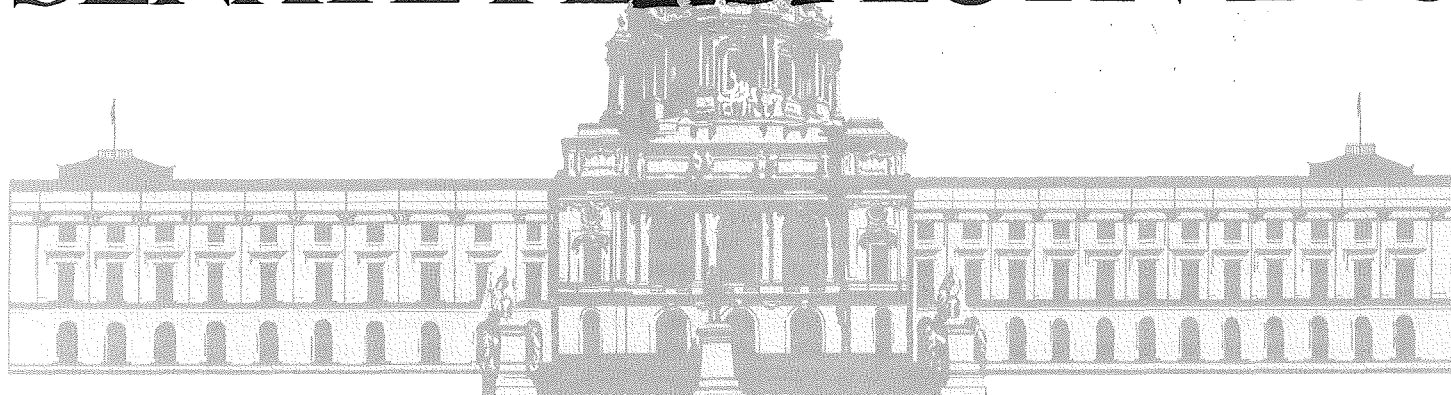


76 April - May

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SENATE PERSPECTIVE '76



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VOL. 2, NO. 3

APRIL-MAY, 1976

SENATE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

Session '76 — Legislative Wrap-Up

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Legislature Approves 9 Bills

Better Care Ahead For State's Nursing Home Residents

As a result of alleged nursing home abuses in the state and an intensive two-year Senate-House investigation, the Legislature approved nine bills this Session. All have been signed into law by Governor Anderson.

The legislation covers several areas, ranging from a complete recodification of nursing home laws — mandatory training programs for staff — an expansion of the patients' bill of rights — and a new office of health facility complaints.

A brief explanation of all nursing home bills approved this Session is listed below.

Revision of Licensure Laws; Recodification

Under this bill, several changes are made in existing laws relating to regulation and inspection of nursing homes. Included is a requirement for an annual, unannounced inspection of each nursing home in the state with a follow-up inspection of homes found to have deficiencies. The new law requires the Department of Public Health to initiate license suspension or revocation proceedings for homes with two or more health-related uncorrected violations, or ten or more other uncorrected violations in a two-year period. It also provides for a nursing home advisory committee to advise the board of health; mandatory notification of any changes in ownership; and a provision for daily fines up to \$250 a day for uncorrected violations.

Attorney General's Powers Bill

This legislation provides that any vendor of medical services may be declared ineligible for further Medicaid payments if found guilty of medical assistance fraud or theft. The Department of Public Welfare will be allowed access to all medical records for purposes of determining whether reimbursed care is provided and is medically necessary. Fraud and attempted fraud are defined as specific crimes.

Office of Health Facility Complaints

To guarantee both public input and openness, this measure establishes a new Office of Health Facility Complaints within the Department of Health to investigate any action or failure to act by a health care provider. This includes both nursing homes and hospitals. The new office will take over the functions of the present complaint team in the Health Department.

Nursing Assistant Training

All nursing home assistants (aides and orderlies) will now be required to complete a training program approved by the Board of Nursing before beginning work in a nursing home. Tuition will be reimbursable under medical assistance. It is expected, at this time, that training courses will be offered by AVTI's, community hospitals, high schools, nursing homes or wherever reasonably accessible to participants.

Alternatives

As an alternative to nursing home care, this bill encourages home care for elderly and physically disabled who are now eligible for placement in a nursing home. The state will provide grants of no more than half the regional average medical assistance reimbursement rate, and individual care plans must be established prior to receiving aid. The bill also allows the costs of

health care services provided in a patient's home by public health nurses to be paid by medical assistance. This law will not be effective until July 1, 1977.

Patient's Bill of Rights Amendments

Several amendments to the patient's Bill of Rights were added this year. They include the following:

- no nursing home can require a resident to waive his rights, and a resident's guardian or conservator may seek enforcement of rights;
 - a patient is guaranteed the right to private communications, to present grievances and to manage his own financial affairs;
 - a resident is guaranteed the right to be free of mental and physical abuse and from physical and chemical restraints, unless authorized by a physician for a specified limited period.
- (continued on page 13)*



Senator John Milton, chairman of Senate select committee on Nursing Homes, takes time to show visiting students electronic voting board in Senate chamber.

Health-Care Legislation

Top Achievement Of '76 Session

Although the stadium issue seemed to grab most of the headlines this Session, the Legislature approved several significant, wide-ranging health care measures that will affect all Minnesotans. A number of catastrophic health insurance bills, a medical malpractice insurance measure and an alcohol and chemical dependency program have been signed into law by Governor Anderson.

The new catastrophic health insurance law provides that all employers must make available catastrophic health insurance plans which will pay 80% of medical costs in excess of a \$500 deductible with a \$3,000 limit each year on out-of-pocket expenses. If an employer fails to offer a qualified plan, he will lose the state income tax deduction for the employer's contribution to employee health insurance costs.

In addition, all insurers who now issue group or individual health insurance policies must offer qualified policies to all eligible group or individual applicants. Likewise, insurers and health maintenance organizations must join an association which will be supervised by the commissioner of insurance. Premiums for state sponsored plans will be initially based on premiums currently charged by insurers. After the first year of operation, however, premiums will be actuarially determined.

The **Minnesota Catastrophic Health Expense Protection Act of 1976** will

provide 90% of qualified medical expenses for anyone who has spent a certain percentage of net income or \$2,500, whichever is higher. Specifically, persons or families may qualify when medical expenses exceed 40% of the first \$15,000 of household income, 50% of income between \$15,000 and \$25,000 and 60% of income in excess of \$25,000 over any twelve-month period.

Another provision, the **Minnesota Hospital and Health Insurance Act of 1976**, requires all hospitals to complete annual medicare cost reports and other data for filing with the state board of health for analysis by the board. Annual reports to the legislature by the board are also required. Likewise, commercial insurers like Blue Cross and Blue Shield must file actuarial data to support any increase in their rates. The commissioner of insurance will have the power to approve or disapprove any requests for such rate increases.

The **Community Health Services Act** is designed to provide grants to local units of government for a variety of health-related services. The legislature appropriated \$2.75 million for local boards of health who wish to establish, voluntarily, an annual community health service plan. Those communities which establish programs must provide a set amount of local matching funds. Special funding is also available for planning grants, and grants to pro-



Senator B. Robert Lewis, member Health, Welfare, Corrections committee.

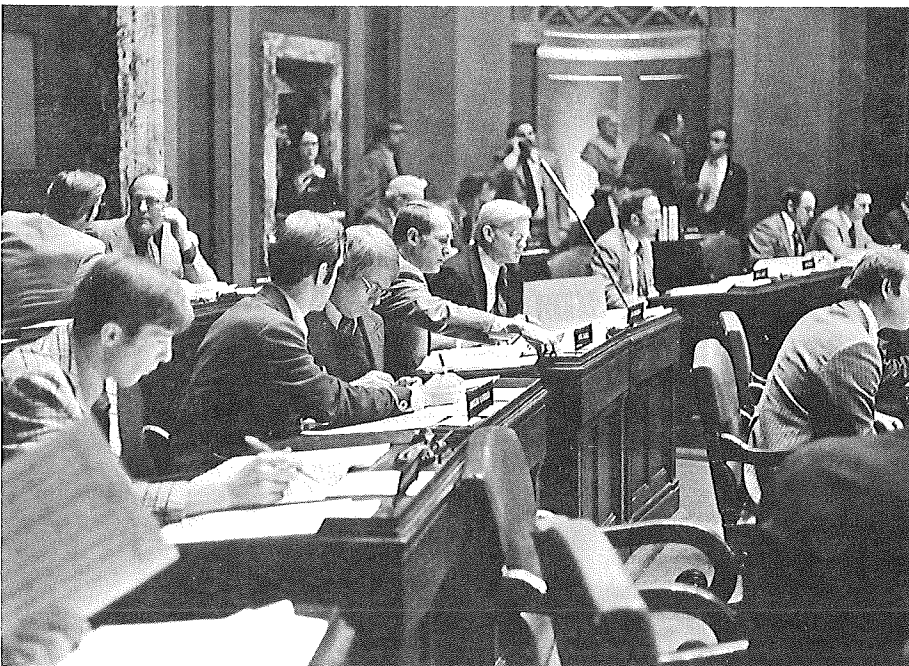
vide services to migrant workers or to native Americans who have no established county of residence.

The legislature also approved a major drug and alcohol dependency program which appropriates \$6 million to aid in the early detection of alcohol and chemical dependency problems affecting state employees, private industry employees, women, youth and underserved minorities.

Under the new law, \$2.8 million will be channeled for detoxification programs, half-way houses and nonresidential programs. Another \$3.3 million will go for new programs including \$775,000 for aid to native Americans; \$1.37 million for chemical dependency problems affecting young people, minorities and women; and \$1.1 million for state and private employees who are in need of counseling.

Members of both houses spent considerable time this Session grappling with the growing national problem of exorbitant medical malpractice insurance rates. Although not yet a serious problem in Minnesota, legislation was passed that will allow the commissioner of insurance to create a temporary joint underwriting association composed of all liability insurance carriers in the state to provide such insurance, if and when needed.

Hospitals and health maintenance organizations are also required to implement patient grievance systems in an effort to reduce the incidence of medical malpractice suits, and to report twice each year to the state board of health regarding claims opened and closed during each six-month reporting period. Insurers who provide professional liability malpractice insurance to physicians are also required to report two times each year to the board of medical examiners.



Senators study bills before vote.

viewpoint

In recent years our state legislative process has undergone considerable scrutiny but the most essential and basic decision has never really been confronted. Constant change has been occurring in the Minnesota legislature during the past decade. Space, staff, and other facilities have been provided beyond the wildest dreams of anyone ten years ago. Party designation has become a fact. Legislators are being reimbursed more liberally for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The flexible session has become a reality and there have been procedure changes to streamline the functioning of both the Senate and the House. As always, compensation for the members of the legislature has been the most prominent item in the whole range of legislative "reforms" in the public eye. A reduction in size, or the concept of a unicameral body, both popular causes a short time ago, seem to have lost some support today.

The fundamental decision everything else rests upon is the one thing about which we have really never made any kind of a conscious decision. One of these days we're going to have to make up our minds about whether or not we want to be a full-time or part-time legislature. Since the advent of flexible

sessions in 1973, we have been drifting steadily toward full-time status, but without any public input as to whether this is the direction to take. In fact the matter is almost something we have refused to recognize as an issue.

My strong preference is for a part-time, "citizen" legislature as opposed to a full-time "professional" one. There are several reasons in support of this view.

Minority

By Robert Dunn

A part-time legislature will allow a broader spectrum of people from various occupational and economic backgrounds to serve. A full-time, year-round session would eventually exclude blue collar workers, teachers, professional people, farmers, small business people and many of our state's most productive citizens. A full-time legislature would be comprised of the wealthy, the retired, the unemployed, or those who would make legislating their sole occupation. We might attract people who were formerly employed in these various kinds of work but we would obviously lose the mainstream individual whose

experience and day-to-day contacts are in his or her chosen field of endeavor.

Already a demonstrable attrition has taken place in various occupations, due, at least in part, to the increased demands the legislature has made upon the time and efforts of its members. During the last decade there has been a drop of 39% in the number of farmers serving, 25% in attorneys, 33% in self-employed small businessmen, and 75% in the number of executives from larger businesses. In 1965 no member of the legislature was without a job outside his official duties. By 1975 there were 15 who listed no employment other than that of legislator.

