

**Budget Advice
By Arthur Levitt**

I urge Governor Rockefeller to give the Legislature a five-year fiscal plan — one that will show, in broad outline, how much the State is expected to spend, how much money will be borrowed, and how much is estimated from taxes.

No budget can be analyzed in isolation. Dramatic proof of this fact is the Budget which was submitted Tuesday: it reflects the spending program of the past and it foreshadows the burden of the future. To hack at it in the dark is a frustrating task. We need the full exposure of what it means in the State's total fiscal plan.

Just as programs initiated in past years have led to the hundreds of millions of dollars of "mandated and obligatory" increases in spending proposed for this year, so the changes in formulas, the new programs and the additional buildings provided in this year's budget lead inexorably to higher costs to come.

How much higher in 1969-70? How much higher in 1972-73?

Unfortunately, the proposed Budget, despite its mention (on page M120) of multi-year program financial projections, offers no distinct guide for the future. Indeed, the Budget Message points out that these figures are used only by the Governor and the Budget Director.

But the Legislature — and the people — are entitled to know the answers too. As the elected representative of the people, bearing the burden for making the final and crucial financial decisions, the Legislature must have the benefit of what ever long-range projections exist. Only with full knowledge of the effect of this year's budget on the future can the Legislature act responsibly.

**All Aliens
Must Register**

District Director, William J. King of the Immigration and Naturalization Service estimated today that more than 20,000 aliens will report their addresses in the City of Buffalo during January under the Federal Alien Address Report Program.

The Immigration Official said that 75,305 aliens reported their addresses in the Buffalo District during January 1967.

Mr. King said that all non citizens, except those in diplomatic status and foreign representatives of certain international organizations, are required to file the address report.

He added that any alien who willfully violates the address report requirement may be fined up to \$200, imprisoned for 30 days, and deported.

In addition, aliens who are not in the United States during January must report their addresses to the Service within 10 days after their return.

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**Property Ownership Not
Required For Public
Office In New Bill**

You will not have to be a property owner in a town, village or special municipal district in order to run for public office if a bill introduced in the Legislature today on the recommendation of Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz is enacted into law.

The measure, which amends the Town Law and the Village Law, would eliminate sections of these laws requiring ownership of property as a qualification for election, appointment or continuance in certain offices and for voting on certain propositions.

"The sections of the Town Law which relate to property ownership as a prerequisite for holding office were declared unconstitutional by the state Court of Appeals last year and it is only proper that the law should be changed to remove these unconstitutional provisions", the Attorney General said.

"In striking down the provisions, the Court of Appeals stated that — it is impossible today to find any rational connection between qualifications for administering town affairs and ownership of real property."

"Such a requirement, moreover, is archaic in modern day society. In our rapidly growing towns and villages there are many former property owners who now live in rented premises and many young people who may be highly qualified to serve in public office but who do not as yet own real property. To deny them the right to hold public office simply because they rent is unfair". Attorney General Lefkowitz said. Villages and special districts, including fire districts, would seem to be in the same classification as towns where the Court of Appeals declared unconstitutional a property ownership requirement.

The bill would change the village law which now provides that certain propositions must be submitted at a village election upon the petition of "owners of real property". The amendment provides that the words "qualified voters" be substituted for "owners of real property."

School districts are not included in this bill because there are two alternatives to a property ownership requirement for holding office on such boards — that of being a renter of premises or the parent of a child in school.

**The Politicians Giveth!!!
— And Taketh Away!!!**

Four amendments of the State's Medicaid program, including reduction of the income eligibility levels to conform with recently enacted Federal mandates, were recommended by Governor Rockefeller this week to save an estimated \$92 million each for the State and localities in the next fiscal year.

The Governor submitted a \$5,494,000,000 Executive Budget for 1968-69 to the Legislature Tuesday, along with a program of tax increases estimated to yield an additional \$494 million of revenue.

In proposing Medicaid revisions, the Governor cited the Federal cutback of eligibility standards which he said limits "the scope of Federal support for this program" and also a growing demand for Medicaid which has "put extreme pressure on available medical services."

"I am proposing," he said, "that the minimum income eligibility levels be reduced in accordance with Federal mandates and that different eligibility standards be provided for the Metropolitan New York area and the remainder of the State." The Governor also recommended:

— Limited Medicaid benefits for those between 21 and 64 years of age, who do not qualify for them under Federal assistance programs, to inpatient care in medical institutions;

— Reducing from 20 to 25 per cent of annual income the savings permissible for a family qualifying for Medicaid under the income-eligibility standard;

— Requiring those not receiving public assistance to pay 20 per cent of the cost for all medical services except inpatient hospital care;

— Estimating these recommendations would result in "holding down increases of State Medicaid

expenditures by \$92 million and those of localities by a comparable amount," the Governor said:

"To make certain that no locality is burdened with the effect of increases in the 1968-69 level of the Medicaid program above the 1967-68 level, I am recommending that the State assume responsibility for such increases through 'safe harmless' legislation."

**Did You Get The Wrong
Car Registration Renewal**

If you received a wrong punch card registration renewal application from the Department of

Motor Vehicles, the one which would have been for the car you sold several months ago, don't do anything right away. Wait a week or so — for you'll still have time — and you may get the correct card. The Department processes some 1,400,000 re-registrations each 12 months (that's when you shift from one car to another) and it takes time to get the new data on the computer. If the application still does not arrive by the 15th of the month of expiration, fill out a paper application. That'll do just as well. Send back the wrong punch card, too.

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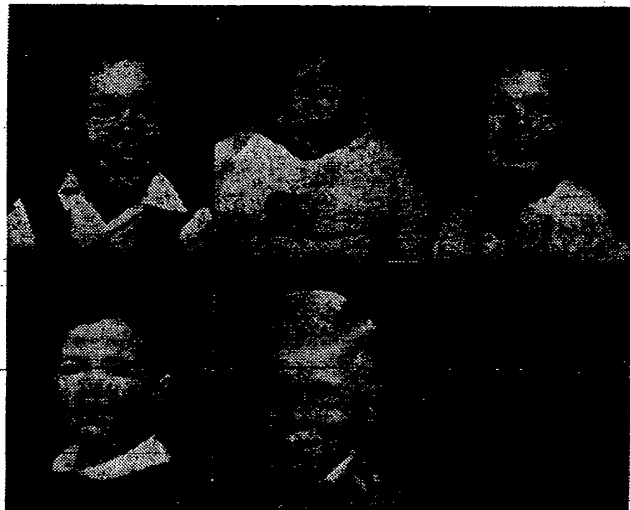
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Left to Right — Gary, 3 yrs., son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Ryckman; Carmen, 3 mos., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rifenburg; Bruce, 1 1/2 yrs., son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Baker II; Mary Anne, 20 mos., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul McCormick; Michael, 3 yrs., son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Rogers.

DOG OWNERS!

IF YOU HAVE NOT LICENSED YOUR
DOG BY NOW, YOU ARE DELINQUENT.

The delinquent list will be made February
1, 1968.

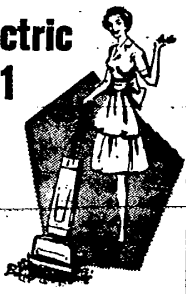
Summons and penalties are possible after
that date.

JOAN DIBBLE,
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