The State Of Things

The Primrose Path

The serious question of gambling as a source of revenue, which has troubled the State of Maryland for 25 years, takes on new proportions this year as the State itself moves toward off-track betting and a lottery.

The momentum behind the two proposals is greater now because off-track betting has the Governor's active involvement and the lottery has his silent assent so far.

And the Legislative Council committees studying the plans are moving slowly but surely in the same direction. The latest vote, by the Fiscal Planning Committee on which three black Baltimore delegates serve, saw only four members, including Del. Troy Brailey, opposed to off-track betting. Six, including Del. Brailey again, voted against the lottery. Dels. Joseph A. Chester and John J. Douglass voted yes both times.

Indications are that the die is already cast, although all the fiscal committees and the full Council still have to approve the plans in November before they become Council-endorsed bills in the General Assembly.

There has been little opposition, however, and there will be less after one-third of the 185 members of the Assembly have had a crack at the bills. This built-in support plus the Governor's backing will give them express-train force in January.

Although opposition is limited, it comes on strong from Senate President William S. James, who is also Council chairman.

Raising the question of the potential influence gambling may have on State government, Senator James says he fears an "insidious effect" on politics through campaign contributions, on government itself and even the judiciary.

"Uncomfortable Control"

And former Sen. J. Frank Raley Jr., who served from Southern Maryland when slots and pinballs were legal, warned bluntly. "Every politician is controlled, consciously or not, by the gambling psychology. priorities get confused when big money mixes with politics. A loss of public confidence in the legislative process results."

There are many who disagree, as did Del. J. Hugh Nichols (D. Howard), who feels the Legislature has "more backbone" to withstand big money pressures, especially when strong State controls are built into the bills.

Some, like Nichols, will go for the off-track betting, but not the lottery because the latter is "pure bamboozling" and not an extension of an industry like racing that already contributes to the economy through horse farms, breeding and open spaces.

Although they seemed like two small voices against a rip tide, James and Raley were merely repeating a debate heard loudly during the 1967 Constitutional Convention. The difference between the "sport of kings" and off-track betting or a lottery; they point out, is that one is a spectator sport and the others bring gambling to "every man's doorstep... his way of life."

"But people will gamble anyway," on numbers or sports, say the supporters, so the moral issue comes into play, leaving us right where we started 25 years ago.

Yet practical fears by other opponents, such as Sen. Jervis S. Finney (D. Balto. Co.) that gambling is an uncertain revenue source to be eroded further by the entrance of surrounding states into the business may hold more water in January.

Slot Doors Open

Then there is the question of its effect on the earnings of the poor, plus the real chance that these systems will open the doors again to slot machines.

New York, which has both a lottery and OTB, already toys with legalizing slots, and Jimmy the Greek gives 20-1 odds that casinos will be legal there in four years.

But New Jersey bookmakers are reportedly feeling the pinch from the lottery in that state and the $50 million dollars annually sounds very tempting to lawmakers working under the cloud of a possible tax increase next year.

The lottery, incidentally, would allow the licensing of small businesses for the sale of tickets, while the operation of that system and off-track betting would both be contracted out on bids and supervised by boards with public membership.

The Governor wisely wants the off-track betting revenue set aside for the next year's budget to avoid a fiscal risk and the Council Committee has written into the bills many watchdog provisions to prevent the building of another bureaucracy.

But all these preventive measures don't answer the questions about the kind of "climate" gambling will generate in Maryland, that opponents say will rock the State House and all branches of government.

Influence peddling comes from many sectors now but it will look weak against the pushing, promotion and pressures gambling money can make, they say, on law enforcement, the courts, licensing agencies and the legislature.

Proving this influence is usually impossible, although brike attempts have been reported in the past.

It seems inevitable that the next session of the Legislature will again feel the fever of the gambling disease — the get-rich-quick syndrom. The question is whether vital priorities like education, health, corrections, welfare get lost in the shuffle, leaving the voters suffering the convulsions years later.

And, as Senator James suggested, will the built-in "protections" actually camouflage a primrose path with no end?

Postscript

AN ENGLISH SUSTEM for selling State premium certificates (with cash awards) for raising money for capital projects also received the Fiscal Planning Committee nod. But the funds go into a special account so budgets won't be dependent on them. . . THE ASSESSMENT TAKEOVER by the State was reconsidered and failed to get support this time. . . AID TO STRIKERS was also reversed by Fiscal Program Analysis, sending the decision back to Secretary Rita Davidson of Employment and Social Services.

