2 years of service with the district. He will receive his accumulated sick leave pay in ac-

cordance with the DSSPA.

Funds from the concert will be used to help defray expenses incurred through Michael's hospitalization at the Crozier Burn Center, Chester, Pa.

Donation will be \$3 and tickets may be purchased at the door. Admission is limited to persons 21 years of age or older.

Mrs. Ridall reported that the victim is still critical and is running a high temperature. Surgery for the initial skin grafting has been started during the past week.

COCKLEBURRS AND CORN

by Dick Swank
Pennsylvania Press Bureau

Another news network, this one solely for the cable viewer, will not enhance the accepted attention span of the American suckers who seek 24 hour surveillance of the world to help keep their minds off balance. Crisis has become so much a part of the everyday needs of boobs that without regular dosage cerebral constipation creeps up and chokes them.

So contagious has the disease become that national polls can reflect idiocy leaping from one accepted view point to another almost overnight. A candidate for high office can be in the pits and then soar like a rocket within a matter of a day or two or less. Fifty odd hostages held in duress vile can bring us to the brink of war and within the time it takes to blow the top off a volcano or to set up a stop-over point for a Cuban immigration, they are lucky to demand air time with Pete Rose.

It all makes me feel as though I had sound advice when my Uncle Brook told me to forget ambition and knuckle down to job printing and the establishment of a sheet that did not get into much more depth than whether Aunt Minnie had been to sewing circles last Wednesday night

or Epworth League. Critics of the press—and in recent times the tube and the wireless jabberwocky boxes—tend to berate all of it as a gigantic harbinger of bad news.

Is there an editor even half alive who has not had it said, "Why don't you print some good tidings instead of all this disaster stuff?" We point out to them that if they fall back on the old village paper of their childhood they might find America still maneuvers itself through time and space with a lot of fine values left.

The entire country may seem to be going down the rat hole but if you pick up a weekly newspaper almost anywhere from here to the shining seas on either end of the continent you will find good spirits and eager anticipation for the next day a paramount part of our people.

As I write this I do not know if there is some juicy scandal in the paper, or a dire prediction that the world is about to cave in, but I am willing to wager that if we do it will be overbalanced by any number of stories about the people who live in this community doing good deeds, thinking optimistic thoughts and eager to meet whatever comes head-on with fortitude and common sense.

Every week in this paper is an illustration of zest for America as it is.



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