Think of the range of experience and the breadth of understanding we have lost and could lose if this trend continues! Beyond that, consider how important a legislator's job becomes to him if he has no other means of support! Retiring House member Salisbury Adams recently wrote that "Special interest groups, both public and private, gain more power over individual members as a member's economic well-being becomes more dependent on re-election. The greatest conflict of all becomes need for re-election at any price."

A part-time legislature enables a member to keep in touch with and to participate in his or her home district. A full-time legislature would probably mean that outstate legislators would spend much of their time in St. Paul and only return home occasionally. (definitely at election time!) When was the last time you saw your congressman buying groceries at the local supermarket? There has been a great deal of talk recently about the need for "government" to listen to "the people", but it's hard to listen when "government" and "the people" are out of earshot from each other.

A full-time legislature doesn't necessarily mean that the legislative process will be more deliberative and that proposals will receive more attention. It does mean that there will be more activity, but it's questionable whether activity for its own sake is actually productive. Interim activity in the 1973-74 session, measured by the number of hearings by legislative committees and commission, was 78% greater than during the 1969-70 period. The usual logjam has still occurred at the end of



(continued on page 6, column 3)

When leaving the legislature after ten years of public service, one is tempted to spend a lot of time looking back. However, it can often be more rewarding and more interesting to look ahead. With that in mind, I would like to devote this column to a brief view of what the Minnesota Legislature may be like in the year 2000. The changes, I believe, will be organizational as well as physical.

Organizationally, I expect a significant change in the budgeting process. Rather than following past policy of collecting all that we can and then approving legislation which will result in the expenditure of those funds, I expect the legislature of the year 2000 to first examine the budgeting needs and merits in the various issue and service areas and then to formulate a state budget to meet those needs and merits. Then, a tax program to generate the necessary funding would follow — a near reversal of the current process. This becomes especially important in view of what happened at the most recent legislative session when at least 50 million dollars were spontaneous-type appropriations and an unwarranted expenditure of funds.

In addition, I believe the Finance and Appropriations Committees will be mere memories by the year 2000, replaced by a Budget and Priority Committee or a Ways and Means Committee. Those committees, which will include the chairmen of the various issue areas committees, will determine budget levels and provide each subject area committee with a certain funding level with which to work. In other words, each committee will know, before approving any legislation, just how large its "slice of the pie" will be. They will be able to approve appropriations within those limits.

As you may know, under the present system subject area committees approve a volume of legislation which is then sent on to the Finance or Appropriations Committee where it lives or dies. Basically, that gives the Finance and Appropriations Committee the power to set the legislature's general and *specific* policies in all issue areas. It also provides little incentive toward selectivity in issue area committees.

The new system will allow the Budget and Priority Committees to set general policy while allowing the subject area committee to determine *specific* program priorities. Bills leaving the subject area committees will go directly to the floor. This system will encourage subject area committees to be more selective in the bills they approve and will provide them a more direct voice in their specific subject areas.



Of course, all of this budgeting and finance work will be of interest to the taxpayers, and by the year 2000 they should find it much easier to monitor the activity of their legislature. There is a distinct possibility that in the future we will see a single cable television station devoted to only up-to-date news broadcasts, including around-the-clock reports on legislative activity.

Majority

By George Conzemius

Technology will also change the face of the legislature itself. For example, we may see large projection screens in committee rooms where bills, documents and proposed amendments can be easily displayed for the legislators, members of the public and media representatives in attendance.

We may also see Computer Terminals at each legislators' floor desk. These television-like screens would allow legislators — at the push of a button — to recall (and have displayed before them) the various bills before the legislature. In addition, these terminals could be programmed to allow the insertion of amendments or the recall of documents or transcripts of committee testimony.

As I mentioned earlier, we may see these computer terminals at each legislator's desk. However, there may very well be fewer of those desks. Our current move toward longer ses-

sions and increased interim activity seems to point toward a smaller, full-time professional legislature.

And, that legislature will be dealing with new kinds of problems. Society is becoming increasingly complex and technological, creating new problems and new issues. In addition, the federal government's gradual withdrawal from domestic programs will force the states to continue to accept new responsibilities in those areas. The national movement toward regionalization — which will be facilitated by improved communications and transportation services — will, in turn, require the legislature to deal with problems on a more regional scope.

These changes, by the way, will necessitate the maintenance of a competent, professional legislative staff. Legislators obviously will not be able to single-handedly acquire all the expertise and information necessary to deal with the complex issues they will face. A professional, specialized staff should and will help the legislature play a much larger and independent role in budget formulation. This would be in contrast to reliance on the executive branch for the main source of information on the needs and changes necessary in state government. A legislator will be able to call on staff members for general background on various issues, as well as specific analysis and a comparison of similar programs in other states. The availability of such assistance will greatly enhance each legislator's ability to deal with the measures which come before him.

(continued on page 6, column 3)



Transportation committee chairman, Roger Laufenburger, shows fellow committee members new multi-colored graphic license plate. At his right is Lee Vann, Commissioner of Economic Development.

State to get New Transportation Dept.

Advocates of a new state Department of Transportation will not be debating the issue in 1977. After nine previous defeats, the Senate passed the measure this year by a 34 to 31 margin — the minimum number of votes needed to approve legislation. The new department, a high priority of Governor Anderson, has been approved by the House several times.

Headed by a Transportation commissioner, the department will merge both the Highway and Aeronautics departments and most other transportation-related services now provided by the Public Service Commission. Funding requests from all regional agencies, including the metropolitan transit commission, will automatically be forwarded to the department.

One of the principle functions of the new department will be development of a statewide transportation plan. The new commissioner will rely on public hearings, and input from the energy agency, regional development commissions and the metropolitan council in

developing the plan. The commissioner will be appointed by Governor Anderson and must be approved by the Senate.

Legislators also approved a \$50 million bonding-appropriation bill this year to begin work on over 4,000 bridges in the state that need to be repaired. One-half of the funding will come from the sale of bonds; the other half a direct appropriation.

Under the plan, \$25 million will go to the Highway Department and \$13.5 million to counties in the state. Townships and municipalities will receive \$7.5 million and \$4 million respectively.

Originally, the Senate Transportation committee okayed a \$600 million appropriation that would have been divided over the next twelve years. That was cut to \$300 million over the next six years by a joint Senate-House conference committee, and finally reduced to \$50 million for the first year of a long-range program.

Other legislation approved and signed by the Governor includes a directive to the Commissioner of Highways to prepare environmental impact statements and land reports concerning Interstate Highways in Minneapolis and St. Paul; a bill requiring motorcycle enthusiasts to enroll in a "two-wheeled" safety course before receiving permits; and legislation which authorizes the Department of Highways to improve a road for access to the Minnesota Zoological Garden.

The legislature also approved a \$290,000 appropriation for a new graphic, multi-colored license plate which will be available in 1977. Consumers will pay an additional 25¢ for the plate.

Dunn (cont.)

every session. Parkinson's law states that activity increases to fill up available time. We're obviously proving the efficacy of that principle.

It may be the trend toward more and more time and attention to legislative duties is an inexorable one. If that is the case we should make a conscious decision with public input to move in that direction. I don't happen to believe that we are yet at that point, but it's critically important that we aren't just swept into becoming a full-time legislature without ever having even discussed whether we should be or not.

Conzemius (cont.)

Overall, I expect to see great changes in the legislature: a new budgeting process; a smaller legislature; increased access to the legislative record for the public; the inclusion of new technology to facilitate legislative action; a competent and highly specialized staff; and an increasingly large and complex set of issues requiring legislative activity. I believe size and accountability of all units of government will be the growing issue facing legislators in the next 25 years and beyond. These predictions are mere speculation. However, there is one thing I am sure of. As long as Minnesota voters continue to support and elect high caliber legislators, the Minnesota Legislature will be up to the task before it.

Governor Vetoes Determinate Sentencing

Planning Funds For New State Prison Approved

Legislators made substantial inroads in the area of prison reform this Session, passing a determinate sentencing bill (vetoed by Governor Anderson) and a \$1.7 million appropriation to renovate the Lino Lakes reformatory to a medium-minimum facility for adult offenders. Also approved was an \$800,000 appropriation to draw up architectural plans for a new maximum security prison adjacent to the current Stillwater facility.

As a result of extensive interim hearings, the determinate sentencing bill faced little opposition in the Senate. The bill sailed through both the Health, Welfare, Corrections and Judiciary committees and was approved by a wide margin on the Senate floor. Although stalled in the House Crime Prevention and Corrections committee, the measure was eventually approved on the House floor as an amendment to another bill. Governor Anderson, who vetoed the legislation in April, stated that while he agrees with the concept of fixed sentences for specific crimes, certain revisions are necessary before the bill is signed into law.

Supporters of the change from indeterminate to determinate sentencing believe the bill goes a long way to bring more equality to our justice system. As stated by bill author William McCutcheon, "it changes the emphasis from a sentence based on the personal characteristics of an offender and a judge's own discretion, to a punishment which fits the crime."

Under the bill, which eliminates the state parole board, judges would be allowed to raise or lower the fixed sentence for most crimes by 15 percent. Thus, a sentence for a crime like aggravated burglary might be set at 7 years, but a judge could increase or decrease the sentence by 1½ years. In most cases, judges would also be able to suspend the sentence, placing the offender on probation. Exceptions include cases involving first and second degree murder, aggravated rape and conviction for a third felony within a ten-year period. In these instances, judges would be required to impose the prescribed sentence and could, in fact, triple the fixed sentence.

Once incarcerated, the plan allows an offender to contract for rehabilitation under a Mutual Agreement Program (MAP). For every day of good behavior,

a person could reduce his fixed sentence by one day. It is feasible, then, that a person could reduce his prison term by one-half.

According to McCutcheon, minor revisions and clerical work necessary to get the bill in acceptable order will be made by next January.

Other legislation approved and signed into law includes a measure that instructs the commissioner of corrections to ensure like minimum standards in all

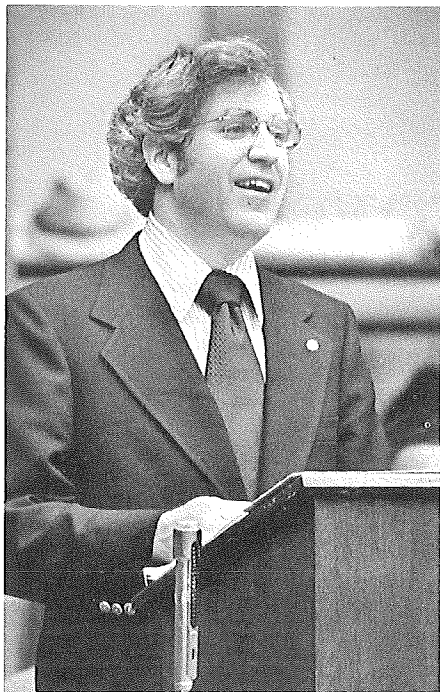
As an outgrowth of a six-month investigation by a joint Senate-House committee on the state prison system, lawmakers also approved plans to recon-vert the current reformatory for boys at Lino Lakes to an adult medium-minimum security facility. A recommendation to build a new prison at Stillwater will be considered next Session after legislators study proposed architectural plans. Estimated cost of the new facility is \$23.5 million.



■ Senator Roger Hansen listens to testimony in committee.

state correctional institutions; and a bill that brings community corrections facilities within the jurisdiction of the corrections ombudsman. Another new law will permit the commissioner to utilize services of inmates of medium-minimum security facilities. Inmates will be able to earn a minimum wage and be charged for room, board and other expenses incidental to their confinement. The bill also provides for six five-day furloughs a year to any inmate of a medium-minimum security facility who has not been convicted of a violent crime.

The joint Senate-House committee also forwarded over 177 recommendations to the Department of Corrections ranging from security to legal services for inmates. Major recommendations include better supervision of staff members and better communication lines between supervisors and staff; the need to separate dangerous and assaultive prisoners from the general population through use of separate cell halls or sections of cell halls; and a program that encourages family visiting privileges at the prison.



Housing Finance bill author, Skip Humphrey, makes point at Senate-House conference committee.

Housing Finance Bill Aids Middle, Low-Income Families

A \$34 million housing finance bill — deadlocked in a conference committee since last year — was approved by a unanimous vote in the Senate and a 114 to 9 margin in the House.

The appropriation will provide \$21 million in loans and grants to aid property owners who wish to repair or upgrade their homes. Out of that sum, \$6 million is earmarked exclusively for senior citizens; \$6 million for repairs that will result in energy savings; and \$9 million in grants for low-income families.

