

THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Committee for Disclosure Of Influences on Government, 312 Legal Center Building, Eugene, Oregon

To the Editor:

WHY KEEP IT A SECRET?

The 170 paid lobbyists at the legislature have once again decided as a group to kill a bill which I co-sponsored to require such lobbyists to report publicly:

- (1) Who they are; (2) Who they work for, and (3) How much they spend influencing or attempting to influence legislation.

The bill covers both the legislature and also lobbying an executive agency or governor concerning legislation.

Why do they want to keep it a secret? Frankly, I don't know. But in my book the public has a right to know about every important influence on government. And certainly the paid lobbyist is a major influencing factor.

The reason the public has a right to know is that the government belongs to them—and no one else.

If you have a school age child visiting the legislature the chances are that he will hear a speech given by one of the younger members of the paid lobby group telling a part of the work performed by lobbyists. Your child

Come, Let Us Reason Together . . .

Why in the name of common sense is the administration trying to force the Medicare program on the people of the U.S.?

Even if it were financially sound, it is a terrible insurance program. Of course, it is not really an insurance program. It is an extra tax program—extra Social Security taxes for every worker from now on to pay for a limited hospital protection for all Social Security-covered persons over 65—rich or poor.

The rich people can pay for their own good programs, so why penalize the senior citizens who really need good protection—not limited to 60 days maximum stay in a hospital, NO doctor bills and some drugs only while in the hospital if that particular hospital has what he needs.

What happens if 60 days isn't long enough, or if he can't afford the special drugs not at that hospital, or can't get to a particular hospital that is a member of this Medicare program? What if he needs surgery? (He certainly will need a doctor.) Or what if the program bankrupts itself by 1975 as a recent survey predicts (Oregonian, Feb. 7)? What happens then?

There is a better program—the Curtis-Herlong bill, "Eldercare." Advantages: It is a really good insurance program. It is not limited hospital protection, only. It pays physician's, surgical and drug costs, hospital and nursing home charges. (See March 1965 Reader's Digest, page 240.)

Premium payments would be based on a simple statement of income. Those elderly with an income below a certain minimum

is more apt to hear the lobbyist than any legislator, it seems to me.

In this way and many others the lobby is trying to improve its image. But the best way would be to stop fighting the full disclosure law which over half the states already have.

But I have no illusions that the lobby will let this law pass the legislature in Oregon. So initiative petitions to put this law on the ballot have been printed at my expense.

If you believe the public has a right to know, write me at the State Senate, Salem.

EDWARD N. FADELEY, State Senator

Annual Meeting Set At Methodist Church

The Rev. Ralph A. Lawrence has announced that the Nyssa Methodist church will hold its annual meeting for the election of next year's officers and hearing of reports when the Rev. Orville Coats, district superintendent, comes to meet with the official board at 8 o'clock Wednesday, April 7.

This meeting, or "Quarterly Conference," is open to all members of the church. It will feature reports from the various organizations of the church and the nominating committee.

NNC CRUSADERS TO SING AT CHURCH OF NAZARENE

The Crusader a cappella choir from Northwest Nazarene college in Nampa will present a concert at 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 7, in Nyssa Church of the Nazarene.

Pastor John Bullock and his congregation invite all area residents to hear this choral group, directed by Professor Warren E. Tippitt.

DAILS RETURN FROM TRIP

Lee Dail, Jimmy, Marla and David returned home Sunday from a week's vacation trip. They were guests of their son and brother, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Dail and Kammie Lynn at Renton and visited friends, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Rich in Vancouver. Enroute home they stopped at Forest Grove to visit other relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Prawitz, former Nyssans. They were also guests of the Orvis Newell family in Coos Bay before returning to Nyssa.

VISIT IN CALIFORNIA

Mr. and Mrs. Damon Savage; their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Savage, returned recently from a two-week trip to California. They visited in Covina with the elder Savage couple's children, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Chadwick and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Savage and family. They also saw many places of interest in Nevada and California and the Dennis Savages went to Old Mexico before returning to Nyssa.

would pay nothing. Others might pay part, based on level of income.

It would not increase Social Security taxes for workers. It would cost less because it would be state-operated. The patients would have free choice of doctors and hospitals.

It makes sense. We never know what financial reverses may beset us. For those of us approaching 65, it would be nice to know that a good program is available if needed, or for that needy relative or friend.

It makes me angry that this good program is being disregarded by the administration when it is so much better in every way!

Let's remind our congressmen that the Great Society includes many of us who cannot vote ourselves increases in pay every time the going is rough (or taxes are raised).

Send air mail post cards to Senators Wayne Morse and Maurice Neuberger, Senate Building, Washington, D.C., and Hon. Al Ullman, House of Representatives.

Now, before it is too late . . . "Vote Eldercare — Defeat Medicare!"

MRS. JOHN J. TURNER, Ontario, Oregon

Bellon Receives Doctor's Degree In Administration



DR. JERRY BELLON . . . Son of Nyssans

A doctor's degree in educational administration has been granted to Jerry Bellon by the University of California at Berkeley. Dr. Bellon is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bellon of Nyssa.

He is a 1947 graduate of Nyssa high school, received his bachelor of arts from Idaho State college in 1951 and his master's degree in 1957 from the University of Idaho.

Dr. Bellon was formerly a coach and teacher in Fruitland and Weiser schools and after leaving Idaho worked for six years in the California public school system. During the past two years he has been a member of the Department of Education at the University of California.

Dr. and Mrs. Bellon and their two daughters plan to move to Sacramento this summer. Effective Sept. 1, 1965, he will serve as an associate professor of school administration at Sacramento State college.

