

# Salem Scene

There's a discouraged minority in the Oregon Legislature at Salem these days.

It isn't partisan. This minority is agrarian.

For decades following its inception, farmers made up a natural majority in Oregon's Legislative Assembly. This situation began to erode shortly after the turn of the century and had fallen completely by the wayside by the middle of the present century.

As the 57th Assembly begins to consider adjournment of what most observers believe will be the longest session on record, the relative handful of bonafide farmers and ranchers among that 90-member body appear frankly disappointed in achievements favorable to their rural constituency.

This viewpoint is expressed individually by chairman of Agriculture & Natural Resources Committees of both Senate and House, Freshman Sen. Mike Thorne (D-Pendleton) reports his seven-member panel from the Upper Chamber has considered 111 measures and could probably wind up its business within a week of receiving notice to do so. Sophomore Rep. Bernard (Bud) Byers (D-Lebanon) heads the 11-member House committee that has considered some 93 measures related to agriculture and believes that panel could finish its work within a week also.

But with adjournment relatively imminent, both believe farm legislation is a misnomer this session. Rather, most new laws relating to agriculture are more closely akin to consumer, environmental and recreation interests.

In a period when the Federal Government is withdrawing from its traditional farm-support role, when small farms are becoming a thing of the past and when producers of foodstuffs are taken for granted -- except when rising food prices provoke public ire -- the farmer in and out of the Legislature feels like the forgotten man.

Thorne and Byers tend to personally epitomize Oregon's agricultural plight. The thirty-two-year-old Senator is a third-generation wheat and livestock rancher involved in a family operation on one of the 10 largest ranches in Umatilla County. But he divides his time between ranching and real estate to attain economic stability.

Byers, a former Western Oregon seed grass grower, who grew up on a Linn County farm, now looks to electrical engineering to sustain his family.

Thorne's extra occupation is a typical situation among Oregon farmers and ranchers. Byers' shift from farming is indicative of what has happened to Oregon's traditional basic occupation. By headcount, the present Assembly contains no more than seven fulltime farmers and ranchers -- one in

the Senate and six in the House. Statewide some five per cent of the population lives on farms and derives the bulk of its subsistence from those farms. From a percentage standpoint, one might say farmers have more than their share of representation in the Legislature.

But Oregon's agriculture problem involves more than those who actually till the soil. Many thousands more are dependent upon farmers for the payrolls they receive from the food processing industry.

Biggest complaints from both Thorne and Byers probably involve the negative aspect from the farm-ranch point of view regarding current legislation. It's predominantly regulatory and restrictive. Both men would like to see a more positive thrust.

The point out agriculture is a sizeable contributor to the state's general fund -- second only to the timber industry. And they believe the state should be more actively involved -- not just in protection of agriculture -- but in its vigorous development. They look upon agriculture as another proverbial golden egg-laying goose, in danger of extinction unless a more positive legislative stance is adopted.

They cite the need for agricultural research and market development. Thorne, for instance, believes wheat production could be doubled and beef production quadrupled.

Byers believes scant fiscal attention paid to soil conservation is an insult to agriculture -- compounded by the monetary generosity bestowed upon land use planning.

Farm interests are not happy with movements this session and last that would further change the Agriculture Department to one dedicated even more strongly to consumer interests. They are disappointed this Legislature will probably fail to enact meaningful farm legislation.

And both Thorne and Byers speak for all agricultural interests when they deplore the lack of knowledge about the problems of farmers and ranchers -- not only among their legislative peers -- but the public in general.

So what is the outlook for legislation favorable to Oregon farms in the 57th Assembly? No good, according to the farmer-rancher delegation. Not bad, according to the only sizeable farm lobby. But the latter statement, although far from optimistic, is tempered by the fact the farm lobby primarily is holding action -- forced by circumstance into an attempt to preserve what the farmer now has and compromise propositions that make more difficult his ability to make a living off the land.

Farmer lawmakers generally are bitter that major farm legislation doesn't become an issue until it involves a problem of scandalous proportions.

## Litter Cleanup Tips Offered on Hot Line

Establishment of an environmental "hot line" and data bank has been announced by Keep America Beautiful, Inc.

