

Survival of Poverty War at Stake

WASHINGTON — With the Nixon administration still under construction, the battle has already begun over the future of the federal agency for the survival of the antipoverty agency, the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). On this matter, President Nixon will have an influential, and perhaps a decisive, say.

Albany, Ohio Gov. James A. Rhodes has given the President a report stating that OEO be abolished.

The report was prepared by a group of Rhodes' Ohio aides and was presented to Nixon personally by the governor last week.

IN THE HOUSE of Representatives, a source of some anti-OEO sentiment is the recent case, Rep. Carl Albert, D-Ky., has ordered a bipartisan study of OEO-financed poverty programs to a House subcommittee. The study was suggested by Rep. Albert H. Rees, R-Minn.

Rees' Subcommittee began releasing such an inquiry last

summer after the Senate investigations subcommittee, headed by Sen. John L. McClellan, D-Ark., completed its report on the agency. A Chicago antipoverty project involving a street gang, the Senate subcommittee reported.

The new study will include programs operating in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, San Diego, San Antonio, New Orleans, Nashville, Philadelphia, Houston, Providence, Indianapolis and Pittsburgh.

FOR NIXON, who has said he "knew the five private industry a major role in the poverty war, abolition of the antipoverty agency might have some repercussions.

"If he strongly urges such a course, he might get some very strong support from conservative Republicans and moderate Democrats, in Congress, as well as in the White House.

Congressional approval would be even easier if Nixon were to advise a further expansion of OEO, short of outright demolition, with

transfer of its popular programs such as "Headstart" to other federal departments.

CONGRESS has already ordered the shift of the generally admired "Upward



Allen

in career government official Bertrand M. Harding, who succeeded Sargent Shriver as head of OEO last March.

It is a very real issue, Harding has been trying to save OEO from his own

Harding, who had been Shriver's top assistant since mid-1961, was awarded the word, before McClellan's inquiry, that some of OEO's high-risk, much-criticized experimental programs must be phased out.

He felt that the continuation of these programs, with their bad reaction in Congress, would doom OEO in the annual fight for appropriations.

Blind program to the Office of Education.

On the other hand, some congressional leaders, including a few liberal Republicans, think Nixon will avoid any action which could be marked up in his legislative record, by Democrats, as an administration surrender in the poverty war.

THE MAN IN THE MIDDLE — The man in the middle — the emerging fight over OEO

at the same time, Harding

was under fire from OEO's social scientists and sociologists who strongly supported the idea that street gangs could be used to bring the poverty program to the disoriented young people of the big city ghetto.

Harding's position, and OEO's, have not improved in recent weeks.

The November congressional elections retired several OEO supporters, including Sen. Joseph S. Clark, R-Pa., who was subcommittee chairman and floor manager for OEO authorization bills in the Senate.

UP AND OUT — Whatever happens to OEO, Harding is moving out of a job there.

While he is a career government official, he was nominated by President Johnson to be OEO director last July. The Senate did not confirm Harding's nomination, but his job is one which can be filled now by a Nixon appointee.

Harding, it has been in government all his adult life. He joined the Bureau of the Budget in 1947, where he was in the Air Force for three years in World War II, and then worked up through the Federal Reserve to the Veterans Administration, Atomic Energy Commission and Internal Revenue Service.

IN THE IRS, where he was a deputy commissioner, he was moved to OEO, where he is credited with playing a major role in the installation of automatic data processing. He has received several awards for public administration.

Whether Harding can continue in some other government job is problematical, what with his having been an appointive official in a controversial agency under a Democratic president.

It may be a case of up-and-out, with Harding moving out of government against his wishes.

Consumer Educator RIDDLE GETS ACCREDITED

To Speak

MEDIA — Max Walter, educational director of Consumers Education Association, will speak at a luncheon-forum at the University of Delaware on Friday.

Walter, who will talk about the work his organization is doing among poor, is a three-time winner from the American College of Physicians, the American College of Surgeons, and the American Hospital Association, and the American Medical Association, he said.

The committee is composed of representatives from the American College of Physicians, the American College of Surgeons, and the American Hospital Association, and the American Medical Association, he said.

Tyler Director Slates Lecture

MEDIA — Robert D. MacDonald, new director of the Tyler Arboretum, will lecture at the Delaware County Institute of Science, 11 South Ave., on Monday, 11 South Ave., on Monday, 11 South Ave.

His topic will be "People, Plants and Computers."

NORTON MCKRIDGE

One Child Every Year, Except . . .

NEW YORK — Florence Goode of Baltimore loved the story about the stockbroker who had six children, one every year except for the last child. That one represented a gap of four years.

"The years I was committing," the broker said, wryly.

As the story reminded Florence of one told her some time ago by an elderly gentleman who had had nine children, she recalled a large gap between No. six and seven.

"YEP," said the old man. "There's five years, to be exact."

"And how did that happen?" asked the younger man.

"Well," said the old man,

"When I came back, I found five. Wrote to my wife, but never saw her all that time. Found out that the brick had completely missed the boss, and anyway he couldn't have, and the crew on me 'cause he never knew who pegged it! So, that's how come there's that gap."

Norton McKridge

Another example of unnecessary fear was given to me by George Simon, author of the book, "The Great Bands," about which I told you a couple of weeks ago.

