Sentences From Actual Letters Received By A County Welfare Department

1. I am forwarding my marriage Certificate and my six children, I had seven but one died which was baptized on a half sheet of paper.
2. I am writing to say that my baby was born two years old, when do I get money?
3. I am glad to report that my husband who was reported missing is dead.
4. Mrs. Jones has not had any clothing for a year and has been visited regularly by the clergy.
5. I can not get sick pay. I have six children can you tell me why?
6. This is my eighth child, what are you going to do about it?
7. Please find for certain if my husband is dead. The man I live with now can't eat or do nothing til he knows.
8. I am forwarding my marriage Certificate and my three children, one of which was a mistake as you will see.
9. In answer to your letter, I have given birth to a boy weighing ten pounds. I hope this is satisfactory.
10. My husband got his project cut off two weeks ago and I haven't had any relief since.
11. Unless I get my husband's money very soon, I will be forced to lead an immortal life.
12. You have changed my little boy to a little girl, will this make any difference?
13. Please send money at once as I have fallen in error with my landlord.
14. I have no children as yet as my husband is a bus driver and works night and day.
15. In accordance with instructions, I have given birth to twins in the enclosed envelope.
16. I want money as quick as I can get it. I have been in bed with the doctor for two weeks and he doesn't do me no good. If things don't improve, I will have to send for another doctor.
17. I am very much annoyed to find that you have branded my boy as illiterate and this is a dirty lie. I was married to his father a week before he was born.

Salem Scene

By Everett E. Cutter

There's a re-run of the 55 Legislative Assembly scheduled in Salem during the third week of January.

It's called "Legislative Week."

For five days beginning Tuesday, January 20, Oregon's capital city likely will resemble a regular -- or at least special, session of the Legislature. The period has been set aside on a trial basis for meetings of Legislative Interim Committees. Virtually all of Oregon's lawmakers will be involved in the meetings -- many in several.

Sen. Anthony Yturri (R-Ontario) is generally credited with the idea behind Legislative Week. And it was implemented by the new Interim Committee on Legislative Administration, co-chaired by Senate President E. D. (Debbs) Potts (D-Grants Pass) and House Speaker Robert F. Smith (R-Burns).

It's purpose is to help Oregon's citizen Legislators better plan their private personal and business lives by setting aside a specific period of every month for interim committee deliberations. Without a specified week or period of day committed for the meetings, many Legislators find themselves called to Salem on a helter-skelter basis. Those serving on more than one interim body might make the trip to Salem on a Monday and turn right around and have to come back for another meeting two or three days later.

This problem is compounded by the distance between each Legislator's home and the Capital Building.

No one seems willing to call Legislative Week a dress rehearsal for annual sessions of the Legislature. But annual sessions are considered an ultimate inevitability and at least one plan tied to yearly sessions fosters convening for one week monthly in order to retain the present amatuer standing of Oregon lawmakers and escape whatever onus is attached to the concept of "professional" or full-time legislative office holder.

Meanwhile -- and despite the fact Legislative Week is only a trial balloon subject to a later decision concerning permanency, the January event poses interesting problems. The question of parking for 90 Legislators has to be worked out. Mall space customarily reserved for lawmakers during regular sessions has been rented to other motorists. State Street meters south of the Capital Building might be hooded during Legislative Week -- but not without a special agreement with the city of Salem.

The prospect of most lawmakers returning to town for a week in January is probably a happy one for many Salem Businessmen. Legislative Week could be a boon for some merchants at a time not usually noted for commercial briskness.

And although evening meetings tentatively are scheduled for some committees and subcommittees, many observers figure solons will manage to get most of the business out of the way during the day and leave nights open for a certain amount of customary socializing.

Most dismayed by Legislative Week are members of the press and lobbyists. Reconvening the Legislature -- even unofficially, is too big a story for periodic political writers to miss. The Capital press corps will expand.

Some lobbyists will like the special week for the same reasons put forth by its originators. Others will find it harder to cover committee deliberations because of overlapping in erests and daytime sessions followed by night meetings, too.

