

Inquiring Photographer

What's Your Opinion of the New State-Sponsored Health Insurance?

(Asked at the State Office Building, Eugene)



BERNICE ALLEN
Secretary
Bureau of Labor

I think it's a good fringe benefit. I enrolled for Plan I—the basic plan—because my husband has excellent health insurance which covers both of us through his employer, Lane Community College. I think of the state plan as supplemental to his insurance. When he retires I will switch over to Plan III—the comprehensive plan—which will cover both of us through my employer, the State of Oregon.

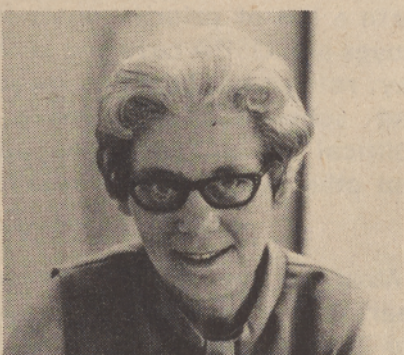
MARILYN BROWN
Secretary
Department of Revenue

I think it's pretty good. I enrolled for Plan III. It covers myself and my two children and costs only \$1.00 a month more than the previous insurance I had for myself. And the benefits are better. So for \$11.00 a month—\$10.00 from the state and \$1.00 of my money—I have insured both of my children and gotten better benefits for myself. I think that's a pretty good deal.



ANNE PENTTILA
Secretary
Department of Environmental Quality
I haven't enrolled for the insurance because I'm covered under my husband's plan. He is a teacher. I think health insurance is a very good benefit for state employees, but I don't happen to need it because of my husband's insurance. The state sponsored insurance would really duplicate what we already have. But I still think it's a good benefit for the state to offer its employees.

IRENE KARY
Receptionist
Children's Services Division
I think it's great that the State of Oregon finally is offering an health insurance contribution to its employees. I think it's great because it enabled me to get insurance. Without the contribution, I simply couldn't afford medical-hospital insurance. I checked into it, and I couldn't afford it. With the state contribution I have insured both myself and my children under Plan II.



GARY TIMM
Juvenile Service Worker
Children's Services Division
It's a pretty good benefit, but I'm irritated because we were offered only three choices of plans, all under one company. I'm also irritated because I saw only about \$2.00 of the state's \$10.00 contribution in my paycheck. I understand some of the contribution money was used to increase benefits, and that's all right. But it sure wasn't explained very well to state employees.

MURIEL TURNER
Secretary
Department of Commerce
I'm very happy with it. I haven't had to use it, but I'm sure glad I have it. I also like the fact that it can be converted upon retirement. I enrolled for Plan III, which is a combination of basic and major medical insurance. Personally, I think it was long overdue. I would like to see OSEA now direct its efforts toward getting the state to pay the entire cost of the insurance.



Golf Tournament Entries Due Now

OSEA members who want to enter the Association's ninth annual golf tournament had better do so immediately. It will be held this Saturday, August 19, at the Santiam Golf Club near Stayton. Entry fee for non-members of the club is \$6.00. For members, the entry fee is \$2.00. Those who want to play in the tournament should complete the following entry form and mail it to headquarters immediately:

—Clip and Mail—

OSEA Golf Tournament
ENTRY FORM

AUGUST 19, 1972—SANTIAM GOLF CLUB
Stayton, Oregon

OSEA Golf Tournament
Post Office Box 2307
Salem, Oregon 97308

Please enter my name as a participant in OSEA's ninth annual golf tournament. I understand the tournament will begin at 6:30 a.m., Saturday, August 19, at the Santiam Golf Club. My \$6.00 entry fee to cover all costs is enclosed. (The entry fee for members of Santiam Golf Club is \$2.00 to cover lunch and prize costs.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ OSEA Chapter _____

My average 18-hole score is _____

—Clip and Mail—

From The Mailbox



An Apology

To the Editor:

For some time the District One Presidents' Council has been attempting to formulate a newsletter to be distributed to the chapters in the district in order to make them more aware of what is happening in the district and to supplement The OSEA News. The first issue of this newsletter was distributed at our last council meeting as a sample. It represented a great amount of hard work by the committee, and taken as a whole was a good example of what was wanted and needed.

However, to the dismay of a majority of the people attending the meeting, the newsletter contained an article which denigrated the work of the board and staff of the Association. Among other complaints, the article said that OSEA was taking too much credit for implementation of the recent pay raise, since "the money was already there," and that the Association should have been able to convince the legislature to be less "tight-fisted" in dealing with state employees. The writer also was quite irritated that "800 state employees are getting shafted out of a pay raise of any kind."

While I am not empowered to speak for the entire District One Presidents' Council, I would like to take this means to make a personal apology to the board and staff for the article. Having worked for the state since 1959, I know that we have made tremendous strides in employee benefits, and I know OSEA has been responsible for those improvements.

I know "the money was already there" to grant pay raises because of OSEA's efforts in the 1971 legislature. I know retirement benefits have been improved because of OSEA's efforts in the 1971 legislature and in previous meetings of that body. I know a \$10 per month medical-hospital contribution by the state was started because of OSEA's efforts in the 1971 legislature. I could go on, but you get the idea.

Nobody can please everybody. However, I think OSEA's board and staff have done a good job and have pleased the great majority of the state's 32,000 employees. Therefore, I would like to offer a personal apology to the members of the Board of Directors and headquarters staff for an attack that was not only uncalled for, but was completely unjustified. Thank you.

Nellie M. Riggs
President
Jackson Park Chapter 90
Portland

An Able Representative

To the Editor:

A grievance I filed with the Children's Services Division was recently resolved to my satisfaction. I am most gratified with the decision.

The outcome was due, in no small measure, to OSEA Field Representative William D. Kalibak. His sound counsel, his readiness to assist me with the preparation of my case and his very presence at the hearing helped immeasurably.

In view of my association with Bill Kalibak, I would unhesitatingly recommend him to any public service employee as an able representative in the most difficult of disputes.

We in the Children's Services Division are indeed fortunate to have him available to us and OSEA should be justly proud to have him with them.

Thomas Feist
Caseworker
Tillamook