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**Social Security Card A Must if Under 18 To Work This Summer**

Norman O. Nilsen, the state labor commissioner, had advised young persons under 18 years of age who wish to obtain work permits for summer jobs to act immediately if they do not have social security cards.

Nilsen said that the Oregon Bureau of Labor must have a social security number before it can issue a permanent, plastic work permit card to an applicant. He said that new methods of processing social security applications by the federal government has meant delay in the issuing of cards.

Instead of being issued on a local or regional basis, as in the past, social security cards now are issued from a central location in Maryland. Experience has shown, said A. W. (Bud) Gardner, administrator of the wage and hour division of the Oregon Bureau of Labor that this has meant from four to six weeks for processing.

Persons under 18 must have permits for all employment except newspaper vending, domestic work and most areas of agriculture. Applications for permits and social security cards may be obtained at bureau of labor offices in Portland, Salem, Eugene, Medford and Pendleton.

Permit applications also are available at state employment division offices and at schools and colleges.

Nilsen said that the work permit system insures that young people receive the right amount of pay under the right conditions for employment not prescribed because of hazardous conditions.

**The Old Timer**



"Uncle Sam gets most of our funds, so Washington, D.C. should be named 'Fund City.'"

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

**JACK SUMNER**  
18-H State Capitol Building  
Salem, Oregon 97310

Speaker of the House Richard O. Eymann made a bold step last week when he appointed a special blue ribbon house revenue committee for the sole purpose of seeking a property tax relief and/or school funding program.

In order to seek a bi-partisan program he named to the committee, Republicans and Democrats; liberals and conservatives; proponents and opponents to the McCall Tax Plan; Coast, Portland, mid-valley and eastern Oregonians. He appointed me to the committee because of the wide rural area I am representing and as an opponent to measure 1 you just defeated.

By the time you read this, the committee will have met for nearly two weeks and will have a sense of direction that we shall seek. Consideration is now being given to all alternatives that are presently available. Any input you would care to give me would be greatly appreciated.

I shall keep you informed of decisions and progress of the tax committee in future releases.

Now, I would like to tell you about another committee and its objective, the joint committee on professional responsibility.

Long before the Watergate leak grew into a flood, Oregon legislators were striving to strengthen this state's climate of public confidence and trust.

The new leadership in the Oregon legislative assembly recognized the need to build additional safeguards into our system. As a result, the joint committee on professional responsibility was created.

The move was a good one. It brought more than a dozen bills together under a single committee umbrella, giving members a chance to really zero in on this area of special concern.

What do these bills seek to accomplish? In total, they will guarantee that the people of Oregon have access to information affecting their lives and pocketbooks.

On April 11, Gov. McCall signed into law a measure which permits journalists to protect their confidential sources. Two weeks later, on April 26, the house passed and sent to the governor a bill which would require all government bodies and agencies to open their meetings to the public.

These were the first two bills to emerge from the new joint committee on professional responsibility, and they go a long way toward insuring a free flow of information.

Equally important are the bills which would open the records of both legislators and lobbyist to public scrutiny. While Oregon has been relatively free of political "wheeling and dealing", this legislation is necessary for two reasons.

First, it will help erase the shadows of doubt in Oregon cast by the Watergate affair. Secondly, it will help keep Oregon politics free of the conflicts of interest and favoritism that have plagued political systems on the other states.

Another way we're attacking these problems is through proposed election reforms aimed at everything from limiting campaign spending to the creation of a fair campaign practices commission. The list of measures alone covers six full pages in the legislature's weekly bill index.

With these actions in the 1973 legislature, we're working to make sure that we never face a local version of the national that is before our country today.

**KEN JERNSTEDT**  
c/o Oregon State Senate  
Salem, Oregon 97310

This has been a very busy week in the Oregon Senate and a number of bills have been passed that will be of great interest to you.

