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TO THE EDITOR:

Oregon new car and truck dealers want their customers to be satisfied. Sometimes though it happens that a customer with a complaint and the dealer can't seem to work it out. Maybe it's a misunderstanding. Maybe it's a grievance that just hasn't reached the right ears. Sometimes a little misunderstanding is amplified by just plain human stubbornness into a bigger thing than it is.

The Oregon Automobile Dealers Association is proud that it is doing something about problems like that with a new activity called AUTOCAP. Autocap stands for Automotive Consumer Action Panel. Virginia Knauer of the President's Office of Consumer Affairs suggested it and the Oregon Automobile Dealers Association volunteered to sponsor it as a public service. So, at its own cost and without any reimbursement except satisfaction when good results are achieved, the OADA is doing that job.

The panel is made up of dealers and consumer representatives and has both technical and clerical staff. It also has legal counsel available, but does not concern itself with any cases where fraud or other criminal misrepresentation is alleged since such cases should rightfully be placed before criminal investigation agencies.

If there is a problem about a new or used car purchased from a franchised new car or truck dealer or service done in the dealer's shop, and the customer and the dealer haven't been able to settle it, AUTOCAP would like to try its hand. If it involves any member of the Oregon Automobile Dealers Association, the customer needs only to write or phone AUTOCAP, care of the Oregon Automobile Dealers Association, P.O. Box 14460, Portland, O. 97214.

FRED BAUER
 President, OADA
 Portland, Oregon

MYRL MCKEE
 Chairman, AUTOCAP
 Oregon City, Oregon

Vet Benefits May Change

More than a million Veterans will receive a questionnaire with their November pension checks that could mean increases or decreases in their monthly checks for next year, VA said today.

"Pensions, unlike VA compensation for service-connected disabilities, are based on income," explained Mrs. Donna M. Arndt, director of the Portland VA regional office. "Most pension recipients must complete a questionnaire on income each year."

Exempted from filing are persons age 72 or over who have been on VA pension rolls during the last two consecutive years. They must report changes in income, however.

Mrs. Arndt explained those who will receive questionnaires include veteran pensioners, widows of veterans who are receiving pensions based on the non-service connected death of a husband, parents who are receiving dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC).

Deadline for returning the completed questionnaire to VA is Jan. 15. A prompt reply to the November mailing will help avoid a delay in next year's checks, the Portland regional VA director points out. Each year thousands miss the January deadline because their questionnaires are overlooked by recipients, forgotten or misplaced.

Full information on pensions and other VA benefits is available through local VA offices and veterans service organizations.

purchase the items best suited to the needs of the individual families.

Money remaining after Christmas is used for the continuing welfare program of the local Service Extension committee which provides some 23 different services, such as care for unwed mothers at the Salvation Army facilities, emergency assistance for transients, fire relief, food orders and medical assistance.

The local committee matches needs with gifts, giving of its time and talents in service to less fortunate. Contributions for the Christmas work of The Salvation Army in the local area should be sent to: Mr. Dale M. Hughes, Salvation Army Treasurer, First National Bank of Oregon, Port Orford, Ore. 97465.

Tourist Business Falls Off Sharply

Victor B. Fryer, travel information director for the State Highway Division, today told the Travel Advisory Committee to the Oregon Transportation Commission latest figures indicate that the state's tourist business fell off sharply in 1973.

Despite a banner start in May and June the tourist trade, particularly in areas where out-of-state tourism usually predominates, declined during the next three months, according to Fryer.

Home Bakery Law Clarified

A law passed by the 1973 Legislature requiring the licensing of some home bakery kitchens has set off alarm among some fraternal, religious, social and service organizations who have traditionally conducted occasional bake sales to raise funds, but the law does not apply to those who donate baked goods to such nonprofit organizations.

The State Department of Agriculture, responsible for licensing bakeries, has obtained an attorney general's opinion which in effect exempts home kitchens from licensing if the person doing the baking does not do so for money and no license is required of the organization selling such donated goods as long as it is a bona fide nonprofit organization.

In other words a woman who bakes cakes, pies and cookies for the church bazaar or similar fund-raising events, may do so without a license if she does not charge for the food. The law does apply, however, to the housewife who wants to pick up a little extra cash by selling her baked goods.

The attorney general's office cautioned the department to watch some organizations that might cross the line from simple fund raising to a frequent commercial venture. In such a case, the organization and perhaps its bakers might then be required to obtain licenses.

Fryer pointed out that tallies show there were 21 per cent fewer out-of-state visitors to the Oregon Capitol in Salem this summer as compared to the number counted in 1972. At Crater Lake and the Oregon Caves, where the vast majority of visitors are from outside the state, visitor counts dropped by 11.4 and 15 per cent, respectively.

Fryer also noted 1973 visitor counts at the state-operated border information centers decreased about one per cent, despite the fact that two of the six centers were open for only part of the year in 1972. A 15 per cent decline in the number of visitors to these centers was shown where comparable figures were available.

For the first time in many years, usage of the state parks showed a decline, the Committee was told. State figures show that park day use visitors decreased by 10.5 per cent during the June to September season while the number of campers dropped two per cent.

Most chamber of commerce managers feel that business was off, as much as 30 per cent in some cases. Of those managers who reported business was good, many believed that more Oregonians were visiting their areas in 1973 than in previous years.

Although Travel Information Section state-wide estimates indicate at least a 15 per cent out-of-state visitor decline, "areas within easy reach of Oregon's major population center -- the Willamette Valley -- seemed to do quite well, at least coming close to their 1972 business," Fryer said. "Areas further away -- in southern and eastern Oregon -- did not fare so well."

