Revenue mix-up fuels OLCC fight

By PAUL WALDSCHMIDT
Of the Emerald

Ex-tavern owner Bud Nixon, in a press conference Tuesday, announced that he has evidence that shows an "almost quarter of a million dollar discrepancy" between Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) revenue figures and Legislative Revenue Office figures.

Nixon, founder and president of the Association for the Abolishment of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (AAOLCC), explained that revenue figures supplied to him by OLCC Administrator Ken Underdahl in a letter dated Dec. 10 did not correspond with the amounts listed in a letter from Legislative Revenue Office economist Terry Drake.

The Dec. 10 letter from Underdahl lists $55,145,153.39 as the cost of goods sold in 1974-75. It also shows miscellaneous income as $34,948.45 for 1974-75.

Drake's figures for 1974-75 show the cost of liquor sold as $55,012,000 and miscellaneous income as $30,000. The economist's figures are rounded off to the nearest thousand.

At the press conference, Nixon stated that he has written a letter to Drake pointing ou these discrepancies. The letter cites a difference of approximately $133,000 between the two sets of figures for costs of goods-liquor and a difference of approximately $5,000 for miscellaneous income.

The letter claims that the total of all discrepancies is approximately $152,000.

Nixon explained that he wrote the letter to Drake because, "I want a clarification on the matter."

"I'm not charging fraud or anything like that. What I am saying is that a quarter of a million dollars is a large discrepancy and I want to know just where the money is. The AAOLCC and the public are entitled to know," he said.

He added that his original purpose for requesting the revenue figures from the OLCC was "to point out to the public how much money we could save the public" if the AAOLCC proposal for abolishing the OLCC is adopted.

Nixon continued that he has had no answer or correspondence from the OLCC since Dec. 7 and "I've been writing them about a letter a week all along."

"Under the open records act, they can't refuse to answer my questions," he stressed.

In the past Nixon has refused to reveal the identities of members of the AAOLCC to protect them "from bureaucratic abuse." At the press conference, he amplified, "People are afraid to become involved because people see that the OLCC has broken me."

He added, "but this is not the reason I want the change (the proposed abolition of the OLCC)."

Asked if churches supported the OLCC, Nixon responded, "The churches are going to support our program."

Nixon's "program" was first presented last November. Under its provisions the OLCC would be abolished and the OLCC's licensing and enforcement functions would be transferred to cities and counties. It would replace OLCC liquor stores with private enterprise outlets.

The proposal would replace the revenue that cities and counties are now getting from OLCC profits with revenue from local licenses that cities and counties would grant to liquor outlets.

Responding negatively to Nixon's original proposal, Eugene Mayor Les Anderson pointed out that it would require a complete change in the present liquor control program. "Nobody has any kind of administration to handle the enforcement and approval processes.

Eugene Police Chief Dale Allen responded, "Absolutely not. We don't have the manpower or financing to handle the enforcement problems."

Dunlop drops labor post, cites lost "sense of trust"

WASHINGTON (AP)—Chief federal mediator W.J. Usery Jr. is expected to be named Secretary of Labor now that John Dunlop has quit. In explaining his resignation, Dunlop said Wednesday he had lost the "sense of trust, confidence and respect" essential between government and organized labor.

Usery, 52, widely respected by both labor and management, was passed over for the Labor Department job last March when Dunlop was named to succeed Peter Brennan.

With Dunlop leaving, the administration is counting on Usery's mediating expertise to maintain industrial peace in this election year. Major contracts affecting 4.5 million workers are up for renegotiation, and a rash of strikes and inflationary settlements could abort the economic recovery, and damage Ford politically.

Ford said he received Dunlop's letter "with the deepest regret" and added: "You will be greatly missed by all who have had the privilege of working with you."

Dunlop said he would remain at his post "in a caretaker function" until Jan. 31 when he will return to Harvard University. He said the President urged him not to quit.

Housing to return money

The Housing Office intends to refund any dorm prepayments it has requested from prospective residents.

Dorm applications sent out by the Housing Office asked for a $150 prepayment that it had no authority to request. In response to ASUO demands to refund the money, University Vice-Pres. Gerald Bogen said that the University would do so "until such time as policy issue on the matter is decided."

The prepayment request, which is $100 over the amount the Housing Office is authorized to collect will have to be taken to the State Board of Higher Education for approval. The matter will come before the Interinstitutional Fee Committee for board recommendation on Jan. 23.

The ASUO had threatened legal action if the Housing Office did not refund the prepayments.

"The ASUO was fully prepared to take this prepayment plan to court if the Housing Office had not given in to our demands," said Administrative Assistant Mark Cogan.

The ASUO says that it intends to take part in discussion of the merits of the proposal.

"We hope that University administrators will realize that any plan affecting students must not be implemented without involvement of students," said ASUO Pres. Jim Bernau.

Bernau asks for 'D' grade

By ANN KERNS
Of the Emerald

Student leaders may have to wait two or three months for faculty and student committee members to revamp a grade change proposal that would have made the "D" a failing grade.

Jim Bernau, ASUO president, said that three studies conducted last term by students show that faculty members favor the return of the D and F grades.

But, according to Bernau, the response also shows that the faculty wants the D to be a failing grade. And Bernau says the ASUO will not accept that.

"We will only accept reinstatement of the D and F grades if D is considered a passing mark," insists the president. He also says the student government will hold out for inclusion of the Pass-No Pass option in the grading system.

The first proposal, which would have made the "D" a failing grade, went before the General Faculty and the University Senate in October. It was withdrawn after considerable debate and referred back to committee.

Four student positions are still waiting to be filled on that committee.

A student survey on grading systems is also being worked on by the executive and the Student University Affairs Board (SUAB).

It will be implemented within the next two weeks.

A similar survey, conducted during winter term last year showed that 68.5 per cent of the students surveyed favored maintaining the present system. But, Bernau says he expects a different response this time.

According to the president, the new survey offers alternatives not provided by the first one.