A group of bills relating to fishing were among those bills passed by the senate. They are designed to give the sport fisherman more benefits and to reduce the catch for commercial fishermen. One of the measures allows the state fish commission to restrict the commercial season and type of gear and area when steelhead trout are taken in an incidental catch.

Another of the fish bills prohibits the commercial taking of striped bass. It does, however, allow for certain incidental taking of striped bass and provides for the disposition of the fish. The state fish commission is required to take reasonable means to minimize the commercial taking.

The other bill approved, modifies the membership requirements of the fish commission. The fish commission would have to include one member to represent sport fishing, one to represent commercial fishing and one to represent the public at large.

Approved by the senate this week was a measure to establish an independent insurance rate-making bureau to determine compensation insurance rates for Oregon. At present, Oregon employs the services of the national council on compensation insurance based in New York, to calculate its workmen's compensation rates at a cost of \$360,000 per biennium.

Criticism of the present workmen's compensation system in Oregon surfaced last year when it was learned that Oregon farmers are paying the highest compensation rates in the western states. The governor's task force on workmen's compensation rates discovered numerous problems surrounding the rate-setting process and indicated that these problems should be addressed by the legislature.

By returning the rate-setting power to the state, SB 211 will encourage a closer examination of the entire workmen's compensation program, and insure that Oregon's compensation insurance rates accurately reflect conditions existing in the state. Additional legislation calling for an interim study of Oregon's workmen's compensation program is now being considered by the senate.

Following the overwhelming defeat of the McCall Tax Plan, the legislature has begun once again to examine property tax relief alternatives. Following a petition by the six democrats who opposed the speaker of the house appointed a new special revenue committee consisting of five democrats and five republicans who opposed the McCall plan.

The new committee begun meeting this week. The committee has expressed a good deal of interest in the property tax relief program developed by the interim tax committee. This approach was introduced as HB 2006 by seven republican state representatives. This plan would provide 50%-60% state funding of local schools.

The house reversed an earlier decision and approved a measure which would allow the state to operate lotteries. The measure which must be approved by the voters, would allow the legislature to set up a state lottery and to enact state regulations of private lotteries for charitable organizations.

There are still a great number of bills before the legislature. I urge you to express your opinions on any of these measures.

**"YOUR LAND AND MY LAND"**



By Hazel Hayes  
**STEPHEN FOSTER**

"I Dream of Jeannie With the Light Brown Hair" — the first song ever to make the hit parade 87 years after it was written! It has the stuff of imperishability.

Stephen Foster started as a bookkeeper and ended in poverty in a free hospital ward — a genius with little recognition. Mother Foster loved her youngest son and was happy to read over his latest song and try to sing it along with him. But papa was disturbed. "West Point! That's the place for him. I'll make a man of him yet!"

What is your favorite Stephen Foster song? Could it be "Way Down Upon the Swanee River, Far, Far Away" or "Beautiful Dreamer, Wake Unto Me—List While I Woo Thee With Sweet Melody" — and such melodies! They may live forever.

He transformed our crude, vulgar ditties into folk-literature, full of the spirit of pioneers; full of the carefree impertinence that snaps its fingers at fate. He wrote into his songs the subtle traits that characterize Americans.

Among the 200 songs he wrote, the most popular turned out to be: "Jeannie With the Light Brown Hair", "My Old Kentucky Home", "Old Black Joe", "Old Folks at Home", "Camptown Races", "Massa's in the Cold Cold Ground", and "Oh, Suzannah" (the theme song of the 49'ers. They sang it across the plains and mountains, and then the civil war soldiers took it up and harmonized across the firing line.)

You would think that money rolled in for Foster, but copyright laws were lax at that time and music publishers bought his songs for a pittance and then made fortunes from them.

So, here's our tribute to you, Stephen Foster. You were rich, not poor. Your songs live in our hearts. They are America's best remembered folklores and are sung with a joy that makes everyone's voice ring out with melody.

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