

RUBY DUNCAN continued from page one

get back at me at the same time," she said. Ruby Duncan has been the spearhead of many previous lawsuits against George Miller and the Nevada State Welfare Division in the past with the most notable one being in 1971 when thousands of welfare mothers and children were found in federal court to be cut illegally from welfare rolls.

Operation Life officials claim that their problems with the state came a month after Miller's February letter was written. "We started receiving conflicting letters from the state almost on a daily basis after not hearing much from them for years," she continued, "only a few months ago we were told we were doing a commendable job. Then things started to happen."

"We met with the Governor several times offering to open our books and files to clear up any misunderstandings. He told us not to worry, that the clinic wouldn't close, and that he would arrange a meeting for all sides to work out any differences. His subordinates refused to be a part of that. It makes me wonder how much influence the Governor has over George Miller, his own employee, she concluded.

Ruby Duncan and the Clark County Welfare Rights Organization heard of the early periodic screening program in 1971 and brought it to Nevada the next year at the Operation Life site. The state had originally denied contract with operation Life without reason, but later reversed its decision under pressure from the federal "Freedom Of Provider" issue.

Since that time, Operation Life has prided itself on having the most successful clinic in the nation. It was the only program brought to the HEW conference sponsored by former secretary of HEW Casper Weinberger, who urged other states to follow Nevada's efforts in early screening. Opera-

tion Life felt that Nevada's efforts have been their own citing that they have seen 60% of the eligible children in Nevada, more than any other clinic in the entire nation.

"Taxpayers are always screaming for welfare mothers to get up and do something productive. We have done that here without any help from the state. In fact, the state has been out of compliance with federal regulations for the past four years by not having an early screening package. They have only put out the package this July and we were not even sent a copy," continued Ms. Duncan.

We have been trying to tell people that the issue is political for months now and they haven't done anything," she concluded. But she insists that she won't stop fighting to save both Operation Life and the efforts of poor people to better their own lives. "I won't stand by and watch the efforts of so many hard-working poor women go down the drain because of a few men who believe in only political muscle and not in the needs of people."

BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

continued

side which makes you eligible for a keogh plan. Furthermore, up to \$750 can be contributed tax deductible despite the fact that the amount exceeds the normal contribution limitations of your total earnings. Keogh plans are limited to \$7,500 or 15 percent of compensation.

However, effective for tax years ending December 31, 1976, the minimum deductible contribution a self-employed individual can make to his own Keogh account is \$750 up to 100 percent of net earned income. Hence, even if earnings are \$1,000 this year for a part-time business on the side, \$750 can be contributed, tax deductible to a retirement plan.

**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 am a widow in receipt of a VA pension with the aid and attendance allowance. Am I eligible for drugs and medicines from VA?

A -- No. This provision applies only to veterans in receipt of pension with house-bound or aid and attendance allowance.

Q -- Who is eligible for VA's vocational rehabilitation?

A -- Basically, a veteran must have a service-connected disability rated at 10 percent or more to be eligible for vocational rehabilitation. Additional qualifications may be obtained at any VA office.

Q -- What period of time must a veteran be missing to be considered deceased by the Veterans Administration?

A -- A veteran who is missing and whose whereabouts are unknown for seven years may be presumed dead by the VA.

Q -- I was hospitalized at a VA hospital in another state. How do I have my records transferred to the VA hospital now treating me?

A -- The VA hospital providing medical treatment will request your records during your first visit.

Q -- To be a volunteer at a VA hospital, is it necessary to work every day?

A -- Typical volunteer assignments range from a few hours to a full day or two each week.



GIRL

The Girl Scouts, Troop 36, will be leaving the 31st of December by bus, for Pasadena, California, to see the Rose Bowl Parade. They will be accompanied on this trip by Azarine Baldwin, Leader, and Co-leader Tommie Medlock. Needless to say, all the girls are excited over this treat. January 2, 1977, will see the girls

SCOUTS ROSE BOWL

TRIP

back home, having added to their travel experience. The troop would like to express their appreciation to Jackie Davis for the U.S. flag she donated on behalf of the American League and especially thanks to Attorney Robert Archie for the cash donation which made this trip possible.

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