Conference Time

CONFABBING in these two weeks are the Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice, at Easton, the Madyland Association of Student Councils, in Anne Arundel, the New Democratic Coalition in Baltimore, the State NAACP in Charles County.

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HIGH SCHOOL QUEENS who will participate in the pagentry featuring the Morgan State College Homecoming, Saturday will include from left: Misses Fifi Tsakaris of Patterson Park High School, this city; Miss Mary D. Williams, Largo Senior High School, Hyattsville, Md., and Miss Celestine A. Tuell, Montgomery Blair High School, Silver Spring, Md.

U.S. bars biased job examinations

WASHINGTON — Regulations barring government contractors from using tests or other selection methods that discriminate against minorities or women have been issued by Secretary of Labor J. D. hodgson.

Any Federal contractor or subcontractor using tests to select persons for hire, transfer, promotion, training or retention must have evidence showing that the test is not used to discriminate against minority persons or women.

The new regulations set standards requiring that tests comply with the objectives of Executive Order 11246, as amended.

This Presidential directive prohibits Government contractors from discriminating against any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin. It also requires affirmative action to ensure equal employment opportunity.

In signing the new regulations Secretary Hodgson noted that they are based on the belief that "properly validated" employee selection procedures can "significantly" contribute to the implementation of non-discriminatory personnel policies.

High School Queens spark Homecoming

Fifteen high school queens will add sparkle to the Morgan Homecoming festivities, here, Saturday.

They will include:

Misses Rita Poe, Great Mills High School, Great Mills, Md.; Wanda Ann Brooks, North Caroline Senior High School, Denton, Md.; Denis McClary, Edmondson High School, this city; Sherrill Douglass, Northwestern High School, this city; Fifi Tsakaris, Patterson High School, this city.

Misses Mary Deloris Williams, Largo Senior High School, Hyattsville, Md.; Victoria Regina Hall, Atholton High School, Laurel, Md.; Kathy Hallman, Mount Hebron High School, Ellicott City, Md.; Mary Christine Hynson, St. Michaels High School, McDaniile, Md.; Deborah Hyman, Easton High School, Easton, Md.;

Misses Diedra Moore, Landne Senior High School, this city; Anna Maria Carter, Hyattsville Senior High School, Clinton, Md.; Celestine Anita Tuell, Montgomtry Blair High School, Silver Spring, Md.; and Robin Redfield, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Senior High School, Bethesda, Md.

OCT. 30

Top distance runners and cross country stars will vie for individual and team honors Saturday, Oct. 30 when the Maryland State JUCO cross country championship run will be held at the Essex Community College. The college is located on Ridge Road, off Exit 34, Baltimore Beltway.

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Black jurors

INDIANOLA, Miss —At least seven blacks were among the jurors chosen for the trial of one of three white men charged with murder in the street shooting of a young black girl last May.

Wesley Parks, 26, of Memphis, Tenn., is the first of three young white men to stand trial in the shooting death of Jo Etha Collier. The 18-year-old girl was shot down last May 25 on a street in the tiny Delta community of Drew shortly after her graduation from an integrated high school.

Upshur

Dr. Dixon elected to health society

Dr. Alfred Dixon 57, medical director of The Neighborhood Family Planning Center, Inc., located at 1515 E. North Ave., has been named to the Royal Society of Health, London, U.K.

The 100-year-old organization notified him in June that he had been nominated and in September he was informed that he was now a member of the institution.

The society was formed in Great Britain, but now has members all over the world. It is devoted to the promotion of public health. This is an honorary appointment for persons who have achieved significantly in the field of public health.

"His appointment is not only a reflection of his good works, but is indicative of the superior facilities at our center," said Mrs. Betty Jean Murphy, executive director of the center.

Dr. Dixon received his B.S. in medicine from Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. and his M.D. and C.M. from Queens University in Ontario, Canada.

During the Second World War he was a captain in the Army. He left the service in 1947 and began a private practice in Baltimore. He has been with the center since 1966.

He is a former district governor of the Lions Club, and he is a member of the Baltimore City Medical Society, and the Medical and Surgical Faculty of Maryland.

He and his wife, Marion, have two children, Alfred, Jr. 23, who is a Medical X-ray Technologist in Stamford, Conn., and John, 25, a captain in the United States Air Force and stationed in Vietnam.

