

the OSEA news

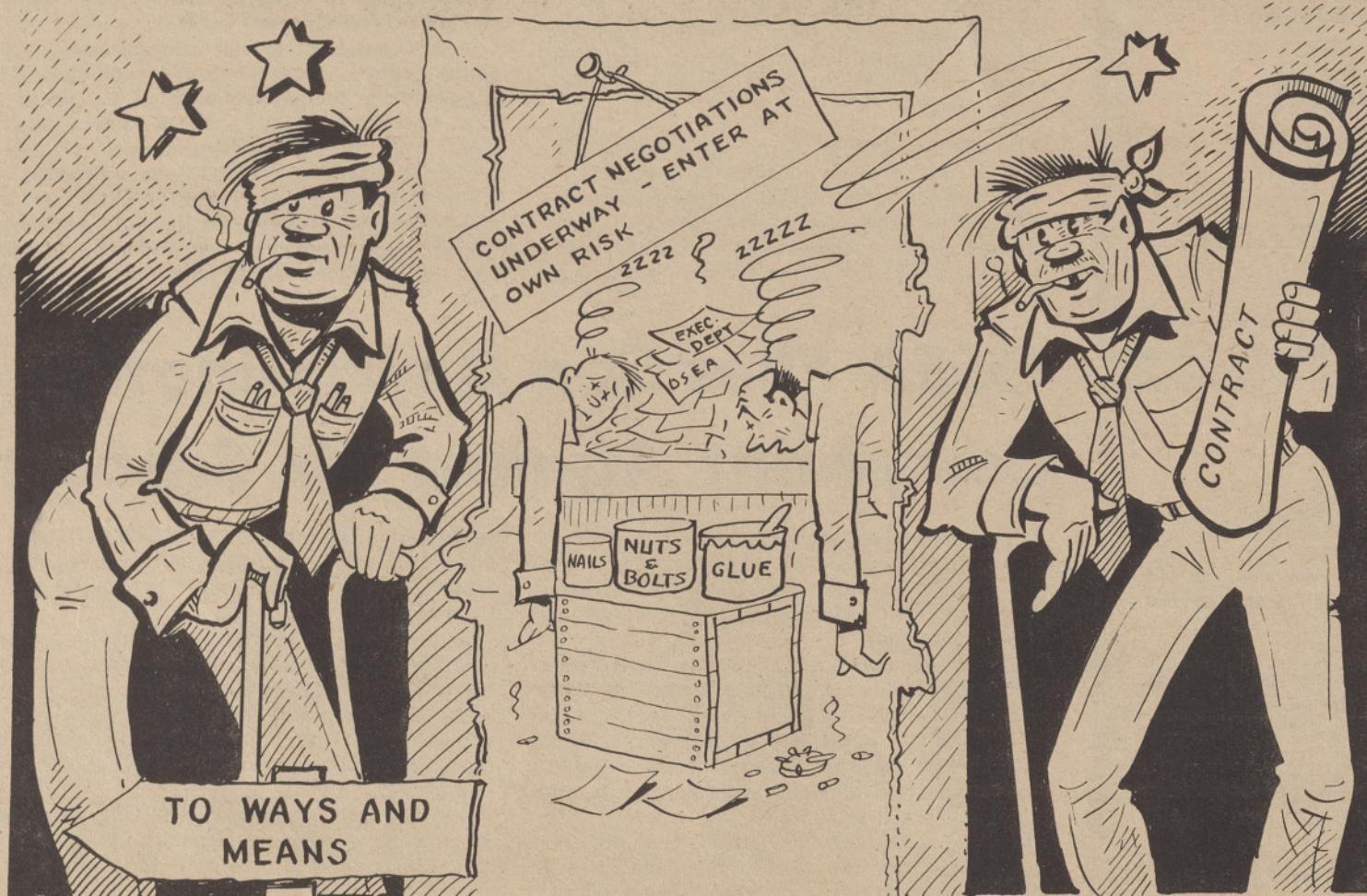
The monthly publication of the Oregon State Employees Association

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OREGON
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I DON'T KNOW IF I HAVE THE STRENGTH TO
CARRY THIS CONTRACT TO WAYS AND MEANS.

2-17-73 H. HAYES

From the....

Executive Secretary

On to Ways and Means

The transcript of a radio broadcast by Senator Keith Burbidge (D-Salem), which appears at the bottom of the next page, emphasizes the importance of OSEA's first full-scale negotiations with the Executive Department on a pay and fringe benefits package to be proposed jointly to the legislature.

The contract is the result of hundreds of man and woman work hours over a period of four months. Credit for OSEA's part goes to Ev Stiles, the Association's chief negotiator, and the team of Joe Johansen, Cheryl Williams, Paul Ward and Dale Leach. Respect must be accorded Ed Rosenlund, who led the Executive Department's negotiating team, and PERB Mediator Ken Brown, who held the parties together when the going was tough.

Now comes the test of whether or not the legislature really believes in the collective bargaining process it put into being. If it does, it will fund the reasonable package negotiated between state management and employees. If not, a lot of time and energy will have been wasted, and the legislative body will be called upon to explain what it means in its collective bargaining laws.

OSEA Watches Tax Bills

As the legislature proceeds with its actions on Governor McCall's tax reform program and prepares to

submit the finished product to the people for a vote, state employees will be keeping a watchful eye.

OSEA did not rush to the first hearings to whoop it up for the proposal as did the AFL-CIO and some other groups. State employees still want to see what the measure and the amendments that will be added to it will do — not only for property taxpayers and the schools, but also regarding what will be left for reasonable funding of the needs of state government.

The Association's Legislative Policy and Political Education Committees spent most of last Saturday discussing the tax measure and listening to an explanation from a Department of Revenue expert. Another review will be held when the proposal clears the Senate. Committee members are already planning a series of public meetings where the pros and cons of the measure can be aired before the public vote.

Down With the Flu

Some explanation might be in order to those members who experienced a lessening of OSEA staff services during the past month. It has resulted not only from the beginning of the legislative session but also from the current flu epidemic.

Working with many people, particularly in crowded meetings, apparently gives the field staff a more than usual exposure to the flu bug. Then it is carried back to the office. So far only one staff member has escaped the illness. One day the whole secretarial crew was home ill.

So (cough, cough) please excuse us and join us in praying for better weather and better health!

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