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Who says honesty doesn't pay off?

By KEVIN HARDEN
Of the Emerald

Oregonians who know of some sort of government corruption will soon find that honesty pays—up to \$10,000.

The American Citizens for Honesty in Government is now trying to make it worth the trouble to expose government corruption in the highest offices. The Group, which is sponsored by the controversial Church of Scientology, says it is ready to pay up to \$10,000 for evidence from government employees that would put corrupt government officials behind bars.

Debbie Jones, the Portland Representative of both the ACHG and the Church of Scientology, says the group is offering the reward because honesty hasn't paid off well in the past. Most government employees wouldn't endure the harassment from their superiors to point out corruption, she says.

"It's more than nice to be honest, but it's almost novel today," she explains.

The Portland office of the ACHG has been operating since June. Since its opening, the ACHG has been working on several corruption cases in Oregon, Jones says. Those cases are being kept secret until solid evidence can be uncovered.

Although no indictments have been made because of ACHG investigations so far, Jones says it may only be a matter of time before the reward system pays off.

"We don't propose to find every turkey in every office in every city," she explains. "But if you get enough people who are saying things are bad in a certain agency, then that agency will be forced into

doing their job and cleaning things up."

If there is corruption in the General Services Administration in Washington, D.C., then there must be the same sort of corruption elsewhere, Jones says.

The Church of Scientology's relationship with the federal government hasn't been smooth. During the past year several officials of the Church were indicted by the government for supposedly illegal spying on government officials. Four of those indicted were from the Church's Portland office.

Those indictments weren't the reason for the ACHG reward program, Jones explains. "The church is well-known for its work toward social reforms. It's always been a real go-getter, and the guys who do the most usually get the most flak."

Fighting city hall is detailed in a 16-page ACHG booklet. The rewards for information and evidence leading to the conviction of a government official is \$5,000. If that official is the head of an agency the reward is reduced to \$3,000.

A \$2,000 bonus is given for conspiracy convictions that implicate others in the agency. And another \$2,000 is added if the Justice Department knew about the corruption but didn't take any action.

Although some potential whistle-blowers may be afraid



Graphic by Tom Ethel

their superiors will harass them if they provide evidence to the group, the ACHG has also taken steps to insure each source's anonymity.

The program might be deluged by "crack pots," Jones says, but

only those with serious information will be considered for rewards.

"We're just giving the opportunity to help," she explains. "We're not looking for the people who are money oriented or mercenaries."

Bookstore board delays action on transfer of SA divestments

By KEITH ALLEN
Of the Emerald

Pending further reasearch into alternatives The University of Oregon Bookstore Board of Directors voted unanimously Tuesday night to postpone any decision regarding the investment of \$96,000 to be transferred from divested South African stocks.

Because of the board's October vote to divest interests in corporations with ties to South Africa, they have been forced to seek alternative investments. The difficulty they face is finding a "secure investment that does not have its fingers in South Africa," said Peter Shepard, a board member.

The three viable choices the board now has are a corporate securities trust, a mutual fund and a real estate loan fund.

The trust, however, contains the ITT Financial Corporation, which is indirectly controlled by International Telephone and Telegraph, an investor in South Africa.

When asked whether the trust was tainted, Shepard said, "I think it is something reasonable people could disagree about."

"What we are doing is taking a moral stand. I don't see a degree of cleanliness," said board member Dave Tyler.

"To invest in a company that has interest, even indirect, in South Africa would be defeating the intention of the October vote," Janet Eggleston added.

According to Shepard, the mutual fund company has no policy regarding South African investment. "So, it is possible that they would have their fingers in there."

The company does, however, invest in corporations that promote environmental quality and equal opportunity employment, Shepard added.

The board's third alternative, an Oregon real estate loan fund, is "clean," but, despite statistics showing growth in profits, some board members questioned the security of a land investment.

"Speaking from past experience, I am scared to death of a real estate investment," said Muriel Jackson, one of the two faculty board members.

"We can't say for sure whether it is secure or not but the risk could be greater," Shepard said.

The board decided to continue research and postpone any action until their January 18 meeting.

The board's chairer, Jeff Warren, is sure they can find something "clean," "even if it has to be real estate."

Eggleston said she feels like the character in the Merchant of Venice who had to choose the correct casket out of three to get the reward. "I'm not really pleased with the alternatives but they are all we have right now."

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