

The Open Forum

Capital Journal readers are invited to write to the Open Forum. Shorter letters are more likely to be published. The maximum length is 250 words. Each letter must have the address and telephone number of the writer and be signed by the writer.

'Know-nothings'

If Mrs. West has come out to be a friend to Clay Myers at this time, then it is plainly clear that he needs no enemies.

I think it is deplorable that at a time when we are all in need of honest, intelligent, industrious men to be in government that political know-nothings make statements by innuendo that something is wrong.

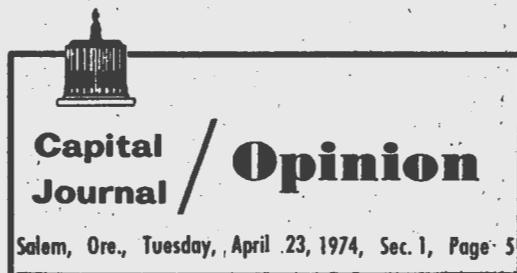
Mr. Myers has worked hard in politics in Oregon and for all of us for many years, and to attempt to embarrass him when there are procedures to handle Mrs. West's suggested erroneous discharge of an employee is really the lowest of political morality.

Clay Myers has not spent his time in cocktail lounges or in smoking rooms but has been out working for all of us for many long years. This family remembers when he took the time to come to the small town of West Linn to speak to a group of Blue Birds who were interested in knowing about Oregon and did a fine job. These girls felt like they were really out doing a great job and the proudest kids in the city for a long time.

Let's put aside the petty things that the know-nothings are talking about, particularly this lady that found it so necessary to speak about something that really and truly had no meaning and surely doesn't in any way make her look any better in the eyes of the whole State of Oregon. (Except to her fellow political know nothings.)

MRS. ROBERT LOHMAN
5505 River St., West Linn

EDITOR'S NOTE — Mrs. Sylvia West told reporters that Myers personally accepted her Voters Pamphlet material in 1972 a week after the filing deadline. Myers recently fired Jack Thompson, his assistant, for accepting material for the pamphlet for State Sen. Richard Groener a week after the deadline.



Anti-life

Your article of April 10 by Judith Bender is pure garbage.

She is trying to cloud the human rights movement and wreck the ecumenical movement by bringing up feelings that raged before Vatican II.

Her statement about wise lawyers that wrote the Constitution is twisted. She forgets those same lawyers specifically wrote we all have a right to life.

I might have known the anti-life Capital Journal would print her pathetic article. I read the opposition's views. Do any of your editors read the right to life literature? Where is an article on the human rights amendment hearing by a pro-life writer?

BETTE SCHIEDLER
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Supports Atiyeh

Jack Thompson, a state employee, against some nebulous administrative rule, committed a no-no in accommodating an Oregon citizen. He was fired by Clay Myers, secretary of state, heir apparent to the governor's chair.

The public may doubt me, but through seven years of state employment, it has been my experience that most state employees bend over backwards to help the citizens, even when they must bend some "rule." Gripes against state employees are often aired. Citizens satisfied with a state employee's action do not comment, believing that it is the state employee's responsibility to serve the public, and they are right! But they should make their satisfaction known.

I fully support Jack Thompson's appeal, and I urge all state employees to do so. If he violated a department regulation, he should be disciplined, but not fired! If Mr. Thompson loses his appeal, then every state employee must become a bastard to retain his position, for, if Myers becomes governor, we can forget Civil Service and succumb to a position of sacrificial lambs for a political cause.

Myers has lost my vote. He would not fit as a sock on Tom McCall's foot. I vehemently urge support of Victor Atiyeh as the Republican nominee for governor.

We, state employees, must consider the views of Oregon citizens, for they are our employers!

JAMES E. WARNEY
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