

Testimony underscores day care need

Federally-licensed day care centers in the Eugene area will require more state money to meet the needs of pre-school children in Lane County. That, at least, was the testimony at the Interim Committee on Human Resources hearings last week in Eugene.

By **BOB JANSEN**
Of the Emerald

Rep. Dave Frohnmayer, associate professor at the University law school, expressed his interests in day care problems beyond that of money shortages. Frohnmayer felt day care problems are just a part of the overall problem "involved in women's rights." If women are to get out of the home, he said, day care services must be made more accessible to a larger number of parents.

Frohnmayer also expressed concern for Lane County children receiving no day care services. It's possible, said Frohnmayer, that only 11 per cent of pre-school children are in day care centers. He said that more research should be aimed at children who do not receive the services.

Directors of the day care centers offered divergent solutions to problems they face. Solutions ranged from the state providing

total care at no cost, to the state becoming less involved in regulating day care centers.

According to the committee chair, Sen. Keith Burbridge, this "diversity of opinion" makes it difficult for legislators to come up with workable answers.

The plea by directors for more funds stemmed from a need for better meals, better equipment and better pay for employees of the centers.

Committee members visited various centers around Eugene to view the problems firsthand. Sen. Jack Ripper and Rep. Lloyd Kinsey visited the Child Care and Development Center (CCDC) at the University and expressed concern over what they thought to be the high cost of running the CCDC.

Wanda Venturacci, the director of CCDC, explained that "We have a classified civil service staff that requires a higher payroll" (than those in the private sector).

The Eugene hearing was the last in a series of meetings held around the state on problems facing day care centers. Rep.



Frohnmayer was joined by Wingard in debate

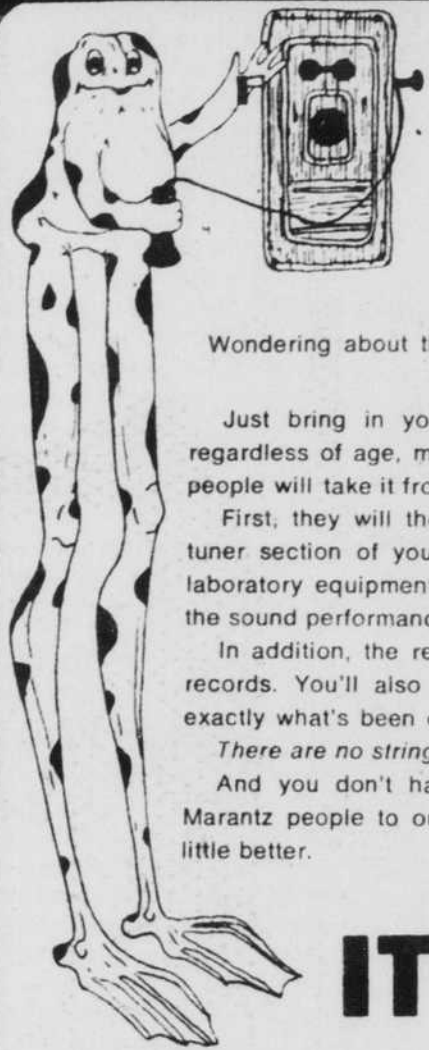
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Frohnmayer expressed concern that since the testimony the committee received around the state

was conflicting, there would be no final committee consensus at this time.

He hoped that the completed report would be done by October or November.

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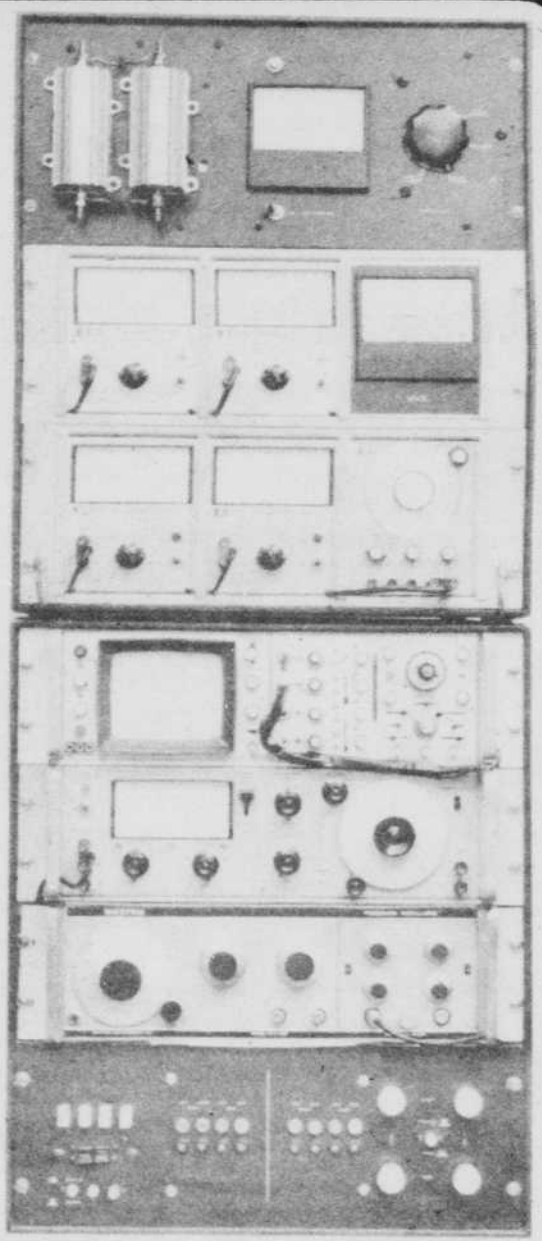
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