

Inquiring Photographer

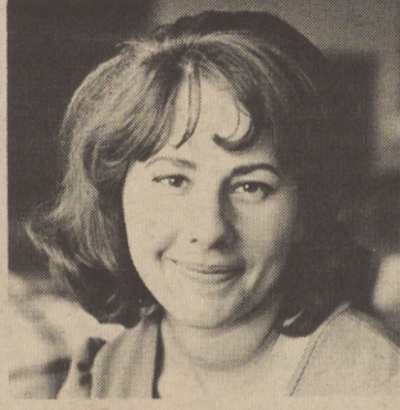
Are You Satisfied With OSEA's Efforts For State Employees in the 1973 Legislature?

(Asked at Southern Oregon College, Ashland)

CHARLOTTE CROWSON

Clerk
Financial Aids Office

It was OSEA's best effort at the legislature that I can remember. The pay plan could have been better, but it's not bad. I'm very happy with the fringe benefits that were adopted, especially the increased health insurance contribution and payment of sick leave. But the most important benefit of all might just turn out to be the study of the state's classification system.



PAT NISLE

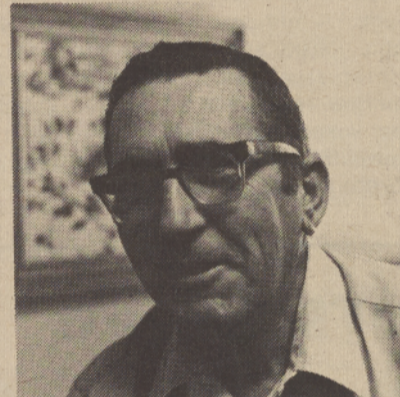
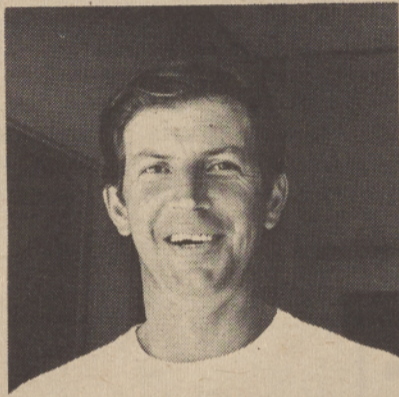
Secretary
Department of Nursing

Yes, I most certainly am. I get a 5 1/2 per cent pay raise, which I think is just great. The \$5 increase in our health insurance will pay for my entire monthly premium. I think everyone at Southern Oregon College is extremely pleased with payment for accrued sick leave. In fact, everyone is pleased with the entire package. I've heard nothing but good, positive comments.

LOU MORGAN

Plant Maintenance Repairman
Physical Plant

I'm satisfied with the Association's effort, and I think most employees here at SOC feel the same way. As far as I'm concerned pay is the most important part of the package and I think it's adequate. It will help us keep up with the cost of living. I really didn't expect payment for accrued sick leave would pass. I thought it probably would take a couple more legislative sessions.



VEATCH GRIMES

Inventory Clerk
Physical Plant

I would have to say that I'm very satisfied with what the Association did for us this session. I'm much happier with the fringe benefits than I am with the pay. In my opinion the major benefit is payment for accrued sick leave. That will benefit employees because they will be paid for unused sick leave, and it will benefit the state by cutting down on sick leave abuse. It's a good deal.

FLORENCE BREAUT

Custodian
Physical Plant

I thought it was just great. I'm very, very pleased with the fringe benefits OSEA got through the legislature. I think payment for accrued sick leave is just wonderful. No one here really expected to get that on the first go around. I want you to tell the people who work for OSEA that I think they did a great job. Really, I don't know where we would be without this organization.



PATRICIA HOWARD

Clerk
Housing Office

I think OSEA had a very good legislative session. I was very happy to see the bill authorizing payment for sick leave pass. Many employees retire with hundreds of hours on the books while others accrue little or none at all. Payment will correct what has become an inequitable situation. I think the pay and benefits OSEA got through the legislature favor career employees and I like that.

