

Prison Guard Who Wrote Leaflet Gets Job Back After An Apology

A guard at the Oregon State Penitentiary got his job back after he apologized for writing a leaflet critical of the prison's work release program.

Bruce Harbaugh, a correctional officer, was fired by Superintendent Hoyt C. Cupp for writing a leaflet proclaiming a "big gala celebration" in honor of over 100 escapes from the penitentiary during 1971. It was signed by "Committee: The Grunts."

Harbaugh admitted writing the leaflet, but said it was prepared "in humor." He said it "was prepared with the intent to be placed upon the employees' bulletin board. A group of employees without my knowledge or consent took the paper and published it in the form of a public announcement."

He said the action which followed publication of the leaflet caused him "deep regret and embarrassment."

Harbaugh told Cupp he wished "to disassociate myself from the committee calling themselves the Grunts and to publicly state they are a very small minority of disgruntled employees."

"The criticisms made by the Grunts are unwarranted and in my opinion unfounded and they are using improper procedures for the airing of grievances," Harbaugh said.

Excessive Claims Prevent Dividend

The OSEA-Standard life insurance group plan will not issue a dividend this year because of "excessive claims," according to Donald G. Olds, the Association's business and services manager.

He said many OSEA members have contacted headquarters asking if another dividend would be issued.

Two years ago a dividend totaling \$72,000 was returned to 5,500 OSEA members who were insured under the OSEA-Standard group plan. Last year a \$125,000 cash dividend was returned to some 6,300 members.

Olds said the dividends were made possible because of the plan's "excellent claims experience."

However, during the 1970-71 year the OSEA-Standard life insurance group plan paid out "about \$200,000 more" in claims than it did in either of the two previous years, Olds said. For that reason no dividend will be issued, he noted.

Employee Retirement Accounts Valued

Editor's Note: To keep OSEA members informed of the value of their accounts in the Public Employees' Retirement System, the OSEA News will publish the following table each month. Both the "variable annuity" portion of the account (which is invested in common stocks and short term notes) and the "fixed" portion of the account (which is invested in long term bonds and mortgages) are listed. The table shows the value of each \$100 invested in either the "variable annuity" account or the "fixed" account on the date listed.

	VARIABLE ACCOUNT	FIXED ACCOUNT
January 31, 1971	\$102.67	\$100.42
February 28, 1971	\$103.51	\$100.85
March 31, 1971	\$108.71	\$101.27
April 30, 1971	\$112.52	\$101.70
May 31, 1971	\$107.61	\$102.12
June 30, 1971	\$106.98	\$102.54
July 31, 1971	\$104.55	\$102.96
August 31, 1971	\$107.50	\$103.39
September 30, 1971	\$106.11	\$103.82
October 31, 1971	\$100.60	\$104.24
November 30, 1971	\$ 99.53	\$104.67
December 31, 1971	Not available	\$105.09

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Clem Resigns Post At Motor Vehicles

Robert D. Clem, director of field services for the Motor Vehicles Division, has resigned.

Clem had been under fire from OSEA for what the Association claimed was abuse and intimidation of employees in a Portland office of the MVD. In a recent grievance involving the Portland employees, OSEA asked that Clem be removed from all authority over employees.

His resignation followed an OSEA complaint involving Clem and another employee who worked at the MVD's Eugene office.

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