

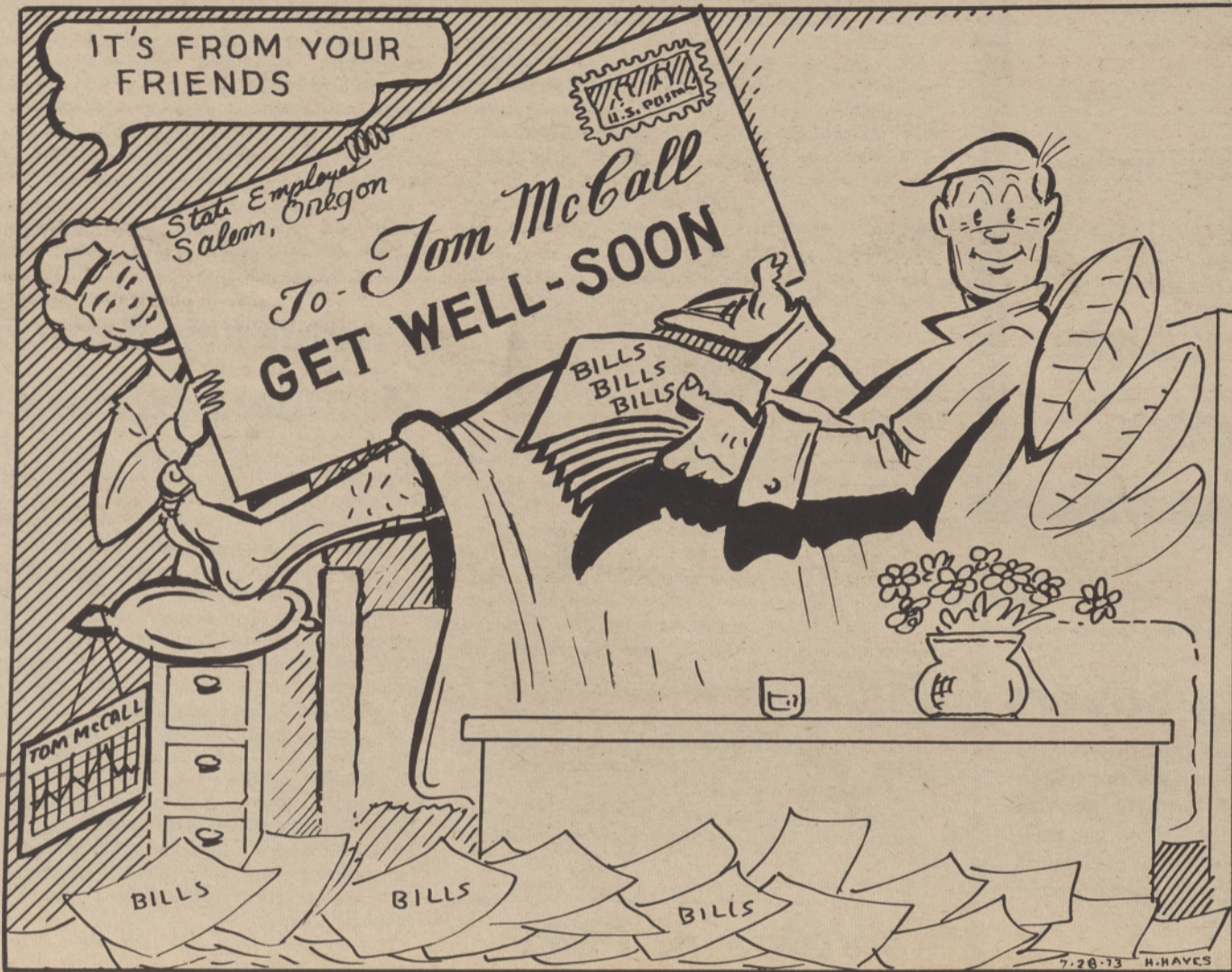
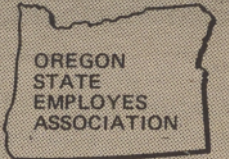
the OSEA news

The monthly publication of the Oregon State Employees Association

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From the....

Executive Secretary

Best Wishes, Tom McCall

OSEA members join the many thousands of Oregonians who are expressing best wishes to Governor Tom McCall for a speedy recovery from his recent surgery.

Described by many as unpredictable, often surprising even his close associates with new ideas or political moves, Tom McCall has been the most consistent of men in one direction: his drive for excellence in state government and his support of the employees who make it work.

We can well recall the governor's unprecedented appearance at an 8 a.m. meeting of the Joint Ways and Means Committee in the first legislative session held after he began his first term to urge better pay and benefits for state employees. Tom McCall has always been proud of the OSEA membership he took out in the 1940's when he was on the staff of Governor McKay.

Two years ago when we requested the governor to bargain with OSEA on salaries and benefits, he responded promptly and cooperatively—an action which laid the groundwork for the successes of the recent legislative session. Seeing the need for better public employe labor relations in our state, Tom McCall last year appointed Jim Redden to head a task force to draft a new public employe collective bargaining law. The result was passage this year of HB 2263, a law which will serve as a model for other states.

OSEA's board, members and staff say to Tom McCall: "Get well soon, governor. Oregon needs not only your leadership but also the inspiration your kind of man gives all who have the honor to work with you."

No Time to Rest

There once was a time when an employe organization after a successful legislative session could rest a little on its laurels, take a breather and contemplate the next big push almost two years away. Not so in the fast-moving public employe representation picture of the 70's.

Oregon will, in effect, begin annual legislative sessions with the special session announced by the governor for early next year. Originally described as a limited "budget" session, indications are that it will handle many more substantive matters than had been contemplated earlier.

The state's Emergency Board has been expanded to a membership of 15 and will meet at least two days each month, handling many matters important to state employes. Legislative leaders have announced joint Senate-House committees will meet on a regular monthly basis and will delve deeply into agency program performance.

Collective bargaining on personnel procedures and future pay and fringe benefit plans, political education programs and political action in next year's elections, individual employe representation—such activities are conducted on a year-around basis and also tie in to the legislative process.

OSEA's need for membership support once may have centered on gaining strength for the legislative effort every two years. Now the need is strongly ongoing, because OSEA is working all year around, every year, for you.

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