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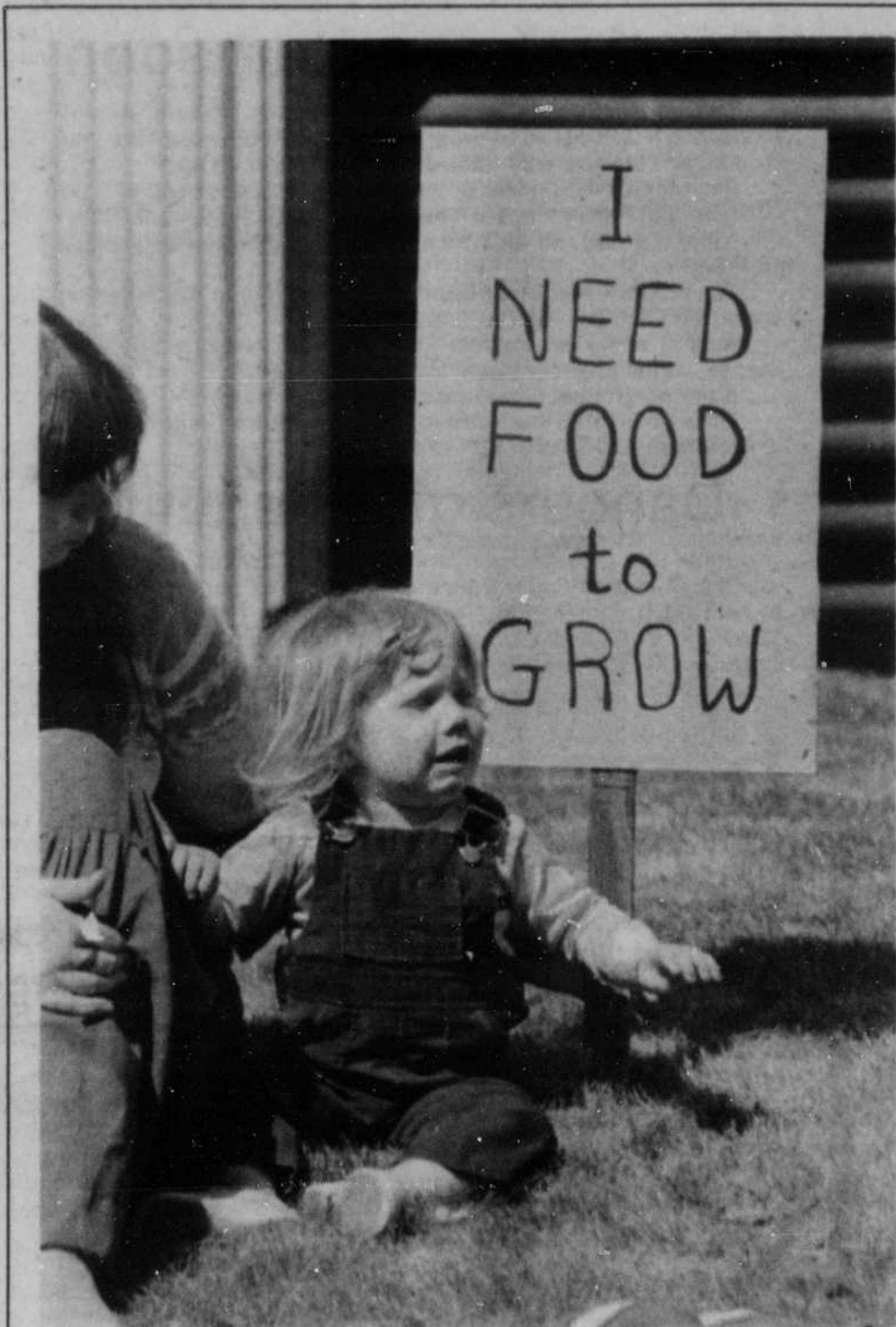


Photo by Jimmi Harris

Raisin' a fuss

This youngster seems to understand the significance behind a protest staged Thursday in front of the Food Stamp Office at 165 E. 7th Ave. The protest was in response to scheduled cutbacks in the food stamp program that Sandra Warmington of the Food Stamp Committee says could be disastrous to persons with high shelter costs and older persons. Although the new regulations took effect Sunday, Douglas Hunter, assistant regional manager of Adult and Family Services, says the local impact of the regulations probably won't be felt for a year.

Atiyeh complains of Senate 'circus'

By GREG WASSON
and DANA TIMS
of the Emerald

SALEM — Gov. Vic Atiyeh said Thursday he's tired of the Senate nixing his appointments and threatened to withhold more nominees "until the circus that's going on down there is straightened out."

