MINUTES OF THE MEETING STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MONTANA STATE SENATE

January 19, 1979

The sixth meeting of the State Administration Committee was called to order by Chairman Pete Story on the above date in Room 108 of the State Capitol at 10:00 A.M.

ROLL CALL: All members of the Committee were present.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL No. 91: Senator Chet Blaylock advised this bill was the result of an interim study committee which looked into the status and use of Veterans & Pioneers Memorial Building which also houses the Historical Society.

Senator Blaylock stated the bill would give the Department of Administration power to survey state building use in Helena and allocate space according to need. He read the background of the building as prepared by his researcher, starting with 1923 when the legislature approved a building to be occupied by the historical and pioneer groups with money raised by them. Additional legislative acts accomplished nothing. Then in 1941, by collaboration of these Veterans and pioneer groups, the legislature passed a bill authorizing construction of a building to be known as the "Montana Veteram and Pioneers Memorial Building", providing for issuance of bonds in the sum of \$250,000, the rest of the money to come from the groups, the Capitol Building Land Grant Fund and from a portion of the proceeds from boxing matches. In the 1940's, the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers managed to buy 63 lots adjacent to the Captiol for \$115 which they donated to the state as their contribution to Page 2, lines 4 through 6 of the Bill, state that this the project. group will not be charged for space because of this contribution, but I will agree to more specific language to assure their occupancy in the building if that is required. It has also been purported that the veterans groups kicked in \$48,000 from the boxing tax, but there was no additional money for the project that came directly from the VFW or other veterans groups.

The law says the state will provide space for these offices, but nowhere does it say the space should be free. By this bill, we are asking they pay for the light, heat and maintenance and someone to have administrative authority over the management of this building. Back in the 1950's, K. Ross Toole had trouble with the management. In the Capitol Complex, we have many buildings, and feel there should be someone to oversee them as problems arise. For instance, in the storage area where there was paint stored along with arti-The other day, I checked on these offices in question on third floor and they were closed. He felt that there should be room for an organized display of weapons used during the various wars on the first floor, and the meeting room is also seldom used, where the archivist and historical records need additional space. We are not trying to kick the veterans groups out; we are merely asking for help in maintenance fees. If these groups take a look at their needs to see if they really need all the space they now occupy, perhaps something could be worked out. If there is language which is more specific for the Montana Sons and Daughters of the Pioneers, I would be agreeable. Senator Blaylock also

checked on other state building use throughout the state and found at the two university campuses there is not this situation of office space being used free.

The Chairman asked for further proponents; there being none, opponents were called for.

Louise Galt, representing the Disabled American Veterans, spoke in opposition to the bill, giving additional review of the history of the building in trying to establish to what extent certain funds earmarked for the Veterans use was included in the construction. In 1923, Mrs. Galt stated the Veterans received quite a sum of money from the Gibson-Dempsey fight which was later transferred to a Veterans memorial fund "for erection and maintenance of a veterans' memorial building". Also, back in 1923, a fund was established for construction of a pioneer memorial building, but there was not enough funds for both these buildings, so nothing was done for some In 1939, a commission was established for the purpose of expending the veterans memorial fund for construction of a building, and stated plainly that it should be designated a veteran's memorial building. In 1941, the Pioneers and Veterans groups joined forces to accomplish this purpose, working with the legislature to pass a measure for the State Board of Examiners to contract for a building to include the Montana Historical Society and for the housing of books, records, property of the veterans and pioneers and providing headquarters for these groups, and a library. The offices on the third floor of this building have been occupied for about 25 years by these groups.

Sen. Blaylock mentioned that the Pioneers gave the deed to the lots to the state, but in a correction deed which was recorded, they mentioned it was a cooperative effort with other groups. Supreme Court case, it was decided it was not a donation as such because they were serving a public purpose - this pertained to office space. It wasn't until the Historical Society had outgrown its present facilities that this trouble started. In 1977, Mr. Korte gave notice of eviction to these groups, but Judge McClearnon replied this was a "watergate type of move". We have no quarrel with the Historical Society and realize their need for more space, but we do object to them trying to evict the Veterans organizations because of this. These Veterans groups do not have the ability to pay rent and maintenance expenses and feel it is a back-door approach to get rid of them. Mrs. Galt felt the end result is to force these organizations to leave. She felt we should be aware of the debt we owe to these veterans, and that it is in the best interests of the state to maintain these groups. It would be a discredit to the Vets and their work if this building did not continue to serve the purpose for which it was constructed and intended.

John W. Mahan, VFW and also representing the Sons & Daughters of the Pioneers, testified in opposition to the bill, that the head of the Veterans organizations in Washington, D.C., had commented that it was not unusual to give space to veterans throughout the country. The reason is that these organizations do work that the government would otherwise have to do. It is a memorial building, not an office building, from the time it was constructed by the

cooperation of these groups. There was an agreement at the time of construction that the 5% tax on boxing would go towards construction of a building for both groups. These organizations would have a breach of trust if the legisalture would now change the original agreement and charge rent. Things have been working well with the present facilities, and he hoped the legislature would not break this trust.

