

ener sets sights on Labor Commission

Board member faces tough campaign

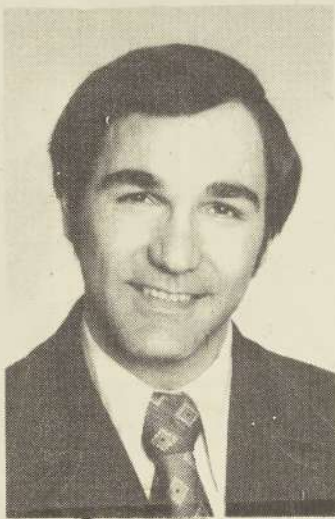
Groener is the chair- of the Clackamas County Board of Education. But he may soon have to give up these positions to take the Commissioner of Labor state of Oregon, if elec-

tion leaving the race wide open. Most strongly opposing Groener on the Democratic ticket are Mary Roberts political affairs director of the Oregon AFL-CIO, and Nellie Fox, a state senator from Portland.

Groener talked about what the labor Commissioner can do to improve working conditions for the people living in Oregon --particularly those employed as migrant laborers.

These migrants make up the largest minority group in the state yet politically and economically their presence is hardly felt, Groener said. Groener said that he has special insight into the particular problems of these people and understands the unusual nature of their problems perhaps better than any of his opponents.

He attributes this understanding to the fact that he has had very close dealings with the migrant Chicano community, having worked summers as a migrant himself. On a more politically active level, while at the University of Oregon studying sociology, Groener, along with



Ralph Groener seeks state position

his wife, spent time in Delano, Calif. helping Ceasar Chavez organize United Farm Workers (UFW) boycotts of farm goods helping migrants form a strong union that would improve greatly the conditions for which they worked, Groener said.

This background has made Groener put meaningful employ-

ment and education for the migrants at the top of his priority list.

Groener charged that many abuses of the migrant labor, such as the exploitation of cheap and illegal aliens, go undetected because of the labor department has only one or two case workers on the problems in the whole state of Oregon.

Referring continually to his "Action Plan" which is a point-by-point outline of what Groener feels are the needs of the Labor Department, he strongly stressed that his legislative experience (two terms in the Oregon House of Representatives) along with his political saavy will give him the ability to push through the ideas which will "beef up Bill Stevenson's politically impotent labor department."

These ideas include attempts at increasing the staff to better handle the work load of the labor bureau and better organization and new programs particularly in the Comprehensive Education and Training Act and the apprenticeship and training division.

Groener would like to introduce legislation that would raise the maximum eligibility age to aid unskilled workers entering the job market, thus helping many including, for instance, woman whose financial stability is upset by the divorce or death of a husband.

Other program ideas include more flexible mandatory retirement programs for those senior citizens who feel the need or desire to work past the regular retirement age and new youth opportunity programs that would go beyond finding temporary job programs to areas where youngsters would have definite career opportunity potential.

Groener said the function of the labor department is to be responsible to the public. Education of the public in an attempt to help to bring more understanding of programs will bring about more of a feeling that the department is there to work with the public, not against them, Groener said. Courtesy to the public would be a number one priority in Groener's department.

Planning begins on men's resource center

first step toward establishing a men's resource center at the College was taken last week at an informal meeting led by Vince Fitzgerald, the counselor.

men's needs in our society have been changing considerably over time," said Fitzgerald. Since participating in the Women programs, I thought that there might be a benefit from a program."

am coordinating the plan for a possible resource center specifically for men in current social and personal

needs. This could be something simple like a men's consciousness raising group that meets once a week or something like the Focus on Women program," he said.

During the meeting, several reasons for the need for such a program were aired such as the difficulties men have with single parenting, insecurities and fears brought on by women in general and the women's liberation movement in particular, and some very basic problems in relating to a changing society.

Although need has been established, the problem of how

to get men to take advantage of services a resource center would have to offer is a big one, according to Fitzgerald.

"Most men, because of a price factor and ego, won't admit to themselves that they need help solving their problems," said one participant in the discussion.

One suggestion was the formation of a class that would deal with men's changing roles in society.

It would include discussions on alternative lifestyles, sex roles stereotyping, gay roles in society, and changing sex roles.

Anyone with ideas and suggestions or opinions on a men's resource center is invited to attend the next informal informational session to be held Tuesday, May 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in CC-117. Participants may come either for one hour or both.

Trailer houses Handicap Resource Center

Scott Starnes of the Print handicapped students at the Center need not travel to the Center for assistance more due to the Handicap Center's recent move to the trailer sites.

Frank Gillock, Research specialist assistant to the Handicap Resource Center's coordinator Ron Kunkel, said that the reason for the move to the A was for special rea-

There were three different trailers occupying the building at the Orchard Center. Making things to be a little better," Gillock said. "Over in the trailer we are closer to the handicapped students on the enabling us to better their needs."

The Handicap Resource Center assists disabled persons in occupational and physical resources and helps them self-fulfillment, Gillock

We will train these people for their desired future employment and guide to certain agencies which are lacking at the College,"

Recently, Clackamas County show average in terms of day, May 10, 1978

occupational and physical resources when compared to Washington and Multnomah counties, Gillock said.

"Clackamas County just doesn't contain adequate handicap services which many of our students at the College need," he said. "We would like to see Clackamas County equal the other two counties in terms of occupational and physical resources and facilities and then surpass them in the near future. By the end of this term we should be a complete information referral center."

The Handicap Resource Center's move to the trailers is only a temporary residency. By fall term it should have a complete center behind McLoughlin Hall, Gillock said.

During the summer, the center will be operating all week long including Fridays when the rest of the campus will be closed. The center is open to the public, but Gillock stressed that its use be restricted to handicapped students only.

Plans for the future, if finances allow it will be to implement a 24-hour hotline service throughout the week, Gillock said.

"When the individual does call our hotline number, their call will be diverted by computer to one of our volunteer's offices or residences and they will help the individual from there," Gillock said.

The Handicap Resource Center may be contacted at 656-2631, ext. 338.

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