



Craig Rupp, of New Jersey, is pacing off 600 feet after being told he is too close to the Hoyt School polling place about 10 a.m. Tuesday. A poll worker is behind him.

—State Journal photo by Edwin Stein

## Brown campaigners too close to polls

Madison police responded to at least eight complaints late Tuesday afternoon about campaign workers for Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown Jr. impeding traffic or campaigning too close to polling places with their "Brown for President" signs, Police Expediter Richard Scanlon said.

Poll workers at Hoyt, Longfellow, Cherokee and East High schools called police when young men campaigners for Brown were hesitant about moving the required 600 feet away from voting places with their signs.

On East and West Washington Avenues, Olin Avenue and other major streets, police said drivers complained that the young men with their Brown signs distracted them by jumping off the curbs. Police said some of the sign carriers identified themselves as being from other states.

## Corporate income-tax hike backed

An increase in Wisconsin's corporate income tax to finance the initial phase of a capital-gains tax-exclusion plan was endorsed Tuesday by Assembly Democrats in a budget caucus.

The initial reaction of Senate Democrats was not favorable to the

proposal because it would not finance the entire capital gains tax break envisioned by Assembly Democrats. After a negotiating session between Assembly and Senate leaders, it was uncertain how the impasse between the two houses would be resolved.

The plan to increase the corporate tax rate from 7.9 percent to 8.5 percent, providing about \$24 million a year in revenue, was endorsed by 35 Democrats during the Assembly's second straight day of caucusing on the 1980 budget review bill.

State Rep. Joseph Czerwinski of Milwaukee told his colleagues the increase would move Wisconsin from 16th to 12th place among the states in corporate income taxes.

He said the business community is split on whether to endorse the corporate income tax increase as the financing mechanism for capital gains tax relief. The fact that Wisconsin does not exclude a portion of capital gains from income taxation is thought to be a deterrent to business trying to lure executive talent to the state.

Under the plan previously approved by the Assembly, but deleted from the budget review bill by the Senate because it did not make up for the loss of revenue, the capital-gains tax exclusion would start at 10 percent.

Unlike the federal exclusion, which is a flat 60 percent, the state exclusion, even when fully phased in, would be remain at 10 percent for gains from assets held between one year and two, 20 percent for assets held between two and three years, and so on up to a 60 percent exclusion for assets held more than six years.

The cost of the exclusion would reach \$130 million a year when fully phased in.

Assembly Democrats also approved a compromise shared tax formula to benefit large communities as much as the version approved by the Senate, but would distribute \$5 million more to small and medium-sized communities.

with special meals and family gatherings; the emphasis of these gatherings is on freedom.

For example, Maxwell Greenburg, chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, said this week that Passover celebrates "man's earliest recorded revolt against tyrannical enslavement and speaks to the heart of every person enslaved for any reason."

He said the Passover spirit "brings hope of eventual freedom, too, to the 50 Americans who, innocent of any wrongdoing, are held hostage by the Ayatollah and his militant minions in the American Embassy in Tehran."

## CBS wins weekly ratings race

NEW YORK (AP) — With a boost from the premiere of "Flo," CBS won the networks' ratings race for the week ending March 30 and pulled even with ABC for the season.

CBS listed seven of the week's 10 highest-rated programs, figures from the A.C. Nielsen Co. showed, including "M-A-S-H," which tied for first with "Flo," and "60 Minutes" in third place.

CBS' rating for the week of 20.3 pushed the network's average rating

for the season to 19.5 — the same as ABC's. ABC's rating for the most recent week was 18.5, and NBC was third at 15.8.

The networks say that means in an average prime-time minute during the week, 20.3 percent of the homes in the country with TV were tuned to CBS.

ABC's top-rated show for the week was "That's Incredible," in fourth place, while NBC's best, "CHiPs," was 10th.

## Jews celebrate Passover

The Jewish festival of the Passover began Tuesday and will continue through Monday.

The Passover commemorates a Jewish belief that while the Hebrew people were held captive in Egypt, an angel of death killed the first born of both man and beast. The Jewish people killed lambs and put blood from the lambs on their door posts. When the angel arrived, he passed over the homes of the Jews.

This national tragedy convinced the Egyptian pharaoh to let the Jews leave Egypt and wander for 40 years to the land which became Israel, according to the book of Exodus.

Jews today celebrate the Passover

# Federal legislation erases Wisconsin's usury ceiling

From wire service and staff reports

WASHINGTON — State usury ceilings on mortgage rates — including Wisconsin's 12-percent ceiling — are wiped away by new federal legislation that also phases out interest ceilings on all kinds of savings deposits.

President Carter on Monday signed into law a far-reaching bill that lifts state ceilings on mortgage rates in an effort to make more money available for home loans — but at higher rates.

In Wisconsin, the 12-percent home-mortgage ceiling was lifted temporarily by Carter early this year, but his 90-day order expired Monday.