Bob Durkee, VFW, testifying against the bill, stated this was the fourth hearing on the subject and suggested the problem with the Director of the Historical Society was not so much with him as the fact he has to operate under a board. Regarding the use of the third floor, Mr. Durkee stated they had anticipated legislation last session to clarify this situation, but the board for the Historical Society at that time said there was no need; so, they offered us a contract and said they would call us in for a discussion if there was any need for a change in management of the building. The "trophy room" was an act of the legislature, the meeting room is used by the public and state agencies used to charge the public for use of it, perhaps as a way to discourage its use by the public. He thought the Historical Society was a tenant like the veterans were, but they had received a bill already for the rent projected through 1981 for \$9,000 per year. Mr. Durkee advised they had copies of the deed which specifically provides for office space if anyone would be interested in reading it, and asked that the VFW be exempt from this bill. He felt the people of the state knew where their office was from past usage and had no objection to them being there.

Frederick John MacKintosh, DAV, presented his testimony in opposition to the bill by reading an article entitled "Bureaucrats Threaten Veterans", copy of which is attached hereto for further reference.

Tony Cumming, American Legion, opposing the bill, stated he had been in the building since 1973 and had not experienced any problems nor been asked to remove things from the basement. What is now the "trophy room" was idle for 7 years, so, they worked with the Historical Society in setting it up, and in 1963, it was designated by then Governor Donald Nutter. They get their funds from duespaying members; their money is earmarked for specific programs. The notice they received for rent would destroy their budget. They want \$3,054 the first year, which seems very high if it is just for lights, etc., and over \$2,000 increase from that the second year. He felt it would be a continually rising figure and invited anyone who wanted to come over to tour the offices.

Ernest Morgan, American Legion, opposing the Bill, restated the remarks of Mr. Cumming relative to their programs being funded by their dues and that they are a non-profit organization. In order to afford a rental on their office, they would have to raise dues to such a high amount that most could not or would not pay them, and asked things to remain as they now are.

Emma Ellison, Legislative Chairman, American Legion Auxiliary, spoke in opposition to the Bill and requested that it do not pass. She added that sometimes the Auxiliary is not mentioned specifically but they are a part of the group.

Marguerite Semenza, American Legion Auxiliary, asked to be on record in opposition to the Bill.

Mary Jo Lovely, Montana Landlords Association, opposing the measure, stated they were concerned with some of the wording in the Bill. The Landlords' Association represents a lot of property in the state which is why they are concerned with what the state would do with this vacant property.

Paul Graham, Commander of WWI Battalion 661, advised they pay \$5.00 a year for dues, of which \$3 goes to the State Department. Not much is left for them to work with, let alone pay rent of \$1,300 to the state out of this. He also stated they do use the meeting room on occasions.

C. Bruce Loble, representing the Montana Sons & Daughters of the Pioneers, commented his grandfather was one of the judges involved in the original plans. He submitted his testimony in writing, copy of which is attached to these minutes for further reference, along with a copy of the proposed amendment to the Bill containing language to delete the Pioneers organization from the Bill. Mr. Loble also distributed copies of the Correction Deed which is on record in Lewis and Clark County in which the real estate was conveyed to the State of Montana for the purpose of providing the site for the building, along with a portion of the board minutes relative to this event.

Representative Orval Ellison, House District 37, representing the American Legion Post #7, which includes Big Timber, Livingston and Gardiner, in opposition to the Bill, testified that it was his opinion, referring to page 1, line 16, and the use of the word "office" that this was in regard to a law, not an office, and that they should not renig on a previous commitment.

Joe Crosswhite, Columbia Falls, a member of the Sons and Daughters of the Montana Pioneers, in opposition to the legislation, said he paid \$2.50 a year for dues. There are very few left who are eligible for this organization to pay dues at all, and it would be impossible to keep an office open fulltime, paying help, etc., on this small sum. If the Bill is not killed, he requested that this organization be exempted by amendment.

Marjorie Larson, Montana Landlords Association, objecting to the language of the bill, felt this might give the state blanket power to go into the real estate business.

Frank Provost, DAV, stated he was highly opposed to the Bill. He added that they might not be in the office all the time as they couldn't gather data sitting in the office all day.

June Westin, President of the Sons & Daughters of the Montana Pioneers, spoke in favor of the amendment proposed by Mr. Loble and defended their management of their office as they did not have the money to pay help to stay open a full day.

William Hirkkinen, American Legion, speaking against the Bill,

stated Senator Blaylock got a false impression of the material stor There is a stock of rifles and other memorabilia which could be displayed if there was room.

There being no further testimony, closing statement was called for.

Sen. Blaylock stated that the amendment proposed for the Sons & Daughters of the Montana Pioneers was agreeable with him. He went on to say that the information on rent costs in Helena were supplied by Mr. Darcy of the Department of Administration at \$2.00 per square foot, but depended on what interpretation a person put on the word "rent". Space has been provided up to now, but it does not state in the law it should be all free. In comparison, office space downtown is about \$6 per square foot. If the Viet Nam veterans and Korean veterans wanted space, who would make that decision - there is no one who has management at this time. As to the implication that I am down on veterans, that is not true as I am a veteran of WW II, but don't feel the veterans should expect the the country to supply all their needs. We only ask they reassess their needs.

Chairman Story then opened the hearing to questions of the Committee.

Sen. Roskie questioned if the organizations were named in the original document or if there were provisions for additional organizations, to which Sen. Blaylock responded that there was no person really in control of the building.

Sen. Brown was concerned with the amounts mentioned for rent and the \$9,000 figure, to which Sen. Blaylock stated that was the total amount charged for all organizations; the DAV, WWI, American Legion and VFW.

