

Public urged to 'regain confidence'

By KRISTIN SORMAN
Of the Emerald

Newly chosen Republican State Chairman David Green urged the public to be "in the middle of the action" to regain confidence in politics again, in a speech to the Rubicon Society Friday.

"The best solution to this problem of loss of confidence follows the words of Theodore Roosevelt: people 'must be in the middle of the action,' they must participate," urged Green to his audience of 40 at the House of Lee Restaurant.

"A very strange thing is happening in reference to finances," said Green, in discussing the contributions area of participation.

"The Republican party has had a 14.5 percent increase in the small contributions category of under \$100 up to September," he pointed out, according to information from a recent talk with George Bush, the Republican national committee chairman.

This increase answers questions about what Watergate will do to contributions and the Republican party, Green said.

"People don't want to make major contributions to anything right now," he claimed. But they will make small contributions "directly to the party," he said.

"Everytime somebody contributes, people are involved, concerned about getting the best mileage out of their buck," said Green.

In Oregon, the GOP central committee is reconstituting the Action Fund to attract the five and ten dollar contributors to statewide functions with major speakers.

As for young people, a study made by Secretary of State Clay

Myers found 59 percent of Oregon highschoolers concerned about the honesty of people in office which "depressed and disappointed" them, Green said.

Participation again seems the answer; Republican groups in Oregon are striving to register young people in the party.

"Our objective is to have 50 high school Republican organizations by the end of the year, Green explained. "And by the end of '73 we also want to have a college program on every campus in Oregon."

"I think we have to credit people in the legislature for spending time with young people to show them they can be part of the system," he said.

As for the future of the GOP in Oregon, "our main thrust is to gain control of the legislature," Green stated.

"I frankly think there would be more responsible legislation in the future with Republican leadership," he said.

Under Democratic leadership, he noted a "48 percent net increase in legislative costs."

Although not saying this stems completely from Democratic control, Green claimed there "must be some organizational problem when the legislature runs into July."

Looking back, he outlined some "responsible legislation put together by Republicans under GOP leadership."

The Forest Practices Act of 1971 regulating logging practices, in response to worry about ecology and clear-cutting, was one such bill, Green said. Another made Oregon one of the few states to require detailed reporting of government spending.

As for Watergate, "the Republican National Committee and the party have never been accused of being involved" in the affair and neither has the central committee in Oregon, Green claimed.

A recently hired assistant treasurer will audit the state central committee's books for publication, he further stated, and will send the report to anyone interested.

The committee also offers book-keeping services to candidates to help them understand the new restrictive laws on campaign funding.

"One good thing about these new laws is that the candidate can't buy his way in anymore," Green said.

He stressed good planning at the precinct level as the key to success under the new laws, though noting some problem with making the restricted funds stretch in a large district.

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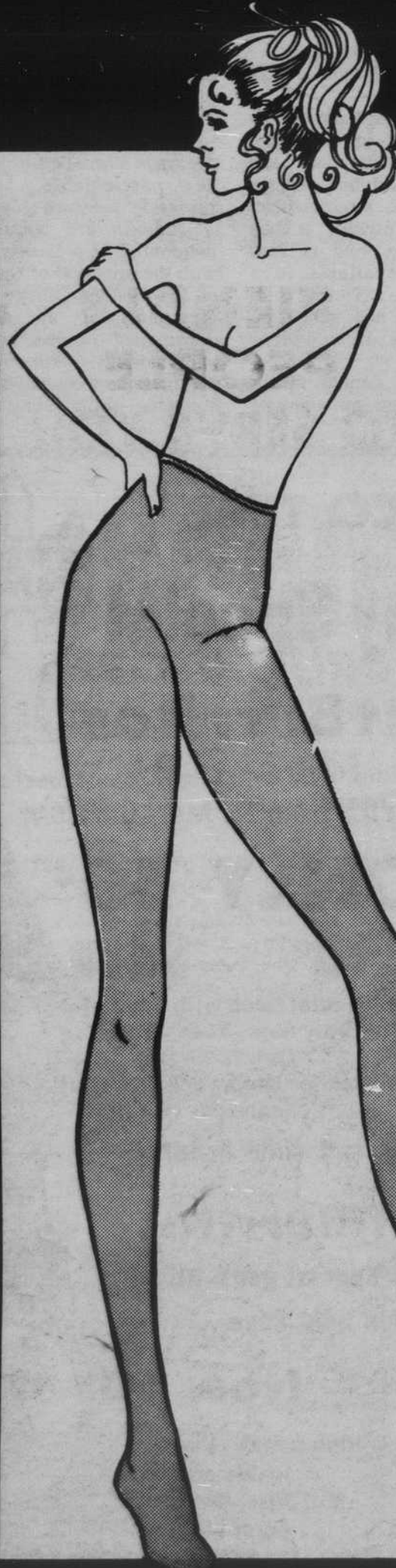


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