



RUBY SAYS

by
Ruby Duncan

We haven't stopped our war against Welfare regulation changes that effect the lives of a great many poor people in Clark County. We want you to know we are ready to continue making you aware of the negative effect it is having on you.

Up until June of 1976, a welfare recipient who was receiving other income such as Social Security or Unemployment Insurance Benefits (UIB), etc., received an "underpayment" when the other income was discontinued for those months that the welfare grant remained at the lower, incorrect level. Since June of 1976, a recipient is no longer eligible for underpayments when her other income is discontinued. For example: If a recipient is receiving UIB and she reports that she did not receive UIB in the month of May, her welfare grant for May and June will remain the same amount as it was in April, as though she were still receiving the UIB benefits. It is not until the month of July that the recipient's grant is brought up to its proper level. The recipient no longer receives underpayments for the months of May and June.

One may ask the question of how does a recipient get enough money to pay her rent since the State of Nevada barely and, in some cases, does not pay enough money for her to pay rent. There is, however, a simple solution to this problem. If a mother has 3 minor children and her UIB is \$120.00 and her welfare grant is \$129.00, and her UIB benefits terminate, since her grant is only \$129.00 from State Welfare, we simply send the recipient to the County Welfare to collect small DAS grant. Welfare grants are very low but County grants are super low, and in this case, if the State continues making regulation changes that give a welfare recipient a period of two months with no underpayment, then the County will simply have to make up the difference for each of these families.

George Miller has staged a war on welfare recipients in the past few months. Miller has discontinued the incentive that encourages a recipient to get a job, while making it impossible for recipients to pay their rent. These changes greatly affect the recipient, but are also extremely hard on Clark County Welfare. Nevada State Welfare is not particular about who picks up the tab for a recipient so long as George saves the state's money. The County has complained for years about the amount of money it spends on emergency help for poor people. But George Miller and the State of Nevada are the biggest recipients, and they are on-going. Miller changes the State regulations that cause the County to pay out thousands of dollars each month in not only financial assistance, but medical assistance as well.

George Miller has done much to hurt poor people, but he is now attacking the one agency (Clark County Welfare) that could give a little help to all poor people medically and financially. Since Miller has not only attacked the poor, but the one agency that was assessable to the poor, one wonders what will be his next move.

**V*A FACTS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following are representative questions answered daily by VA counselors. Full information is available at any VA office.

Q - I receive \$270 a month for attending school as a war orphan. If I become married, will this benefit continue?

A - Yes, provided you remain eligible otherwise.

Q - Will my wife's income help me qualify for a GI home loan?

A - Yes. The VA gives full recognition to the income of both veteran and spouse.

Q - What help will the VA give my survivors in burying me?

A - If you had wartime service, VA will pay \$250 toward your funeral expense, plus \$150 toward your burial plot or interment cost. If your death is due to service-connected causes, VA will pay up to \$800 toward funeral and burial costs.

Q - I have four years honorable service during Korea. Will the VA pay medical expenses for my dependent wife and children?

A - No. The VA does not pay any medical benefits for dependents unless the veteran is rated 100% permanently and totally disabled as the result of a service-connected disability or disabilities.

Q - Must I pay federal income tax on my GI Bill education benefit?

A - No. Among major tax exempt veterans benefits are compensation, pension, GI Bill and other educational assistance.

800,000 Auto Mechanics Needs

A scarcity of auto mechanics was reported in 88 out of the 200 districts participating in JOBFLO, probably due to the number of Americans who have taken to the roads again in spite of higher fuel costs. "Skilled auto mechanics can literally 'write their own ticket' these days," says one industry source. In fact the Committee on Motor Vehicle Emissions of the National Academy of Sciences reported that America is at least 800,000 mechanics short.

"The shortage of trained mechanics is a well-known fact in the industry," says John Mehrtens, Volkswagen's District Service Manager for northern New Jersey. "Right now

I have 25 openings - and plenty of applicants, but cars are getting too technical to hire 'off the street'," he added.

SKY HIGH NEED FOR AVIATION MECHANICS

While the search is on for auto mechanics, small aircraft manufacturers are snapping up available qualified aviation mechanics and avionics technicians. With booming sales of light planes, which last year netted \$1 billion, plus a high number of WW II-trained mechanics now retiring, aviation mechanics are being courted by manufacturers and companies which maintain private fleets of airplanes and helicopters.

In fact, according to industry predictions, even if every certified aviation mechanic school reported record enrollments, manufacturers would still be short for the next 9 years. By 1977, the need for aviation mechanics will increase by 94% and a whopping 230% for avionics technicians who install and maintain the plane's complex electronic systems.

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Happiness Through Health

by
Otto McClarrin

Life Expectancy

Today Highest in History:

A baby born last year can expect to live 72.4 years, the highest life expectancy rate ever recorded in the United States, the National Center for Health Statistics reported recently.

For a boy that is 68.5 years and for a girl 76.4, the Center said. Life expectancy has been increasing during the last decade and last year topped age 72 for the first time, up from 71.9 years in 1974.

Death rates in 1975 reached a new low, despite a flu epidemic, primarily because of continuing declines in three of the four leading causes of death: heart disease, stroke and related diseases, and auto accidents.

The infant mortality rate also was the lowest ever recorded in this country. It has been dropping in average four percent a year during the last decade. However, cancer death rates increased 2.3 percent over 1974 and was the highest ever recorded, the Center said in its provisional vital statistics report for 1975. Final life and death statistics for 1975 should be published by the end of this year.

The greatest increases in cancer deaths were for lung and other respiratory cancers and for cancers of the digestive organs and peritoneum (the serous membrane lining the abdominal walls), the latter category accounting for the largest proportion of cancer deaths.

Cancer remains the second leading national killer, with an estimated 1975 death rate of 174.4 per 100,000 population compared with 170.5 for 1974. The estimated 1975 death rates for heart disease, still the top killer, was down 2.9 percent from 1974 even though it continued to cause more than one-third of all the 1,910,000 deaths re-recorded.

At every age the heart disease death rate was lower for 1975 than for 1974, except for ages 35-44 where it was about the same both years, the report stated. The death rate for motor vehicle accidents fell five percent, following a 17 percent decline from 1973 to 1974.

Suicide became the 10th leading cause of death in 1975, changing places with the diseases grouped as bronchitis, emphysema and asthma. Homicide rates were the same both years, the highest annual rates recorded during the 1933-75 period, the Center said.

Early Test in for Emphysema

Many hospitals can now tell whether a child, even a baby in arms, is likely to develop emphysema or some other chronic obstructive lung disease 30 years later by means of a sensitive new blood test called Rapi/tex AAT, developed by Behring Diagnostics.

Technicians take a small sample of blood from the child and measure the protein in it called alpha-antitrypsin. It has been discovered that children deficient in this protein are apt to develop emphysema or other obstructive lung diseases.

Loma Linda University Medical Center in Loma Linda, Calif., employs the test on children as young as six weeks of age. It strongly recommends the test for any child whose family has a history of emphysema.

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Pregnancy Counseling

Service of Nevada,

(A non-profit organization).

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The following is an actual comment one family made
We have the writer's permission to print it here:

"Everyone was exceptionally nice and considerate. They helped us get thru this very painful time. I will never be able to thank them enough."

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