There being no further questions, the hearing was closed on Senate Bill No. 91.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL No. 47: The Chairman announced that the sponsor of this Bill, Representative Art Sheldon, House District #22, Libby, was unable to present the Bill, and called on Jim Richards, Planning Division of the Department of Community Affairs, to present testimony.

Mr. Richards advised this was at the request of the Interim Subcommittee on Subdivisions and related to ambiguities in the language of the present law on exemptions for State Highway surveys. This would clarify that the state would be allowed to sell pieces of state highway property without further survey if those parcels already appeared on State Highway plats. If it is already filed with the Clerk & Recorder's office, no further survey would be required.

The Chairman called for further proponents.

Beate Golda, representing the State Department of Highways as their attorney stated this includes lands which the highway department has acquired in various tracts for rights-of-way, etc., at various

times, and would allow the sale of such portions which were no longer needed without having to be resurveyed. She submitted amendments to the Bill, copy of which is attached hereto for further reference, and explained a problem of cross-purposes of this Bill with House Bill No. 46 which pertains to eminent domain parcels. She asked that consideration of this Bill be postponed until after HB 46 has been decided.

Chairman Story advised that if Rep. Sheldon would so request, this Bill would be returned to the House.

Robert Champion, Chief of Right-of-Way Bureau, Department of State Highways, added that House Bills 46 and 47 together would eliminate the need for preparation of certificates of exemption and would require them to get certificates of survey from a private surveyor. If these were to take effect in July, it would cost them to stop all current projects and go back to redo a lot of survey work. Some surveys they are now working on were done as long as 10 years ago, so it would increase costs and time to do additional work would be very detrimental to the state.

Sen. Hafferman commented if it has a mistake in it, it should be sent back to the House.

Sen. Ryan asked the Highway Departmebt representative if they needed this legislation, to which Mr. Champion replied no.

Sen. Story commented that he thought the surveys made in the past by the Highway would not be adequate for subdivisions, first mortgages, etc., and questioned if the Highway was exempt from giving back the unused land, to which Mr. Champion responded that they advise their buyers they must have a certificate of survey prepared on the tract they purchase from the Highway if they want them recorded. They do not actually require them to make a survey, but if they want to put them on record, they have to have a survey done.

In answer to a question if something in the law stated when land was conveyed a deed must be recorded, Mr. Richards advised that this is not totally required, but without the recording, there is no public record of the transaction. A certificate of survey or plat is a record by state law. An engineering survey is adequate for the Highway's purpose.

Sen. Ryan questioned that a tract of no further value to the state could be sold to a buyer without a survey being done, to which Mr. Richards replied yes, if it is presently shown on a filed Highway plat.

Sen. Story inquired what division of the highway handles this, and Mr. Champion replied the field engineers and the Right-of-way Bureau. He added that they first offer these tracts to the state and local governments before it would pass on to private ownership. They sell a tract about every 2 weeks and it takes about 90 days to process the sale if there are no problems.

Chairman Story stated it would perhaps speed things up if these House bills were cleared up before the Senate receives them and directed that this message be delivered to Rep. Sheldon that he may have this Bill back in the House for further consideration.

There being no further testimony or questions, the hearing on House Bill No. 47 was closed.

The Chairman announced that the hearing on Senate Bill No. 90 will be postponed due to the prior commitment of the sponsor, Sen. Hazelbaker. He further announced that an executive session would be scheduled later this week to clean up bills in the Committee which need action.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to be brought before this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 A.M.

PETE STORY, Chairman

Date 1/2, 1979

ROLL CALL

STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

46th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - 1979

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Senator Pete Story, Chairman	i/		
Senator George F. Roskie, V. Chmn.	V		
Senator Bob Brown	i/		
Senator A. T. (Tom) Rasmussen	i/		
Senator Patrick L. Ryan	2/		
Senator Greg Jergeson	1/		
Senator William F. Hafferman			
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Each Day Attach to Minutes.

SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

BILL SB 91, SB 90 & VISITORS' REGISTER
HB 47

DATE Jan. 19

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PROPOSED AMENDMENT

1. Amend page 2, section 1, line 4
following: "Agencies."
Insert: "In recognition and in consideration of the fact
that the land upon which the Veterans and Pioneer
Memorial Building and Mitchell Building are located
was donated to the state by the Sons and Daughters of
Montana Pioneers, the Sons and Daughters of Montana
Pioneers Organization shall not be charged."

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NAME: ROBERT F CHAMDION DATE: 1/19/	19
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PHONE: 449 2068	
REPRESENTING WHOM? Montana Dept of Dightwans	
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NAME: C BRUCK LOGE DATE: 1/19/70
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PHONE: 443-2076
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PHONE: 458- 5891	
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COMMENTS:		

NAME: Beate Galda DATE: 1-19-79
ADDRESS: //e/ena
PHONE: 449-2584
REPRESENTING WHOM? Dept of Highways
APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: H.B. 47
DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE?
COMMENTS: Written amendment proposal will be
-Submitted

Amendment to House Bill No. 47

(Proposed by the Department of Highways)

Page 1, line 12

Strike: "originally"

Line 13 and 14

Reinsert: "of transfer of land in which the department of highways is the grantor or grantee and which is

Strike: "by which the department of highways transfers land that it originally"

