

No state funds for medicaid abortions

In the final week of its 1980 session, the House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly to cut off state funds for Medicaid abortions except in cases of rape, incest or danger to the mother's life. The state last year paid for more than 10,300 abortions at a cost of \$2.9 million, and anti-abortion lawmakers contend that most of those operations were performed for convenience, rather than for legitimate medical reasons. The legislation is now in the hands of Gov. Dick Thornburgh, who has not yet said whether

he will sign it. Working at a brisk pace to clear its calendar, the House passed two other much-publicized measures: a "deadly force" bill giving homeowners more leeway to shoot an intruder, and a bill that will permit the victims of malicious lawsuits to countersue for damages. The House also voted to outlaw the possession or use of the drug-related utensils that are found in so-called "head shops." State Sen.-elect Milton Street of Philadelphia, a black activist whose talent for confrontation

politics kept him in the headlines throughout his one term in the House, stunned his Democratic colleagues by announcing that he has joined the Republican Party. Street, who will become chairman of the Senate's Committee on Community and Economic Development, said that he was making the switch because of the Democratic Party's "insensitivity to the needs of the poor and the blacks." An estimated 600,000 low-income households in Pennsylvania are ex-

pected to benefit from the state's \$119 million program to provide home-heating aid this winter. Welfare Secretary Helen O'Bannon said that payments would average between \$270 and \$300, depending on a family's size, its income and the type of fuel used. Applicants should telephone their county assistance offices for an appointment.

Ability is a poor man's wealth. —M. Wren.



DALLAS OFFICE OPENS—Officers of Northeastern Bank and Back Mountain area officials marked the opening of a new office with a ribbon cutting at the bank's new office at Route 309 and Demunds Road, Dallas Township. The new office offers all retail banking services, including safe deposit boxes, five teller stations and three drive-in lanes. Parking for 20 cars is adjacent to the office. Grand opening celebration of the new office will continue through Saturday, Dec. 6. Taking part in the ribbon cutting, left to right, are Richard Webster, regional vice president; Robert J. Williams, senior vice president, community banking; David L. Tressler, president and chief executive officer; Glen Howell, manager, Dallas Office; and Edward Boltz, vice president and regional credit manager. (Mark Moran Photo)

COCKLEBURRS AND CORN

by Dick Swank
Pennsylvania Press Bureau
As surely as it takes nine hundred upon one hundred bucks to make a thousand and as surely as one million naturally grows to one billion and as surely as the average tax-payer cannot carry in his pocket or even in his new compact automobile what it costs to conduct a presidential election. You bet we dropped a bundle in the last election. Matching funds from the public coffers is an idea that appeals to common cause and Nader vision and is a condition that inveighs virtuous women into underwriting debates. But I abhor the havoc it creates. No matter how the cigar-chomping bosses of yesterday's caucuses burned the midnight oil—contributors to the energy crunch—they managed to shorten the process of finding proper candidates and funding them with an overspill of corporate dollars. That financed the quadrennium show without irritating the skin underneath our collars. It doesn't take hibernation in

some ivy-draped academy. For most of us know that tampering with the long held truths generated by the two-party system and the significance of the bottom line and the certainty that politics is better left to the politicians; it puts sealing wax on this soliloquy. More evidence, if I needed it, came about half past eight. Of election evening when I no longer needed to wait. To discover that what computers had led me to believe would happen when they were first used by networks two decades ago had now come to fruition. And I could abandon my prone position. Reassemble my potato chips and liquid refreshments and the pads and pencils and the charts containing all the electoral votes of all the states and how the popular vote would stack up and all the marvelous helps that used to make election time one in which hope could outlive hope and weary hour follow wearier as I waited the last possible communication. As to who now would lead the nation.

The profundity of who will make the country work Suddenly depends upon the reportorial jerk. Who, consulting electronic props. Tells us where the voting stops. With the help of doggie food baggers and trash bag fillers and conjurers of underarm scent dispensers and concoctors of butter that tastes like margarine and designers of cutie hamburgers and other great comforts that spill from the cornucopia that might better have been lost. The next president can be gotten without cost. Herewith, I entertain a motion: Wherein we hire the firm of Walter, Wawa and Reynolds (Kronkite, Barbie and Frank) to insert five votes each from their already predictable key precincts and, ignoring the risks of naming Bush, Kennedy, Mondale, Anderson and Ford, or the hidden quotient X, dispense entirely with the next four years of speculation; we accept their verdict, and so go onward with utter faith and our deepest devotion.

