

Registered Lobbyists Spend 2.5 Million In 1956 To Influence Federal Legislation

Washington—(CQ)—Pressure groups have spent more than \$2.5 million to influence legislation before Congress in 1956.

Congressional Quarterly's survey of spending reports filed by lobbyists with the clerk of the House shows that 252 groups reported they spent \$2,545,432.04 in their attempts to pass or defeat legislation they were interested in during the first six months of 1956.

In the same period of 1955, 251 groups reported spending \$2,486,243.77.

Under the lobby registration law, groups whose principal purpose is to influence legislation are required to file quarterly accounts of receipts and expenses. Their reports for the first half of the year are due by July 10, but invariably reports for the first six months continue to be filed as late as August or September. CQ's survey includes all reports filed as of Aug. 3.

Many Don't File

Many organizations and persons engaged in lobbying do not file spending reports or even register. Therefore, the actual lobbying bill is far above the amount reported under the law.

For the second consecutive quarter of the year, transportation groups concerned with proposals to revise federal transportation policy topped the list of individual spenders.

The Association of American Railroads, plugging for a plan to reduce federal control over transportation, topped the list with reported expenditures of \$94,527.69.

The American Trucking associations reported spending \$65,745.69 on lobbying activities, \$28,782 less than was reported by the railroads. The truckers want no change in the national transportation policy. This year

the truckers won their point. Hearings on legislation backed by the railroads were held, but no action was taken.

Labor Near Top

In its usual spot near the top of the list of lobby spenders was labor. The AFL-CIO reported spending \$69,582.32 up through June 30, placing it second among lobby spenders. It was fourth in the same period of last year.

Although jumping nearer the top in spending, the AFL-CIO reported considerably less than the total reported by the AFL and CIO before their December, 1955, merger. As of June 30, 1955, the AFL said it spent \$63,780, the CIO reported \$66,809, for a combined total of \$130,590. Similarly in 1954 the two groups as separate organizations reported a total of \$111,964 to influence legislation; in 1953 they spent a combined total of \$80,610.

Other leading spenders and the amounts they said they used to influence legislation:

American Farm Bureau Federation, \$61,432; U.S. Cuban Sugar Council, \$61,022.11; Southern States Industrial Council, \$52,586.65; National Farmers' Union, \$49,861.43; National Committee for Insurance Taxation, \$48,820.68; American Legion, \$42,187.18; National Federation of Post Office Clerks, \$41,264.14; the Council of State Chambers of Commerce, \$41,191.45.

Farm Legislation

Both the Farm Bureau Federation and the National Farmers' Union spent most of their money in attempts to influence farm legislation. They held major differences of view over farm price supports. The Farm Bureau, favoring flexible supports, won out when a second farm bill that continued flexible price supports was signed by President Eisen-

hower. He previously vetoed a bill that would have set up a system of rigid supports favored by the Farmers' Union.

The Cuban Sugar Council's energies were spent in seeking favorable import quotas for Cuba's sugar. The Council is composed of 13 companies owning sugar properties in Cuba whose stockholders are predominantly U.S. citizens. The Southern States Industrial Council made no campaign on particular legislation, but said it supported legislation "favorable to the free enterprise system."

A newcomer to the ranks of leading lobby spenders was the National Committee for Insurance Taxation, formed in 1954 to seek "equality of federal taxation within the fire and casualty insurance industry." Its reports show the group is supported almost entirely by the Allstate Insurance Co., a subsidiary of the Sears Roebuck Co.

Others at Work

The American Legion's major effort in 1956 was unsuccessfully put behind a bill to liberalize veterans' pensions. The National Federation of Post Office Clerks worked successfully for a bill to ease retirement for federal workers.

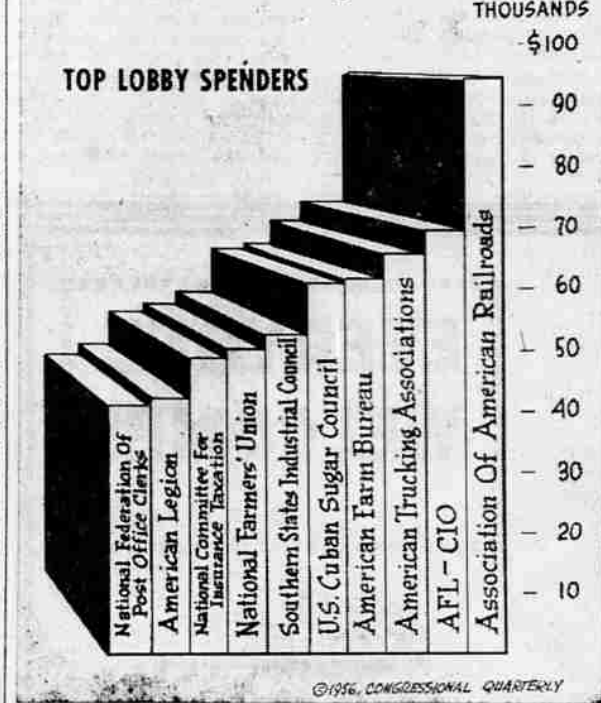
Conspicuously absent from the list of leading spenders for the second quarter of the year were groups for and against the natural gas bill to exempt producers from federal regulation. The bill was vetoed by the President because of what he said were "arrogant" lobbying activities. Later, after two Senate subcommittee investigations of activities in regard to the bill, a grand jury indicted two attorneys and their oil company employer on charges of violating the lobby act.