Officera

%reside∄ MRS. JUNE WESTON Helena

1st Vice-President HELEN KAMBO Polson

2nd Vice-President VIRGINIA ANDERSON Missoula

3rd Vice President STEPHEN GILPATRICK Hilger

Secretary-Treasurer DARLENE FASSLER 3500 Fox Farm Road Great Falls, MT 59404

Historian ROBERTA CLINTON Helena

Registrar ARALEN HARDIN 1805 Joslyn #89 Helena, MT 59601

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Butte

BELLE RANTRU Great Fails

Term Expires 1980
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Bozeman

MELVIN C. DODDS Miles City

Term Expires 1981
MOLLY PARENT
Missoula

GEORGE MUELLER Lewistown

BURTON M. CAREY Wilbaux

Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers



"Chartered by the State Their Parents Founded"

TO: MEMBERS OF THE SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Re: Senate Bill 91/Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers

The Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers is a non-profit Montana corporation chartered to perpetuate the memory and honor of early pioneers who came to Montana; to preserve the memories and incidents of pioneer life and history of Montana; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation and to cherish and keep alive our love and respect for our parents and their parents-the pioneers of Montana. The members of this organization are located throughout Montana and the world.

In accordance with long-standing state law, the Sons and Daughters have utilized, free of charge, a small room and a small vault on the third floor of the Veterans and Pioneer Memorial Building for meetings of the organization, research and for storage of the organization and other organizations' historical records. The room has been made available to other worthy organizations, such as Bicentennial groups, which are interested in preserving our Montana heritage. We do not keep any material in the Historical Society's climate-controlled vault.

Senate Bill 91 states that "The Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers organization may not be charged when space is provide pursuant to subsection (1)(c)." Obviously, space for state government employees will always be scarce and if this proposed legislation becomes law, the Sons and Daughters' small office space will eventually be taken away contrary to the intent of successive Legislatures since 1945, Section 78-202, R.C.M. 1947, the intent of the Sons and Daughters in donating 63 lots to the state, the intent of the State in receiving those Lots, and the purpose for which the Memorial Building was constructed.

After years of planning and legislative action, the Veterans and Pioneer Memorial Building was constructed with funds from the Capitol Building Land Grant Fund and some earmarked funds collected for the use of veterans' organizations. In

1946, the Sons and Daughters donated 63 lots to the State for the purpose of building the Pioneer Memorial Building. The Mitchell Building was also constructed on some of these lots. These lots have a very high value today and represent a great asset to the State of Montana.

There is no doubt that everyone concerned with the transfer of these 63 lots to the State of Montana belived that the Sons and Daughters would be allowed to have free office space for the purposes of the organization once the Veterans and Pioneers Building was constructed.

An amendatory deed from the Sons and Daughters to the State of Montana dated June 16, 1955 (recorded at Book 275, page 26 in the Lewis and Clark Clerk and Recorder's office) states the reasons for the transfer as follows:

"Whereas the first party (Sons and Daughters) is duly chartered for patriotic, historic and benevolent purposes

"Whereas, as part of its program to accomplish these purposes the first party did acquire the hereafter described real estate adjacent to the State Capitol grounds, as a suitable site for establishing a permanent, central home and location for meeting and carrying on its functions and the activities of the corporation;

* * *

"Whereas, all were anxious to cooperate with the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers, to provide some suitable and convenient headquarters and central locations for the various groups interested, including, as to the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers . . .

"Whereas, it was made to appear to the satisfaction of the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers that such a joint headquarters could be established, for the joint use and enjoyment of the organizations named, and thereby the Sons and Daughters would have a definite headquarters with office and quarters for their use upon the real estate they then owned; and that relying upon such hopes, and confident that the other organizations would wholeheartedly cooperate, the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers did hasten to convey or attempt to convey their lands to the State of Montana, for the purposes enumerated above."

Since 1945 the purpose and use of the Pioneer building has been and is to be:

". . . a perpetual memorial to the war veterans and pioneers of Montana, and said building shall be devoted to the use of the (several listed veterans' organizations) and the sons and daughters of Montana pioneers, and for the housing of books, records, documents, and other property of such veterans and organizations; and there shall be provided in said building appropriate office quarters for the state headquarters and officers and employees of such veterans and organizations, and for the librarian and other employees of the Historical Society of Montana." (Section 78-202, R.C.M. 1947)

The Sons and Daughters did not transfer the 63 lots to the state until Section 78-202 was passed by the 1945 legislature. A portion of the 63 lots were transferred in 1946 and the remainder in 1955.

Not only did the Sons and Daughters give this valuable land to the state without charge, but the Sons and Daughters have continued to support the historical activities of the Historical Society to the extent of its limited assets. For example, in 1958, the Sons and Daughters loaned valuable antique vases to the State Historical Society for display. These vases were valued at \$30,000 in 1958 and are of unestimatable value at this time.

As you know, volunteer organizations make up much of the backbone of this country and provide services that could never be paid from public funds. Similarly, the Sons and Daughters have contributed enormously to the state of Montana and the only request that the members make is that they be allowed to keep their room and meeting place and the small vault to house their historical records as promised them by former legislators and government officials in consideration for the donation of the land upon which the Veterans and Pioneers Memorial Building and the Mitchell Building is built.

We would suggest amending Senate Bill No. 91 to recognize the importance and the original intent of the donation of the land by the Sons and Daughters upon which the Veterans and Pioneer Memorial Building and Mitchell Building is built so that Senate Bill 91, page 2, lines 4, 5, and 6 (last sentence) would read as follows:

"In recognition and in consideration of the fact that the land upon which the Veterans and Pioneer Memorial Building and Mitchell Building are located was donated to the state by the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers, the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers Organization shall not be charged."