Legislature passes money bills

by David M. Cleary
Harrisburg Bureau
During a post-election session that lasted only three days, Pennsylvania's legislators concentrated on money bills. They gave final approval to more than \$82 million in construction and repair funds, including \$43 million for a new state office building in Harrisburg. Another appropriation of \$37 million is to improve bus transportation in various parts of the state. The new Harrisburg building is to be occupied primarily by the Department of Environmental Resources, which has been housed in several Harrisburg locations, largely in rented space, since its birth in 1970. Plans for that building, endorsed by both Gov. Thornburgh and former Gov. Milton J. Shapp, had called for the first two floors to be rented to business firms. Rent money was to help pay off the building's cost over the years, but that part of the proposal was scrapped on the final legislative day. Other capital expenditures have been approved for a new armory at Fort Indiantown Gap, repairs and renovations at state colleges, and a long list of smaller projects—including a boat launching area for the State Fish Commission on the Susquehanna River. On the mass transit front, almost \$34 million of the \$37 million allotted will go for the purchase of buses, which—barring unforeseen developments—should meet the replacement needs of 14 urban and two smaller transit systems until the end of 1984. The buses are to be purchased by PennDOT rather than the separate transit systems, with the thought

that the single order for many vehicles will provide better leverage for getting desired modifications, as well as a better price. The single order for many buses is also expected to be given priority over smaller ones by bus manufacturers. Unlike car makers, the bus builders are busy these days as high gasoline prices divert people from private cars to public transportation. In another transit appropriation, the state will provide \$878,000 toward the \$7 million cost of bringing Harrisburg's ancient rail-bus station up to modern standards. Legislators did not, however, deal with the problem of raising the needed money through new or increased taxes. Instead, they authorized bond issues to provide whatever funding cannot be met from current revenues. The state appropriations also set the stage for seeking federal grants. Power Balance in Senate State Rep. Milton Street, who declared last week that he'll be a Republican when he takes his seat in the State Senate, isn't expected to lose support of Philadelphia Democrats who elected him to that position. Over the years, as he staged demonstrations aimed at influencing Philadelphia's City Council and the state General Assembly, he has made clear that party label, isn't nearly as important to him as his advocacy of better life for black people. It was a black district that sent him to the House two years ago, and he will occupy the Senate seat being vacated by Sen. Herbert Arlene (D-Phila.) who is also black. As the Senate's first black Republican, he's telling his con-

stituents, he'll be on the majority side, able to do more for them than he could as a minority Senator. For one thing, he will be a committee chairman. Sen. Henry G. Hager (R-Williamsport) announced incident to Street's switch to the Republican ranks that a new committee on Community and Economic Development will be created, with Street as chairman. Hager, named as the candidate for Senate President Pro Tempore by the Republican Caucus, can make that promise with confidence; Street's switch gives the Republicans a 26-24 majority in the Senate even without the tie-deciding vote of Lt. Gov. William Scranton III.

Heating Assistance Applications Available The Department of Welfare, which had hoped to have applications ready by November 1 for people who qualify for state help in paying this winter's heating bills, ran into some delays. But the applications are available now, Welfare Secretary Helen B. O'Bannon has announced, and can be obtained from welfare offices in all counties, plus other locations. Anyone receiving a welfare grant is also eligible for help with energy bills, she said, and so are many others. Any person living on an income of less than \$4,738 a year is eligible. The limit on income rises with each additional member of the household. A family of four, for example, may have income up to \$12,420 in some counties and \$12,880 in others. Applications will be accepted until a \$119 million grant of federal funds is exhausted, Mrs. O'Bannon said.

Pa. Action Line

PENNSYLVANIA ACTION LINE looks forward to receiving your questions about Pennsylvania Government. Preference is given to matters of greatest statewide application, and questions may be sent by mail to: "PAL," 2717 N. Front St., Harrisburg, PA 17110. "PAL" cannot accept phone inquiries or acknowledge individual letters. QUESTION: I've heard that a consumer won a refund from his electric company even though he couldn't prove his meter was inaccurate. Is that true? ANSWER: Yes. Last Spring the Public Utility Commission adopted a policy of considering factors other than the meter test results when a consumer claims he was charged for more electricity or natural gas

than was used. During October, William Replegle of Williamsburg, Blair County, became the first consumer to get a refund under that policy. He did it by showing that the bill he got for March of this year was far higher than in March of previous years, even though there had been no change in energy usage on his farm and no increase in the number of occupants of his house. Records showed Replegle had used 2,400 kilowatt hours in March of 1977 and 2,420 in the same month of 1978. The PUC ordered Pennsylvania Electric Co. to base the bill for March of 1979 on 2,420 hours instead of the 3,400 shown on the meter. QUESTION: Several weeks ago the U.S. Congress passed a bill calling for a ten-week extension of

unemployment compensation payments. But our local unemployment office says it has no word about it from Harrisburg. P.T.L., Marion Heights ANSWER: When the bill was passed by the U.S. Senate, the Senators added some provisions that were not in the version previously adopted by the House, so it had to go back to the House for concurrence with the additions. And the U.S. House of Representatives has not yet taken that second vote. A spokesman for the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry sees little hope that the legislative action in Washington will be completed this year. So for the time being, at least, the time limit for unemployment compensation payments remains at 39 weeks.