Indoor skating at Cherry Hill Rec Center

Indoor skating has been included in programs at the Cherry Hill Recreation Center, located at 2700 Spelman Road.

Youngsters between the ages of 5 thru 12 are invited to sign up at the Center daily. Professional Type Skates are available in sizes 3 thru 7

Sessions are held three times a week with Fridays set aside for children registered at the Cherry Hill Recreation Center.

Registration is being held at schools No. 160 and No. 63 Recreation Centers.

Winners in the recent Hopscotch Tournament held at the Locust Point Recreation Center, located at 1627 E. Fort Ave., were:

1st place — Terry Godleski 1453 Reynolds Street

2nd place — Patty Petrolf, 1413 E. Clement Street

3rd Place — Cathy Wengert, 1453 Richardson Street

4th place — Terry Ann Pearce, 1538 Latrobe Park Terrace

The association is conducting it's initial fall program at the Prince George's Community College, which can be reached by taking the Baltimore-Washington Expressway to the Washington Beltway, leaving the beltway at exit 32 and following route 202 towards Upper Marlboro. Clinics begin at 1 p.m., competition at 2 p.m.

News in Brief

Firm gets government contract

DENVER, Colo. — Carter Enterprises, a black-owned firm, has been awarded a $194,333 competitive contract by the General Services Administration (GSA) to provide janitorial and ground maintenance services for the Internal Revenue Service in Ogden, Utah.

The firm's owner, Raymond C. Carter, said the one-year contract, "will enable us to hire 36 new employees and become more competitive on larger commercial and government contracts."

College heads to tour Israel

NEW YORK — The presidents of five black colleges leave Nov. 1 for a unique 16-day study-tour of Israel arranged by the urban affairs department of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. They will meet with Israeli educators at the Hebrew University, the Weizmann Institute and Israel's Afro-Asian Institute.

According to Kenyon C. Burke, director of the ADL department which coordinates the agency's race relations program, the educators will examine Israeli methods of education for the disadvantaged, that country's youth, health and immigration projects, and its handling of ethnic problems.

A prime purpose of the trip will be to set up a student exchange program.

Reception planned for author

NEW YORK — Businessmen in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area can discuss their individual problems with the author of a new book, "Blacks In Business," when he appears at an autograph party and reception at the Freedom Book Store, 526 Nostrand Ave., Oct. 30 from 2 to 6 p.m.

Edward Jones, executive director of the New York Council of the Interracial Council for Business Opportunity, who has had extensive experience in the field of banking and business, said that he welcomed the opportunity to meet with small businessmen.

Published by Grosset and Dunlap, Jones' book details many of the pitfalls that face new businesses.

As a former official of the Small Business Administration he gained firsthand knowledge of the tremendous barriers faced by non-whites who attempt to enter the economic mainstream, the most serious being their lack of management training.

Phone company not fleeing city

NEW YORK — "There has been some talk, some rumor, that we are abandoning New York and running to the suburbs. We are not," said H. I. Romnes, chairman and chief executive of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

The firm announced plans for moving as many as 3,000 employees from the city to New Jersey over the next 10 years. But, at the same time, total employment here would rise from 75,000 to 100,000.

"We can estimate with confidence that by 1980 the New York Telephone Company will own or lease nearly 27 million square feet of space in New York City and will be operating at least 35 new locations in addition to the 281 now functioning," Romnes said.

Many public officials indicted

PHILADELPHIA — More than 170 public office holders or former officials have been indicted or convicted on charges involving corruption in the past 32 months, Attorney General John N. Mitchell said.

He credited this to the Justice Department's "all-out effort against organized crime."

Mitchell warned that "those others who are caught in the web of corruption but so far have escaped detection" would be put out of business if their crimes are federal.

Individual income taxes cut

WASHINGTON — The Senate Finance Committee has agreed to go along with the House in cutting individual income taxes for 1971 — about $20 or $30 for the average family.

The committee also approved for floor action a provision in the House tax bill which would increase the low income allowance for 1971 from $1,050 to $1,300.

The allowance — a deduction allowed poverty level families — is designed to make certain that families living in poverty need not pay federal income tax.

One robber killed by police

NEW YORK — Armed robbers, apparently mixed up on their dates and thinking it was payday, tried to rob a midtown Manhattan office during the evening rush hour one day last week. Police halted the robbery by trapping them in the building and killing one man.