Regardless of the anticipated merits of Legislative Week for participating lawmakers, it remains a question whether the plan will persist. Interim committees traditionally have operated with a great degree of autonomy. Already some solons have objected to the newly created Legislative Administration committee presuming to set meeting dates for everyone else.

Nonetheless Legislative Week begins January 20 and Salem-watchers will focus on this most recent innovation of the Oregon legislative process with more than cursory interest.

SOCIAL SECURITY FACTS AVAILABLE AT LOCAL OFFICE

Years ago the Social Security system was thought of as a program for retirement, but this is no longer true. Almost overshadowing the importance of the retirement benefits are the survivors and disability insurance protection Social Security provides for persons at the beginning and middle part of their working years.

Social Security protection for young workers is not new in the program, but it is not as well understood as the retirement benefits. From the day a person start working he begins paying Social Security taxes. After 18 months or 6 quarters of work the young worker acquires protection under the Social Security program for survivors and disability benefits. This work could eventually result in payments to himself and his family of monthly benefits.

Consider as an example a young man just beginning his working career. Married with two children aged 1 and 2. He is earning and paying Social Security taxes on about $6,000 per year. Presume he is age 23 and has worked at this rate of pay since he was age 21. The future looks prosperous for our young family but at the peak of our young man's life an unexpected tragedy occurs. He is killed in a hunting accident. With little or no savings or other resources, such as insurance, his wife and children are left to fend for themselves-- or they would be, without Social Security.

Our young man had through his Social Security contributions purchased an insurance policy that could provide the difference between poverty and comfort for his family. Even with his comparatively short length of work and young age he had gained protection of loss of income to his family. The amount of this payment does vary since it is based on the workers average earnings. Our young man's average earning rate of $6,000 per year authorizes payment to his widow and two children $374.80 per month. When the oldest child becomes age 18 the rate drops to $266.40 per month for the widow and one child until that child becomes age 18. Thus over the span of years the total payments to this family could add up to over $75,000.

If the children stay in school after age 18, they can have additional benefits as full-time students until they reach age 22.

If the widow becomes disabled and is at least 50 years old she may qualify for disabled widows benefits, however the disability would have had to occur within 7 years of her husband's death. Even if she is not disabled, at age 60 she can receive a reduced widow's benefit of $126.90 per month. Or she can wait until she is age 62 and receive the full benefit of $146.50 per month. These possible additional benefits on our young man's Social Security account could total an additional $20,000 to $25,000.

In our example it is true the young man paid very little into Social Security and his family reaped great benefits but this is the insurance aspect of the Social Security program. Had he lived longer he would have paid more into Social Security each year. As long as he continued contributing to the Social Security system both he and his family would have enjoyed this protection.

Most of us live to a ripe old age and get Social Security retirement benefits. This is the way we want it, but let's not forget that Social Security does provide protection to the young family in case of death or disability of the breadwinner.

Information about your Social Security protection is available at any Social Security office. You are urged by the Social Security Administration to become familiar with the financial protection that your Social Security provides to you and your family.

Malheur County people can contact a Social Security Representative on Mondays and Tuesdays of each week at the Resident Station at 514 S.W. 4th Street in Ontario, office hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

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The average American farm represents an investment of about $27,000 per worker, as compared with an average of approximately $15,000 per worker in industry, observes the Oregon Agri-Business Council.

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Agriculture Classes Will Start At TVCC

Two courses of special interest to those connected with agriculture are being planned at Treasure Valley Community College according to Bill Murphy, Head of Agricluture.

"Soils," a five credit hour course, will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 6 and "Basic Horticulture," a three credit hour course, will commence on Thursday, Jan. 8. Both courses will be held at the college's new agriculture lab which will be in full operation some time during the Winter Quarter.

Soils subject matter will be presented in terms of local soil management. This includes: soil material, rock and mineral weathering, physical properties of soil, soil classification, agricultural rating of soils, soil profile development, micro-biology, organic material and moisture relationships.

Basic Horticulture will pertain to the growth of agrinomic crops.