Convention business also helped offset the apparent decline in out-of-state visitation in the Willamette Valley, according to the travel information director. In Portland, where a visitor decrease of 16 per cent was reported at the chamber of commerce information center, a survey of several motels and hotels indicated that commercial business had increased over 1972.

despite a lower visitor count. Fryer said that the Oregon Motor Hotel Association reports occupancy rates up for the three summer months from 78 per cent in 1972 to 80 per cent in 1973, mostly because of convention business. But, it was pointed out that while business was much better in the Portland area, it was down in the rest of the state, particularly on some areas of the coast and in eastern Oregon.

Fryer blamed the decline in out-of-state tourism on three factors, the major one being the gasoline shortage. Others, he suspected, were the state's reduced advertising program and widely circulated stories on Oregon's "anti-tourism" attitude.

First Yule Not A Joy

Their first Christmas together may not prove to be the joyous experience many young couples anticipate.

Family customs and traditions are many and varied, and Christmas may bring to light unanticipated differences and test the relationship of the couple as they develop their own special holiday customs, says Mrs. Dora Rumsey, Curry county extension agent.

Whether to open gifts Christmas morning or Christmas Eve may precipitate a crisis if each thinks any variation from his or her traditional pattern is unthinkable.

Gift giving customs vary from family to family and differing expectations may be the source of disappointment.

Traditional patterns of eating and serving the Christmas dinner also vary and may cause difference of opinion as the bride plans the first Christmas dinner.

The young couple's first Christmas together will be happier if they talk and share expectations and plan together how to celebrate the holiday season. This involves thinking about the customs and traditions they hope to establish for themselves as well as appreciating the customs and traditions each has brought from his and her own family.

OBITUARY . . .

Walter Carey

Walter Carey, 51, a Sixes resident for the past year and a half, died Nov. 20 as the result of an automobile accident. He was born June 11, 1922, in Lisbon, Maine.

Mr. Carey, a veteran of WW II, where he served in the Philippines, and was a prisoner of war for 42 months, was a retired mill worker.

He is survived by four daughters, Rena Daniels of La Mirada, Calif.; Mary Shinoto of Honolulu; Louise Dean of El Monte, Calif.; and Janice Carey of Sixes; three sons, John of Oakland, Maine, and Wallace and James of Sixes; and four grandchildren. A son, Tom, preceded him in death this year.

Private cremation rites were held Monday in Coos Bay. Bandon Chapel of Coos Mortuaries was in charge of arrangements.

KAO Fund Drive On

"Your Gift Means Life" is the theme for the fifth annual statewide fund raising drive just launched by the Kidney Association of Oregon to obtain \$200,000 in public donations. The money will be used during 1974 to continue the life-saving program for 40 KAO patients throughout the state now on artificial kidney machines and to expand the program to add new patients.

The theme, "Your Gift Means Life," tells dramatically that donations to KAO by individuals and organizations actually provide the means for patients to continue a productive life. It also points out KAO's vital need for money to be able to admit new patients.

Chuck Foster, executive director of the Kidney Association, explained how people can put this into practice. He said, "It costs \$12 to provide one day of life for a KAO patient. When an individual sends us a \$12 check, he is giving one

day of life. In addition," he pointed out, "thousands of people have sent us checks equal to several days of life."

Most people, faced with death because of kidney failure and the extremely high cost of care, depend on KAO to assist them financially. In the first few months of care, KAO provides patients with artificial kidney machines, training and medical supplies. Then, the Kidney Association continues its help on an ongoing basis year after year, by providing medical supplies.

KAO's function is to raise funds for continuing patient treatment, allowing these people to work, raise their families and be useful, productive individuals.

Foster emphasized, "We have the medical know-how to save lives of kidney failure victims and rehabilitate them. There are enough kidney machines manufactured. The only shortage is the money."

Contributions should be sent to the Kidney Association of Oregon, KAO, P. O. Box 1221, Gold Beach.

SHOP HOME TOWN STORES FIRST

Christian Science Society

315 Hillcrest—Gold Beach

Sunday Service 10 a.m.
 Sunday School 9 a.m.
 Wednesday Service 8 p.m.
 All Are Lovingly Invited

ANNOUNCING THE OPENING OF THE RED CARPET DINING ROOM SUN., DEC. 2

FEATURING Prime Ribs of Beef Salad Bar Buffet Noon to 8 p.m.

Phone 332-5901

For Reservations

Cafe Open Daily 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

RAINBOW CAFE PORT ORFORD, OREGON

YOUTH RALLY

SAT., DEC. 1

7:30 P.M. P.M.

FEATURING

Jim Carmichael COLLEGE MINISTRY COORDINATOR IN OREGON

EVERYBODY WELCOME!

Assembly of God

10th and Washington Streets

Yule Fund Drive Starts

Dale M. Hughes of the local Salvation Army Service Extension committee, announced today that the Annual Christmas Appeal Letter is being mailed this week.

"Motivating this appeal," he said, "is the fact that Christmas means caring for and sharing with others. The Salvation Army committee helps the needy with food, shelter, and clothing. During Christ-

mas a special effort will be made to see that no child, or family in need, goes without.

Food, clothing and toys are the principal items provided at Christmastime to brighten the holidays for the less fortunate. The Salvation Army requests that contributions be in the form of cash or checks since there are no facilities for collecting and handling goods. Also, money can be used to

Christmas OPEN HOUSE

Dec. 3rd thru Dec. 8th

We now have flowers for ALL OCCASIONS!!!

A FREE blooming size azalea to every adult visiting our Open House!

* Open Mon-Sat 9 am to 5 pm

at the big greenhouse in Langlois

Bells of Langlois

Florist - Nursery

Phone 348-2452 - Langlois