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drafted a fiscal reform program that included a 2% personal income tax, a 14% corporate profits tax, and a 6% income tax on financial institutions. It seemed a sound program for a state long tormented by a fiscal nightmare. But a special session of the legislature in Lansing last week buried Romney's proposals—and the interment was conducted no less by dissident Republicans than by Democrats. As a result, Michigan will not get fiscal reform this year, and perhaps not for a long time.

"I've Got a Program." The burial began a fortnight ago, when the Senate voted 20-11 to keep the income tax bill off the floor. Romney mustered only eleven G.O.P. votes: nine Republicans and eleven Democrats voted against him.

For days thereafter, Romney held long and fruitless meetings with members of both parties. He had little success with conservative Republicans and even less with Democrats. In one dramatic confrontation with about 40 House and Senate Democrats in his office, Romney declared: "I'm prepared to discuss with you any changes that you think will make the bill acceptable to you." Replied Democratic Lieutenant Governor T. John Lesinski: "We will not write your program. It is the responsibility of the executive to provide leadership. We stand ready to assist." Snapped Romney: "I'm not asking Democrats to write my program. I've got a program. What we're talking about is votes."

Two days later the House brought up a key amendment to the income tax bill, turned it down 47-44; 16 Republicans and 31 Democrats voted to kill. Thereupon, without even deigning to vote on the whole proposition, the legislature adjourned until next year.

"I Wouldn't Know." With his own Republican Party badly split, Romney has vitally needed Democratic votes.

JOE CLARK



GEORGE ROMNEY
So there goes the program.

But the Democrats understandably were not eager to help Romney make a record that might boost him toward the White House. And they still had sad memories of how G.O.P. legislators had treated Romney's Democratic predecessors. Said a Democratic representative: "We needed Republican votes to pass Mennen Williams' and John Swainson's fiscal reform programs, but they were never forthcoming. George Romney was on the hook this time. Why should we have gotten him off?"

At a press conference later, a reporter asked the Governor if he thought that his defeat would tarnish his national image. Replied George Romney: "I wouldn't know—and I couldn't care less."

A Luncheon in Philadelphia

If, as Dick Nixon said, Bill Scranton was the man to take a look at, some influential Republicans were following his advice. About 20 of them traveled recently to Philadelphia for an unpublicized luncheon meeting with the Pennsylvania Governor. It was held in the office of Tom McCabe, vice president of Scott Paper Co., longtime Pennsylvania Republican money raiser and an ardent Scranton admirer.

The guest list read like an East Coast Republicans' *Who's Who*. Among those attending: former U.S. Attorney General Herbert Brownell, political strategist for Tom Dewey and Dwight Eisenhower; CBS Board Chairman William Paley; Du Pont's Pierre S. du Pont III; General Electric's Ralph Cordiner; former Defense Secretary Tom Gates, an Ike intimate; New York Herald Tribune President Walter Thayer; Philadelphia Inquirer Publisher Walter Annenberg, and party officials from Delaware and New Jersey. Invited but sending regrets were George M. Humphrey, Eisenhower's Treasury Secretary, and former G.O.P. National Chairman Meade Alcorn.

Scranton was ostensibly on hand to deliver his standard, bring-industry-to-Pennsylvania pitch—and did. But everyone there knew the real reason for the luncheon. "It was an effort," conceded one of the luncheon's planners, "to give Scranton some exposure." That effort paid off handsomely: Said a guest: "I got the impression he was capable of running a good show. To me, Scranton is an impressive guy."

Back in Harrisburg afterward, Scranton seemed somewhat less adamant in his insistence that he is not in the least interested in presidential politics. Asked about attempts by Pennsylvania's Goldwater forces to get an early nod from the state G.O.P. organization, Scranton replied: "Pennsylvania should, at least for the present, remain uncommitted." He noted that a private poll he had ordered showed that he would run better in Pennsylvania than either Rocky or Barry.



JOHN JOHN AT WORK
So the other photographers could shoot.

THE PRESIDENCY

The Week

President Kennedy was in ill humor at last week's press conference. He was, among other things, angered by the failure of Congress to move on the tax cut and civil rights bills.

"The fact of the matter is," Kennedy snapped, "that both these bills should be passed." But, he conceded, they stand almost no chance of being enacted before Congress goes home for Christmas Dec. 20. The President dolefully predicted that the measures might collide on the Senate floor early next year, and the tax bill—with its \$11 billion relief, which Kennedy, curiously, warns must come quickly to avoid a national recession next year—might be further delayed. If that happens, he reiterated, "I think the economy will suffer."

10,000 Sugar Cookies. But life was not all sour grapes for the President last week. On Veterans Day he took John Jr., dubbed "John-John" by the family, along for ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery. While the President and U.S. military leaders were marching toward the Tomb of the Unknowns, John-John escaped from Secret Servicemen and busted into the parade. Some folks thought that a good, firm nanny might well be employed to keep a 2½-year-old out of solemn ceremonies, but the President thought the whole incident was hilarious. Anyhow, *Look Magazine* was closing an exclusive pictorial essay on the lad, and the White House, which likes to pass publicity around, felt that other photographers should have some pictures of John-John in action.

Next day, Jack, Jackie and the kids played host to 2,000 underprivileged