The attorneys and their em-

ployer had been involved in the offer of \$2,500 campaign contribution to Sen. Francis Case (R-S.D.). None was registered as a lobbyist.

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Over \$2.5 Million Spent By 252 Pressure Groups On 1956 Legislation



The Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842 finally awarded the region to New Hampshire.

ILLEGAL TURN

Riverside, Calif.—(U.P.)—Now it's a police chief who has been warned to improve his manners and study his traffic rules. Chief Robert Morton of Cabazon was thus warned after being convicted Friday of hurling abusive language at a motorist and his wife after they protested an illegal turn by Morton's patrol car that forced them off the road.

The Family Council

Editor's Note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, a newspaper editor, a woman's page editor and two newspaper writers. These consult with clergymen of all faiths and denominations. All letters are held in complete confidence.

Rita—Sam's friend insulted me.

Sam—He's really a harmless fellow.

Rita—I am greatly disturbed by my husband's close friendship with a man who once made an insulting proposal to me and who has a reputation for trying to seduce women. I told my husband about his behavior when, some years ago before my marriage, I was unfortunate enough to let him take me out. Sam attaches no importance to that and, as for his friend's attitude toward women generally, Sam says his friend's personal life is no concern of his.

It would be bad enough if Sam saw his friend outside the home, but he insists on being invited to our home. Whenever he comes, he is always accompanied by a different girl, and the conversation often annoys me with suggestiveness. When I refuse to invite his friend, Sam insists that we meet him at a restaurant. And recently when I refused to do that, Sam went without me.

I feel that this is causing a serious break between Sam and me and I don't know how to resolve this issue.

Sam—I agree that my friend has something wrong with him. At the same time, I know that if my friend loved him and wanted to marry him, she would find it easy to manage him and would have a fine, loyal, considerate and faithful husband.

My friend simply feels very awkward and insecure with women and he tries to hide his

lack of self-confidence by assuming the air of a rogue.

He is my best friend; we share many major interests, and I hope to see the day when he will be married to a girl who can be as close to my wife as he is to me.

The Council: Sam's explanation is plausible enough, but we cannot understand why he is letting this matter cause so much hard feeling between him and his wife. It should be a simple matter, if the man is so close a friend, to explain to him how his false attitudes are hurting him in the eyes of his wife.

Sam says that any girl who wished to marry his friend could easily manage him. That strikes us as putting the friend in a very vulnerable position, from which he might be removed by timely, tactful but very clear advice. This friend should be made aware of the nature of his weakness.

Once he knows himself better, he should be less vulnerable and less offensive in his behavior. Once he understands that he is

not really being himself when he rashly propositions girls, he may change his personality greatly for the better.

Sam's fond hope that his friend will some day have a wife who may be his wife's close friend will never be realized if this friend keeps going out with a new girl every time he dates and if he keeps driving them away with his crude and false aggressiveness.

This man really needs a friend's wisdom.

Among persons over 65, it is estimated, from one-tenth to one-third are chronically ill. About one-half of all the chronically ill are over age 45, and most persons over 60 have some more or less permanent disability or disease.

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Grange Notes

Phoenix Grange met Aug. 14. Master Melvin Lottie called the meeting to order at 8 p.m.

Olin Poe told of the trip he and Mrs. Poe took through Washington recently. He said all crops looked good, especially grain crops.

Jake Arnold, reporting on horticulture, said some owners of pear orchards reported pears testing high, and others low, and there had been some fruit blown off by strong winds. Dee Hendrickson reported help more plentiful than some years.

HEC Chairman Velma Johnson gave her report on the picnic lunch served by the Fruit Growers July 25 by ladies of Phoenix Grange and thanked those who had helped.

A communication from Mrs. Martha White of Jacksonville was read by Secretary Lesbia Lottie.

Chaplain Gertrude Lewin reported Mrs. Grochocki at home and improving, and Mrs. Mark Norton also improving and expected to go home soon.

On the display table were National Grange Bulletins, arranged by Mrs. Olin Poe.

The lecture hour consisted of a monologue by Mrs. B. N. Lewin.

Following that, Lecturer Dee Hendrickson requested all officers to remove their sashes and leave their stations, and he appointed certain ladies of the grange to take their places, and instructed them to give a seating drill and carry on a Grange meeting according to their own ideas, which was very well done, according to the men of the grange.

The program for the meeting on Aug. 28 will be put on by the legislative committee.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. and refreshments of sandwiches and coffee were served in the dining room by several volunteer ladies of the HEC.

PLAGUE ANSWER

Woburn, Mass.—(U.P.)—Four-H Club Committeeman Ed Foley said he believes he has the answer for beating a plague of Japanese beetles. He has arranged with a local theater for free passes to every youngster who turns in a jar filled with 1,000 of the insects. There's just one hitch: Foley has to be sure the count is correct.

YOUNG HELPFUL

Lincoln, Neb.—(U.P.)—A mother was giving her version to a policeman of just how the traffic accident happened. Her 12-year-old son piped up: "But it was really your fault, Mom. He (the other driver) was coming real slow." Mama got a traffic ticket.

Industry takes about 10 per cent of the country's potato crop for making potato chips.

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