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If you are one of them health food addicts you might be interested to know there are at least a couple items, sold primarily in health food stores, known nationally as special dietary supplements, that contain potentially dangerous levels of hydrogen cyanide, so says the Federal Food and Drug Administration. The FDA lists the products as Aprikern and Bee-Seventeen. The former item, says the FDA, contains an average of two milligrams of hydrogen cyanide per capsule... and they estimate that the ingestion of five of the capsules could result in poisoning and be fatal to a child. Twenty of the capsules could be fatal to an adult. The FDA estimates that two packets of the Bee-Seventeen product contain enough hydrogen cyanide to cause cyanide poisoning in a small child.

Complete withdrawal of the products is being hampered by two facts, the FDA says. They are both sold nationally in thousands of retail outlets, which usually carry only small quantities, and the manufacturer has refused to release distribution records.

Both the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture and the FDA are advising consumers and retail outlets with supplies of the products to remove the products from shelves.

I stick strictly to "non-health" foods so I don't have to worry. Just thought you might... is why I pass the warning along.

-P-

In a Saturday address at the RubiConference '73, at Eugene, Sen. Bob Packwood made some comments that are sure worth evaluating... therefore, I'm going to lay it right on you. It's not long... so read on:

"The responsibility for the crisis of leadership in this country is not the President's alone. Congress is so saddled with archaic rules of procedure that it is unable, and I fear unwilling, to lead.

"I am not ignoring what I consider to be a serious lacking in this Administration. When the President asked me to speak my mind two weeks ago at the White House I did, openly and honestly. To do less would have been a disservice to him and to you.

"This brings us to a basic question, be it the White House, Congress or any elected official in this nation. Where are our leaders? Have they earned the right to be called leaders?

"I am afraid many public officials have learned to live from election to election, forgetting the purpose of their term of office. This will only change when Americans demand a hard accounting of their representatives. I think the time is right. The American public is making such demands and if Congress does not wish to become a token legislative body then it best respond."

-P-

Those dark images upon the ground and other places, which were observed a few times the first of the week, are called shadows... they are caused by the sun.

-P-

There are only two times left this month you can take advantage of taking drivers examinations locally. One is tomorrow, the last time will be in two weeks. Officially that's the 7th and 21st of the month, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the city hall. You're asked to make application for examination at least 45 minutes of the scheduled closing hour, in order to complete the examination the same day.

-P-

Say, George, did you ever get the feeling that somebody knew something about you that you didn't know? The other day the publisher called me to discuss adding to my life insurance. "Paul," he says, "I don't think you are carrying enough... so I'm going to increase it." What a thoughtful gesture, thinks I, as I expressed my thanks. And I guess you know it really made me feel good to know that I was being thought of. Then I got home that same night of the call... and discovered Bride making herself a black suit.

-P-

Want to see a different type of talent show? One featuring both Latin and English types? Then you won't want to miss the Pacific high school Spanish Club event set for December 13 in the Port Orford grade school multipurpose room. Besides all the talent, there will also be pinatas for the youngsters. Admission for adults will be 75 cents, and for youngsters up through 12 years, only 50 cents. Proceeds from the talent show will help pay for a planned trip of the club to Mexico. Therefore, they'd like to see your smiling faces in the audience that night.



Salem Scene

by Jack Zimmerman

Injury Compensation Costs Producing New Controversy

A little-publicized storm is brewing among employers of the state's working men and women.

In the eyes of the storm is the more widely publicized liberal nature of government in Oregon.

And though until recently considered only a mild disturbance, it suddenly has the makings of a gale-force con-

trovercy. As with any storm, the issues behind the problem have been around for a long time. But it's only been during the last couple of years that those issues have combined to produce power sufficient for a full-blown tempest.

The subject involves types and amounts of compensation paid to workers injured in

job-related accidents -- coupled with the rates employers must pay for insurance to provide injured worker compensation.

Statutorily, injured workers are compensated depending upon the severity of the injury and its lasting effect on the worker's ability to remain gainfully employed.

This is called workmen's compensation and the system evolved in Europe apace with the industrial revolution. It was embraced by the United States government in 1911 and administration of Workmen's Compensation Insurance programs is handled by the individual states.

In Oregon a three-member board administers a system by which employers must provide insurance purchased from the state, from private insurance companies or a system of self-insurance. Employers are required to purchase so much insurance per \$100 of payroll and the amounts, or rates, vary across more than 500 different job classifications.