The measure also includes \$5 million in funding for housing subsidies for low-income families who reside in both metropolitan and outstate Minnesota. Another \$5 million will go for construction of housing units for native Americans and \$3 million will be channeled to a reserve fund to aid single-family homeowners.

Lawmakers also reconciled a long-standing debate between banking and labor concerns by lifting Minnesota's eight percent ceiling on conventional

home loans, commonly referred to as the usury law. Approved for a 15-month trial period only, the new law also bans the charging of discount points by lenders and requires lenders to pay at least three percent interest on monthly payments made by home buyers for taxes and insurance.

Persons interested in applying for home repair loans and grants are urged to contact the Housing Finance Agency Office at 612-296-7165. Informational brochures, which list all lending institutions, are available upon request.

Pot Penalties Reduced; Drinking Age Raised

Both houses approved legislation this year that reduces the penalty for possession of a small amount of marijuana (1.5 ounces or less) to a petty misdemeanor. At the same time, lawmakers raised the legal drinking age in the state from 18 to 19.

The vote to decriminalize the current pot law came after lengthy debates, passing the Senate by an exact majority — 34 to 30. Several senators and house members contended that approval of the measure is premature since all the evidence is not yet available regarding the effect marijuana has on a person's health. Supporters of the move to decriminalize argued that the national trend points to liberalization of marijuana laws, and persons found with small quantities should not be subject to a criminal record that will remain for a lifetime.

Responding to complaints from high school officials throughout the state, lawmakers also voted to raise the legal drinking age from 18 to 19. Persons who turn 18 before September 1 will still be allowed to purchase alcoholic beverages, but persons who celebrate birthdays after September 1 must wait until they turn 19 to purchase liquor.

Opposition to the bill came from legislators who view the change as a "double standard" for 18 year olds who can marry, serve in the armed forces and vote; and a belief that many young people will now travel to Wisconsin by car, thus creating a safety problem.

Legislature Okays Appropriations For State Buildings And Departments

Legislators approved a major \$64 million state building measure this Session of which \$54 million will be made available from the sale of bonds and \$9 million appropriated through tax funds.

Substantial funds will go to the University of Minnesota (\$17.2 million) and for campus consolidation at Mankato State University (\$5.5 million). The bill also includes \$1.9 million for a new nursing home at the Veterans Home in Minneapolis; \$200 thousand to finance a study of state buildings to determine the feasibility of converting from gas and oil heat to coal; and \$800 thousand in planning funds for a new state prison at Stillwater.

The Legislature also approved appropriations totalling \$12.4 million for the operation of various state departments. Both Reserve Mining and the Copper Nickle Mining companies will receive \$1.3 million for environmental impact studies for a taconite waste disposal site.

Other appropriations include \$500 thousand to cover state liability to civil suits; \$3 million for the state to purchase the Mechanic Arts High School for state office space; \$300 thousand to the Bicentennial Commission and \$800 thousand for improvement of the north Capitol area. Another \$2.5 million will go to a contingency game and fish fund.

Metropolitan Land Use Planning Bill Wins Legislative Approval After Two-Year Debate

Metropolitan land use planning — one of the most controversial and hotly debated issues of the last two years — passed by close votes in both the Senate and House this Session.

Designed to curb urban sprawl in the 7-county metropolitan area, the new law requires all local units of government to adopt comprehensive plans that are consistent with an overall program developed by the Metropolitan Council. The legislation is expected to aid orderly growth by fostering better communication between local communities and the Council.

The Metropolitan Council has until July 1, 1977 to produce systems statements in a number of areas including housing codes and ordinances, transit, sewer and road and park development. Upon receipt of these "systems statements", local units will have three years to produce their comprehensive plans. The legislation also requires

school districts to submit any plans for construction projects which cost more than \$200,000. The Council, however, will be limited to just "reviewing" and "commenting" on such plans.

To gain support for the bill, legislators included a "right of appeal" section which, in effect, allows local governmental units the right to challenge any systems statement issued by the Council. After appealing directly to the Council, local units may take the case to district court if the decision is not satisfactory. A final ruling by the court would be binding.

Supporters of the land use planning bill contend that the legislation could save metropolitan residents up to \$2 billion through the end of the century. It is also expected that large amounts of agricultural and open space will be preserved through a long-range planning program.

Opponents argued that the Metropoli-

tan Council already has sufficient planning powers and should not be able to "dictate" to local units of government.

Legislators also approved legislation this Session which allows the Metropolitan Council to delay, up to one year, private and public construction projects that might adversely affect long-range metropolitan plans for sewers, parks, airports and transportation facilities.

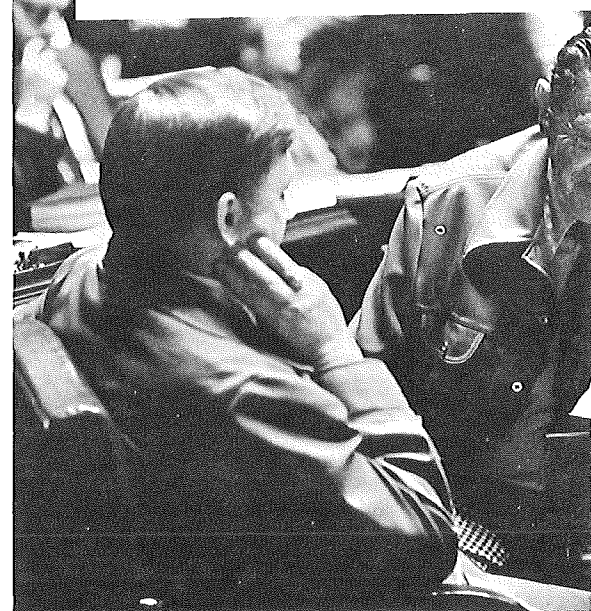
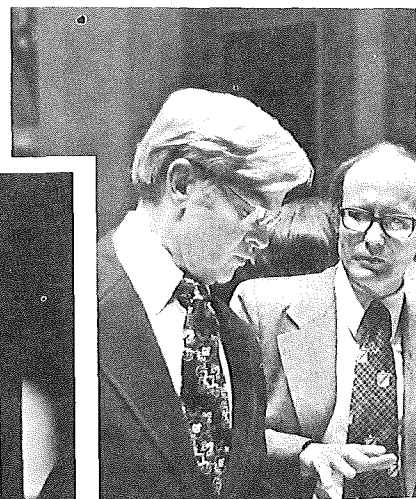
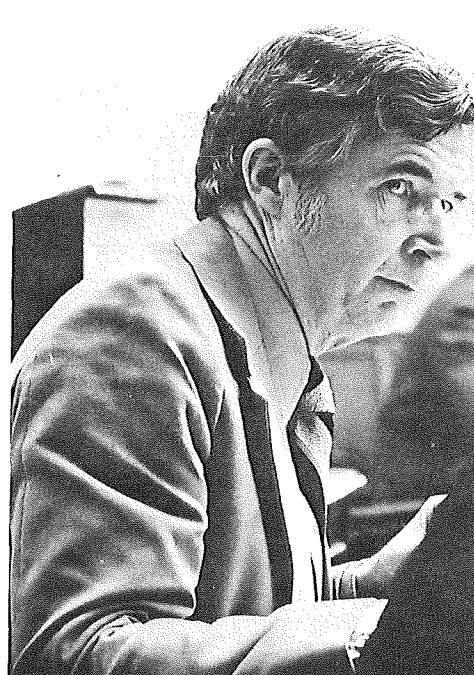
Another measure approved and signed by the Governor makes the Metropolitan Waste Control Commission responsible for formulating a plan and providing facilities for the disposal of solid and hazardous waste in the metropolitan area.

Although approved by both House and Senate Urban and Metropolitan committees, a bill calling for the election of metro council members failed to reach either floor for debate.



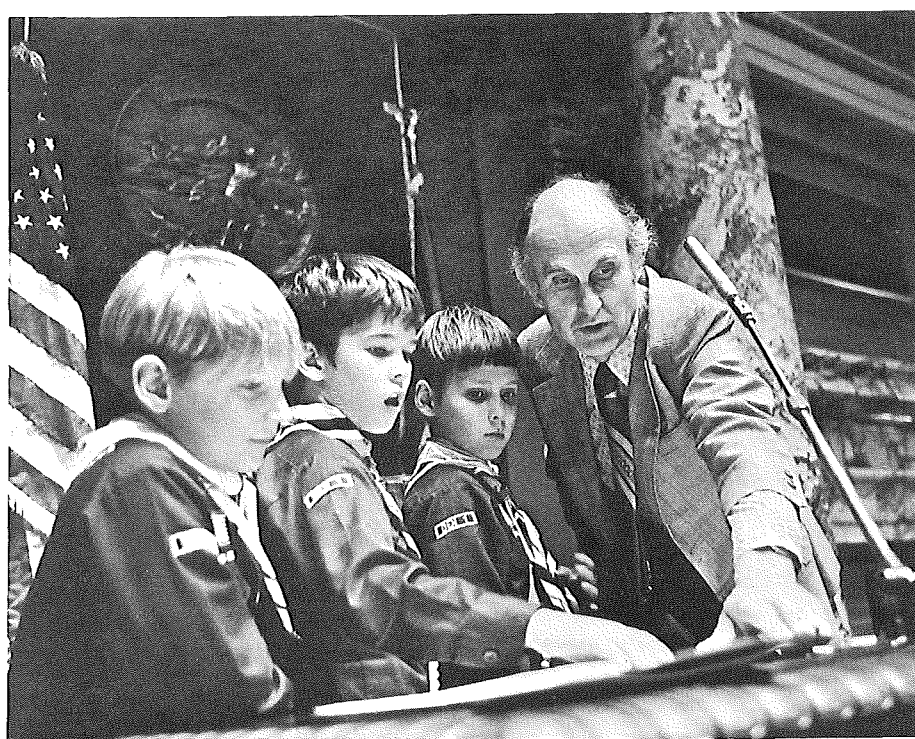
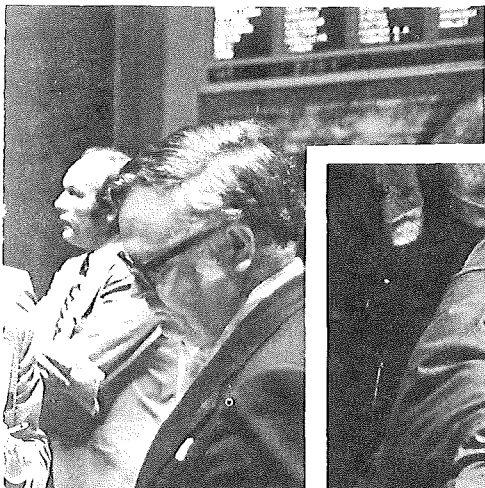
Obviously happy, Senate pages take time to enjoy a cake bought for them by their 67 bosses.

SENATE '76



Center, Senator John Olson, a member of the Senate since 1958, announced his retirement this year. Here he moves to adjourn "sine die," the last day of the '76 Session.

Clockwise from top: Senators Nicholas Coleman, John Keefe, and Joseph O'Neill; Jack Davies; Howard Knutson and David Schaaf; William Kirchner with Cub Scouts; Florian Chmielewski and Ed Schrom; Carl Jensen; and Robert Tennessen.



SS ECC NENE ANTES '76

School Aids Bill Emphasizes Education of Handicapped

Efficiency and accountability — two key concepts that have troubled educational systems throughout the country — may be rectified to some degree in Minnesota by the omnibus school aids bill passed this Session.

Lawmakers approved a compromise bill that will require all school districts to begin a process of establishing educational goals within the next three years. Students, parents, teachers and citizens will work with local school boards to formulate goals and to evaluate, annually, the progress toward realization of those goals. The bill also requires all school districts in the state to adopt a statewide uniform system of accounting and reporting which will enable state officials to more easily evaluate financial conditions.

The omnibus school bill also provides significant increases in state funding for the education of handicapped children. Under the new school aid formula, schools will be encouraged to educate handicapped children at least partially in regular classrooms. The state will increase funds for administrative costs of special education and increase salaries for special education instructors.

Also included is a transfer of the school for deaf and blind from the Department of Public Welfare to the Department of Education beginning

July of 1977; and an increase of \$5 per pupil unit for the capital expenditure levy.

The total appropriation is \$5,500,000 for elementary and secondary education with \$4,000,000 earmarked for special education of handicapped students; \$300,000 for high school education for adults; and \$200,000 for setting goals and evaluation procedures within local

school districts.

