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Michigan Mirror

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

By GENE ALLEMAN

How to maintain public service of government, at home and elsewhere, despite today's post-war inflation which is yet to reach its crest, poses a top problem of acute proportions for Michigan's new state legislature.

Governor-elect Kim Sizer will deliver his inaugural message to legislators on January 2. At a good will dinner in Detroit the governor-elect told legislators that it was up to them to lead Michigan out of the financial wilderness created by the voters' diversion of 76 per cent of state sales tax revenues to home governments.

Regardless of what the legislature finally decides to do, it is apparent that a lot of people are going to be dissatisfied. They will be dissatisfied because they are dissatisfied with today's inflation—the root of the trouble.

Actually, the voters' dissatisfaction on Nov. 6 was prompted as much by the EFFECTS of inflation as by anything else. We registered our protest against shortages, strikes and high prices by marking our ballot accordingly. Government is blamed

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OUR DEMOCRACY—Freedom of the Press

THE RIGHT TO PRINT ONE'S IDEAS WAS FIRST ESTABLISHED IN AMERICA BY THE TRIAL OF JOHN PETER ZEMER. ASSISTED IN 1735 FOR CRITICIZING THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT IN HIS NEWSPAPER, ACQUITTED ON THE GROUNDS THAT HE HAD PRINTED THE TRUTH.



THROUGH FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND FREEDOM OF SPEECH—THE PEOPLE OF OUR DEMOCRACY HAVE ALWAYS ENJOYED THE CONSTITUTIONAL PRIVILEGE OF FREE AND OPEN DISCUSSION—ESSENTIAL SAFEGUARDS OF GOOD GOVERNMENT.

squarely with inflation in operating costs. The result was a voters' dissatisfaction with effects of inflation. It is very doubtful that this amendment would ever have been adopted in normal times. Inflation created the condition whereby voters acted as they did.

Now comes the news at Lansing that inflation of operating costs—higher cost of food, supplies, labor, etc.—will require higher appropriations for state departments and state institutions, such as prisons, hospitals and colleges. Request for legislative appropriations have risen to \$212,000,000 for the coming fiscal year. However, revenues are estimated at only \$144,000,000 because of diversion of 76 per cent of the sales tax revenue back to home governments.

The difference is \$68,000,000. The final amount may be less or more. Clarence W. Lock, deputy revenue commissioner, estimates the prospective deficit at \$53,000,000. He points out that state aid to local governments and public services has mounted from \$11,000,000 in 1932 to \$180,000,000 by last June 30. It will go higher next year at a time when the state is being asked to finance a veterans bonus, maintain facilities for education of veterans at colleges and otherwise provide services all of which have been authorized by

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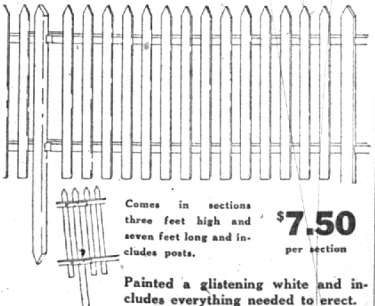
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FUEL AND BUILDERS SUPPLIES

Randall R. Penhale, state director of the school savings program sponsored by the U. S. treasury department, dropped in at the writer's office last week to discuss the need for thrift in today's period of fantastic inflation. Penhale's remedy: buy only what you need; save as much money as you can. Today's inflation is certain to be followed by times of great distress.

R. L. Lee To Speak At Windsor Meeting

Ralph L. Lee, 938 Lakewood, will be the speaker at the regular monthly dinner meeting of the Ontario chapter of the American Foundrymen's Association to be held at Windsor tomorrow, Dec. 6. Dr. Lee, who is on the employee cooperation staff of General Motors Corp. and widely known as an authority on personal relations, will discuss "Human Relations."

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