Historically, rates charged are dependent upon the amount of payroll an employer generates, the hazardous nature of his enterprise as far as worker safety is concerned and his experience rating -- the frequency of accidents in job classifications within his business.

Rates generally are established by the National Council on Compensation Insurance and deviations from NCCI recommendations may be enacted by the various state legislatures.

As a rule, a workman sustaining a slight injury that produces minimal time-loss from his job and who returns to work promptly following treatment receives MO -- medical compensation only.

A worker with a time-loss injury is declared TTD -- temporarily totally disabled. He receives medical compensation and also a percentage of his wage while off the job.

A worker who becomes partially disabled as a result of his accident, may be declared PPD and receive a lump sum compensation for that disability in addition to medical payments and a percentage of his wage until able to resume employment.

The employee who is judged incapable of resuming his job as a result of injury is classified PTD -- permanently totally disabled. He is compensated for the rest of his life and compensation continues for surviving spouse and children.

The rates employers pay for this insurance becomes a cost of doing business, the same as any other overhead expense. Rates in Oregon today range from a low of 21 cents per \$100 of payroll for telephone exchange operators to a high of \$79.46 per \$100 of payroll for building wreckers.

Because they are a cost of doing business, these rates constantly are scrutinized by employers. And the current controversy arises from the fact employers of agricultural workers began to wonder why their rates were approaching those paid by employers of workers in what they considered much more hazardous occupations.

There resulted several studies -- the most recent of which was conducted by Dennis U. Fisher of the Department of Agricultural Economics at Oregon State University.

His report indicates Oregon employers of nearly all types of workers are paying rates much higher than those paid in other states. It further shows those high rates have evolved from the amounts of compensation paid injured workers judged permanently partially and totally disabled -- PPD and PTD.

Twin reasons were discovered for the compensation in question -- that in turn causes the relatively high rates. The reasons are the types of statutes enacted by the Oregon Legislature and the interpretation of those statutes by the courts.

Fisher was not charged with finding solutions to the problem. And the problem to a large degree affects an Oregon employer's ability to compete in the marketplace with employ-



dellenback Report

BY REPRESENTATIVE JOHN DELLENBACK

TIMING OF THE ENERGY CRISIS

With all its bad features, there is still at least one positive side to the present energy crisis -- its timing may turn out to be a stroke of good fortune for the U. S.

Most experts have agreed that, considering our nation's history of a tremendous steady increase in consumption of energy, an eventual crisis was inevitable. The United States has simply been incredibly greedy when it comes to consuming energy, and we have been becoming more and more dependent on foreign sources to supply the additional amounts of oil and gas required each year.

If the energy crisis hadn't come upon us until a few years from now, by then we would certainly have been far more dependent on Mideast supplies than now, maybe almost irreversibly so. Had this occurred, our situation in international relations could well have been grim. Right now Japan and Western Europe are finding out what it can mean politically to be predominantly dependent on Mideast oil as the Arab threat of an oil embargo in those areas proves to be an overwhelmingly powerful diplomatic weapon. They are in a position that we must never permit our nation to be placed in.

And what if the present crisis hadn't hit us some years ago? Each year has brought important progress in the development of our technological capacities which now enable us to explore alternative sources of energy for ourselves, bringing us closer to the goal of self-sufficiency. There is no question that even a very few years ago we would not have been as prepared to pursue alternative sources within our own boundaries as we are now.

The intensified energy crisis precipitated by the actions of the Arab countries has come upon us suddenly and harshly. Facing up to it will require self-sacrifice. Certain of the conveniences and comforts we have come to take for granted must be given up, at least for the present.

In addition, we have to face the need for reordering national priorities. The president has proposed that the Federal Government spend \$10 billion between now and 1980 on research and development of new energy sources. And some observers have said this will not be enough. Whatever the final figure, it is certain to be prodigious and it will require cutting back spending in other areas.

But we should be grateful for the fact that we still have time, sufficient supplies of raw materials of our own, and the technical know-how and capacity to develop the alternative sources of energy which are essential if we as a nation are to be and to remain self-sufficient. A few years from now that might not have been the case.

The next move is up to the Congress. We absolutely must measure up to the present challenge and move the nation's program of research in this area forward on a crash basis.

Obituaries

Curtis Lathan

Memorial services for Curtis Allen Lathan, 32, were held in Bandon November 30. He was born at Blaine, Oregon, Jan. 10, 1941, and died Nov. 14 in Fresno, California.