The new, nationwide service offers information on environmental improvement programs recorded in KAB's Inventory of Litter Prevention and Related Environmental Improvement Programs in the United States. It will be available to citizens everywhere by calling a single telephone number and is expected to be in full operation by mid-summer.

KAB is a non-profit, national public service organization supported by 103 U.S. companies, trade associations and labor unions.

The volume of food eaten per person will hit a new high in 1973, according to General Foods, up 7 per cent from 10 years ago.

Examples this session could include tansy ragwort, coyotes and the tussock moth.

The farm delegation believes this attitude can be changed only through long term public education -- backed by a positive thrust on the part of state government dedicated toward improving the lot of agriculture not just sustaining it because we all have to eat in order to live.

## Sen. Packwood Asks Opinions on Eight Issues

Oregonians are being asked for their opinions on issues ranging from amnesty to log exports by Senator Bob Packwood in his latest newsletter.

The newsletter is sent to approximately 580,000 Oregon Homes. Results will be tabulated by county and released later this month.

QUESTIONS INCLUDE: --Do you believe the United States should provide economic assistance to North Vietnam? --Do you believe the United States should provide economic assistance to South Vietnam? --Do you believe that the use of poisons should be allowed to control animals such as coyotes? --Would you favor national legislation making 18 the age of majority? --Do you favor abolishment of all farm subsidies? --How would you rate the job performance of Congress? --How would rate the job performance of the White House? --Do you favor amnesty at this time for those persons who fled this country in order to avoid the draft? --Would you favor use of capital punishment for certain crimes? --The United States is now exporting some 3 billion board

feet of raw logs, primarily to Japan. The so-called Morse Amendment places a limitation on the export of logs from federal lands, but places no limitation on logs cut from state-owned or private lands. Do you favor: (a) Retaining the present law (b) Phase out all log exports except when surplus to our needs (c) Impose no limits on exports (d) No Opinion

## Wish I'd Said That



"Politics is the art of making yourself popular with people by giving them grants of their own money." -- Rex Goldthorpe, Tri-County (Wis.) Press.

"The best years of a man's life are when the kids are old enough to help shovel snow but too young to drive the car." -- Dale Holdridge, The Langford (S. D.) Bugle.

## TVCC Offers Art Classes

A special summer art program for junior and senior high school students which is designed to accommodate vacation plans, will be offered soon at Treasure Valley Community College.

The students may select either oil painting, water color, drawing, or ceramics for fifteen classes of instruction. Class sessions will be available at three different times per day, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays for a period of five weeks. The student may attend any fifteen of these class sessions to satisfy the course.

As a result of this flexibility, a student may complete the course in five weeks by attending one class per day, or in five days by attending all three daily sessions.

Meeting times are 8:00 a.m. to noon 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. For further information contact Pete Stark, 889-6493, ext. 53.



The number centillion is one followed by 600 zeros.

## Richard Nelson Receives Highest Masonic Degree

Richard Joe Nelson, Route 2, Nyssa has been awarded the designation of Knight of the York Cross of Honour, it was reported today. This honorary degree, highest in the York Rite of Freemasonry, is conferred only on those who have held the highest office in each of the four bodies of the rite. Mr. Nelson becomes one of the comparative handful of about 400 of the over four and a quarter million Freemasons in North America and the Philippines to qualify this year.

Mr. Nelson served as Master of Golden Rule Lodge of Masons in 1970, High Priest of Zadoc Chapter, Royal Arch Masons in 1962; Master of Baker Council, Royal and Select Masters in 1972, Commander of Baker Commandery, Knight Templar, in 1969. He was elected to membership in Oregon Priory and his election confirmed by Convent General of the Order on June 1. A certificate of membership has been mailed to him.

There are sixty-five Priorities of the Order in North America and the Philippines with a present membership of 9,100.

SAIF is anxious to give all checks to the rightful owners. Please act promptly as these checks are due for cancellation in 90 days. Persons with a Nyssa address who have not received their checks are O. Ochoa and K. C. Perkins.

## SAIF Tries To Locate Persons

The State Accident Insurance Fund is trying to give away \$13,532.67. The money belongs to over 100 persons who haven't cashed their workmen's compensation benefit, dividend, or refund checks.

Paul Hedeon, SAIF Cashier who released the list of names, said that 26 checks have been returned and are being held in his office for lack of a forwarding address. Another 99 were mailed but were never cashed nor returned.

