

Revenue from Stickers Would Aid State Parks

(Monetary needs of Michigan state parks promise to be a major topic of the current Legislative session. Here is the fourth and last in a series of articles designed to acquaint The Eccentric's readers with park problems and suggested possibilities for gaining additional park funds.)

Searching about for some means of gaining additional revenue for state parks, the Michigan conservation department has hit upon a plan to provide that revenue, a \$2 windshield "sticker".

How successful would such a plan be as a source of revenue?

Park administrators are relying heavily on a person's so-called "bargain" instinct in selling the sticker idea to the public. Basing their prediction on information from a Mich. State University poll, park officials estimate that most park users make four or more visits during the year and would therefore find it cheaper to buy a \$2 sticker once a year rather than pay 50 cents a visit.

The stickers might be sold at fishing and hunting license outlets and the parks. They would permit a car and its occupants to enter parks as often as desired for one year.

TAKING INTO account current attendance trends, it is estimated that roughly 1,000,000 stickers can be sold. If they each sell for 50 cents after deducting overhead and adding individual visit fees, could be approximately \$2,000,000 annually.

Endorsers of the sticker plan admit the estimated return might be substantially less than one-fourth of the 1957-58 requested appropriation, \$8,000,000. That's the reason for the department's recommendation that revenue from fees be used as supplementary funds, not as a means of reducing the regular appropriation.

If the conservation department has its way, the estimated \$2,000,000 "supplement" would be designated for capital improvements and acquisition of an additional 225,000 acres of potential park lands.

THIS, LIKE a fee plan in general, goes against tradition. "Use taxes" for that is what the fees will be, traditionally go to defray operation and maintenance expenses.

But according to Gerald Eddy, department director, records of past appropriations show Legislatures have been relatively generous in granting operational funds, while capital outlay funds have usually been smaller.

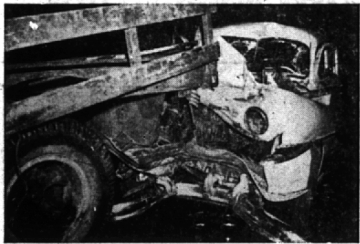
Michigan, if it installs a park fee system, will be setting no precedent, as travelers to other states can testify. Eighteen states charge either an entrance or parking fee to state park visitors.

Minnesota is the only state that has successfully employed the sticker plan. Providing the legislature okay's the sticker, Michigan will undoubtedly follow the program Minnesota pioneered in 1954.

MINNESOTA sold over 100,000 stickers in 1956 at one dollar each. Cost of administration was figured at about 10 per cent leaving 90 cents of each dollar as net revenue. Minnesota's 1955 attendance was approximately 2,200,000. (Michigan's parks had almost 18 million in the same year.)

Critics of admission fees point to the chronic evidence of vandalism and say that more money will be simply throwing good money after bad. The experiences of Minnesota and other fee-charging states, however, indicate that just the opposite is true. Vandalism has been extensively curbed because the public apparently respects more what it pays directly for than those things

HE THOUGHT HE WAS RIGHT



if you're like me. Says the Barrister

When it comes to matters of personal business and money matters, you usually "do it yourself"—but in this busy world of ours one often encounters someone with a power of attorney.

This legal sounding title doesn't make a lawyer out of you; it is simply a written document authorizing another person to act as one's agent or attorney. For example, you might give one to your wife during a prolonged absence or to an agent to buy or sell property or to your lawyer to handle certain important matters.

ANY PERSON legally competent to act for himself may give a power of attorney to another. A minor cannot. The person who delegates the power is called the principal and the person to whom the attorney is given is the agent or attorney in fact.

Other people can deal with the agent who has a power of attorney knowing that the law will enforce the obligation against the principal. Because the person giving the power is responsible for the acts of the agent, it is best to spell out the relationship definitely and clearly. There are two types of powers of attorney—general and special.

THE AGENT with a general power can act in all proper cases as if he were the person who gave him the power.

This covers a lot of ground. On the other hand, a special power gives authority to do only certain things, like sell your summer cottage or collect a debt.

A power of attorney is often useful and necessary but you should know your agent, be sure of your purpose and the power you wish to grant.

Portions of Emperor Hirohito's palace in Tokyo, damaged by U. S. bombing during World War II, will be repaired and renovated

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George was tired of trailing the truck ahead. It was big and bulky, and he couldn't see past it. George had been following the truck closely, waiting for an opportunity to pass. Finally it came. The truck slowed down for a turn. George kicked the accelerator and swung out sharply to clear the rear of the truck.

THE ONCOMING headlights fared up in his windshield so he hurriedly swung back into his lane... and right into the rear of the truck he'd been following!

Where George made his mistake was in following the truck too closely. He had failed to give himself room to see ahead before he began his swing and didn't leave room to return if he had to.

Had he been further back, he'd have provided safety room for seeing and maneuvering.

Oakland Bar Hosts Lectures for Nine Other Associations

The Oakland county bar association invited lawyers from the counties of Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Genesee, Livingston, St. Clair, Sanilac, Tuscola, Huron, and Washiaw, to another of its twilight institutes. Lectures were given Wednesday afternoon and evening at Cranbrook School.

The program was one of the best we have put together," said Verne C. Hampton, Pontiac lawyer and president of the host group. "The very important panel discussion on Michigan land title standards, for instance, consisted of 3 of the most qualified men in the state on this subject."

The evening speakers were State Bar President John W. Cumiskey of Grand Rapids, and Oakland County Circuit Judge H. Russel Holland.

John Manikoff, W. Long Lake road, Bloomfield Hills, association vice president, was program chairman.

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WHY?

"Blue Monday?"

These days of shortened work week, lengthened week-ends, we all claim privilege of being "blue" on Monday. But condition was once considered Monday workers who considered Monday their particular day of rest.

But somewhere in time, the Monday before Lent became a "lazy day" or holiday for everyone. Europe decorated its churches with blue flowers and ribbons that day. Sunday workers, resentful of sharing their holiday with Tom, Dick and Harry, termed the holiday "Blue Monday."

Who'll Volunteer?

Volunteers are needed every Friday to visit cancer patients. Summer replacements are needed in the office of the American Cancer Society. For further information, call South Oakland Volunteer Bureau, LI 7-3953, a United Community Services agency serving from 8 Mile road thru Birmingham-Bloomfield.

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