Gene Westen Paradich

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

(Mrs.) June Weston, President of the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers 722 Orange Avenue Helena, Montana 59601 TO: MEMBERS OF THE SENATE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Re: Senate Bill 91/Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers

I am a member of the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers, an organization with roots stretching back to beginnings of Montana.

The organization has always used a room and vault in the Veterans and Pioneer Memorial Building. The vault contains historical records of our own organization and our parent organization, the Society of Montana Pioneers. The names of the presidents of these two organizations read like pages out of a Montana history book, to-wit: James Fergus, Granville Stuart, Anton Holter, W. A. Clark, Conrad Cohrs, just to name a few. It is the records of these historical figures that we seek to protect.

The deep abiding interest of the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers in the preservation of history and their intent to obtain a permanent central home and location for meetings and carrying on the functions and activities of the organization prompted the donation by the Sons and Daughters to the State of Montana, the land upon which the Veterans and Pioneer Memorial Building and the Mithcell Building sit. The original land was donated in 1946 and the remainder of the land in 1955. The 1955 deed spells out the Sons and Daughters' intent in donating this land.

My grandfather, Judge Lester H. Loble, and those like him involved in the donation of that land were promised that the Sons and Daughters would always have a home. Attached is a copy of the Board Minutes of the Sons and Daughters dated December 20, 1954 in which it states that:

"Governor Aronson and Attorney General Olson said that if the officers of the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers would instruct Mr. Bulen to draw up resolutions and present them to them, the State Board of Examiners, they would have an abstract completed and there would never be any additional cost to the Sons and Daughters regarding and taxes of any sort nor any other expenses."

The Sons and Daughters have always had a room in the Veterans and Pioneer Memorial Building but we have been slowly forced into smaller and smaller rooms. If this legislation passes, eventually we will be ignominiously thrown out of a building that would not be standing where it now stands were it not for the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers.

Therefore, I earnestly request that this committee amend Senate Bill 91 to recognize the consideration of the donation of the land from the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Bruce Loble
440 Monroe
Helena, Montana 59601

Witness this Indecture, make June 1078, by and between the Scas and Daughters of Massaca Pioneers, a conprofit corporation of Mantaia, with its principal office at Holena, Montana, first party and the State of Montana, a severage government, second party:

Whereas the first party is duly chartered for patriotic, historical and behavolent purposes, among which objects are to assist in the preservation of the memories of Picheer Life and the settlemen of Montana; to sid in projects designed to sid, protect and safeguard historical records; to conduct historical research into picheer history and to beneve the Picheer men and women the founded a Gramonwealth on the frontiers of civilination; and

Whereas, as part of its program to accomplish these purposes the first party did sequire the hereafter described real estate, adjacent to the State Capital grounds, as a suitable site for establishing a permanent, central home and location for meeting and carrying on its functions and the activities of the corporatin;

And Whereas, the Montana Historical Society was crowded for space in inadequate quarters in the basement of the Capital building; and the Montana Veterons of various Wars, were engines to establish a suitable memorial building; and

Whereas, all were then anxious to co-operate with the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers, to provide some suitable and convenient headquarters and central locations for the various groups interested, including, as to the Sons and Daughters of Hontana Pioneers, more extended facilities for the State Board of Health of Montana, as well as additional administrative facilities, all of which could be located and situated upon the real estate then owned by the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers; and

Whereas, it was made to appear to the satisfaction of the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers that such a joint headquarters could be established, for the joint use and enjoyment of the organizations agged, and thereby the Sons and Daughters would have a definite headquarters with office and quarters for their use upon the real estate they then owned; and that relying upon such hopes, and confident that the other organizations would wholeheartedly co-operate, the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers did hasten to convey or attempt to convey their lands to the State of Montana, for the purposes enumerated above.

However, is has been discovered, that a portion of the leads intended to be transferred for the purposes stated, were inadvertantly omitted or overlooked and were not then included.

Now Therefore, to confirm the purposes and the considerations for which the earlier conveyances were made, and to record in a more definite manner, the facts and the conditions which induced and led to the former transfers, the some and Daughters of Montana Piessess, aforesaid, do hereby transfer, convey, release and quitclaim to the State of Montana, the following described ruel estate, located and situated in CORBIN ADDITION, an officially platted sub-division in Lewis and Clark County, State of Montana, as follows:

(Description follows on next sheet)

BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 20, 1954

Govonor Aronson and Attorney General Olson said that if the officers of the Sons & Daughters of Montana Pioneers would instruct Mr. Bulen to draw up resolutions and present them to them, the State Board of Examiners they would have an abstract completed and there would never be any additional cost to the Sons & Daughters regarding and taxes of any sort nor any other expenses.

Folling open discussions about furniture and exhbits the meeting was closed folling the closing prayer by Mr. Bulen.

after the meeting closed the group were guests of Mr. Toole and his staff for a lovely lunch and social hour.

Kathleen Lindquist, secy Sons & Daughters

Bureaucrais threaten veterans

By BRUNO J. LENCIONI
Montana Department Commander, DAV
Butte

HEARING

On Jan. 21, I appeared before a legislative interim subcommittee regarding space on the third floor of the Veterans Memorial Building occupied by all veterans organizations. I feel that it it important that I repeat some of my previous statements as they are pertinent to the problems facing this committee. This magnificent building was made possible in part through funds carmarked for the war veterans organizations located on the third floor of this building.