Police were able to get to the Oxford Personnel Agency quickly because one of the agency's employees, Erlyn Clark, was talking on the telephone when the bandits walked in.

One of the bandits was shot to death after being surprised by police in the corridor outside the office on the top floor of the 30-story building. A second man was arrested and police searched the building for two hours looking for a third bandit but did not find him. A third man was taken into custody but later released.

White school enrollment down

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Charlotte-Mecklenburg school board estimates that its enrollment of white students has dropped by 4,300 since January, 1970. The report is required under the desegregation orders of Judge James B. McMillan.

It shows that while no school is predominately non-white, West Charlotte enrollment is 47 per cent black, highest in the system.

While the system has lost 4,300 whites since January, 1970, it has gained 1,900 non-whites, and the non-white percentage in the entire system is 31.3 per cent.

Loss of students in a public school system can mean a loss of teachers because the state allots teachers to a system on the basis of the number of students it had the previous year.

Elks may face bias charges

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Philip Shailer, state attorney, said that he would file a federal complaint against the Elks Lodge here because it refused to serve lunch to a secretary from his office.

The incident occurred, Shailer said, when about 15 secretaries from his office made reservations at the Elks Lodge to have a going away luncheon for a co-worker who had resigned.

When they arrived at the lodge, the group was told by a club employee that non-white, Brenda Coleman, would not be seated. The group left.

Miss Coleman said the incident "is just kind of unbelievable."

IN THEIR NEW HOME — Mr. and Mrs. Araon Banks and their 4-year-old daughter, Barbara Ann, are shown entering their new home in Lakeview Park, Fla. last weekend. The Banks family are agricultural workers employed by the Coca-Cola Company Foods Division and was among the first of an expected 40 or more families of citrus harvesting workers who began moving into new homes of their own. Home ownership is but one phase of the company's Agricultural Labor Project, which is designed to improve the living and working conditions of the citrus harvesters, including former migrants. Other new homes in Lakeview Park are shown at left.

Houston orders project parking

HOUSTON — Low rent apartments must have the prescribed number of parking spaces, the law department told City Council recently. Exemptions for one class of building would be discriminatory, it said.

Architect Bernard M. Rogers, asking for the exception, said federally subsidized projects don't need the parking space of conventional units. He contended the money saved could be spent for other needed facilities.

Klan members seen dwindling

COLUMBIA, S.C. — A leader of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, South Carolina Realm, answered claims by Chief J. P. Strom of the State Law Enforcement Division that the group's membership had dwindled to about 45.

Robert Scroggin, who served nine months on a charge of contempt of Congress after refusing to turn over Klan membership lists during congressional investigation, called Strom "a — liar" and contended that his group has seven or eight lodges with 50 or more members.

Scroggin said his group is holding rallies and recruiting new members and that law enforcement people are there and can see the numbers present.

U.S. license bid for handguns

WASHINGTON — Sen. Adlai E. Stevenson III, D-Ill., called for legislation to require all handgun owners to obtain a federal license. He also advocated registration of all handguns.

Stevenson said his proposal was "a compromise between the extremes of those who unrealistically propose to outlaw all handguns and those on the other hand who resist any effort to control the possession and ownership of any guns."

The proposal also would limit ownership by age, criminal record, mental and physical condition and require that the owner "be free of alcoholism, drug addiction or mental disease."

Brooke for air fare reduction

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Sen. Edward W. Brooke, R-Mass., praised the proposed reduced fares for senior citizens being planned by KLM-Royal Dutch Airlines after Feb. 1, and urged other airlines to follow suit.

The Civil Aeronautics Board in ordering an investigation of the reduction, said "We are not unmindful of the interest of senior citizens in lower-priced air transportation; however, the senior citizens fare to be ordered by KLM raises questions of determination and lawfulness which are comparable to those raised by youth fares."

The board began investigating youth fares after complaints that the lower ticket prices for persons under 30 discriminated against passengers who have to purchase regular-priced tickets.

KLM plans to lower its peak season fare between New York, Chicago, Houston and Amsterdam to $228 round trip and to as low as $199 in the off-season for persons 65 and older.

Only 46 per cent oppose busing

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — A survey of 1,700 persons attending the Dixie Classic Fair showed that only 46 per cent of them are opposed to busing to achieve school desegregation, it was reported.

The WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL said that the survey revealed, however, that 71 per cent of the persons filling out the questionnaire do not feel cross-town busing is working well in Forsyth County.

The survey was sponsored by the North Carolina School Assistance Project, which said the results were by no means definitive of opinion in the county.

Respondents to the questionnaire were divided into categories of teachers, parents, students and interested citizens.

New rail service announced

WASHINGTON — Amtrak announced that high speed metroliner service between New York and Washington will be enlarged from New York to New Haven, Conn., with stops in Bridgeport and Stamford, Conn., and Rye, N.Y.

It also announced plans to add two trains to the New York-Boston run to provide through service between Boston and Florida in a bid for winter vacation passengers. After Nov. 14, it added, one-day two-night service will be available between Chicago and Tampa, St. Petersburg and Miami.

In addition, the Chicago-New Orleans run will be revised to an overnight rather than a day trip and through service will be provided between Milwaukee and St. Louis, with stops in Joliet and Glenview, Ill. Roundtrips between Chicago and Milwaukee will be increased from four to seven each day.

News in Brief

U.S. urged to aid med students

NEW YORK — Sen. Jacob K. Javits, R-N.Y., said the federal government should subsidize medical students who in turn for their college education would practice medicine for a specific length of time in areas short of doctors.

Javits told a state assembly health committee such actions would help ease the nation's doctor shortage which he said was due in part to an overabundance of specialists and poor geographical distribution.

Court judges tax ruling

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — The California Supreme Court, modifying its landmark school financing decision, ruled last week that the existing property tax system for supporting public schools is still valid.

The high court said its Aug. 30 decision was not a final judgement and did not strike down present school financing in California. The court said it only ordered the case returned to the trial court for further proceedings.

LBJ endorses Sen. Jordan

HOUSTON (UPI) — Former President Lyndon B. Johnson, attending a reception to encourage Sen. Barbara Jordan, D-Houston, to run for Congress, praised the lawmaker as "the epitome of the new politics in Texas."

"Not the politics that seek to destroy and divide to mess up everything in the way. She is involved in a governmental system of all the people, all the races, all economic groups," Johnson said.

Ford recalls English models

DETROIT (UPI) — A worldwide recall of 340,761 English-made Cortinas and Capris for correction of a potential steering failure is under way by Ford Motor Co.

The affected cars were produced between Dec. 1, 1969, and July 31, 1970, with 12,810 sold in the United States and most of the remainder in Europe. At least 21 incidents in which components of the steering assembly failed were reported in Europe, resulting in one accident in which there were no injuries.

Injustice staggers bishops

VATICAN CITY (UPI) — The U.S. Roman Catholic hierarchy said Friday the size and scope of injustice in the United States and elsewhere in the world "stagger the imagination."

Cardinal John F. Dearden of Detroit, speaking for U.S. churchmen, told the Third International Synod of Bishops there is a needs in the United States for reordering national priorities in order to promote world justice more positively and effectively.

Baker denies ad deception

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The makers of Wonder bread have acknowledged that their product may contain no more nutrients than competing brands, but they denied their "builds strong bodies 12 ways" advertisements were deceptive.

The firm, ITT Continental Baking Co. Inc., Rye, N.Y., also denied false nutritional advertising charges made against Hostess snack cakes. The company's reply to the Federal Trade Commission set the stage for litigation viewed in the advertising industry as a key test of the FTC's quest for new curbs on allegedly deceptive ads.

Hatcher confronts opponent

GARY, Ind. — Mayor Richard G. Hatcher and Republican mayoral candidate Theodore Nering will meet Tuesday in the final "Hear the Candidates" program at St. Luke's Catholic Church.

Other city-wide candidates will also attend the program sponsored by the League of Women Voters as the campaign enters its final week.

Anti-busing law to be enforced

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The Jefferson County School Board, operating under a federal court desegregation order, was ordered by circuit court to obey the new state anti-busing law.

The law, proposed by Gov. George C. Wallace and signed into law by him on Sept. 22, had been largely disregarded by school boards around the state because of its apparent conflict with federal court orders.

The statute allows a parent to determine if the proposed transportation of his child would involve an excessive amount of time or travel, endanger the health or safety of the student or impinge on the educational process.

Welfare work plan blasted

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The executive director of the South Carolina Council on Human Relations has asked Gov. John C. West to ask for alterations in a program implemented under the emergency employment act which would require welfare recipients to work or lose their allotments.

