

Q. Governor, Mr. Hobson, to do him justice, made it clear at the hearings that he [fade out] . . . .

A. He did? I am delighted to hear it. I have no personal criticism of Mr. Hobson. The only thing that I am afraid of is that the alarm that was generated by the deficit may cause a certain unrest upon people who are depending upon welfare assistance to live. Some of them are being told by certain areas that seem to thrive on inflaming people that they may not have any money to live on and that the State has taken the welfare away. This is not the case.

#### Loan Law Legislation

Q. Governor, that same paper is carrying a column today in which it is pointed out that a commission that you appointed under the chairmanship of Senator George Hughes to study the loan laws made no recommendations for the legislation coming into this session simply because it never met.

A. Yes, I saw the article today and I would comment very simply by saying that when I appointed that particular commission I made it completely clear to Senator Hughes that I wanted no report this year. I didn't think that they could get ready — with the other responsibilities that the members had — to give me a report for the year, and I requested a report for the 1969 session. If they haven't been too rapid in their gettings together it's because I have not given them a time limit of being ready for this session. As a matter of fact, I specifically requested that they not be ready for this session — that they wait until next session so that they could take the necessary time to correlate the many agencies concerned in this interest problem.

Q. There are a number of bills, however, that the Legislative Council has passed out that deal in this field.

A. Yes there are, and as a matter of fact I have asked my staff to attempt to persuade the sponsors of those bills to delay them until this particular committee can make a complete analysis. Now there may be some in certain areas that could be favorably considered, and I don't find as a matter of fact at this moment that there are not some that I can't support. But my idea was a comprehensive look at the problem to the end that again a package could be introduced to handle the impact of interest rate changes, on the Small Loan Administration and every other particular State agency involved — the Banking Commissioner, and so forth.

Q. Would this include the increase in the mortgage rate to 7 percent, Governor?