Several efforts to channel extra monies to the basic formula for support of local schools failed to win support.

Other education bills include an authorization to establish regionally based education cooperative service units throughout the state; an increase from \$200 to \$500 the amount parents of private and parochial-school students can deduct on income tax-returns for tuition, textbook and transportation expenses; an appropriation for a "right to read program"; and a bill which requires that a student or recent graduate be a member of the University Board of Regents.

Loan Program Expected To Help Prospective Farmers

Prospective Minnesota farmers who have found it virtually impossible to purchase high-cost land were rescued, in part, by the Legislature this year. Approval of the Family Farm Security Act, a program which will guarantee loans for young people to begin farming operations, is expected to help up to 100 persons during its first year.

Under the bill, applicants will apply for guarantee eligibility to a seven-member commission appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture. The commission will then judge each applicant on a number of criteria such as a person's total assets; the type of farming to be pursued; and a guarantee that the land will be used for the stated farming purpose.

The state will guarantee 90 percent of the loan while the applicant will be responsible for 10 percent. Beginning farmers will also be entitled to deferred loan payments until the farm is actually paying off. The plan requires the state to pay four percent of the loan's interest over the first ten years; the farmer will pay the full interest over the second ten; and after twenty years the farmer will begin repaying the four percent originally paid by the state.

\$10 million has been appropriated to finance the program, but the Family Farm Loan Security Commission may guarantee loans equal to ten times that amount.

The bill won enthusiastic support from both the Minnesota Farmers Union and the Minnesota Interest Research Group. Opposition from the Minnesota Farm Bureau was predicated on the grounds that default on loans might lead to state ownership of land. Before final passage, provisions were included that prevent the state from controlling any farm land even if farmers default on loans guaranteed by the state.

Another piece of legislation okayed this Session is a \$3 million program allowing voluntary contracts between rail lines, the state and various users. The purpose of the bill is to prevent or curtail a trend toward abandonment of branch rail lines serving grain farmers.

Also approved was a controversial drainage bill which requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to classify all Minnesota lake basins exceeding 10 acres and to identify which are "public waters".

Farmers, who have long disputed the "public water" question with the DNR, are eligible for reimbursement if they are prohibited from draining their land because it has been categorized as "public waters".



Governor Wendell Anderson signs legislation that increases tax deduction for expenses incurred by parents of students who attend parochial and private schools. Senator Robert Dunn (third from left) and Senator Joseph O'Neill (talking with the Governor) were authors of the bill.

Energy Bill Includes Ban On Outdoor Gas Lamps

Although environmental legislation took a back seat to Health-related issues this Session, several measures did find their way to the Governor's desk.

Lawmakers okayed a compromise energy bill that will ban decorative outdoor gas lamps beginning next year. Included is a survey of all state-owned buildings with an eye to making them more energy-efficient. Studies will also be conducted on possible elimination of open-flame pilot lights and new standards for air conditioners. The bill also establishes an energy conservation information center within the State Energy Agency with toll-free telephone service.

Environmental bills passed this Session include a measure which bans peat harvesting and mining in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area with an appropriation of \$147,000 to begin a mineland reclamation program; stricter regulation of herbicide 2, 4, 5T; and a general phasing out of chemical PCB (polychlorinated biphenyls) which are used in electric transformers.

Attached to the PCB measure is a provision that requires developers interested in building in the state to pay part of the cost of required environmental

impact statements. Developers will now pay three-tenths of one percent of the total project between \$1 and \$10 million; two-tenths of one percent between \$10 and \$50 million; and one-tenth of one percent for any project exceeding \$50 million.

The Minnesota Environmental Coordination Procedures Act will set up an environmental permits coordination unit within the Environmental Quality Council. The new law will allow persons to file a master permit application to receive all necessary permits at one time instead of applying for and receiving them individually.

Keeping with tradition, strong opposition by can and bottle manufacturers prevented passage of mandatory deposits on beverage containers. The bill was debated in the House and defeated by a close vote.

Legislators also turned thumbs down on a bill that would have required manufacturers of fluorocarbon products to label those products as "possibly harmful to health and the environment". Proponents of the legislation argued that fluorocarbon propellants are diminishing the ozone layer of the stratosphere which protects humans from harmful ultra-violet radiation. Opponents testified that there is not enough evidence to justify the legislation at this time.

NURSING HOMES

(cont. from page 2)

Most provisions are similar to current Federal requirements.

Long Term Care Policy

This measure directs the Minnesota Board on Aging to recommend to the legislature by January 1, 1977, a proposed state policy for "citizens dependent on long term care and services."

Reimbursement for Nursing Homes

Because it is widely thought that some nursing home proprietors engage in the nursing home profession as an investment only, this important legislation establishes limitations on the Department of Public Welfare and its "Rule 49" for nursing home rate setting for the care of medical assistance residents.

The new law will set strict limits on how mortgage and other property expense can be reimbursed; gives profit-making facilities a 9 percent investment allowance; and allows periodic property reappraisal to incorporate inflation into the rate base. Nonproprietary and governmental facilities are given a 2 percent investment allowance plus the interest on loans up to the full value of the facility. After July 1, 1978, no nursing home will be eligible for medical assistance reimbursement if its private pay rate differs from its medical assistance rate for similar services. Nursing homes must also agree to provide audited financial statements to the Department of Public Welfare.

Medical Assistance Investigative Unit

This bill requires the Commissioner of Public Welfare to investigate any possible cases of medical assistance fraud, theft, false claims or false statements by any vendor of medical care.

Where Did All The Money Go?

Free copies of "A Fiscal Review of the 1975 Legislative Session," a state Senate publication, are available upon request from the state Senate Finance Committee.

The glossy-print, 54-page booklet was prepared by the Finance Committee staff and offers detailed summaries of 1975 Legislative actions with substantial fiscal impact.

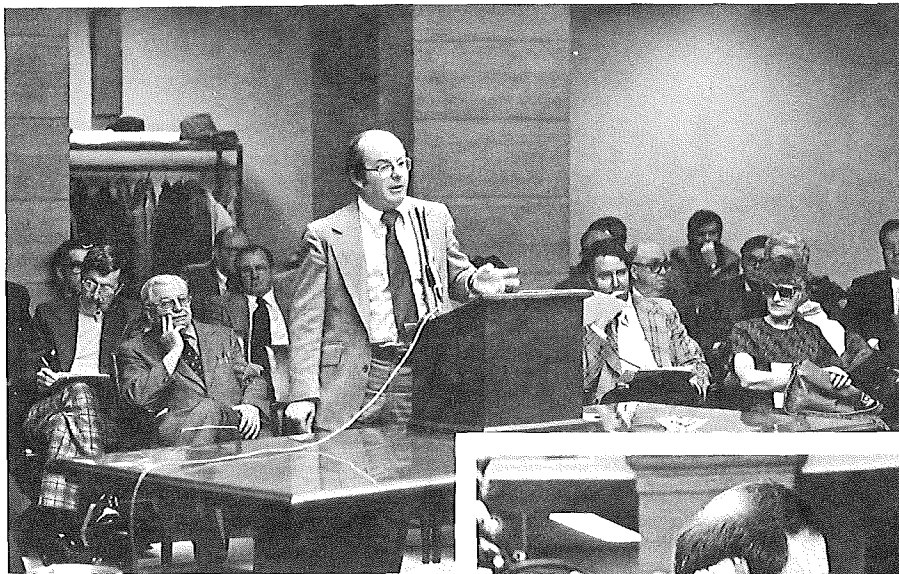
Subjects covered include: tax law changes, retirement programs, state borrowing, functions of state government, and comparisons of appropriations in the 1973, 1974 and 1975 sessions.

The booklet provides an accurate, easy-to-read summary of the spending decisions that established the current record state budget.

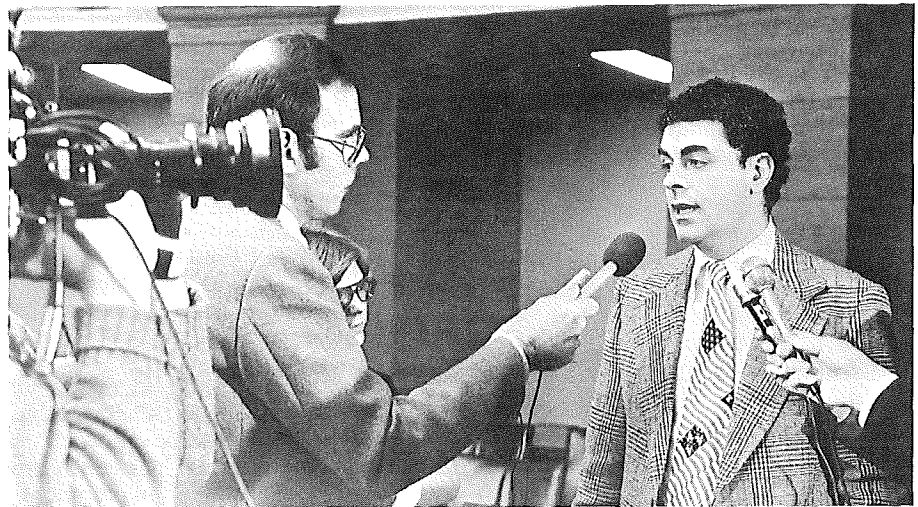
Copies may be obtained by writing the state Senate Finance Committee, 121 State Capitol, St. Paul, Minn., 55155, or by calling 612-296-6436.



Senators Robert Schmitz and Gene Stokowski (at Senator North's desk).



A familiar scene during the '76 legislative Session, Senator Robert North, author of the stadium bill, talks with newsmen outside of Senate chamber.



Senator Allan Spear, author of measure to restore rent credit for seniors who live in subsidized housing.

Senate Tax-Rebate Plan Gets Cold Shoulder In House

A Senate proposal that would have returned about \$100 million in surplus funds to Minnesota taxpayers was blocked by the House this Session. Although the tax rebate plan generated bipartisan support in the Senate, House members remained adamant that a projected \$200 to \$300 million surplus remain in the state treasury to finance programs during the next biennium. Attempts to compromise the issue in a Senate-House conference committee failed.

Senate conferees argued that a portion of surplus tax monies returned to taxpayers would help stimulate the economy by creating as many as 5,000 new jobs in the state. House conferees, wary of projected surplus estimates, argued that a healthy opening balance in 1977 would guarantee continued high-quality services to state residents and ensure no tax increases over the next two years.

In an effort to pass the rebate plan, the Senate voted to attach it to the stadium proposal (already passed by the House). The House, unwilling to buy the package, refused to consider the bill. A later attempt by the Senate to substitute the rebate for a raise in the dependent credit allowance from \$21 to \$34 was also rejected.

Although both the tax rebate and stadium proposals went down in defeat, lawmakers did approve substantial increases in state inheritance tax exemptions. Signed by Governor Anderson, the new law provides:

- an increase in the tax exemption for widows from \$30,000 to \$60,000 and an increase for widowers from \$6,000 to \$60,000;
- equalization of tax rates for surviving husbands and wives;
- an increase in the homestead exemption for spouses and children from \$30,000 to \$45,000;

- payment of taxes in five installments at eight percent over five years instead of within twelve months after death.

The deferment of tax payments is expected to aid young persons who inherit farm land. Increases in tax exemptions and equalizing tax rates will help farming "widows" who are often forced to sell farms to pay taxes on the inherited estate.

Lawmakers also passed circuit-breaker tax relief for the elderly and handicapped who live in subsidized housing. The new law, which restores rent credits for both groups, was inadvertently omitted from the 1975 omnibus bill.

Another bill will aid the brewery industry by providing a \$2 tax credit on each barrel of the first 75,000 barrels of beer produced in the state.

.....LOOKING BACK.....

An Historical Perspective



IGNATIUS DONNELLY
"The Sage of Nininger"

Ignatius Donnelly (1831-1901) moved to Minnesota from Pennsylvania in 1857. He quickly became a spokesman for the state's new Republican party and served as its first Lieutenant Governor from 1860 to 1863, and as a Congressman from 1863 to 1869.

A sharp break with the conservative Republican leadership of Alexander Ramsey resulted in Donnelly's defeat in a bitter election in 1868 and his turn, first to liberal Republicanism, then to a succession of third-party movements associated with agrarian and labor protest.

