

Post 11-15-74

Saxbe Asks Ways to Halt Fake Identity

Associated Press

Atty. Gen. William B. Saxbe urged government officials yesterday to find ways to prevent false identification papers from falling into the hands of thousands of criminals.

"I think with your help we can lick the problem. We can get help from Congress; we can get help from the state legislatures," Saxbe told a committee of about 60 government officials and private citizens he has appointed to determine the scope of the problem and develop solutions.

Addressing the committee's first meeting, Saxbe cautioned against proposals which would diminish individual privacy. Some have suggested national computerization of local birth and death records as a method to tighten control over the dissemination of those records.

Saxbe has called a substantial and growing problem of fraud contributing significantly to the nation's rising crime rate.

The committee includes representatives of federal agencies, law enforcement groups, credits card companies and state and local registrars of vital statistics.