ARTICLE

Dept

S.B.-

The land for the site upon which it is located was deeded to the state of Montana by the Sons and Daughters of the Montana Pioneers on June 16, 1955 to provide suitable and convenient, headquarters and central locations for the various groups interested, including the aforementioned veterans' organizations.

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MONTANA

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ICAN

Leo "Pop" Powers, Medal of Honor winner and a former DAV Department Senior Vice Charles E. Pew, the Grand Old Man of Veterans Affairs in Montana and John W. Mahan Sr., would all turn over in their graves if they knew Commander, former Göv. John W. Bonner, organization from this building which is of symbolic importance. The building represents the that there was a move afoot to oust the veterans' the veterans' organizations is restricted to ered war time disabilities. The alloted one hardships of war and of the early pioneers of Montana, The membership eligibility of all of veterans of war time service and those who sufvoom office has been the home of the DAV Department of Montana since the time of the dedication of the building.

FRED . J.

TERANS

THE EXCELLENT OFFICES assigned to our veterans' organizations were furnished with new, modern office furniture when occupied on Jan. 1, 1954 and has housed the headquarters of

Mac Kintosh

only office equipment but the Department Colors, our plaques, citations - as well as the Colors of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Bronze Plaque in Memorium to an ilustrious American and benefactor of our diswhose work following World War I was of such vital importance to our disabled veterans. The DAV was prior to that time furnished office abled veterans, the late Sen. Thomas J. Walsh, space in the basement of the Capitol Building for Memorial Building was constructed and this many years before the Veterans' and Pioneers' policy has followed on through the Administra-tion of Govs. Sam Ford, John W. Bonner, J. Forrest W. Anderson and Thomas L. Judge, for Hugo Aronson, Donald Nutter, Tim Babcock, the obvious reason that they all recognized that service organizations are a very special group vital to the best interest of the State of Montana,

Montana now has approximately 103,000 living veterans of all wars. The state and federal governments have recognized our veterans' groups and members of their respective families by acknowledging the unselfish sacrifices of energy and time and responsiveness to the needs of and the obligations to our Montana veterans wh have served our country and state in its times of need.

FOR THAT REASON, the state has furnished office space in a manner similar to the Veterans Administration, which also furnishes office space and equipment to service organizations and their accredited representatives. This has been made available to those organizations for many years and the VA takes steps to see that the service organizations' furniture, equipment and office space is brought up to the same standards of their own effices. At the time of the last meeting we were stung by the implication by the state researcher who referred to our veterans' organizations as "private

organizations." We deplore this reference which displays a lack of knowledge and historical background.

tinue to expand and are in constant competition to build up their own empires. We are not naive ever stop, as this has become a way of life. To show the pressure tactics used by certain state We all know the various state agencies conemployees in this matter, I submitted a copy of Director, Montana State Historical Society; a enough to believe that this empire building will the letter of Sept. 12, 1977, written by Ken Korte, copy of my letter to Gov. Thomas L. Judge, dated Sept. 15, 1977, who, you will note was abfrom Gov. Judge of Sept. 29, 1977. I feel with this solutely unaware of the action of Mr. Kerte and Lawrence D'Arcy and a copy of the response information you will have a better understanding of why the veterans' organizations have strong feelings about this particular problem.

THESE DOCUMENTS reflect an anti-veteran movement to destroy the indispensible basis for free and organized veterandom and the element of trust built up over the years. Unless we react with condemnation and with resolve to combat this trend, we could find ourselves inhabiting a second-class country — taken over by a group of state bureaucrats.

Car March 31, 1978, I appeared before the interim subcommittee to again submit my statements concerning rent free space. Sen. Blaylock, himself a veteran, made a motion to charge all veterans' organizations on the third floor \$2.30 a square foot and this motion was passed unanimously. Hopefully, veterans will lobby at the next legislative session to restore our original status.

It is our feeling that the third floor of this building should remain rent-free to the veterans's service organizations and that we are willing to work with this committee to effect a satisfactory understanding regarding adequate space, problems, etc.

For Freight or Passage apply on board, at the foot of Upper Missouri and the Mining Districts, Steamer P. NLTER B. DANCE. BENTON, HELENA, BOYD & SYLVESTER, Agita. EI. H. CRAPSTER, CLERK, J. O. HAYNES, CLERK, AND ALL POINTS IN THE MINING DISTRICTS. HO! FOR THE GOLD MINES SESSIA MAIS ACTORIS OUT AND BUS VIRGINIA CITY, BANNOCK CITY. J. H. SOUSLEY, Captain, Will leave for all points on the 1887 rong Passenger

Reproduction of card in circulation in the East in 1867, encouraging Westward travel to Montana. Date and time of departure were inserted for public information. The reverse side is shown on page 22.

THE HISTORY OF THE

MONTANA VETERANS AND PIONEERS MEMORIAL BUILDING By Losior H. Lobis

Jack Johnson, the great negro heavyweight prize fighter won the world's championship in Sydney, Australia, in 1908, by defeating Tommy Burns. That fight affected the future course of boxing, and indirectly contributed \$48,000 for the Montana Veterans and Pioneers Memorial Building, now being erected at Helena.

Following this fight, a great hue and any arose to find a "white hope" who could defeat Jack Johnson. During this period, boxing was in disrepute, and many states banned it as illegal. Jack Johnson finally lost the world's heavyweight championship, but not until a great impetus had been given to boxing in the efforts to find a "white hope" who could defeat him.