Those persons listed below, should identify themselves by writing SAIF, located in the

Labor and Industries Building, Salem and furnishing their name and present mailing address. Those writing about compensation benefit checks should also include their social security number, date, time of injury and name of employer at time of injury.

SAIF is anxious to give all checks to the rightful owners. Please act promptly as these checks are due for cancellation in 90 days.

Persons with a Nyssa address who have not received their checks are O. Ochoa and K. C. Perkins.

# Father's Day Favorites

**AT GREAT SAVINGS!**

<b>JELLO</b> BEST FLAVORS <b>20¢</b> EA.	<b>USDA CHOICE</b> <b>GREENLAND TURBOT FILLETS</b> OCEAN FRESH <b>79¢ LB.</b>	<b>LEAN TENDER TENDERBEST FLAVOR ROUND STEAK ... 129¢</b> 10 LB.	<b>GAME HENS</b> MADALLON 18 OUNCE <b>98¢</b>	<b>CUBE STEAK</b> LEAN TENDER U.S.D.A. CHOICE <b>1.69</b>	<b>RUMP ROAST "BONELESS"</b> <b>1.39</b>	<b>BEEF STEW MEAT "BONELESS"</b> <b>1.19</b>			
<b>CLOVER FARM LIPTON BLACK TEA BAGS</b> 100 COUNT PKG. <b>99¢</b>	<b>FRESHBEST</b> <b>CANTALOUPE</b> LARGE SALMON CENTERED <b>39¢</b> EA. <b>SWEET &amp; JUICY ... 39¢</b> EA.	<b>PEACHES</b> SWEET FANCY CARDINAL <b>39¢</b> LB.	<b>CELERY</b> FRESH CRISP STALKS <b>15¢</b> LB.	<b>DAIRYLAND SICILY 18 COUNT PKG. VARIETY PAC</b> <b>79¢</b> POPSICLES, FUDGE SICLES, CHOC SICLES, DREAM SICLES	<b>JENO'S FANCY PIZZAS</b> 14-16 1/2 oz. SIZE PLAIN PIZZAS <b>39¢</b> ea. CHEESE PIZZAS <b>49¢</b> ea. SAUSAGE PIZZAS <b>69¢</b> ea. PEPPERONI PIZZAS <b>69¢</b> ea.				
<b>TREASURE VALLEY WHIPPING CREAM</b> 1/2 PINT CTN. <b>35¢</b> EA.	<b>LADIES NAVY OR WHITE COLOR</b> APPT. SIZES \$2.99 VALUE <b>DECK SHOES 2.49</b> PT.	<b>SEA SKI</b> 12oz. TUBE <b>79¢</b>	<b>LOTION</b> NOW ... <b>79¢</b>	<b>BANQUET 10-12 oz. ASSORTED DINNER'S</b> ALL BUT HAM & SLICED BEEF <b>39¢</b> EA.	<b>M.C.P. REGULAR OR PINK LEMONADE</b> 6oz. CAN <b>11¢</b> EA.				
<b>BLUE PLATE OYSTERS</b> <b>75¢</b>	<b>COOKIES</b> NABISCO 10 1/2-15 oz. <b>2/99¢</b>	<b>CAT FOOD</b> BLUE MOUNTAIN 15oz. <b>21¢</b> CHK-N-LIVER, CHK-N-KIDNEY EA.	<b>DOUBLE !! GOLD STRIKE STAMPS ... ON ALL PURCHASES MON. TUES. WED.</b> Helping Western Families Live Better	<b>NESTLE'S MORSELS</b> 12oz. PKG. SEMI-SWEET <b>59¢</b>	<b>FRUIT COCKTAIL</b> LIBBY BRAND #303-16oz. TIN <b>29¢</b>	<b>BONITO CHUNKS</b> 6 oz. <b>25¢</b>	<b>DIAL BAR SOAP</b> ASSORTED BATH BAR SIZE <b>19¢</b>	<b>SALAD RONI</b> AMERICAN BEAUTY 24oz. PACKAGE <b>41¢</b>	<b>SCOTT'S BIG ROLL TOWELS</b> APPT. WHITE ROLL <b>33¢</b> EA. PRICES EFFECTIVE JUNE 14-15-16th.

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