

# Dick Bogle

Some thoughts on the trouble beset Portland Police department.

Sources tell me the department is in almost complete disarray with first the "possum" incident and now the burgeoning scandal surrounding the Special Investigations Division.

The term "Special Investigations" is the umbrella term for what used to be called the vice and narcotics squad.

The conclusion to the incident in which officers placed dead possums in front of George Powe's Burger Barn restaurant is in a holding pattern. A federal arbitrator is examining the case in its entirety measuring the offense against the termination penalty administered by Commissioner Charles Jordan and Police Chief Bruce Baker. It's my uneducated guess that no matter what decision the arbitrator makes, the case will go on, perhaps to the

courts.

Most officers feel the North precinct officer's possum dumping act was stupid at best and agree the patrolmen had a punishment coming, but not termination. This opened Jordan to unflinching criticism from the Portland Police Association and its leader, Stan Peters.

That threw Jordan in company with Baker who never has been a favorite with longtime Portland cops. The reason Baker is criticized almost regularly deserves some explanation.

When then Mayor Neil Goldschmidt cleaned house at Second and Oak upon his election, he literally forced a number of high ranking bureau members to retire. This was to open the top positions in the department to new ideas and a fresh approach. Most officers welcomed that change.

That meant, however, Gold-

schmidt needed a new Chief of Police.

An elaborate selection process was developed including a week end of testing at the then existing Congress Hotel. The International Association of Police Chiefs had a big role in the testing and evaluation. All the top Captains who wanted the job could apply and many did.

Finally the long weekend was over and there was a winner. The only hang up was that the "winner" never got the job.

Instead of hiring the winner, Goldschmidt went outside the bureau and hired Bruce Baker who was chief at Berkeley, California. And what sticks in the craw of many officers today is that Baker was never involved in the long weekend at the Congress Hotel. He never competed with the other candidates, at least not outside the Mayor's mind.

So Baker came here with two strikes against him. First he was an outsider and an outsider who had gotten the job without the rigorous competition.

Some of the candidate Captains were wounded and bitter. The bitterness engulfed other officers who were never candidates for the top job.

So, now, when police morale is at an all time low and the bureau's credibility is the lowest it's been in the past 20 years, it's the policies of Baker that many are blaming.

For his part, Jordan has been supportive of his chief but makes it pretty clear that Bruce will be held accountable if there are any more incidents of extreme police misconduct.

There are many ramifications of the possum incident and even more from the scandal involving the narcotic officers.

More on that next week.



**Pacific Power**

*Citizen of the Week*



Bob Dabritz, Sixth Grade home room and Social Studies teacher at Boise School, makes sure all his classes experience both the fun and the learning opportunities of outdoor life.

This year, in addition to taking every one of his own class to Outdoor School, he also worked to persuade and equip seventeen Asian students, mostly Hmong, to attend. He visited every home to make sure the parents understood. He borrowed sleeping bags and helped with necessary gear.

However, this is more than a one-time project. Throughout the year he takes students fishing, tree-felling, canoe-building. His room is a museum of things discovered over the years. When the smelt are running in the Sandy River Bob Dabritz can be seen there late into the evening surrounded by excited young Boise students estimating their "catch!"

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## From the Capitol

Congressman Ron Wyden

**(Editor's Note:** This week Congressman Wyden discusses the need to promote self-help approaches to solve our economic and social problems.)

*Q. Congressman Wyden, in a speech at Concordia College this week, you talked about the need to promote volunteerism and other self-help approaches. It is realistic to believe that we can help solve serious social and economic problems with these approaches?*

*A.* The self-help concept is nothing new. Oregonians have been forming coalitions, holding meetings and working together to solve their own problems since we became a state. Nationally, studies show that two out of three citizens

are willing to assist with social service tasks, community improvement projects and volunteer programs.

With the dollar's purchasing power shrinking almost daily and many of our existing social programs hanging by a thin thread, we have no choice but to rely on that tradition of solving economic and social problems with old-fashioned principles of thrift and individual initiative. We simply cannot afford to create still more big bureaucracies or expend more government funds.

The possibilities for volunteerism and self-help programs are endless. On Saturday, I took part in the Loaves and Fishes ten kilometer run, which involved hundreds of volunteers and runners who took

time out of their Saturday morning. Other workable self-help approaches include:

**Talent Banks** - A throw-back to the old bartering system, this concept involves trading of goods and to help raise money for this elderly nutrition program.

To encourage that kind of volunteerism, I have co-sponsored HR 768 which would allow volunteers to get the same mileage deduction as is now allowed for business (20 cents per mile). Currently, volunteers are only allowed 9 cents per mile. Legislation has also been proposed to allow taxpayers to deduct charitable contributions whether or not they use standard deductions.

services for other goods or services. This is an excellent way for consumers to receive the goods or services they need without money exchanging hands.

**Saving Pools** - Individuals with small, standard savings accounts are at the mercy of the ever-rising inflation rate. To help improve the return of their savings, they can pool their funds with relatives and friends, purchase money market certificates - and earn twice as much interest.

Volunteerism and other self-help approaches admittedly cannot solve all our social and economic ills. They are, however, a good way to begin. And with our budget dollar stretched beyond capacity, we may often find we simply have no other choice.

## HCD advisory committee seeks members

The Northeast Neighborhood office is seeking applications from persons who would like to serve on the new Citizens Advisory Committee for the City Housing and Community Development (HCD) grant. The Advisory Committee was formed at the request of citizens who testified at recent HCD hearings.

The City is to develop a three-year plan that will serve as the policy document and guide for determining how the \$30 million community development Block Grant will be used. These funds are to be used to benefit low and moderate income people during the three years beginning in 1982.

In past years the funds have been used in a number of "target areas" in the City to provide physical improvements such as housing rehabilitation, street improvements, street trees, park improvements, etc. The plans were developed by City staff. In public hearings on the plan, this spring and in past years, citizens

have complained that social programs and community self-help programs have not been considered for funding.

A twenty-five member citizen's committee will be formed, with five members from each geographic area - North, Northeast, Southeast, Northwest and Southwest - all five at-large members selected by the committee to insure a community-wide perspective. Committee mem-

bers must be able to represent the needs of low and moderate income families, the elderly, minorities, handicapped, neighborhood associations, community based organizations, business and economic development interests.

The committee will meet every two weeks, in the evening, from June through October, 1981. Names must be submitted to the City by May 31st.

## Workshop explores Sickle Cell

Sickle Cell Anemia, an inherited disease which affects one in 400 Black Americans, is the subject of a workshop Thursday, April 30 and Friday, May 1, sponsored by the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center at the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center.

One in ten of all Black Americans has the trait (an inherited genetic

abnormality) for sickle cell disease. Though having the trait poses no health hazard, a child born of parents, each possessing the trait, has a 25 percent chance of having the disease.

The workshop features noted speakers in the field of genetics who will discuss counseling of affected families, medical and social effects, hemoglobin physiology and biochemistry, and teaching and counseling techniques for the community and school.

To be held at the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center at the UOHC, the workshop is offered to nurses, high school teachers and counselors, social workers, and other health professionals to provide information leading to the familiarity with, and understanding of, sickle cell disease, and related health conditions.

The workshop, approved for credit by the Portland State University division of continuing education, requires a basic preregistration fee of \$10. Those interested may contact the genetics clinic at the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center, UOHC.

"Never cut what you can untie."  
Joseph Joubert

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Over 97% of all rivers in the U.S. flow in a southerly direction and no one knows why so few rivers flow in a northerly direction.

Although windmills are always associated with Holland, the first windmills in the world were developed and used in Persia.



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