

Special Session May Become Bitter Battlefield Again

SALEM (UPI) — The special legislative session Nov. 11 could start where the record 141-day regular session ended—in a bitter Senate-House battle with the governor watching helplessly from the sidelines.

In view of the voters mandate last week, it is doubtful any new tax bills will be enacted.

This could be the seed for trouble.

Gov. Mark Hatfield's austerity program calls for reduced spending, cuts in basic school support and re-enactment of the one-shot speedup of withholding tax collections.

The one-shot plan, which

would add \$12 million to this biennium's income, was part of the tax bill that was defeated last week.

The House might agree to the governor's plan.

But Senate President Ben Musa has unveiled an alternate program. He wants more severe agency cuts than Hatfield, twice the basic school cuts the governor has proposed—but opposes the one-shot idea.

No matter what the governor or House might want, they can't get it without Senate approval.

Long before the referendum election, senators said they would not enact any new tax measures.

Musa said enactment of new taxes in the face of defeat of the tax bill would be "a kick in the teeth to the voters."

The tax bill that was overthrown last week was a compromise. It wasn't what the governor wanted, what the House wanted, or what the Senate wanted.

The House passed it knowing the Senate would not approve it. The original House package included the governor's cigarette tax, the one-shot measure, and some income tax increases.

The Senate dropped the one-shot plan, substituted a sales tax for the cigarette tax, and

upped the House's income tax rates.

After two weeks and three conference committees the Senate gave up the sales tax, agreed to the one-shot plan, threw in capital gains relief and increased corporate taxes, and forced the House to accept higher income tax rates.

Lawmakers were discouraged, tired, and bitter when the session ended. They were so convinced the voters would not approve the tax increase that they set aside \$300,000 and the Oct. 15 date for the referral election.

The voters, 460,000 strong, voted 3 1/2 to 1 against the bill.

The air of agreement expressed by the governor and legislative leaders when the special session was called was undoubtedly sincere.

All are trying to do their best to reflect the wishes of the voters. They will undoubtedly try to keep the session short, and attempt to avoid rekindling feuds.

But the governor, House members and senators are equally sincere in support of their own approaches to the state's fiscal dilemma.

They may feel their present public image is so bad that they can only gain by standing firm for what they believe.

Nagging Comes In Two Categories, Either Spell Trouble For Marriage

By HARRY FERGUSON
United Press International
WASHINGTON (UPI)—Ninety per cent of the American men who go to psychiatrists or matrimonial counselors in an attempt to save their marriages open up their bag of troubles with this statement: "She's nagging me to death."

Experts do not challenge the accusation that the American wife is a nagger, but they do divide nagging into two categories — benevolent and malignant.

Benevolent nagging is insisting that he wear his overshoes through a snow storm and have a physical check-up once a year. It springs from love and a desire to keep him healthy. A man who complains to the psychiatrist about benevolent nagging is almost certain to be the offending party in the forthcoming smash-up of the marriage.

Malignant nagging is demanding repeatedly that he do something about a situation that at the moment cannot be changed. Like insisting he change jobs when no other job is in sight, or demanding he buy a dish washing machine when there is no cash available and his credit is strained to the breaking point.

Highest In World

The American divorce rate is the highest in the world. Not all divorces result from quarrels over money, but enough of them do to make an examination of the family financial set-up imperative to anybody who is trying to save the marriage. As soon as he is married, the average American husband starts spending \$400 a year more than he earns. The amount can get bigger and the situation can last for as long as 20 years, depending on how addicted the family is to installment buying.

The arrival of children increases the rate of spending and heightens the debt until, as Martha Lear says in her book "The Child Worshipers," American families have a tendency "to spend themselves into a financial sewer."

That's when the malignant nagging is likely to reach its peak and the husband starts casting about for aid and comfort.

Good Men Ruined

"A man is so constituted," writes Dr. Joseph H. Peck on the subject of nagging, "that he must have someone to believe in him to succeed at anything. I have seen good men ruined due to their wives nagging them because the status symbols were not accumulating fast enough. When a woman makes up her mind that her husband is a failure and informs him of the fact, he becomes a failure indeed. There is nothing more depressing for a doctor than to try to treat such a man. He develops symptoms of every disease in the book and is more difficult to help because subconsciously he doesn't want to get well."

There are, of course, millions of husbands and wives who budget their income wisely, restrain urges to buy things they cannot afford, let other people do the keeping up with

the Joneses and live happily ever after. But for the man who spends himself into trouble or allows his wife to do so, the daily routine can become hell.

Worst Times

The American Institute of Family Relations has charted the three times during the day when nagging is most likely to explode into a quarrel: (1) just before dinner when the husband is tired and wants to relax (2) at bedtime when the wife wants to get a problem settled before going to sleep (3) at breakfast. It cites a survey of bus and truck drivers which found that most traffic accidents occur in the first hour of the day, frequently because angry husbands burst out of driveways recklessly or exceed the speed limit on the way to work.

In considering other reasons besides money for nagging and quarreling, the institute lists complaints about husbands from thousands of wives in this order: He is selfish. He is untruthful. He drinks too much. He complains too much. He does not show his affection. He does not talk things over. He is harsh with the children or else he takes no interest in them. He is touchy. He shows no interest in his home.

Close To Surface

Our tempers apparently are closer to the surface than most of us realize, and Dr. Joseph Popenoe of the institute surveyed several hundred men and women to find out why they got mean. He found men lost their tempers on an average of six times a week and women three. Men are most likely to get mad at inanimate objects — a flat tire or bumping into a door in the dark. Women most frequently get mad at people. Either way, a little bit of nagging when the other person is angry is a sure-fire formula for producing a quarrel.

Experts are interested in how many American women marry for money rather than love, but nobody has come up with a device for producing reliable statistics.

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