The $2 million project will attempt to find public jobs for persons in Greenville, Charleston, Horry and Orangeburg Counties.

Paul W. Matthias asked that the governor insist that the mandatory work requirement should be removed so that the project may become a "work opportunity" program "rather than the 'work enforcement' program it now is."

Matthias also said "under no condition should the project contain any provision which may cause reduction in payments presently contributing to the support of minor children."

Mini buses not easing traffic

LOS ANGELES—Experimental mini buses attracted standing-room-only crowds of riders in their debut but made little headway in cutting down traffic congestion in this city that grew up around the private auto.

Traffic still moved at an average nine miles per hour on main streets in the civic center, said traffic authorities.

Nineteen buses, in an experiment backed in part by the Federal Urban Mass Transportation Administration, carry 20 seated passengers on a route snaking through the central area for a dime a head.

Auto industry wins test delays

WASHINGTON — The auto industry has won delays in government imposition of bumper strength standards and more accurate emission tests.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) canceled its proposal under which the revised exhaust tests would have been required for all 1973 and 1974 models. It said the new tests will begin with 1975 models instead.

And the transportation department made final its rule under which 1974 models must have front and rear bumpers that withstand a 5-mile per hour crash into a wall, plus a 3 m.p.h. thump with a heavy pendulum, without damage to "critical safety systems."

But the rule granted smaller cars an extra year to meet the pendulum test. The exemption covers cars with a wheelbase of 115 inches or less that are either convertibles, hardtops or have no back seat. An EPA spokesman said this includes 10 to 13 per cent of all car production.

Wallace confronts Nixon

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Gov. George C. Wallace asked the Nixon Administration to help defend Alabama's new anti-busing law to show that it is against busing school children.

Wallace said if Attorney General John Mitchell and the administration failed to enter a federal court case on the side of the governor, "it might mean they are talking one way and acting another."

Wallace sent a telegram to Mitchell after the Justice Department asked a federal court in Birmingham to take jurisdiction of two cases filed in Jefferson County Circuit Court.

The cases sought enforcement of the new law and a circuit Judge granted a temporary injunction directing the Jefferson County school board to obey the statute.

Dual motion conveyor in use

CLEVELAND — The first airport passenger conveyor system to move people both horizontally and between floors on the same moving belt went into operation at Cleveland Hopkins Airport.

The moving walks, enclosed for all-weather protection, move passengers to a new multi-deck parking facility. The ride is 162 feet horizontally along a 24-foot-high pedestrian bridge and 115 feet on a 12-degree slope to a ground level walkway to the terminal entrance.

Horizontal only speedwalk systems are in use in Los Angeles, Montreal, and London's Heathrow Airport. Speedramp systems, operating only on an incline, are in operation at airports in Akron-Canton, San Francisco, and Louisville, Ky.

Ohio seeks 'divine assistance'

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Ohio House, which has been receiving advise from all corners for more than seven months on what to do about budget and taxes, decided to seek help from a new source.

Their feeling was expressed in this pre-session prayer offered by House Chaplain Alvin Duane Smith:

"Lord, we've tried everything short of a miracle from you,
"To help end our budget and taxing snafu.
"Now we ask you to grant that miracle required,
"and please do it soon 'cause everyone's tired."
"Amen," echoed the members.

Judge fires striking employes

CLEVELAND — Juvenile Court Judge Walter Whitlach fired 134 probation officers, clerks, and other court and detention workers who refused to end a strike.

The workers, members of Local 746 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, struck recently over working conditions.

Whitlach issued a back-to-work ultimatum after the strike began, but union members voted in a three hour meeting to continue the walkout.

Court administrators planned to begin hiring replacements. The firings were under an Ohio law forbidding strikes by public employes.

Hahn urges Indian rain dance

LOS ANGELES — County supervisor Kenneth Hahn suggested that the county hire Indians to do a rain dance instead of wasting money on scientific rainmaking.

Hahn said the county spent $39,932 last year on cloud-seeding to produce rain and got rainfall that brought a monetary benefit of only $18,816.

He jokingly suggested it would make more sense this year to give half the budget for the purpose to Indian rain dancers and half to the cloud seeders and see which produced the most.

The supervisors ignored Hahn's dance proposal and voted to renew their yearly contract with North American Weather Consultants.