

Hail 'Vodka-Proof' Licenses Temperance, Tavern Groups Are United

Temperance groups and tavern owners, usually at odds with one another, have joined in praise of Michigan's new "tamper-proof" driver's license.

The crisp, easy-to-read, black-on-grey driver's license replaces the white-on-black photographic license which was relatively easy to alter or falsify.

Letters received by Secretary of State James M. Hare from both bar owners and church groups applauded the license as a device for helping to keep people under 21 years of age out of bars and taverns.

ROBERT L. HAMMON, editor of the Michigan Temperance Foundation's bi-monthly "Foundation Issue," wrote:

"Although we realize that the primary purpose of the new white-on-grey driver's license was not to aid in liquor law enforcement, we do feel that this will be an important by-product.

"With the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors being the problem that it is today, we welcome anything which will help curtail or eliminate this practice."

Ken Davidson, publisher of the Michigan Beverage News, which headlined the announcement of the tamper-proof license, wrote:

"ON BEHALF OF MICHIGAN'S alcoholic beverage licensees and others within the industry, the Michigan Beverage News wishes to express its appreciation to the department of state on the recent adoption of a new driver's license system which will, we believe, go a long way toward solving the vexing 'minor' problem for licensees."

"As you know, it has long been common practice among persons under 21 years of age to alter driver's licenses in order to obtain alcoholic beverages. In thousands of dollars in violations for licensees who are fooled by the false identification."

"The new system—which will surely be hailed by the temperance groups as well as licensees—should put a stop to falsification of licenses."

The new system, besides being tamper-proof, will save the state

in excess of \$10,000 a year, according to Secretary of State Hare.

IN ADDITION TO CUTTING costs and increased protection against alteration or falsification of the driver's name, age, or description, the new process makes it possible to send each new or renewing driver a pocket-sized synopsis of the point system and a short resume of Michigan's financial responsibility law.

The new licenses are printed on Sentry Safety paper, a surface sensitized paper used by banks for checks and other documents when positive protection against fraudulent alteration is needed.

When ink eradicator is used the surface design disappears and the warning word "STOP" appears, permitting instant detection of attempted alterations.

The typewritten name and other data on the license is photographically reduced to 70 percent of the type size.

The grey paper was selected for its improved readability by the most office department which handles more than a million licenses which are mailed each year.

MANY A BAR OWNER may have this final question on his mind: "Will a drop of alcohol spilled on the license void it?"

The answer: "No. Not even 100."

Most of the tamper-proof licenses have a word "STOP" printed on them. "Until something better is invented," Hare concluded, "this is the most tamper-proof license we have been able to come up with."

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Teacher Should Widen Differences in Pupils

ANN ARBOR—The task of the effective teacher is not to remove ability differences in children but actually to make the differences greater, declares Ronald J. Lehker, consultant in the University of Michigan bureau of school services.

"Development of each child's potential will of course 'make ability differences greater but may by no means be considered 'underocratic,'" he contends. He cites the Rockefeller Report: "Judgments of differences in talent are not judgments of differences in human worth."

"Differences in ability in children do exist," Lehker says. "Beyond grade four, there may be a spread of six years or more in any one grade."

TO RECOGNIZE these differences, he adds, a school must have a good record system, communication between staff members, and comprehensive testing, guidance and counseling programs.

Lehker says the ideal classroom teacher should have four qualities: A thorough knowledge of students; flexibility in operating within the teaching schedule; wisdom to encourage individual work; and sufficient classroom control to allow freedom for independent study.

Lehker points out that no one

system of program planning for individual differences will be effective for all schools. But adjustments should not be rejected or accepted solely on the label of "progressive" or "traditional," he warns.

LEHKER CITES AS possible program adjustments: acceleration; summer school (for both rapid and slow learners); ability grouping of students, special interest clubs, research projects and reading assignments, language laboratories, extra subjects and seminars for able students.

It is important to give individual students the skills they will inevitably need in our society, for "In 20 years the labor force will grow by 21 million; the professional and technical force will grow 75 per cent; and laborers and unskilled will decrease 25 per cent," he concludes.

Hopwood Awards, the nation's largest creative writing awards, have been going to student writers at the University of Michigan for 30 years.

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