Michigan Mirror

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

By Gene Alleman

Running the Lansing one-man and jury, complicated as it must ve been, was "easy" compared th the staggering task now con- onting Governor Kim Sigler, top ecutive of the State of Michi- n.

When Sigler wanted to get ings done, he had only to talk ings over with Judge Leland W. rr, Ingham County Circuit urt judge. Sigler had no finan- al problem, as the State Legisla- re had provided adequate funds cover needs of investigation and osecution. The Carr-Sigler team inging unitedly into action, got sults in a hurry.

And results bring satisfaction th to the principals and to the xpayers.

* * *

Contrast the above, simplified of urse, with the 1947 job of being overnor of Michigan.

Instead of getting approval of e person for a program, Gover- r Sigler must submit his recom- endations to the Legislature, embership of which includes 130 rsons throughout Michigan and o represent all types of eco- omic activity.

Governor Sigler came to the nclusion in February that a solu- n of the state's present financial lemma was to re-submit the sales x amendment to the voters at e April spring election. The ouse of Representatives agreed th his recommendation, but the ogram was upset by a minority state senators who prevented e necessary two-thirds majority te for approval.

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Because of his experience with rtain lobbyists during the Lan- g grand jury investigations, overnor Sigler has carefully oided applying political pressure members of the Legislature d hence engaging in lobbying r his own administrative meas- es.

In his budget message to the gislature on February 11th, overnor Sigler expressed his per- nal distaste for lobbying in the llowing words:

"There is no lobbyist for the ed. There is no lobbyist for the entally afflicted. Dependent chil- en have no representatives, ex- pt those public-spirited citizens o have been giving of their time their behalf, and the consciences all good citizens. The taxpayer s no lobbyist. The man who is bur- ned with taxation and abhors the thought of new taxes has no lobbyist. You and I must represent all the people, without bowing to pressure groups, without being worried about political futures."

* * *

The Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, (March 25) held a public hearing on proposed legislation to register lobbyists at Lansing. The Capitol Club of Lansing, whose membership comprises secretaries of 37 state trade associations, presented a formal statement in which the Club raised no objections to registration of legislative agents or payment of a registration fee to a state office. The Club made one major objection, this being to granting power of subpoena to a member of the Legislature, such as the Ivan Johnson committee which sought to smear Mr. Sigler in 1946.

It is assumed by Capitol observers that the Legislature will enact some form of a law requiring registration of legislative agents—one of the administration reforms sought by Mr. Sigler as a result of his Lansing Grand Jury experiences.

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Instead of having ample funds to get things done, Governor Sigler is faced with the dire and grim prospect of a staggering deficit. The voters of Michigan approved a $270,000,000 bonus for veterans of World War II without authorizing any taxation whereby such payments are to be financed.

How the Michigan veteran bonus is to be financed is as much a mystery today as it was one year ago, prior to the Michigan primary, when candidates were making political capital of the proposal.

Only last week a majority of the members of the House taxation committee, headed by Representative Elton R. Eaton of Plymouth, rejected an administrative proposal to finance the bonus by a two-mill state property tax.

Such a tax would take priority over the needs of local government, and consequently it was vigorously opposed by representatives from the areas in which 15-mill limitation cities predominate.

The Legislature is now nearing the final week of the third month of continuous sessions, and Governor Sigler finds himself in the situation of having no answer yet to this financial problem involving a mere $17,000,000 a year.

* * *

Governor Sigler's former associate in Grand Jury days, Judge Leland W. Carr, is now a member of the Supreme Court of Michigan.

This court is currently about to begin deliberations into the constitutionality of the controversial sales tax amendment, as adopted by the voters last November.

Uncertain as to what decision the Supreme Court will make, the State Legislature has been virtually marking time on the entire problem of state finances.

* * *

During the primary and fall campaign, Governor Sigler made a number of commitments for speaking engagements throughout the state. Trying to live up to his promises, the Governor sought during the first several months of 1947, to fulfill all speaking engagements possible, despite the many involved problems before him, the greatest of which was a 130-man legislature in session.

Although the Governor delights in flying his own plane throughout the State on speaking engagments, he recently discovered that it was not possible to devote time to such engagements and at the same time meet the exacting demands of the Executive's office at Lansing. Consequently, many engagements have been cancelled by the Governor—and reluctantly so.

* * *

Michigan's new governor has proved so far to welcome suggestions and counsel from a variety of advisers. He seeks to get a cross-section of information in this manner, and when the time comes when a decision is required, he makes it promptly and then forgets the responsibility and turns immediately to new problems. This ability to throw off the responsibilities of an Executive office was one of the characteristics of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt. Running the state of Michigan is a lot more complicated job than running a Grand Jury investigation under the leadership of an able circuit court judge.

After a Hard Winter---This!

After a harrowing winter of the worst snows and blizzards in half a century, the English are plagued with floods. This woman at Maidstone, Kent, wears boots in her own home while she hangs up the children's laundry to keep it out of the River Medway's overflow, which is swirling right through the room.

High Pressure Fog Unit Built by Troy Twp. Firemen

The Troy Township fire department can now boast a new high pressure fog unit, built by a 20-man volunteer organization, Chief Ellis A. Kowinsky reported this week.

Work was begun on the unit last September, and it is now ready to answer fire calls on demand, the chief stated.

The fog unit has been mounted on a chassis which members of the Auxiliary Fire Department bought with funds raised by benefit socials.

As well as that unit, the department has procured and installed two siren signal stations, insulated and heated their headquarters in Big Beaver so that equipment would not be endangered by frost. Sirens and flasher units for their truck have been purchased and installed.

Prize Rookie

Lee Carey, 17, U. of Arizona freshman, is the Cleveland Indians' prize rookie of 1947. He plays outfield, and was given the highest bonus for signing ever paid by Cleveland, reportedly $15,000. He'll continue his college work and play ball the rest of the time. He's 5-11, weighs 175.

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Rosedale APRICOTS No. 2½ can 29c
Cut Rite WAX PAPER 125-ft. rolls—2 rolls 35c
Heinz KETCHUP—2 large bottles 49c
Premier MUSHROOMS pieces and stems—8-oz can 49c
SANI FLUSH large cans—dozen $2.19
Bulk PRUNES extra large size—2 lbs. 59c
Imported GOOD NEIGHBOR SARDINES—2 cans 47c
Kist Sweet ORANGE and GRAPEFRUIT SECTIONS No. 2 cans—2 for 45c
Heinz STRAINED BABY FOODS—3 cans 23c

CAMPBELL SOUPS
Mushroom, Chicken, Chicken Noodle and Beef Noodle ..... 2 cans 33c
Vegetable, Spinach, Pea and Asparagus 2 cans 27c
Tomato ..... 2 cans 21c

DREFT
Large pkg. 33c

SPIC and SPAN
Large pkg. 21c

Maxwell House COFFEE—lb. 47c

Swansdown CAKE FLOUR
Large Package 33c

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

U.S. No. 1 MAINE POTATOES
15-lb. bag 57c

Texas Seedless GRAPEFRUIT
Large size ..... 5 for 29c

Washington Fresh Frozen
Whole Strawberries and Red Raspberries ... lb. pkg. 49c

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3 lbs. 29c

PORTO RICAN YAMS
3 lbs. 29c

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Sultana Nut Frozen Cookies .... per doz. 33c
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