He served in the Minnesota Senate as an Anti-Monopolist (1874-78); as a Populist (1891-93) and, at various times, was an unsuccessful candidate for Congressman, Governor and U.S. Senator. Although Donnelly was always a storm center of controversy, his legislative service was marked by solid accomplishments including reform of the state usury law; provision for free textbooks in schools; and two ground-breaking investigations of fraudulent dealings in state-owned timber lands.

Of much greater importance was his role as a publicist and political agitator. For nearly thirty years, his keen wit, forceful pen, and genius as an orator made his name a household word throughout the middle west as a voice for reform. The unpopular causes he championed in print and on the platform ranged from women's rights to managed currency. In 1890 he achieved nationwide fame as the author of *Caesar's Column*, a best-selling futuristic novel. His career peaked in 1892 when he wrote a ringing preamble to the National People's Party platform. In it he surveyed the desperate condition of farmers and working people in the early 1890's and declared:

"... We meet in the midst of a nation brought to the verge of moral, political and material ruin . . . The fruits of the toil of millions are boldly stolen to build up colossal fortunes, unprecedented in the history of the world, while the possessors despise the republic and endanger liberty. From the same prolific womb of governmental injustice we breed two great classes — paupers and millionaires . . ."

Donnelly's voluminous papers are one of the most used collections held by the Minnesota Historical Society and are a basic source for all scholars studying the history of populism. For further information, see Martin Ridge, *Ignatius Donnelly: The Portrait of a Politician*, (Chicago: 1962).

Editor's note: We are indebted to Mr. Burt Cannon of the Minnesota Historical Society who is largely responsible for the research of this article.

Sunday "Happenings" Highlight Bicentennial Year

Minnesota's Bicentennial Commission is sponsoring a Capitol Showcase series through September 26 as part of a statewide awareness campaign featuring specific Bicentennial projects from selected areas in Minnesota.

Thus far featured events have included a performance of the award-winning musical "1776" by the Renville County Art Center Players; a concert of American songs both past and present by the 3M club Male chorus; and a program with Polish Youth Dancers and Greek and Japanese dancers from the International Institute of St. Paul.

Future programs, all of which are held on Sunday either in the capitol rotunda or capitol mall, include an old time ice cream social, a puppet show, crafts demonstrations, and historical displays.

For further information about the Bicentennial Capitol Showcase, or to submit a program suggestion, contact the Minnesota American Revolution Bicentennial Commission (MARBC), Room 12, State Capitol, St. Paul, Mn. 55155. Telephone number is (612) 296-5090.

Nine performing groups have been selected to represent Minnesota in Washington, D.C. for performances during the city's "Minnesota Day" observance June 22.

Selected groups include the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies; the University of Minnesota Band Ensemble; the Zion Senior Choir; the Minnesota Chorale; and the Roseville 4-H club. Also representing Minnesota will be Jeffery Van and Vern Sutton who will perform music ranging from seventeenth century monody to recent American music; the Duluth 16, a group of 26 junior high school students who perform light pieces by Minnesota composers; the Mesabi Guild of Performing Arts and the Sauk Rapids Pop Singers.

The groups will perform at Independence Hall in Philadelphia on June 19 and the Kennedy Center in Washington on June 21. They will also perform at various locations in the nation's capitol as part of "Minnesota Day", June 22.

Subject-Guide To Legislation Approved During 1976 Session

The legislature passed 352 bills during the 1976 Session, and 348 were signed into law by Governor Anderson. All bills are categorized by subject-area and include chapter and Senate or House file numbers. Unless specifically listed, bills generally become law on July 1, 1976 or August 1, 1976.

AGRICULTURE

Chpt. 22 — S.F. 1439 Changes regions for purposes of the potato industry promotion act.
Chpt. 32 — H.F. 719 Limits mechanics liens on agricultural land to 40 acres and allows liens up to 80 acres of land.
Chpt. 61 — S.F. 1975 Allows (now mandatory) the Commissioner of Agriculture to adopt standards, grades and price differentials for milk and cream.
Chpt. 210 — H.F. 1984 Provides a state program to guarantee loans for acquisition of farms by individuals.
Chpt. 227 — S.F. 2300 Relates to indemnification paid for nonreactor cattle to brucellosis test and allows indemnification for grade cattle.

CORRECTIONS

Chpt. 52 — S.F. 53 Relates to eligibility for peace officer training courses.
Chpt. 63 — S.F. 2076 Relates to confinement of prisoners in medium-minimum security facilities and furloughs for inmates. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 68 — H.F. 1932 Excepts certain Corrections Department rules and contested cases regarding prisoners from the Administrative Procedures Act. Provides Office of Hearing Examiners shall keep official record in contested cases. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 269 — H.F. 1955 Provides that state correctional institutional guards do not need permits to carry pistols while on duty.
Chpt. 299 — S.F. 551 Governs inspection of correctional facilities in the state by the Commissioner of Corrections and standards for such institutions.
Chpt. 318 — S.F. 175 Relates to Corrections, powers of the Corrections Ombudsman, detention of juveniles, etc.

EDUCATION

Chpt. 8 — S.F. 22 Authorizes regionally based educational cooperative service units. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 15 — S.F. 1584 Relates to fire alarm systems in educational installations, reporting of false alarms, and deactivation for fire alarm systems because of false alarms.
Chpt. 18 — H.F. 1977 Relates to aid to taconite school districts, post-secondary vocational debt service aid, and community school programs aid. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 20 — H.F. 2331 Authorizes Independent School District 625 (St. Paul) to issue bonds and levy taxes to correct cash flow problems.
Chpt. 25 — H.F. 1721 Authorizes school boards to recognize area vocational-technical institute student associations.
Chpt. 31 — H.F. 717 Provides for a study by the Higher Education Coordinating Board of the need for doctors of optometry and osteopathy in the state.
Chpt. 34 — H.F. 951 Authorizes the State University Board to enter into reciprocity agreements with colleges and universities in other states and foreign countries.
Chpt. 37 — S.F. 570 Authorizes increased income tax deduction for tuition and books of dependents who attend non-public elementary and secondary schools. Effective for taxable years after 1974.
Chpt. 120 — S.F. 357 Provides one member of the University Board of Regents shall be a student or recent graduate and at least one Regent shall be from each congressional district.
Chpt. 168 — H.F. 1057 Requires school boards to hold public hearings on closing school houses.
Chpt. 194 — S.F. 2375 Makes appropriation for the "right to read" program. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 211 — H.F. 1993 Provides for standards and rules governing education of handicapped children.
Chpt. 212 — H.F. 1996 Relates to control of funds used for co-curricular and extra-curricular activities of school districts.
Chpt. 216 — H.F. 2520 Requires school districts to provide instructional materials to non-public school students, where late requests are made, for the school year 1975-76. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 217 — S.F. 360 Directs the Higher Education Coordinating Board to sponsor an annual meeting of members of various higher education boards.
Chpt. 271 — H.F. 1997 Omnibus Education Bill, relating to state aids, tax levies, special education, uniform accounting, etc. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 278 — H.F. 2147 Authorizes school boards to make rules governing parking on school grounds. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 287 — H.F. 2292 Authorizes Independent School Districts 832 and 833 to instruct pupils of District 834.
Chpt. 291 — H.F. 2472 Provides for an exchange of territory between Independent School Districts 12 and 624.

ELECTIONS, CAMPAIGNS

Chpt. 33 — H.F. 933 Provides that at general elections, non-partisan offices for which there is only one candidate be at the end of the ballot.
Chpt. 56 — S.F. 1690 Authorizes the Secretary of State to prescribe the form and method of canvassing election returns in statewide elections.
Chpt. 108 — S.F. 1273 Allows corporations to conduct projects to encourage people to vote and attend precinct caucuses. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 114 — S.F. 2030 Relates to affidavits of candidacy of probate, county and municipal court judges. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 132 — H.F. 2201 Relates to duties of the state demographer and determination of election precinct boundary lines. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 223 — S.F. 1998 Requires county auditors to have available registered voter lists by certain times before elections.
Chpt. 224 — S.F. 1999 Relates to elections, nominating petitions, ballots, location of names on voting machines, etc.
Chpt. 307 — S.F. 1499 Relates to the State Ethics Commission, definitions, reports of campaign committees and others, allocation of income tax check-offs, etc. Effective immediately.

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

Chpt. 21 — S.F. 806 Relates to control of noxious weeds and state reimbursement for control on state lands.
Chpt. 53 — S.F. 995 Writes new law on pesticides and pesticide application and use. Various effective dates.
Chpt. 76 — H.F. 574 Relates to the Pollution Control Agency, its power to issue subpoenas, reviews of decisions, payments to Indians for collection of abandoned cars, etc.
Chpt. 229 — S.F. 2560 Approves the wage and fringe benefit contract with State University System faculty and employees. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 265 — H.F. 1885 Requires the Metropolitan Airports Commission to install aircraft noise suppressing equipment at run-up sites at International Airport.
Chpt. 303 — S.F. 919 The Minnesota Environmental Coordination Procedures Act. Various effective dates.
Chpt. 322 — S.F. 1615 Prohibits leasing of state minerals and use of state lands for mining in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 333 — H.F. 500 Relates to the Minnesota Energy Agency, energy conservation rules, monitoring of energy research, prohibits gas lights, etc. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 336 — H.F. 1909 Limits sale and use of 2, 3, 7, 8, — tetrachlorodibenzo-para-dioxin (TCDD).
Chpt. 344 — H.F. 2492 Limits sale and use of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) and provides for payment of costs of environmental impact statement by the proposer of an action. Effective immediately.

GAME AND FISH

Chpt. 16 — S.F. 1647 Relates to the Department of Natural Resources, forest pest control programs, water access sites, game and fish law violation penalties, fish netting laws and licenses, etc. Various effective dates.
Chpt. 23 — S.F. 1501 Regulates entry upon agricultural lands to hunt big game.
Chpt. 38 — S.F. 1816 Allows moose hunting seasons in the years 1976 through 1979.
Chpt. 49 — H.F. 1999 Authorizes permits for temporarily handicapped hunters to hunt from cars. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 133 — H.F. 2263 Requires deer hunters' outer garments above the waist, excluding sleeves and gloves, to be red or blaze orange.
Chpt. 143 — S.F. 1530 Relates to game and fish licenses, period of licenses, distribution of license fees, and authorization of agents who sell such licenses.

Chpt. 190 — S.F. 2011 Makes lynx protected wild animals.
Chpt. 246 — H.F. 753 Makes it unlawful to take birds by use of steel leg-hold traps mounted above ground level.
Chpt. 258 — H.F. 1435 Relates to hunting with falcons.
Chpt. 55 — S.F. 1493 Regulates minnow dealers and the taking of minnows.
Chpt. 128 — H.F. 1751 Allows big game hunting with muzzle-loaders and requires firearms in vehicles to be unloaded, cased and in the trunk of a vehicle at night.

GENERAL LEGISLATION

Chpt. 1 — H.F. 1003 Lists records required to be kept on impounded animals.
Chpt. 2 — H.F. 1555 Makes corrective changes in Minnesota Statutes (Revisor's Bill).
Chpt. 11 — S.F. 370 Authorizes solemnization of marriages among Indians according to their religion by a holy man chosen by the participants. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 48 — H.F. 1904 Provides for protection of authenticated and identified Indian burial grounds.
Chpt. 51 — H.F. 2105 Authorizes renewal of the corporate existence of a county agricultural society. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 66 — S.F. 1135 Raises the age for purchase and consumption of alcohol to 19. Effective September 1, 1976.
Chpt. 105 — S.F. 749 Requires investigation of background and financial status of applicants for on-sale liquor licenses and of transferees of such licenses.
Chpt. 106 — S.F. 916 Relates to the historic sites of Split Rock Lighthouse, Birch Coulee Battlefield, and Minnesota Woman.
Chpt. 117 — S.F. 2173 Creates the office of State Folklorist and creates a center for study of Minnesota folk-life. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 137 — S.F. 454 Requires approval of the county or city for issuance of bottle club liquor licenses. Effective July 1, 1976.
Chpt. 160 — S.F. 2147 Authorizes the Liquor Control Commissioner to issue permits to sell liquor on-sale on military bases. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 163 — S.F. 2277 Codifies many provisions which have previously been contained in riders to appropriation bills. Effective July 1, 1976.
Chpt. 169 — H.F. 1075 Allows persons to donate blood at age 17. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 198 — H.F. 790 Allows courts to grant rights to visit a minor child by his grandparents when the child's parent is deceased.
Chpt. 201 — H.F. 1293 Provides funds to the State Arts Board for grants to public noncommercial television stations.
Chpt. 203 — H.F. 1440 Relates to recovery of abandoned lots in private cemeteries.
Chpt. 237 — H.F. 2225 Extends time for applying for Vietnam veterans adjusted compensation to December 31, 1976. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 239 — H.F. 2441 Revisor's Bill to correct erroneous, ambiguous, omitted and obsolete references and text, etc., in Minnesota Statutes.
Chpt. 249 — H.F. 943 Relates to powers of the Cable Communications Commission and county television translator systems. Effective immediately.
Chpt. 285 — H.F. 2217 Relates to veterinarians and their licensing and practices.
Chpt. 316 — S.F. 2402 Makes changes in state historic sites and designates the Minnesota Historical Society as the state agency for administration of the Federal Preservation of Historical and Archaeological Data Act.
Chpt. 337 — H.F. 1940 Creates an advisory council on the economic status of women. Various effective dates.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS AND REORGANIZATION

Chpt. 3 — H.F. 1741 Makes appropriations for semi-state activities. Effective for various fiscal years.
Chpt. 5 — S.F. 866 Abolishes the office of Liquor Control Commissioner and transfers his duties to the Commissioners of Public Safety and Revenue.