MRS. GOODFELLOW DIES; NYSSANS ATTEND SERVICE

Funeral services for Mrs. S. B. Goodfellow were conducted Saturday afternoon, March 27, 1965, at the funeral chapel in Bountiful, Utah.

The deceased, stepmother of Mrs. Clarence R. Kesler, Sr., of rural Nyssa, succumbed last Thursday in Bountiful. Among Nyssans who returned home Sunday after attending the rites are Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Kesler, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Neil Peterson and Toni Kaye, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Kesler, Jr., and Kathy and Karma Kesler.

GUESTS FROM PORTLAND

Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Pfaff and children of Portland spent last week visiting in the home of Dr. and Mrs. K. E. Kerby and Steve.

First Aid Classes Conducted Weekly In Nu Acres Area

By Farmerette Club

NU ACRES—First in a series of 16 first aid classes was held Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Ralph Baxter who also served as instructor.

All women of the community are invited to attend the classes to be held each week in the various homes. A projector is being used with lessons accompanying the films.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Payne of The Dalles, Ore., were Thursday evening visitors in the Mike McKague home. While in this area, the Paynes also visited with Mr. and Mrs. George Wilson.

Members of the Farmerette club held a surprise farewell party for Mrs. J. T. Martin last Thursday afternoon. The honoree and her husband are moving soon to Denver, Colo. Mrs. Martin has been a member of the club since 1945. She was presented with a travel kit and a number of handkerchiefs.

The party was held at the home of Mrs. Lowell Dalley with Mrs. Mike McKague assisting with refreshments served to 16 guests.

Martins to Be Honored

An open house reception will be held for the J. T. Martins Sunday afternoon at the community hall with all area residents invited to attend.

The regular pinocle party was held Saturday in the community hall with Mrs. Gerald Russell and Mrs. Robert Piercy as hostesses. Seven tables were in play and high score awards were won by Mrs. Robert Shaw, Jr., and Robert Shaw, Sr.

Low score prizes went to Mrs. Bruce Jenkins and Delbert Wilson, with the traveling award going to Arden Atkinson.

Next card session will be Friday evening, April 2, with an invitation extended to all area residents.

VISIT NYSSA PARENTS

Mrs. Ray Barnes and sons of Vale, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Herriman and family of Enterprise, Miss Bonnie House of Corvallis, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Marcum and children were Saturday evening guests in the home of the women's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul House and Butch. Mrs. Herriman and children are spending this week visiting in the parental home.

THANKS FROM MRS. WITT

I want to say "thanks" to all my friends for flowers, cards, visitations and gifts of food sent to our home following my recent surgery and during my convalescence. Your many kindnesses will be remembered always.

—Mrs. Wilson Witt

Salem Scene

by Robert L. Denedde

Perhaps the most difficult—yet most important—job of every legislature is to review, analyze and approve the state's general fund budget for the next biennium. For a progress report on how the 1965-67 budget is coming along, Salem Scene asked Rep. Stafford Hansell (R-Hermiston), co-chairman of the powerful joint ways and means committee, for that story.

Hansell, a five-term member of the House, said that "with only two major budgets yet unexamined—higher education and board of health—it appears the size of the 1965-67 budget will be near \$450 million."

This would represent an increase of \$82 million over the present biennium but a reduction of some \$14 million from Governor Mark Hatfield's original budget request.

Hansell said the ways and means committee will probably cut \$8 million from capital construction requests as one part of the \$14 million reduction.

Another major cut came about from a revised estimate of the number of students to be enrolled in primary and secondary schools. Hansell asserted the new estimate showed fewer students will be in school than were earlier anticipated. "This," he declared, "represents a savings of over \$2 million in appropriations to the basic school support fund."

He indicated, however, that basic school support will nonetheless be increased from \$132 to \$152 per census child.

He said the committee will probably amend the \$5 million property tax relief appropriation bill (HB 1226) to provide that "any surplus in excess of \$5 million at the end of each biennium would be allocated to local taxing districts for real property tax relief." This amount could be sizeable, since anticipated revenues for the coming biennium are in the neighborhood of \$470 million and previous surpluses have averaged \$20 million.

Hansell likes this method of tax relief, since it would be a "direct offset" against already established budgets and thus be an absolute reduction in taxes, whereas any direct appropriation or greater increase in basic school support would be an amount local taxing districts could count on and budget for accordingly.

The two weeks of uninterrupted committee work prior to the start of the session, Hansell claims, has "made a big difference" in ways and means committee activities. "As far as

the committee is concerned the session could end at the 90-100 day point and we would have completed all our work."

He said, however, the committee will keep the higher education budget until the session is ready to adjourn, because there are "so many areas to explore."

The department of higher education is the only state agency which is not required to submit a "line item" budget. Instead, budget requests are submitted by programs, largely based on the establishment of a student-teacher ratio formula.

Hansell said it would take the committee an additional 30 to 40 days if the budget for higher education were to be itemized. He doesn't favor such a budget for all areas of higher education, but he does believe a detailed "justification" should be required of expenditures from research grants, student fees and appropriations for building programs and extension services.

Commenting on plans by some "aggrieved" Portland property taxpayers to circulate an initiative petition to limit property tax assessments to 1 percent of assessed value, Hansell said if such a program were to pass it would create "complete chaos in local schools and governments."

A 1 percent limitation on property taxes would reduce local county revenues by nearly 75 percent, since assessments presently average about 2.5 percent of assessed value.

Hansell pointed out that the state could not help offset any revenue loss to local districts without enacting a combination of new and higher state taxes. These taxes might include a sales tax, higher income tax and a business tax.

Concluding his remarks, Hansell said the ways and means committee has tried to keep the level of state services balanced with expected revenues so that the state can "live with what it has."

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