LIFE WITH OTHERS

Supreme Court Holds Hatch Act Constitutional

The United States Supreme Court has upheld the constitutionality of the federal Hatch Act.

That law restricts the political activity of federal employees and other public employees who are paid wholly or in part from federal funds.

It was just one year ago that a three-judge panel in a Washington, D.C., District Court, held that a section of the law barring federal employees from taking "an active part in political management or political campaigns" was "impermissibly vague, overly broad and in conflict with the First Amendment . . ."

The case before the high court was an appeal by the U.S. Solicitor General from that ruling. It was started by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

The decision upholding the Hatch Act was on a 6 to 3 vote, with Justices William O. Douglas, Thurgood Marshall and William J. Brennan, Jr., dissenting.

The majority opinion, written by Justice Byron R. White, cited precedents going back as far as Thomas Jefferson in holding that Congress and the executive branch had long believed that political activities by government employees must be limited "if government is to operate effectively and fairly."

"The restrictions so far imposed on federal employees are not aimed at particular groups or points of view but apply equally to all partisan activities of

the type described," Justice White said in his opinion.

COLORADO

The Colorado Association of Public Employees, which changed its name in 1970 to take advantage of the "CAPE" service mark, has taken court action to try to prevent another group from using the CAPE name.

The complaint charges that the Washington, D.C. based coalition of the AFL-CIO's American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union, the National Education Association and the Fire Fighters union is using the name CAPE.

Harry C. Reese, executive director of the Colorado Association, said a tremendous amount of confusion is developing among his members in Colorado, and with organizations his association deals with nationally because of the duplicate name.

As the Colorado Association was preparing the suit to protect its CAPE name, Ralph Flynn, executive director of the Washington-based coalition, was on his way to Colorado to try to talk Association officials into joining the coalition.

As luck would have it, Flynn and other members of his coalition invited Reese and his staff attorney Jim Gilsdorf to lunch, making it easy for a federal marshal to serve Flynn with papers.

"Gentlemen, we've been sued," said one of the Washington labor leaders. "Welcome to the West," commented a

state legislator who was part of the luncheon delegation.

"Sure I'm sorry we had to do it this way," attorney Gilsdorf said later. "No one likes to fly two-thirds of the way across the country just to be sued."

CONNECTICUT

A resolution calling for "endorsement of candidates for state offices who favor the cause of better state service by supporting the goals and programs of CSEA" was overwhelmingly adopted by delegates attending a special convention of the Connecticut State Employees Association.

The resolution commits the Association to "active opposition to candidates who do not support the goals and programs of CSEA."

In addition, it provides for (1) establishment of a CSEA political education fund, (2) participation of individual members and groups of members in the political campaigns of candidates friendly to CSEA goals and programs, (3) extensive publicity of all CSEA political endorsements, as well as its opposition to candidates seeking public offices, and (4) expansion and strengthening of the CSEA Political Action Committee.

The special convention was called in response to the General Assembly's lack of action on state employee legislation. The session was "a disastrous one for state employees," according to Thomas C. Lyon, CSEA's president.

"Our greatest concerns—including

collective bargaining, political freedom, and most importantly, a real cost of living adjustment—have been coldly pushed aside," he said.

"Our bitter disappointment has turned to anger because, particularly on the pay adjustment issue, we feel we have been not merely rebuffed, but betrayed by the Republicans who dominate this legislature," Lyon declared.

"Early in the session," he explained, "the GOP leadership of both chambers strongly indicated to CSEA that an across the board adjustment was not a closed issue. The principle and the validity of the need were affirmed."

"Everyone knows what has happened since then," he said. "And the ultimate responsibility for this shameful performance rests upon one man, the man who manipulates the strings attached to the personnel commissioner and the Republican leaders: Governor Thomas J. Meskill."

"I believe that CSEA's primary response to this cynical betrayal must be full-scale, gloves-off, no-holds-barred political action to defeat the political enemies—and re-elect the proven friends—of state employees," Lyon declared.

"And when I say political action, I mean precisely that. Not merely political education or commentary. Not merely dissemination of candidates' responses to our questionnaires. There was a time for that low-key approach. That time is now past."