Chpt. 30 — H.F. 369 Provides that the Legislative Reference Library shall distribute its checklist of state documents to state agencies and libraries.

Chpt. 54 — S.F. 1252 Authorizes vending stands for the blind in buildings of governmental subdivisions.

Chpt. 81 — S.F. 612 Relates to withdrawal of shares in the state unclassified employees retirement program by persons who left state service before July, 1973. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 91 — S.F. 2355 Allows elected employees of the Legislature to be paid for unused leave time and unused sick leave on termination of service. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 92 — H.F. 527 Limits sale of surplus government property to public employees.

Chpt. 95 — H.F. 595 Authorizes firemen's relief associations to pay salaries to their presidents.

Chpt. 98 — H.F. 1966 Authorizes retired district and supreme court judges to participate in the state employee' hospital and medical benefits program. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 101 — H.F. 2216 Makes appropriations to pay claims against the state. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 129 — H.F. 1870 Provides for refunds of amounts deducted as administrative expenses in connection with public employee annuity contract payments. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 130 — H.F. 2155 Relates to public retirement programs and the payment of proportionate annuities from several funds. Effective retroactively to January 1, 1976.

Chpt. 134 — S.F. 1047 Relates to membership, terms, compensation, etc., of various state boards and commissions. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 138 — S.F. 674 Requires state agencies to estimate cost of implementation of proposed rules to local governments. Effective July 1, 1976.

Chpt. 149 — S.F. 1876 Corrects nomenclature of and restructures various state boards and commissions and abolishes others and transfers their duties.

Chpt. 172 — H.F. 2683 Makes appropriations to pay claims against the state. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 183 — S.F. 1821 Relates to status of persons in state employment whose positions are placed in the unclassified service. Effective immediately. Applies partially retroactively for one year.

Chpt. 199 — H.F. 920 Provides for a system of state registration of bicycles and for studies, etc. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 222 — S.F. 1906 Relates to many state licensing boards, their staffing and services, powers and duties and makes standard provisions. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 231 — H.F. 1130 Relates to the Department of Finance, duties of the Commissioner, requires program budgeting, provides for determination of indirect costs of state agencies, governs expenses of district judges, and reports of preserve and hunting grounds, etc. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 252 — H.F. 1069 Relates to state personnel rules and allows their supersession by employment agreement.

Chpt. 283 — H.F. 2204 Relates to the collection and dissemination of data by the state and local governments. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 314 — S.F. 2288 Relates to the Indian Affairs Intertribal Board, its membership, and its duties. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 326 — S.F. 2014 Relates to retirement and increases benefits for certain public and state employees who retired before July, 1973 and other dates. Effective July 1, 1976.

Chpt. 328 — S.F. 2082 Relates to payments from the taconite municipal aid account.

Chpt. 329 — S.F. 2177 Relates to retirement, particularly the Public Employees Retirement Association, and to other retirement funds. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 331 — S.F. 2581 Makes supplemental appropriations for state government and governs tort claims against the state. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 332 — H.F. 424 Creates a State Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 347 — H.F. 2677 Makes appropriations for repair and rehabilitation of state buildings and authorizes utility easement over state land to Mankato.

Chpt. 348 — H.F. 2678 Makes appropriations for capital improvements for state and other buildings and authorizes bonds. The Building Bill.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Chpt. 9 — H.F. 645 Authorizes community health services and makes appropriations to aid them. Partially effective July 1, 1975, and July 1, 1976.

Chpt. 40 — H.F. 1995 Changes the definition of "industrial quality eye protective devices" for purposes of certain industrial and scientific education courses.

Chpt. 45 — S.F. 830 Requires health insurance policies and subscriber health plan contracts to cover treatment in free standing ambulatory surgical centers.

Chpt. 90 — S.F. 2162 Relates to eye enucleation by trained morticians. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 107 — S.F. 932 Provides for establishment of fees for congregate living care under the income maintenance program by the Commissioner of Public Welfare.

Chpt. 125 — H.F. 1199 Relates to alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs and their funding. Effective July 1, 1976.

Chpt. 131 — H.F. 2157 Provides for administrative and judicial review of local welfare agency actions and decisions. Effective immediately, with exceptions.

Chpt. 152 — S.F. 1944 Permits the State Board of Health to waive certificate of need requirements for health care facilities in certain cases. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 170 — H.F. 1615 Relates to abortions performed after the twentieth week of pregnancy and preservation of live births.

Chpt. 186 — S.F. 1872 Provides that persons eligible for medical assistance may choose their own medical care vendors.

Chpt. 200 — H.F. 1143 Allows chiropractic colleges to receive cadavers to study.

Chpt. 202 — H.F. 1323 Relates to contract emergency ambulance services operated by non-profit entities. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 218 — S.F. 1552 Authorizes development of community based residential care facilities for mentally ill, deficient, etc., through the Housing Finance Agency.

Chpt. 242 — H.F. 348 Creates a joint underwriting association for medical malpractice insurance, and makes changes in laws relating to health benefits coverages. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 243 — H.F. 354 Governs licensing of day care and residential facilities for children and mentally retarded, mentally ill, handicapped etc. adults. Effective July 1, 1976.

Chpt. 262 — H.F. 1827 Requires health insurance policies and health contracts to cover out-patient treatment for alcoholism and chemical dependency. Effective September 30, 1976.

Chpt. 263 — H.F. 1847 Provides for registration of dental assistants.

Chpt. 276 — H.F. 2068 Authorizes hospital districts to make loans to medical students who agree to practice in the medical district.

Chpt. 286 — H.F. 2218 Relates to funding of local detoxification centers by the state.

Chpt. 289 — H.F. 2342 Provides state hospitals shall also be described as regional centers.

Chpt. 296 — S.F. 60 Minnesota Comprehensive Health Insurance Act, Minnesota Hospital Administration Act, and Minnesota Catastrophic Health Expense Protection Act. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 302 — S.F. 864 Relates to the Hospitalization and Commitment Act and requires that notice of hearings on discharge to be given to the spouse, child or next of kin.

Chpt. 305 — S.F. 1097 Provides for pilot programs for dental care of the elderly.

Chpt. 306 — S.F. 1223 Provides for grants by the Commissioner of Public Welfare for new and improved licensed day care facilities and their programs. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 323 — S.F. 1644 Establishes a senior companion program to provide services to handicapped and elderly persons. Effective July 1, 1976.

Chpt. 327 — S.F. 2032 Makes appropriation for pilot programs for community based mental health treatment in Dakota, Washington and Ramsey Counties. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 338 — H.F. 2019 Relates to controlled substances and schedules certain substances, notices on controlled substance labels and sale of these to detoxification centers.

HOUSING

Chpt. 10 — S.F. 234 Relates to eminent domain and waivers of relocation assistance and benefits.

Chpt. 17 — H.F. 1145 Relates to landlord and tenant and retaliatory evictions.

Chpt. 109 — S.F. 1624 Relates to housing and redevelopment authorities, terms of members, interests of employees and members in projects, and financial status of housing project tenants. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 254 — H.F. 1137 Relates to the Housing Finance Agency, persons eligible for assistance, Agency powers, and makes appropriations. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 300 — S.F. 556 Governs the interest rates which may be charged on conventional mortgage loans and provides for interest on escrow accounts. Various effective dates.

JUDICIAL

Chpt. 42 — H.F. 749 Relates to controlled substances and the crime of possession of a small amount of marijuana (goes to petty misdemeanor). Effective now.

Chpt. 57 — S.F. 1794 Increases jurisdiction of Hennepin and Ramsey County Conciliation Courts to \$1,000. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 72 — H.F. 2298 Requires deposits made in court for taking of possession in eminent domain cases to be deposited in interest-bearing accounts.

Chpt. 112 — S.F. 1825 Makes it theft to alter or remove serial numbers on personal property or to buy or sell such property with intent to deprive the rightful owner of its possession.

Chpt. 123 — H.F. 718 Relates to service of summons in unlawful detainer proceedings and stays of writs of restitution.

Chpt. 124 — H.F. 910 Relates to crimes of arson, possession of explosives, and criminal sexual conduct.

Chpt. 150 — S.F. 1920 Requires written findings of fact in juvenile court dispositions of delinquent, dependent or neglected children. Effective August 1, 1976.

Chpt. 163 — S.F. 1973 Relates to abatement of the statutes of limitations on actions while defendants are outside the state.

Chpt. 161 — S.F. 2373 Relates to the administration of estates, probate proceedings, waiver of inheritance liens, etc. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 174 — S.F. 4 Relates to terms of Court in the Ninth Judicial District.

Chpt. 178 — S.F. 1105 Makes it a crime to tamper with a witness.

Chpt. 184 — S.F. 1838 Allows indictments for bribery to be found within 6 years after commission of the crime. Effective for offenses after April 15, 1976.

Chpt. 193 — S.F. 2251 Relates to time for filing claims for crime victims reparations.

Chpt. 251 — H.F. 1056 Makes it trespass to enter the dwelling of another without his consent.

Chpt. 253 — H.F. 1087 Relates to applications for warrants to wiretap. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 256 — H.F. 1330 Relates to the prohibition against required employee polygraph examinations and provides for enforcement by the Department of Labor and Industry. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 260 — H.F. 1608 Makes appropriations for state aid to legal assistance corporation.

Chpt. 277 — H.F. 2107 Requires that attorney's fees for services in connection with claims for benefits for survivors of peace officers killed in line of duty must be approved. Effective for fees charged after July 31, 1976.



The Senate Index staff, pictured above, faces the arduous task of following legislation from committee to the floor and from one house to the other. Seated from left to right are chief indexer, Ardis Schulz and Nancy Van Hoven. Standing, from left to right, are Cathy Morrison, Lucie Gebhardt and Marcia Greenfield.



At Senate Labor and Commerce committee meeting, from left, Senator Jack Kleinbaum, Senator Gene Merriam, committee counsel, John Ellefson; committee chairman, Senator Baldy Hansen; committee secretary, Josie Dario; Senator Steve Keefe, Senator Winston Borden and Senator Roger Laufenburger.

Chpt. 284 — H.F. 2215 Makes appropriation to the hanger construction revolving account. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 297 — S.F. 354 Makes it a gross misdemeanor to operate a vehicle while the operator's driver's license is revoked or suspended because of liquor violations.

Chpt. 298 — S.F. 486 Provides for county alcohol safety programs to provide presentence investigation of persons convicted of driving violations involving liquor.

Chpt. 301 — S.F. 840 Relates to enforcement procedures under the Human Rights Act.

Chpt. 304 — S.F. 1051 Relates to attorneys and authorizes clients to change attorneys at any time, eliminates attorney's possessory liens, and provides for investigation of accusations against attorneys.

Chpt. 330 — S.F. 2313 Relates to periods of time for which inebriate persons may be committed.

Chpt. 335 — H.F. 1326 Makes changes in laws governing garnishment, executions, and wage assignments.

Chpt. 341 — H.F. 2374 Relates to driving while under the influence of alcohol, reports of stays of sentences, revocation of driver's licenses for blood alcohol content of .10 percent, etc.

LABOR AND COMMERCE

Chpt. 26 — H.F. 1829 Relates to records of insurance premium finance companies and their annual reports.

Chpt. 43 — H.F. 945 Exempts family farm corporation officers from unemployment compensation coverage. Effective retroactively to January 1, 1976.