Voters gave the Senate a veto power over executive appointments in November and the body has used that power extensively in its fight with Atiyeh in energy field issues.

Last month, the Senate rejected Atiyeh's choice of Kelly Woods to head the Department of Energy. Tuesday, the group's Environmental and Energy Committee tied 4-4 on a motion to send to the floor Atiyeh's nomination of Salem teamster Harvey Risewick to the Energy Facility Siting Council.

Atiyeh has repeatedly admonished the Senate for its actions, charging that senators are overstepping their powers, making attraction of quality people to state government impossible.

The governor added that he wasn't subject more nominees to Senate scrutiny until things change.

"I've made a choice of the director of the Department of Energy, and that person has accepted. I will not, however, either announce or submit that name to the Senate until the circus that's going on down there is straightened out."

Asserting that "I'm not going to throw any more Christians to the lions," Atiyeh said he wants assurances from Senate Pres. Jason Boe, D-Reedsport, that the questioning of appointees will be done "in an orderly manner."

In an afternoon press release, Boe responded that Atiyeh's request was unrealistic.

"I will not give him assurances that are both unneeded and unwise. He is harming nothing but his own Department of Energy by postponing the appointment of its new director."

Boe went on to recall the error made by the governor when he recommended former Oregon Supreme Court Justice

Kenneth O'Connell for membership on the siting council.

"If members of the committee had not been free to question O'Connell at will, the sloppy staff work of the governor's office might not have been discovered and his utility stock holdings might not have been revealed."

The head of the committee, Sen. Ed Fadeley, D-Eugene, denied there was a "circus atmosphere" at the panel's deliberation.

"We treated both of the governor's appointees to the council with courtesy. The idea that they're unqualified was asked because others had not been going into it before the appointments were sent to us."

In a related nuclear discussion on the House floor Thursday, Rep. Grattan Kerans, D-Eugene, responded to the claim that nuclear power is needed for jobs.

"I may not be a nuclear scientist," Kerans said during remonstrances, referring to a comment made last week by Rep. Ted Bugas, an Astoria Republican. Bugas had said that because legislators are not atomic physicists, they can't address the Three Mile Island accident with any degree of knowledge.

"However," he continued, "I do know labor. And labor has maintained for years that nuclear power is vital to jobs and the economy."

At that point, Kerans held aloft a large-sized Hershey bar, made in Hershey, Pa., a candy-making capital located only 12 miles from the Three Mile Island nuclear plant.

"This candy bar is made primarily of milk and milk solids," Kerans explained. "But they aren't making any more of them because the milk in that area has been contaminated by radioactivity."

As a result of that contamination, he added, more than 4,000 candy workers are currently out of jobs at candy-making plants in the town.

"So I may not know a lot about nuclear reactors," Kerans concluded. "But tell that to the workers of Hershey."

State reviews ethnic background today

By DANA TIMS
Of the Emerald

SALEM — If the House fails to create a Commission on the Status of Blacks in Oregon, as it did last session, Gov. Vic Atiyeh may appoint one himself.

Shortly after his election in January, Atiyeh voted strong support for a commission on blacks while speaking to the Oregon Association of Black Affairs, the same groups that requested the introduction of House Bill 2749, a measure that also would create such a commission.

At a hearing on the bill Thursday, Atiyeh's affirmative action director Carol Whitney reaffirmed his support, but not publicly.

"She (Whitney) came up to me during

the hearing and expressed the governor's support for a commission on blacks," said Nick Barnett, executive director of the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission.

"I wouldn't be surprised if he went ahead and appointed a commission," Barnett said in a telephone interview after the hearing. "But it would be a little too strong to say he would definitely do it."

Barnett added that Whitney made no promises, indicating the issue now rests on the outcome of HB 2749, currently before the House Aging and Minority Affairs Committee.

The bill seeks \$129,000 for the 1979-81 biennium to create a commission of 11 members, at least eight of whom would be black. It would be

charged with studying the past and current legal, economic, educational, social and political status of blacks in the state. It would also be required to make recommendations for legislative and social action based upon its findings.

The commission is necessary, Barnett testified at the hearing, because "Oregon has done things specifically to blacks that have left a residual problem."

Blacks have been systematically excluded from jobs and housing, even from residing in many cities, since the early 1800s, Barnett said.

"It's time to let them catch up now," he added.

Until 1854, blacks could not legally

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Police will have to keep their fingers out of newsroom files, if a new house bill has its way. See Page 8.

As the deadline for compliance with federal Clean Air standards nears, Eugene is airing its pollution solutions. See Page 10.

The first day of NCAA Gymnastic Championships put the first-ranked Flying Ducks gymnasts in fifth place. See Page 13.