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64 Bills Passed Recently by Legislature Concerned Various Health Measures

EDITORS NOTE: This is the ninth in a series of articles on laws which were passed at the 1949 session of the Michigan Legislature. They affect you and every resident of Michigan. The entire series is prepared as a public service of the State Bar of Michigan under the direction of Russell A. Seast, Lansing, Chairman of the State Bar Committee on Legislation and Law Reform. The articles are objective in nature and do not attempt to comment on the relative worth of the legislative enactments but rather to present the most important facts and alert you to the changes these laws represent as they become effective on September 23, 1949.

The 1949 Michigan legislature passed a number of bills representing progressive health legislation but went on record as opposing legislation for socialized medicine—although 44 of the bills introduced dealt directly with or pertained to health.

By concurrent resolution adopted by both houses, the legislature memorialized congress as a national enactment of any legislation establishing socialized medicine.

The legislature thus went on record as favoring legislation designed to make health facilities available and yet keeping the responsibility therefor in the individual citizen and community.

Improved Health Facilities
One item designed to improve health facilities for the residents of this state was contained in the capital outlay bill, S.B. 335, which is entered as Public Act 314.

While the bill failed to provide all the funds needed for construction of new buildings at the University of Michigan Medical School and at Michigan State College it did authorize the appropriation of certain sums to be used for the preparation of plans and specifications for the projected buildings.

The University at Ann Arbor received \$100,000 of the \$2,500,000 it had requested for an outpatient clinic on the medical school campus while Michigan State received \$2,500,000 for building a School of Veterinary Medicine.

The intent of this legislation was not only to provide more services for the public but more particularly to increase the facilities for the training of more doctors.

Children Are Benefited
The children of the state were benefited by the passage of two laws, one relating to immunization, the other dealing with hearing problems. The immunization law, S.B. 91 provides free immunization of children by county health departments in the event they cannot obtain inoculation from a practicing physician.

The hearing bill, S.B. 121 provides periodic hearing screening tests of school children under the direction of the state health commissioner. Due to the small amount of funds available authority under this law will be used to expand the experimental program already in operation.

The payment of state funds for care of crippled children under the Crippled and Afflicted Children Act was increased under the provisions of Senate Bills 140 and 141. Payments under the new act allow a maximum of \$15.00 per day for cases of acute care while convalescent treatment is reimbursable at the rate of \$9.00 per day. Previously the maximums were \$11 and \$7 respectively.

Retires Monday
Isaac L. Gilbert, 890 Redding, division plant personnel supervisor at Detroit for the Michigan Bell Telephone Company, is retiring Monday after 33 years of service. He will be succeeded by Alfred L. Baumann, Jr., chief toll supervisor, Detroit.

Another bill, Senate Bill 239 provides for county departments of social welfare to be funded from patients, legally responsible relatives or from the estates of persons who previously have received hospital care or other forms of relief from the county.

These funds must be turned over by the departments of social welfare to the county treasurer for deposit to the fund from which these expenditures were originally made.

House Bill 446 treats the problem of instruction in sex hygiene by requiring that a program in the schools having to do with the subject of education may be taught if it is supervised by a registered physician, a registered nurse or a person who has a teachers certificate and who is qualified as a supervisor in the field of social hygiene.

Aid for Hospitals
Aid for small communities in need of hospitals and clinics is contained in the provisions of House Bill 117 which now allows two or more cities, townships or incorporated villages to unite in establishing a hospital authority for planning, promoting and constructing a community hospital.

The bill also authorizes the authority to levy taxes and issue bonds for the construction of a hospital.

Another bill the provision exempting transfers to foundations exclusively for benevolent, charitable or educational purposes from the payment of inheritance tax was clarified and somewhat amplified.

The final act passed in the 1949 Legislature relating to health care is the resident staff personnel at the University of Michigan hospital permission to make changes for treatment and care if the patient is covered by health and accident insurance.

The final article in the series appearing next week will feature a round-up of general legislation.

Change Payment to Counties
Payments to the counties of Michigan for hospital care were changed somewhat by Senate Bill 96. Previously these payments were made after approval by the probate court in the county. This transfers the authority for granting approval to the departments of social welfare in the county.

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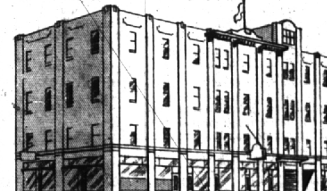
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District 1 Scouts Will Have Annual Dinner Thursday

Boy Scout units from Birmingham, Franklin, Southfield and the other areas comprising District One will have their annual four-course dinner at Lincoln high school, Ferndale, next Thursday evening, Nov. 10.

Dinner plans this year will be slightly altered. Parents and committeemen, with their wives, will have their own "Pot Luck" banquet and table, with their leader as guest of honor. The groups will include the committeemen of each pack, troop and Explorer group.

The speaker will be Dr. Tennyson Guyer of Findlay, Ohio. Philosopher, author and humorist, Dr. Guyer has traveled through most of the 48 states and Canada, on his speaking tours.

Robert B. Williams, district executive, said that since Dr. Guyer's exceptionally busy schedule was causing him to decline four out of five invitations to speak, he felt the district was most fortunate in having him present.

In addition to his role in the program will include music, fellowship, a tableau and a period of recognition for unit leaders, cubmasters, scoutmasters and explorer advisors of the district. Table reservations should be made at the scout headquarters, 51 West Warren, Detroit.

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