Chpt. 59 — S.F. 1901 Relates to election of directors of cooperatives and persons eligible. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 60 — S.F. 1924 Defines employment agency to exclude exclusive teacher and nurse placement services.

Chpt. 74 — S.F. 1967 Relates to administration of express trusts by cities.

Chpt. 77 — H.F. 2022 Relates to issuances of certificates of title to registered land to replace lost certificates. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 79 — S.F. 345 Specific subrogation rights of insurers in connection with motor vehicle reparations insurance. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 86 — S.F. 1763 Relates to license fees of motor vehicle sales finance companies and extensions of payment schedules by such companies. Effective July 1, 1976.

Chpt. 93 — S.F. 733 Authorizes loans for business and agricultural purposes at interest rates of 5% in excess of the Federal Reserve discount rate on 90 day paper. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 102 — H.F. 2244 Relates to Public Employment Labor Relations and "fair share" fees. Effective immediately, with Sections 3 and 4 applying retroactively.

Chpt. 111 — S.F. 1636 Allows a resident insurance agent to hold an insurance premium finance agreement for 15 days.

Chpt. 121 — H.F. 290 Eliminates discrimination in insurance policies of various kinds based on sex.

Chpt. 135 — S.F. 10 Amends the Uniform Commercial Code relative to secured transactions.

Chpt. 142 — S.F. 1296 Relates to continuation of group health insurance coverages for employees whose employment has been terminated. Effective August 1, 1976.

Chpt. 148 — S.F. 1874 Mortgage curative act validating certain mortgage foreclosures and their records. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 154 — S.F. 1976 Relates to workmen's compensation, third party actions and distribution of proceeds from such actions. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 155 — S.F. 2033 Relates to cities and repurchase agreements issued by securities broker-dealers, bidding on group insurance and the definition of "city". Effective immediately.

Chpt. 158 — S.F. 2108 Allows state chartered agricultural credit corporations to make loans at a simple interest rate of 10% a year.

Chpt. 165 — H.F. 429 Increases state minimum wage to \$2.10 an hour for persons over 18 and to \$1.89 an hour for persons under 18. Effective October 1, 1976.

Chpt. 175 — S.F. 499 Allows non-renewal of auto insurance policies where an insured ceases to pay dues to an organization where membership is a prerequisite.

Chpt. 176 — S.F. 687 Relates to credit unions, voting by mail for amendments and directors and classification of share accounts.

Chpt. 180 — S.F. 1570 Relates to auto reparations insurance and priority of payment of economic loss benefits in connection with school buses.

Chpt. 185 — S.F. 1848 Brings surety bonds within the scope of the Insurance Guaranty Association law.

Chpt. 187 — S.F. 1932 Requires notice be given of automatic renewal of time deposits and any penalties for failure to redeem prior to automatic renewal. Effective July 1, 1976.

Chpt. 192 — S.F. 2232 Requires accident and health insurance and health service policies to cover optometric services.

Chpt. 197 — H.F. 447 Relates to licensing of real estate brokers and provides for licenses for persons who engage solely in rental or management of real estate.

Chpt. 207 — H.F. 1929 Provides that accident and health policies and health service plan contracts provide coverage for podiatrist's services.

Chpt. 213 — H.F. 2335 Governs capital and surplus requirements of insurance companies. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 219 — S.F. 1753 Requires that savings accounts in credit unions and savings and loans be insured. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 221 — S.F. 1865 Provides for a countersignature commission for resident Minnesota insurance agents who procure insurance for non-resident agents in certain cases.

Chpt. 230 — H.F. 1078 Requires persons engaged in construction of buildings for resale to maintain trust accounts.

Chpt. 232 — H.F. 1271 Relates to construction workers benefits and requires transfer of pension benefits to a worker's home union benefit fund.

Chpt. 235 — H.F. 1828 Relates to names used by industrial loan and thrift companies and their powers. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 236 — H.F. 2117 Provides for assignment of automobile accident coverage benefits by recipients of medical assistance.

Chpt. 240 — H.F. 81 Extends time for curing defaults in termination of contracts for deed in some cases. Effective for contracts executed after August 1, 1976.

Chpt. 241 — H.F. 101 Relates to liability insurance on aircraft. Effective July 1, 1976.

Chpt. 244 — H.F. 471 Governs condominium, apartment owners associations and disclosures to a prospective purchaser of a condominium.

Chpt. 250 — H.F. 955 Governs procedures for repossession of mobile homes.

Chpt. 261 — H.F. 1767 Writes new law providing for the regulation of bingo.

Chpt. 308 — S.F. 1780 Allows credit unions to allow their members to make draft withdrawals from their accounts.

Chpt. 342 — H.F. 2414 Relates to motor vehicle dealers and their regulation. Effective immediately.

LOCAL AND METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT

Chpt. 4 — S.F. 816 Requires towns to file their financial reports with the State Auditor.

Chpt. 6 — S.F. 906 Increases Register of Deeds fees for filing plats.

Chpt. 7 — S.F. 1507 Reestablishes the office of Ramsey County Surveyor.

Chpt. 12 — S.F. 1405 Relates to terms of office of Edina city councilmen and mayor.

Chpt. 13 — S.F. 1510 Allows the Ramsey County Board to set fees charged by its sheriff's office.

Chpt. 14 — S.F. 1541 Deletes the county welfare budget deadline for Ramsey County.

Chpt. 27 — H.F. 1880 Authorizes conveyance of Kittson County land to Harvey C. Shirley, Merlyn C. and Lenore Haugen. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 28 — S.F. 869 Relates to disposition of the proceeds from sale of tax forfeited lands in St. Louis County.

Chpt. 36 — H.F. 1191 Places new Austin policemen and firemen in the PERA Police and Fire Fund.

Chpt. 41 — H.F. 2170 Relates to optional forms of township government and their adoption and election of township officers. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 44 — S.F. 375 Makes many changes in the laws relating to cities, particularly in regard to statutory cities. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 46 — S.F. 43 Repeals special law allowing Minneapolis to rezone parcels of land after adoption of its zoning ordinance.

Chpt. 47 — H.F. 59 Authorizes towns to request the taking of a census by the Secretary of State.

Chpt. 50 — H.F. 2011 Authorizes conveyance of certain Corrections land to Red Wing for recreational purposes.

Chpt. 58 — S.F. 1852 Validates bonds issued by Fulda for a fire truck and fire station addition.

Chpt. 64 — S.F. 2168 Authorizes conveyance of Count Beltrami State Monument to the town of Turtle Lake. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 65 — S.F. 2237 Authorizes conveyance of certain tax-forfeited land in St. Louis County to Carol R. Maxwell and Anna Mae Schauenberg. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 67 — H.F. 1099 Relates to taxes levied in Hennepin County for Hennepin County General Hospital — shifts some of the burden to suburbs.

Chpt. 69 — H.F. 1959 Authorizes conveyance of part of Red Wing State Training School watermain to Red Wing.

Chpt. 70 — H.F. 1960 Relates to the Goodview Firemen's Relief Association.

Chpt. 71 — H.F. 1961 Relates to pensions payable by the Chanhassen Firemen's Relief Association.

Chpt. 75 — S.F. 2057 Relates to the Duluth Arena-Auditorium liquor license and sale of liquor at athletic events.

Chpt. 78 — H.F. 2009 Relates to police and firemen's pensions in Chisholm, Duluth and Eveleth.

Chpt. 82 — S.F. 1120 Authorizes a state grant-in-aid program to units of local government which are within the watersheds of tributaries of the Minnesota River between Ortonville and Mankato.

Chpt. 85 — S.F. 1576 Relates to survivor benefits paid by the Crookston and Thief River Falls Police Relief Associations.

Chpt. 87 — S.F. 1866 Authorizes the Blue Earth County Welfare Board to establish certain contingent funds.

Chpt. 88 — S.F. 1996 Authorizes county boards to furnish board, laundry and other services to prisoners in county jails. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 89 — S.F. 2068 Authorizes conveyance of the state's right to a flowage easement in Washington County to Howard E. and Sophie M. Sargeant. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 97 — H.F. 1963 Relates to annuities payable to retired firemen by the Mound Volunteer Fire Department Relief Association.

Chpt. 99 — H.F. 2010 Relates to policemen's relief associations in Eveleth and Duluth.

Chpt. 100 — H.F. 2090 Relates to pensions payable by the Worthington Firemen's Relief Association.

Chpt. 113 — S.F. 1868 Requires that copies of land surveys be filed with the county surveyor in counties where he maintains an office on a full-time basis.

Chpt. 115 — S.F. 2155 Authorizes the United Hospital District, Staples, to issue bonds.

Chpt. 116 — S.F. 2161 Authorizes temporary one day on-sale liquor licenses for sale of liquor during the May Bowle Festival held at St. Cloud State University, College of St. Benedict or St. John's University.

Chpt. 119 — S.F. 2284 Authorizes Nobles and Rock Counties to have television translator stations.

Chpt. 122 — H.F. 435 Provides for payment to Two Harbors officers for lost wages while engaged in city business and authorizes Eveleth to sell certain park lands.

Chpt. 126 — H.F. 1372 Relates to drainage proceedings and reconsideration of engineers and viewers reports where there has been unreasonable delays in construction. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 127 — H.F. 1530 Provides for regulation of land use planning in the metropolitan area and requires local governments to adopt land controls subject to Metropolitan Council review. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 139 — S.F. 1039 Allows counties to require approval of plats and registered land surveys by the county surveyor.

Chpt. 140 — S.F. 1156 Allows local governments to borrow up to \$100,000 from the Farmers Home Administration for fire halls and fire equipment. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 144 — S.F. 1575 Authorizes counties outside the metropolitan area to make grants of revenue sharing funds to local county government for local fire departments and community projects. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 145 — S.F. 1792 Relates to fees payable in connection with registered land for entry of memorials and payable to the assurance fund.

Chpt. 146 — S.F. 1813 Authorizes conveyance of certain state land in Roseau County to Steven Kvien. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 147 — S.F. 1873 Authorizes counties to make special assessments for county highway improvements in unorganized townships. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 151 — S.F. 1928 Authorizes Maplewood to levy taxes for its paramedic program.

Chpt. 156 — S.F. 2051 Allows payments on municipal local improvement contracts in excess of 90% prior to completion upon recommendation of the city engineer.

Chpt. 157 — S.F. 2077 Authorizes Blue Earth County to expend additional sums to improve County Ditch 27. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 159 — S.F. 2130 Authorizes conveyance of certain state highway lands to Hennepin County. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 167 — H.F. 1026 Authorizes the State Planning Agency to make grants to the Metropolitan Council and local governments for land use planning assistance. Effective July 1, 1976.

Chpt. 171 — H.F. 2518 Relates to use of state land conveyed to Hastings and contributions by Dakota County League of Municipalities.

Chpt. 177 — S.F. 975 Sets requirements for notice of hearings on county planning and zoning proposals.

Chpt. 179 — S.F. 1363 Relates to solid waste disposal in the Metropolitan Area and waste policy plan by the Metropolitan Council and counties. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 181 — S.F. 1635 Changes the name of the register of deeds to "county recorder" and his office to "office of county recorder".

Chpt. 182 — S.F. 1740 Authorizes counties to establish county personnel administration systems and personnel departments. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 191 — S.F. 2078 Relates to the metropolitan area tax distribution law and the dates used in calculation of the distribution. Effective for taxes levied in 1976 and subsequently.

Chpt. 206 — H.F. 1913 Relates to benefits payable by the Waseca Firemen's Relief Association.

Chpt. 208 — H.F. 1962 Relates to pensions payable by the Wadena Firemen's Relief Association.

Chpt. 209 — H.F. 1967 Relates to pensions payable by the Rockford Firemen's Relief Association.

Chpt. 214 — H.F. 2338 Relates to pensions payable by the Fergus Falls Fire Department Relief Association.

Chpt. 220 — S.F. 1812 Authorizes Lake of the Woods County to have a television translator system.

Chpt. 226 — S.F. 2223 Authorizes Albert Lea to have a housing finance program and authorizes Rochester to have seven housing and redevelopment commissioners.

Chpt. 234 — H.F. 1519 Relates to St. Paul and authorizes it to issue bonds, expend certain funds, approve its port authority's revenue bonds and makes its city council members, members of its housing and redevelopment authority.

