

Bill to compensate crime victims waylaid in house

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes in the final days of the 96th congress.

HOUSE

KOREAGATE Voted, 219 for and 179 against, to impose a mild rather than harsh penalty on Rep. Edward Roybal (D-California) for actions such as lying to the committee on standards of official conduct about his receipt of \$1,000 from South Korean businessman Tungsan Park. With this vote, the House decided Roybal should be reprimanded (the mildest possible punishment) instead of censured (the harshest) for violating the house ethics code. The ethics committee recommended censuring Roybal after charging him with failing to report the \$1,000 as a campaign contribution, converting the money to personal use, and lying four times in testimony to the committee.

Rep. Phillip Burton (D-California), a supporter of the mild penalty, said Roybal is a man of "complete honor, complete integrity and complete conviction of commitment to the public interest, and I am going to plant my flag on the side of Ed Roybal."

Rep. Floyd Spence (D-South Carolina), who favored the harsher penalty, said: "The public has a right to expect that when a member of congress testifies under oath about his own conduct, he will tell the truth. This institution will be brought into more serious disrepute if we do not as

an institution express our strong disapproval."

Members voting yea wanted a mild rather than harsh penalty for Roybal. Reps. William Ford (D-Taylor), William Broomfield (R-Birmingham) and Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth) voted yea. Reps. David Bonior (D-Mt. Clemens), William Broadhead (D-Detroit) and James Blanchard (D-Pleasant Ridge), voted nay.

PAYING CRIME VICTIMS Rejected, 184 for and 199 against, the conference report on a bill (HR 700) providing cash payments to innocent victims of crime. The bill authorized the federal government to join states in reimbursing out-of-pocket expenses and loss-of-work expenses resulting from the crime. The maximum claim which the federal government would help to pay was \$35,000; the federal share could not exceed 25 per cent, or \$8,750. The bill authorized \$120 million over three years.

Rep. Henry Hyde, (R-Illinois), a supporter, said "this is simply an effort at balance and to do something for the victim when we do so much for the criminal."

Rep. Charles Wiggins (R-California), an opponent, said: "I predict with great confidence that this will become the food stamp program of the department of justice, that it will become the small darter that brings the (department) to a standstill."

Members voting yea favored passing the bill to compensate crime victims. Bonior, Broadhead and Blanchard voted yea.

Roll Call Report



Broomfield and Pursell voted nay. Ford did not vote.

ABORTION Refused, 183 for and 216 against, to soften its position on abortions in order to agree with the Senate. The House thus insisted on its tougher language, permitting Medicaid abortions only when the mother's life is threatened. Despite the impasse this vote produced, the two chambers later agreed on continuing the abortion language approved in 1977 after five months of disagreement.

Under existing law, a poor woman can get Medicaid funding of her abortion only if (a) her life is endangered, or (b) two doctors certify the abortion as "medically necessary," or (c) the pregnancy resulted from rape or incest that was promptly reported to officials.

Members voting nay favored the strictest possible restrictions on federally funded abortion.

Ford, Broadhead, Blanchard and Pursell voted yea. Bonior and Broomfield voted nay.

SENATE

HUMPHREY-HAWKINS Passed, 70 for and 19 against, the Humphrey-Hawkins bill. Later signed into law, the bill (HR 90) requires the executive branch and Federal Reserve Board to annually announce plans to cut unemployment. It sets goals of cutting the jobless rate to four per cent by 1980 and the inflation rate to three per cent by then. It is a skeleton of the original Humphrey-Hawkins proposal, a "full-employment" bill that required the federal government to be the "employer of last resort" and contained no inflation goals that might clash with employment goals.

Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii), a supporter, said the bill directs the federal government "to use all the practical means, including anti-inflation devices, to promote full employment, production and purchasing power."

Sen. Henry Bellmon (R-Oklahoma), an opponent, said that while "no one

wants to vote against something called the Full Employment, and Balanced Growth Act of 1978," he would do so because it "could very well be this country's first step toward centralized economic planning."

Senators voting yea favored the bill. Sen. Robert Griffin (R) and Donald Riegle (D) voted yea.

HUMPHREY-HAWKINS Rejected 41 for and 48 against, an amendment to eliminate Humphrey-Hawkins bill (see vote above) language setting 1987 as the target year for cutting the inflation rate to three per cent. The 41 senators voting yea wanted no fixed deadline for reaching the goal.

Supporters contended it misleads the public to state that today's double-digit inflation can be cut three per cent within five years, and said that any government program to do so would straitjacket the economy as to cause recession and higher unemployment.

Riegle voted yea. Griffin voted nay.

Are healers in fiction just unidentified witches?

Dear Gundella,

I have been re-reading Sir Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe" in a new light. Consider Rebecca, the Jewish healer. Is she not a witch, with her near-magical powers, than a minority group member?

My hunch is that many female characters in fiction are witches even though the title is never applied. With their abilities to fly, Mary Poppins and the Flying Nun seem to be more than what they appear.

As a lifelong witch, you must have read many stories about witches who didn't have the title applied to them.

T. R. Livonis

Dear T. R.,

Indeed, these ladies certainly seemed to possess magical powers. Since witches do believe in and practice magic, it is possible the authors who created these heroines were attempting to picture witches in a kinder light than most writers in the past.

However, it is important to remember that one need not be a witch to practice magic, and there is far more involved in being a witch than just the ability to cast spells.

A true witch is a member of a group which practices the Old Religion. That



religion has three main tenets. One is a belief in a universal power (God), from which we all come, of which we are all part, and to which we will all return.

The second tenet is a belief in reincarnation, or the evolution of the soul toward the perfection necessary for that reunion.

The third and last tenet we have is the belief in the ability of every individual—witches and non-witches alike—to call upon that power both from within and without, to work what is commonly called magic.

Magic is not really a supernatural thing, but it is simply something that works that we don't yet fully understand. Once we know how it works, we no longer think of it in that way.

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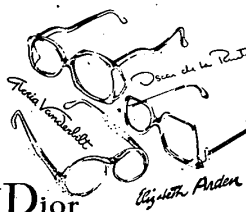
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5	6	7 Renaissance Wind Quintet 7 to 8:30 p.m. Lord & Taylor Court	8
9	10	11	12
13 Santa's Coming to Twelve Oaks NOVEMBER 17th	14	15	16
17 SANTA ARRIVES CENTER COURT	18	19	20
21 Renaissance Wind Quintet 7 to 8:30 p.m. JC Penney Court	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	

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