THE FAMOUS COUNTRY STORE

dARING'S

STORE HOURS: Monday thru Sunday 8 A.M. - 9 P.M.
MEMORIAL HWY., DALLAS

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS

6 MORE WEEKS

START YOUR COOKBOOK COLLECTION NOW!

MEAT SPECIALS

- GRADE "A" SHURFINE TURKEYS 10-20 lb. **79¢**
- GRADE "A" BUTTERBALL TURKEYS 10-20 lb. **89¢**
- CHOICE BOTTOM ROUND ROAST **\$1.99**
- CHOICE BONELESS RUMP ROAST **\$2.19**
- CHOICE BONELESS EYE ROAST **\$2.69**
- CHOICE BONELESS SIRLOIN TIP ROAST **\$2.39**

PRODUCE

- YAMS **3 lb. \$1**
- CELERY **59¢**
- FLORIDA ORANGES **6/69¢**
- TANGERINES **12/\$1**
- LETTUCE **2/\$1**
- RED EMPEROR GRAPES **lb. 59¢**
- BANANAS **lb. 29¢**
- RED & GOLDEN DELICIOUS APPLES **lb. 39¢**

NR COUPON DARING'S

DIAMOND WALNUT MEATS

16 oz. pkg. **\$1.99**

One per family Expires Nov. 29, 1980

COFFEEMATE COFFEE CREAMER 16 oz. **\$1.35**

CRISCO SHORTENING 3 lb. can **\$2.19**

NEW SUNSHINE SNACK 'N SESAME **79¢**

HERSHEY'S CHOC. SYRUP 24 oz. btl. **\$1.29**

WISK Gal. Bottle **\$4.99**

V-8 JUICE 46 oz. **79¢**

NABISCO PREMIUM CRACKERS 1 lb. box Reg. Ret. 95¢ **75¢**

PLANTERS DRY ROASTED PEANUTS 24 oz. jar **\$2.39**

DIAMOND WALNUT MEATS WITH COUPON **\$1.99**

IMPERIAL MARGARINE 1 lb. qtrs. **69¢**

PEPPERIDGE FARM FROZEN POUND CAKE 10 3/4 oz. **\$1.09**

SANKA 1 lb. **\$3.59** CAN

LIPTON TEA BAGS 100 ct. **\$1.99**

CAMPBELL'S CHUNKY BEEF SOUP 19 oz. **89¢**

FURMAN'S WHOLE TOMATOES 30 oz. can **2/79¢**

DIAL BATH SIZE SOAP **2/89¢**

SMOKEHOUSE SPECIALS

DARING'S COUNTRY SMOKED MEAT LOAF **lb. \$1.59**

DARING'S COUNTRY SMOKED FRANKS **lb. \$1.59**

DARING'S SCRAPPLE & LIVER PUDDING AVAILABLE

KRAFT SPECIALS

KRAFT 32 OZ. MIRACLE WHIP **\$1.39**

KRAFT 10 OZ. CRACKER BARREL SHARP STICKS **\$1.49**

KRAFT 8 OZ. PHILADELPHIA CREAM CHEESE **79¢**

KRAFT 1/2 GAL. ORANGE JUICE **\$1.39**

KRAFT 1 LB. QUARTERS PARKAY MARGARINE **55¢**

KRAFT 12 OZ. SINGLES AMERICAN CHEESE **\$1.39**

DELI DELIGHTS

STORE SLICED COOKED HAM **lb. \$1.99**

WILSON SLICED WHITE AMERICAN CHEESE **lb. \$1.99**

JOY LIQUID DETERGENT 32 oz. **\$1.49**

CASCADE DISH DETERGENT 50 oz. **\$1.89**

DUNCAN HINES PEANUT BUTTER COOKIE MIX **89¢**

DUNCAN HINES Dbl. Choc.-Choc. Chip-Oatmeal Raisin COOKIE MIX **\$1.19**

2 LITER COCA-COLA, TAB, SPRITE **99¢**

HEINZ KETCHUP 32 oz. bottle **99¢**

SEALTEST COTTAGE CHEESE 12 oz. cont. **79¢**

KEEBLER SNACK CRACKERS 8 oz. box **79¢**

CAMPBELL'S CHUNKY SIRLOIN BURGER SOUP 19 oz. **89¢**

CAMPBELL'S CHUNKY VEGETABLE BEEF SOUP 19 oz. **89¢**

ELMDALE WHOLE KERNEL CORN 30 oz. can **4/\$1**

HANOVER VEG. SALADS 14 oz. jar **69¢**

FOLGER'S INSTANT COFFEE 10 oz. jar **\$3.99**

LA PIZZERIA PIZZA 9 oz. Reg. **\$2.49**

\$1.49