Chpt. 238 — H.F. 2230 Relates to teachers' retirement associations in first class cities, authorizes a referendum on Social Security coverage for Mpls. teachers and a coordinated and basic plan for Mpls. teachers, and bylaw and article changes for first class city teachers' retirement associations. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 247 — H.F. 771 Places the Albert Lea police chief and Buhl police officers in the PERA Police and Fire Fund.

Chpt. 257 — H.F. 1333 Relates to fees of coroners and forbids interference with a scene of death in order to mislead a coroner.

Chpt. 264 — H.F. 1866 Relates to tort liability of municipalities, limits of liability, and times for filing claims.

Chpt. 266 — H.F. 1892 Relates to disasters and emergencies and powers of local governments in local emergencies. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 267 — H.F. 1918 Increases benefits payable by the Shakopee Fire Department Relief Association.

Chpt. 270 — H.F. 1988 Authorizes an Interstate Port Authority Commission and allows port authorities to exercise foreign trade zone powers.

Chpt. 272 — H.F. 2007 Relates to the Wayzata and Newport Volunteer Fire Department Relief Associations and allows Maple Grove to refund temporary improvement bonds.

Chpt. 279 — H.F. 2159 Relates to the Minneapolis Municipal Employees Retirement Association and allows credit unions to hold individual retirement accounts.

Chpt. 288 — H.F. 2321 Relates to pensions paid by the Sauk Rapids Fire Department Relief Association and the St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission.

Chpt. 290 — H.F. 2440 Relates to the collection of law library fees in Beltrami, Clearwater and Ramsey Counties.

Chpt. 293 — H.F. 2534 Relates to the Moose Lake and Windemere Area Sanitary Sewer District and provides for payment of retirement benefits of a certain probate judge by Chisago, Isanti and Pine Counties.

Chpt. 309 — S.F. 1820 Provides for a law library for Marshall County.

Chpt. 311 — S.F. 2056 Authorizes the Duluth Housing and Redevelopment Authority to make loans and grants to rehabilitate residential properties and authorizes Orr to issue bonds for a fire hall and city hall.

Chpt. 313 — S.F. 2195 Authorizes cities with municipal electric utilities to create municipal power agencies. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 315 — S.F. 2309 Relates to state aid for policemen's relief associations and benefits payable by volunteer firemen's relief associations. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 321 — S.F. 855 Provides guidelines for determining matters of metropolitan area significance. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 324 — S.F. 1675 Makes changes in laws relating to local bonds and special assessment bonds. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 340 — H.F. 2233 Allows Otter Tail, Aitkin, Carlton, Itasca, and Koochiching Counties to have human services boards.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Chpt. 83 — S.F. 1308 Relates to the Department of Natural Resources and acquisition of wildlife lands, state water policy, inventory of public waters, waterbank program, drainage, etc. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 84 — S.F. 1456 Relates to the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission and gives the Commissioner of Natural Resources duty to provide its administrative functions and review its budget. Effective July 1, 1976.

Chpt. 96 — H.F. 1957 Allows the Commissioner of Natural Resources to acquire real estate by condemnation with the consent of the landowner.

Chpt. 228 — S.F. 2436 Authorizes the Commissioner of Natural Resources and Lake and St. Louis Counties to sell necessary public land for disposal of Reserve Mining Company's taconite tailings. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 346 — H.F. 2657 Relates to natural resources, state park fees, designates the Zumbro River as a canoe route, small game license for the elderly, game and fish license fees, water permits, etc. Various effective dates.

NURSING HOMES

Chpt. 173 — S.F. 1956 Governs the licensing and inspection of nursing homes, requires licensing of nursing home administrators, etc. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 188 — S.F. 1957 Prohibits false claims for reimbursement for medical services rendered under medical assistance and provides penalties. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 273 — H.F. 2038 Relates to medical assistance vendor fraud investigations by the Commissioner of Public Welfare. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 274 — H.F. 2039 Expands patient's bill of rights for persons in health care facilities.

Chpt. 275 — H.F. 2041 Directs the Board on Aging to develop a policy on long term care of citizens of the state and alternatives to institutionalization. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 282 — H.F. 2203 Establishes guidelines for costs charged by nursing homes in connection with medical assistance. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 310 — S.F. 2025 Requires that nursing home assistants be trained. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 312 — S.F. 2175 Authorizes an experimental program for in-home care of persons who might also be placed in nursing homes and makes public health nurses medical care vendors. Effective July 1, 1977.

Chpt. 325 — S.F. 1959 Relates to health care grievances and provides an office of nursing home complaints, grievance procedures, requires malpractice claim reports, etc. Various effective dates.

RECREATION

Chpt. 24 — S.F. 2034 Authorizes a canoe and boating route on the Straight River. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 110 — S.F. 1627 Adds land to the boundaries of Killen Woods and Itasca State Parks. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 141 — S.F. 1262 Authorizes county auditors to grant easements for recreational trails over tax forfeited lands.

TAXES

Chpt. 118 — S.F. 2174 Allows importation of ten quarts of fermented malt beverages without payment of state tax. Effective June 1, 1976.

Chpt. 162 — S.F. 2210 Authorizes watershed districts which are members of the Lower Red River Watershed Management Board to levy additional taxes. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 189 — S.F. 1997 Provides a \$2 tax credit per barrel on the first 75,000 barrels of beer produced and sold in the state. Effective for beer sold after June 30, 1976.

Chpt. 195 — H.F. 374 Relates to deferment of special assessments against homesteads of senior citizens. Effective immediately, but not as to proceedings commenced prior to enactment.

Chpt. 196 — H.F. 404 Relates to financial institutions, installment loans, open and loan accounts, bank credit cards, revolving loan accounts, etc. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 215 — H.F. 2442 Restores language relative to inheritance tax deduction erroneously omitted. Revisor's Bill. Effective retroactively to January 1, 1976.

Chpt. 245 — H.F. 617 Relates to valuation of homes owned by permanently disabled and income tax rent and homestead credits for the elderly and disabled. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 248 — H.F. 814 Increases county auditor fees for delinquent tax, current tax, and Federal tax lien certificates.

Chpt. 259 — H.F. 1471 Allows assessment or reassessment of tax forfeited land returned to private ownership for local improvements. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 268 — H.F. 1947 Relates to assessment of apartments as homesteads in cooperative apartment houses. Effective for taxes levied in 1976 and thereafter.

Chpt. 280 — H.F. 2175 Relates to local government levy limit base adjustments.

Chpt. 319 — S.F. 320 Increases proportion of unfunded gasoline tax attributable to snowmobile operations and distributes the same. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 320 — S.F. 633 Increases inheritance tax exemptions and allows installment payment of inheritance taxes. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 334 — H.F. 980 Relates to taxes and provides for supplemental housing allowances, air flight property tax, agricultural credits, equalization boards, tax statements, etc. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 345 — H.F. 2546 Relates to the assessment of residential and recreational property and of newly improved property.

TRANSPORTATION

Chpt. 19 — S.F. 1949 Authorizes issuance of special motor vehicle license plates for the physically handicapped. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 29 — S.F. 1551 Designates a highway route as the "Viking Trail".

Chpt. 35 — H.F. 1104 Prohibits driving passenger cars with unsafe tires and sale of cars with unsafe tires.

Chpt. 39 — H.F. 1527 Relates to the licensing and taxation of trucks and recreational vehicles. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 62 — S.F. 2070 Adopts a new highway route from near Stillwater to Roseville (Route 118).

Chpt. 73 — S.F. 1862 Deletes requirement that applications for registration and taxation of motor vehicles be made under oath.

Chpt. 80 — S.F. 429 Authorizes the Department of Highways to improve a road for access to the Minnesota Zoological Garden.

Chpt. 94 — S.F. 2344 Authorizes issuance of temporary vehicle permits for used motor vehicles.

Chpt. 103 — H.F. 2326 Repeals law prohibiting persons under age 17 from driving between midnight and 5:00 A.M. Effective June 1, 1976.

Chpt. 104 — H.F. 2463 Allows use of flashing amber lights on wrecker and service vehicles.

Chpt. 136 — S.F. 161 Amends requirements for wheel flaps on trucks. Effective January 1, 1977.

Chpt. 164 — S.F. 2318 Requires the Commissioner of Highways to maintain acoustical barriers along interstate highways in the metropolitan area.

Chpt. 166 — H.F. 525 Creates a state Department of Transportation. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 204 — H.F. 1876 The Minnesota Rail Service Improvement Act. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 205 — H.F. 1895 Relates to brakes on trailers and trailers drawn by vehicles with brakes capable of stopping both.

Chpt. 225 — S.F. 2151 Exempts liquid fertilizer trailers from tax and provides for waiver of penalties for late registration of stored motor vehicles. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 233 — H.F. 1382 Relates to commuter van programs, authorizes funds for a state program, eliminates certain liabilities, etc. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 255 — H.F. 1284 Relates to zoning adjacent to airports, joint airport zoning boards, and administration of zoning regulations.

Chpt. 281 — H.F. 2188 Relates to deputy registrars of motor vehicles, county license bureaus, use of state vehicles by the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Public Safety and Highway Patrol aircraft. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 292 — H.F. 2490 Changes the route of the "Glacial Ridge Trail".

Chpt. 294 — H.F. 2560 Allows political subdivision sewage sludge vehicles used on highways to be 12 feet wide.

Chpt. 295 — H.F. 2600 Requires persons seeking two-wheeled vehicle instruction permits to be enrolled in a two-wheeled driver's safety course.

Chpt. 317 — S.F. 2486 Allows the Commissioner of Highways to prepare environmental impact statements and land reports concerning Interstate Highways in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Effective immediately.

Chpt. 339 — H.F. 2144 Creates a state transportation fund and authorizes sale of state bonds and use of proceeds for highway bridges. Various effective dates.

Chpt. 343 — H.F. 2489 Relates to permits for overweight vehicles, refuse compactor vehicles and allows graphic design license plates. Effective immediately.

Senate Public Information Office
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St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

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645 State Office Building
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Published monthly by
Senate Public Information Office
Room B-29 — State Capitol
St. Paul, Minn. 55155

James Pirius
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Debi Unger
Asst. Ed.
Charley Geer
Photographer
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Majority Liaisons
Sen. Robert Dunn
Sen. Rolf Nelson
Minority Liaisons

75 Minnesotans Named To State Boards And Departments

Governor Wendell Anderson appointed a total of 76 persons to various state agencies, departments, boards and commissions during the 1976 Session. The following persons were confirmed by the Senate.*

*Mr. William Watters, appointed to the State Personnel Board, was not approved by the Senate.

**ADVISORY COMMISSION ON
FLUCTUATING SCHOOL
ENROLLMENTS**

John B. McCarthy

**CAPITOL AREA ARCHITECTURAL
AND PLANNING COMMISSION**

Gordon Rosenmeier
Mrs. Solveig Premack
Mrs. Marjorie Vogel

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE;
DIVISION OF SECURITIES**

John Larson (Commissioner)

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

Lee Vann (Commissioner)

ETHICAL PRACTICES BOARD

Harold Chase
Roger Noreen

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Gerald Christenson (Commissioner)

GILLETTE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

Herbert G. Lancaster

**HIGHER EDUCATION
FACILITIES AUTHORITY**

Robert Freson
Robert J. Huston

**JUDICIAL STANDARDS
COMMISSION**

Mrs. Ruby Hunt
Harvey A. Stegemoeller

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

George Dahlvang
Gary Pagel

**METROPOLITAN TRANSIT
COMMISSION**

J. Douglas Kelm (Chairman)

MINNESOTA ENERGY AGENCY

John P. Millhone (Director)

**MINNESOTA HOUSING
FINANCE AGENCY**

Bernard Carlson
Rev. Lawrence C. Gavin
James Johnson
Richard Miller

**MINNESOTA POLLUTION
CONTROL AGENCY**

Peter L. Gove (Executive Director)
Joseph Grinnell
Mrs. Marion Watson

**MINNESOTA WATER
RESOURCES BOARD**

Duane Ekman

MUNICIPAL COMMISSION

Thomas J. Simmons

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND
HEALTH REVIEW BOARD**

Jack Fena
Kenneth Sovereign

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Katherine Sasseville

STATE ARTS BOARD

Kenneth Dayton
James Glazman
Mrs. Sandra Hale
Mrs. Arlene Helgeson
Miss Laura Jane Musser
Alvinia O'Brien
Mrs. Anne Marie Plunkett
Dr. Walter S. Prausnitz
Phillip Von Blon
Dr. Alvin Zelickson
Louis V. Zelle

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