During this time, boxing was illegal in Montana, and then, as in other states, a movement was started to logalize boxing in Montana. A referendum to legalize boxing was submitted to the people in 1914. It was known as the Kiley boxing law, and was hotly contested and then defeated.

In 1919 the Legislative Assembly legalized boxing and passed a bill providing that a certain portion of the net proceeds of boxing matches should go for the benefit of soldiers, sailors and marines. Through the following years a substantial fund accumulated at the state treasury from these activities. This fund is now a part of the money being used for the erection of the Veterans and Pioncers Memorial Building.

Now, to go back further—The enabling act by which Montana was areated provides that certain income from lands given to the State by the U. S. government should be used for erecting public buildings at the state capital. This income goes into the "Capitol Building Land Grant Fund." It is from this fund that the greater portion of the principal and interest for the Veterans and Planesars Memorial Building is paid.

The first legislative act approving the erection of a Pioneers building was in 1923. It was hoped that persons would voluntarily donate money to erect the building, however, nothing was accomplished. Then came the legislative acts of 1929, 1937 and finally that of 1941. It was this last act that really set in motion the program for the erection of this building.

LEGISLATOR.

Veterans Organizations Should Have Free Office Space . . . To Contend Anything Else is to Deny The Obvious

The 1979 Legislative session in Helena will consider a bill to charge rent for the space on the third floor of the Veterans and Pioneers Building. The issue has which disregard or misinterpret been complicated by the Legislathe bill through slanted and the intentions and activities of live Council, and proponents of sometimes insideous statements the Legislature and Veterans and Pioneer Organizations as far oack as 1919.

In March of 1978 the Legislative Subcommittee on Education It was classed as "ridiculous" to have this "junk" in the vault. An for Veterans groups war trophies ng to news reports, were visibly abilia in the special vault within Society told the visitors that the and didn't display history but visited the building and, accordshocked to see veterans memorseveral feet of Russell paintings. official of the Montana Historical displays in the Nutter Trophy Room was just "open storage" rather is a display of articles which have something to do with nistory, not necessarily Montan-

hothered to determine the content of the "junk" in the vault or the "open storage" on the third floor. Much of the "junk" No one on the committee was made up of records of the Montana GAR and the Montana United Spanish War Veterans. "he "open store

tion. As a matter of fact the proponents have delivered some organizations haven't done anyengthy if not ill conceived thing to deserve such considerastatements on this subject epitomized by the following:

depends on the point of view. No money. They lobbied a bill through the legislature which took the 5 per cent tax the state "The assertion that the veterans donated money to help erect the building and furnish it veterans' groups put on any boxing and wrestling matches, labeled it the Veterans' Memorial Fund, and called it their evies on the net proceeds of contribution.

This political double shuffle is a bit like a mugger taking a man's wallet, donating the money to the Red Cross and expecting sublic recognition for his charitble activity."

committee member and appeared in the Billings Gazette. While nugging, we cannot help but gnoring the allusions to our Historical perspective if not knowledge. WWI ended Novem-. . which was authored by a successfully lobby for such things as Veterans hospitals and the GI political double shuffling and comment on the writers lack of ber 11, 1918 just about two months before the 1919 Legislature convened. The Veterans organizations that would later

G onsone

"THE NATION WHICH FORGETS ITS DEFENDERS WILL BE ITSELF FORGOTTEN" — Calvin Coolidge

VOL. 57 · NO. 1

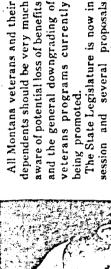
20,000 COPIES PRINTED

JANUARY - 1979

IS NEEDED ED

YOUR INDEP

Pat Kelley Dies



The State Legislature is now in affecting veterans in the state session and several proposals ire before it.

Once again it is proposed that

Thanks for your Help

The following are Posts and individuals who sent donations to us so that we in turn could turn over the funds to the VAVS Directors for a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday for those veterans who had to stay in the holidays: ospitals, over

the state re-open the old Childrens Center at Twin Bridges as a veterans domicilary.

Again it is requested that the expansion of the nursing care Veterans Home, Columbia Falls unit from 40 to 100 beds at the be advanced on the States Long Range Building Program priority

forty bed nursing home in state funds and never opened be It is newly proposed that the Glendive, built entirely with opened as a Veterans Nursing lome.

In these three proposals some State funds are required. Twin Bridges and Glendive will require a very minimum of State funds. The State will have to provide operational funds for three months before the Veterans Administration can provide

> P.W. [PAT] KELLEY P.W. (Pat) Kelley



MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

225 NORTH ROBERTS STREET • (406) 449 2694 • HELENA, MONTANA 59601

September 12, 1977

Mr. John Sloan Adjutant Disabled American Veterans Veterans Administration Center Fort Harrison, Montana 59636

Dear Mr. Sloan:

It has come to our attention that the office space presently allocated to the Disabled American Veterans organization in this complex is not being used. With the additional programs and responsibilities within this agency, we have serious space limitations. We feel, therefore, that since the DAV office is seldom used and since your organization occupies permanent office space at Fort Harrison, it is only fitting that under these circumstances this agency be allowed to use that space for additional staff.

The Department of Administration, State of Montana, is responsible by law to allocate adequate space for state agencies. We have discussed this matter with Deputy Director Lawrence D'Arcy. He indicates that they would support our recommendation in this matter. The conference room would still be available to your organization as it has been in the past on a prioritized basis.