Carter's action may keep the Legislature from acting on a bill (SB-320) that lifts state ceilings on virtually all interest rates. The Senate-passed bill

is ready for debate in the Assembly, but some Democratic and Republican leaders are unconvinced that it is necessary. Other Wisconsin lawmakers think there are significant differences between the federal and state bills and want the Assembly to pass the measure.

The legislation signed by Carter would:

- ✓ Eliminates after six years interest rate ceilings on savings deposits, including passbook accounts, which currently pay customers no more than 5.5 percent, despite an 18.2-percent annual inflation rate. The bill also encourages federal regulators to increase the current interest rate by at least 2.25 percent during the next six years.
- ✓ Lifts for three years interest-

rate limits on business and agricultural loans in excess of \$25,000. (The Wisconsin bill would lift interest rates on agricultural loans under \$25,000.)

✓ Authorizes as of Dec. 31 NOW accounts across the country. NOWs, or negotiated orders of withdrawal, are interest-bearing savings accounts with check-drafting privileges. Currently, NOW accounts are legal only in New England, New Jersey and New York.

✓ Gives the Federal Reserve Board more power over banks and thrift institutions. All banks and most thrifts will be required to place a fixed percentage of funds in a non-interest-bearing reserve established by the Federal Reserve. Currently, only members of the Federal Reserve are so required, a limitation that reduces the board's ability to control the money supply and thus battle inflation.

This new policy will be phased in over several years.

The bill also allows savings and loans to increase their consumer loans and offer credit card and trust services, boosts the amount of federal insurance on savings deposits from \$40,000 to \$100,000 and legalizes automatic transfer services at banks, share drafts at credit unions and remote-service units at savings and loans.

Under the bill, credit unions can increase the interest they charge on loans to members from 12 percent to 15 percent. They may be permitted to charge more in the next 18 months.

Areas not covered by the federal legislation but addressed in the state bill include interest on auto loans and interest charged by credit card companies.

## Travel to 'anti-ERA' states is approved

In an unusual but not unprecedented move, the Madison City Council Tuesday night gave retroactive authorization to public works employees for travel to Illinois and Missouri.

The authorization was necessary because Illinois and Missouri are two of the so-called "anti-Equal Rights Amendment" states, and city policy prohibits employee travel to those states. (The ERA is a proposed amendment to the United States Constitution that specifies women will have equal rights.)

This was termed an emergency, however, so the council approved paying the employees for their expenses, by a 16-5 vote.

The trips were necessary because the city's waste recovery plant, the Edwin J. Duszynski Madison Area Resource Recovery Center, was damaged by an electrical fire March 20, requiring immediate repair to a control panel and a transformer.

Employees have traveled to Illinois twice for the transformer repairs and replacements.

In other action, the council approved the appointment of Dan Hildebrand, 5725 Hempstead Road, to a three-year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

The first public airing of a proposed revision of a noise control ordinance brought strong objections from several business sources in Madison.

Technical testimony was conflicting during the informational hearing, and the council referred the revisions back to committee for possible revisions.

Ray-O-Vac, Kipp Corp., Oscar Mayer and Co. and St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center opposed the more stringent measures called for under allowable noises made by stationary objects, such as factories.

A Chicago firm working for the Environmental Protection Agency, which tested sound levels in Madison during the past three days, said there is no problem with most of Madison's industrial noise which could not be solved simply and economically.

The council failed, in a 10-10 vote, with two aldermen absent, to restore personnel department advertising in the Sunday Wisconsin State Journal.

The personnel department has complained that it has been difficult to recruit qualified candidates for city jobs because of the ban on city advertising in Madison Newspapers Inc. The council recently voted to allow limited advertising in the newspapers for Civic Center activities.

The ban was voted in response to a strike by five unions at MNI in October 1977.

## Grand jury's probe of Vesco concluded

WASHINGTON (AP) — No indictments will be returned by a federal grand jury that investigated allegations that fugitive financier Robert L. Vesco tried to have his legal problems fixed by the White House, a prosecutor said Tuesday.

Principal Assistant U.S. Attorney Carl C. Rauh said the grand jury investigation is concluded and "the United States Attorney's office is closing the matter."

Rauh said the grand jurors "determined not to return any indictments from its investigation that Robert Vesco, through intermediaries, at-

tempted to bribe members of the Carter administration. The United States Attorney's Office concurs in this result."

One of President Carter's White House aides, Richard M. Harden, has been under investigation for possible perjury before the grand jury.

The jurors were investigating allegations that there was an attempt shortly after Carter took office to quash extradition proceedings against Vesco. Vesco fled the country in 1972 after his indictment on stock fraud charges, and is believed to be living in the Bahamas.

## Steam whistle to be tested

The Mendota Mental Health Institute, 301 Troy Drive, will begin testing Mendota's steam whistle at 12:05 p.m. today.

The test time and duration will coincide with the Dane County civil defense emergency siren testing on the first Wednesday of each month.

The test is necessary to assure that the whistle, a vital part of the tornado alerting system, is in proper working condition.

Residents who find county-owned outdoor warning systems not working in their area are asked to call the Department of Emergency Planning, 266-4330, or 266-4500.

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