Survivors include Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Henry, Port Orford; Mr. and Mrs. Perry Lathan, Bandon; two sisters, Connie Belcher, Bandon, and Diane Sweeney, Port Orford; two brothers, Earl Henry, Payette, Idaho and Dale McClain, Bandon; two small sons, Stephan and Scott of Bandon.

ers in lower-cost states.

A philosophical question also arises, involving the extent to which an employer is responsible for the PPD and PTD cases. Many workers in both categories are relatively unskilled, over-aged and under-educated. While their disability might not equally impair the working ability of a younger, better educated or more highly skilled workman, the liberality of their compensation is reflected in the rates all employers must pay. One school of thought believes this particular burden should be at least partially borne by society in general.

On the other hand, there are those -- and these include a liberal legislature and our courts -- who have shown they believe the employer must carry the whole load.

Present court decisions emphasize this position and only by legislative action can the trend be changed. If it does not change, employers have few alternatives. They must accept this relatively high cost situation and look for other solutions.

The most obvious is through Oregon's Safe Employment Act, this state's statute complying with the Federal Occupational Safety Health Act. Extensive efforts are being made in this direction now. But other alternatives will be sought.

And the brewing storm will achieve greater intensity as rival forces clash -- most likely in the next regular session of the Oregon Legislature.

Gift Of Life Drive Is On

Oregonians again this Christmas have the unique opportunity to give their neighbors the most precious gift of all -- the "Gift of Life."

Chuck Foster, executive director of the Kidney Association of Oregon, has appealed to Oregonians to contribute to the current KAO \$200,000 fund drive, which will save the lives of victims of kidney failure throughout the state. The money, he said, is desperately needed to provide artificial kidney machines, training, treatment and medical supplies for its patients.

Foster pointed out that, "The cost to provide each KAO patient with one day of life is \$12. Hundreds of Oregonians," he said, "are sending \$12 donations to the Kidney Association, knowing that their \$12 contribution will provide that one day of life for some patient. Many Oregonians are sending much more than one day of life."

He explained, "At \$12 per day, the average annual cost of keeping each patient alive runs about \$4,000. The annual cost," he said, "follows an initial cost of about \$10,000 for the first six months, that covers the expense of equipment, training and medical supplies."

Foster emphasized, "There is no shortage of artificial kidney machines. The machines we use," he stated, "are manufactured in Portland. Also," he said, "there is no shortage of trained medical help -- doctors, nurses, or medical supplies. The only shortage is money."

Most people, faced with death because of kidney failure, and the high cost of care, depend upon KAO to assist them financially. One function of KAO is to appeal to the public for the necessary funds.

Individuals and organizations are asked to send their tax deductible contributions to the Kidney Association of Oregon, P. O. Box 1221, Gold Beach.

READ ALL THE ADS

SHOP HOME TOWN STORES FIRST

Group To Survey Fuel Needs For Agriculture

A survey of the fuel and energy uses and needs necessary to maintain Oregon's vital food chain will be the first major activity of the newly created Oregon Farm Bureau committee on fuel and energy.

The special committee held its first meeting in Salem Monday (Nov. 26). They requested public awareness of the close relationship of fuel and energy needs to food production and the possible future cost of food to consumers.

The energy survey will be conducted with the help of County Farm Bureaus throughout Oregon. Fuel suppliers, utilities, state agencies and others will be asked to cooperate in making the survey. The study will include fuel and energy supplies needed by related industries involved in agricultural supplies and services and for food processing, transportation and distribution.

Waldron Johnson, committee chairman and OFFB Vice President, told the committee that, "If we are to produce the food supplies necessary at a reasonable cost for consumers, it cannot be done with a reduction in energy input. If we are to stay even with population growth, we will need an additional four percent increase in petroleum fuels, electricity, fertilizer and other energy inputs." Johnson added that food production must receive a high priority if present supplies are maintained.

Jan Monroe, representing

the state energy information center, reviewed the complex problems involved in making "hardship" allocations which must come out of existing supplies. He said the federal government has taken the initial responsibility for allocations that may be ultimately determined by Congressional action on the President's energy message.

Earl Adams and David Eaton, Executive Department special program represent-

atives, reported on activities to coordinate state agencies on energy studies and on research to date on fuel and energy uses in Oregon. They promised cooperation with the committee on the survey of fuel and energy needs for food production in the state.

The committee requested that farmers take steps to conserve fuel and energy. Some suggestions included keeping engines properly tuned for improving efficiency, pooling personal and truck transportation when possible, reducing non-essential automobile use where possible by using public transportation, increased use of telephones and reducing travel for recreational activities.

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