This letter, then, will serve as notification that we wish to have any items presently in your third floor office removed within a period of two weeks. We regret having to take this action but severe space limitations have forced us to make this decision.

Sinchrely

Director

KK/dlb

cc: L. D'Arcy

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

JOHN J. McGlynn Sr. Vice Commander Eutte

WALTER PECK 1st Jr. Vice Commander Lewistown

GERALD L. McINTYRE and Jr. Vice Commander Missoula

CHARLIE DAVIS
Past Dept. Commander
Great Falls

JOHN B. McCLERNAN repetual Relinb Fund Chairman Butto

KENNETH HANNAH Ist Judge Advocate Havre

DOUGLAS E. FOX 2nd Judge Advocate Kaitspell

WILLIAM CARY Sgt.-at-Arms Helena

STEVEN JOHNSON Helena

FRANK X. PROVOST Historian Helena

ED TRIPPET Publicity Chairman Kalispell

JOSEPH KISSOCK Legislative Chairman Butte

(Legislative Assistants) ANTON JURSNICK, Butte JOHN GALLAGEER, Havre IAYMOND EBERT, Livingston RAY FORDYCE, Lewistown AY CAMPBELL, Gt. Falls

JAMES O. SHANON VAVS State Chairman Helena

FREDERICK J. MacKINTOSH VA Hospital Chairman and Deputy VAVS Helena

HARRISON F. WELLIVER Deputy VAVS Rep. Helena

MARLOWE BOWMAN VAVS Deputy Rep. Helena

VA HOSPITAL MUES CITY
BILL HOPKINS
VA Hospital Chairman
Miles City

BOB ANDERSON Deputy VAVS Rep. Ismay

GEORGE HOLLAND Deputy VAVS Rep. Miles City

RICHARD BAIN T Veterans Home Chairman Kalispeli

RAY FORDYCE Americanism Chairman Lewistowa

LES BRATLEE National Security Chairman Deer Lodge

EUGENE A. HAZECK Forget-Me-Not Chairman Great Falls

MPLOYMENT COMMITTEE S. C. FLETCHER, Helena E. E. GRAUMAN, Billings COND HEUSTL, Gt. Falls TES BRATILES, Anaconda CAPK X. PROVOST, Helena



BRUNO J. LENCIONI Department Commander 104 Country Club Lanet Butte, MT 59701

JOHN E. SLOAN September 15, 1977 Dept. Adjutant-Treasurer Dept. Service Officer VA Center Fort Harrison, MT 59538 Phone 442-6410, Ext. 221

FREDERICK J. MacKENTOSH

Ass't. Dept. Adjutant-Treas.

Governor Thomas Judge State Capitol Helena, Montana

Excellency:

Veterans' & Pioneers A few days ago the Disabled American Memorial Building Veterans, Department of Montana, received Helena, MT 50001 a letter - copy of which is attached .advising this organization that we would be summarily evicted from our state headquarters office in the Veterans and Pioneers Memorial Building in the capitol complex.

This letter appears to be the idea of one Ken Korte, custodian of the building -aided and abetted by somebody named Lawrence D'Arcy -- and we don't know who these people are. We are just now advised that they are about to conduct a Watergate-type break-in into our state headquarters office. We are confident, of course, that Your Excellency had no idea whatever that any such scheme was afoot.

In view of our past friendship with Your Excellency we respectfully request that you have somebody in your office advise these two state employees to pull in their horns, and cool it, until Your Excellency and the Disabled American Veterans can get together and look into this thing.

Thank you in advance for your prompt action in this matter.

Yours truly,

Bruno Lencioni Siept Conis

104 Country Club Lane Butte, Montana, 59701

State Commander, DAV

John B. McClernan

O'Rourke Apts.

Butte, Montana, 59701

State Assistant Adjutant, D.A. V.



State of Alfontana Office of The Governor Alelem 19901

MAS L. JUDGE

September 29, 1977

Honorable John B. McClernan State Assistant Adjutant, D.A.V. O'Rourke Apartments Rutto, Montana 59701

Dear John:

Thank you for your letter regarding D.A.V. State office quarters in the Veterans and Dioneers Memorial Building.

It indeed came as a comprise to we that an effort was underway by employees of the Montana Mistorical Society and the State Department of administration to exict the State D.A.V. From its project office space.

Upon investigation of the author by an effice, a verat Branch apparent:

- (1) The issuance of an eviction notice by Mr. Norte, Mo. Lana Mistorical Socity, and Mr. D'Arcy, Department of Administration, prior to an official response from State officers of the D.A.V. showed little discretion.
- (2) That there is indeed a space utilization problem confronting the Montana Historical Society. I'm convinced that Mr. Korte's actions, coupled with those of Mr. D'Arcy of the Department of Administration (the State agency that is responsible by law to allocate adequate space for State agencies) was in keeping with what they believed to be the most efficient utilization of space.

Their actions do not appear to be directed solely at the D.A.V. of Montana. There does, however, seem to be a lack of understanding of the role of the D.A.V. under Mr. Sloan at Fort Harrison and the office space assigned in the Veterans and Dioneers Monorial Hall.

Now that Mr. Korte and Mr. D'Arcy have been reassured that this space is vital to the D.A.V. and is being utilized, I'm sure you will have no problems in the future.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

THOAS L. JUNCE Governor

cc: John E. Sloan John J. McGlynn