George, writing for the musical publication, Metrometro, did a "teaching review" of a band conducted by Lou Gray. In past, he said

the band leader — but when Mrs. Gray face him face to face one day he trembled a bit.

Feasible, as we all know, are deadlier — especially females attached to band leaders.

However, Mrs. Gray smiled and shook George's hand. "Thanks for saying what you did," she said. "I've been in Lou's band for months how he had to band it, and now he's going to change his style."

A lady from Cranford, N.J., says she's happy that I get a "charge out of ungodly or weird-sounding names" and so she sends me a few goodies from her collection.

Wyoming, she says, is dotted with scores of semi-inhabited towns that probably would lose their identities if they weren't for their unique names. How about: Pitchfork (pop. 40), Hamfork (pop. 100), The Siding (pop. 10) and Saddlestings (pop. 10).

"Either the early settlers were completely lacking in

imagination," says the lady, "or they had a beautifully crude sense of humor."

SOME OF her other favorite towns: Difficulty (50), Reliance (710), Halfway (2), No Wood (10) and Ten Sleep (20).

South Dakota, according to the lady, is undoubtedly more optimistic than Wyoming because it sports such names as: Winter, Chance, Faith, Promise and Oral, Oral?

"The official town name of Montana obviously was hung up on animals and wild life, she says.

"HOW ABOUT: Fitzball, Lame Deer, Mammouth, Beehive and Doves? He sounded like a regular Dr. Doolittle when he named Mike Heron and Crow Agency. However, mixed in with these, we find Pray (pop. 5) — obviously the families don't pray hard

enough — Power (71), and "or they had a beautifully crude sense of humor."

The Cranford lady also has some obscure personal favorites which I'll give you at another time. Meanwhile, suffice it to say, that this collector of wonderfully odd names is herself named produce Plumb!

TEN-YEAR-OLD Jack Wild who plays the Artful Dodger in "Oliver" was given lessons in the Delaware County Institute of Science, 11 South Ave., on Monday, 11 South Ave.

The night of the London premiere, a top security official attached to the Prime Minister's office scoffed at the technique as "unrealistic."

Jack said nothing, but a few minutes later, as they mingled at the premiere, he picked the official's pocket of his watch and his wallet.

Charity Ball Called Off Because of War Conditions

25 YEARS AGO — The Charity Ball, one of the highlights of the Chester antipoverty social events, had been temporarily called off on Saturday night by Mrs. Frances Campbell, chairman of the committee, and Mrs. Samuel J. Conner, chairman of the Chester Hospital Board and one of the originators of the ball.

The temporary postponement was deemed necessary because of the war conditions, it was announced by the committee. However, later in the season, some other type of party may be given to replace the charity ball.

Since its inception back in 1938, the ball has raised more than \$1,000 each year and during the last three years, nearly double that figure. All money has been turned over to the Chester Hospital.

The first ball, which was under the direction of the late Mrs. Arthur E. Copeland and Mrs. James Irving, was held in the Armory Building in December 1938.

In 1934 the committee hired Jai Savik's orchestra and the ball was again held in the Armory. In 1935, 1936 and 1937, the ball was held in the Ohev Shalom Synagogue Center, with Mrs. Campbell in charge. Since 1938 the Charity Ball has been held at the Chester Club, with Mrs. Campbell in charge. In 1940 Mrs. William A. Irving and Mrs. V. Charles Hogg headed the committee.

25 YEARS AGO — Complete details of the annual banquet of Lucius H. Scott Lodge No. 323, Free and Accepted Masons last night in Masonic Hall. It was a victory celebration and the festivities were replete with patriotism.

The program was arranged under the direction of the retiring Master, Walter H. Craig, who was loudly praised for the excellence of the dinner and entertainment.

Rev. John C. Bieri, pastor of the Protestant Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church, was the orator of the evening, and presented a stirring address. L. H. Leitch, a Governor-elect, Edward E. Beldeman, who was to have made an address because of illness. A telegram to that effect was read.

Dean Francis M. Taitt, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, pronounced the invocation and introduced the gathering with a brief address.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?

25 YEARS AGO — Howard B. Taylor, the contractor and builder of 1018 Parker Street, was returning home at 5 o'clock on Saturday afternoon when his wagon was struck by the West Seventh street trolley car. A front wheel was torn completely off and the shaft of the right side of the wagon was broken. The horse was not hurt, but Mr. Taylor received a slight bruise on his back. Mr. Taylor was in the act of crossing the

track at Seventh and Barclay streets when the accident occurred. He was crossing in an oblique direction and did not at first notice the car coming behind. On hearing the motorist's bell ringing so loudly, Mr. Taylor endeavored to turn off the track, but was not able to do so in time to avert the accident, which he thinks was due to no fault of the motorist's.

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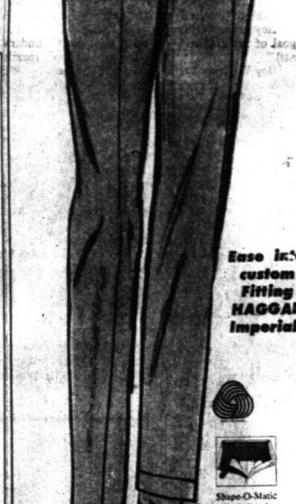
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