

## Reports say county relies on shrinking aid

By Dave Hardy  
News-Press Staff Writer

County government's reliance on state and federal financing is increasing at a time when those funding sources appear to be shrinking. That's the sum total of two financial reports delivered to the county Board of Supervisors yesterday.

The first report, the "Comprehensive Annual Financial Report" for the 1980-81 fiscal year prepared by the auditor-controller's office, tells the board how much it actually spent — \$128.9 million.

The second report, a look by the county administrative office at Gov. Brown's new budget, indicates that what looked like a 1982-83 county budget deficit of \$2.1-to-\$4.4 million three weeks ago, now looks like a \$3-to-\$8 million deficit.

In her report, Auditor-Controller Kristi Johnson notes that 45.3 percent of the county's \$132.5 million revenue in 1980-81 came from state and federal sources. Another 29.2 percent

came from property taxes and 13.4 percent from services.

In contrast, the county received only 36.5 percent of its funding from state and federal sources in 1977-78, the fiscal year preceding Proposition 13, notes Mrs. Johnson.

"This shows the county's increased reliance on state and federal aid and is reflective of the post-Proposition 13 and Proposition 4 environment," she says. (Proposition 4, the Gann Initiative, limits annual spending increases to a formula based on changes in population and the cost of living.)

"The future outlook for county financing is more and more dependent on actions at the state or federal level," says Mrs. Johnson, concluding that constant monitoring of its fiscal situation will allow the county "to respond in a non-crisis atmosphere."

Part of that constant monitoring effort is the report from David Elbaum, assistant administrative officer. He noted that Gov. Brown's budget is based on numerous assumptions that

are subject to change: that two ballot measures will fail; that another will succeed, that the Legislature will approve 51 different revenue increases — and that the economy will turn around.

The Brown proposal with the greatest impact for the county would reduce the motor vehicle fees returned to local government. The county could lose about \$2.5 million with this cut alone, said Elbaum, noting that the county's use of the money isn't tied to any particular program.

Changes in the Medi-Cal program are expected to cut revenue to counties by \$25 million to \$50 million. However, the impact on Santa Barbara County is still unknown and will require "extensive analysis," Elbaum reported.

On the other hand, the county could get a one-time boost from the accelerated collection of sales, property, and business taxes. However, the revenue increase would depend on the rate of housing sales and construction as well

as retail sales in unincorporated areas.

"In summary, the governor's 1982-83 state budget would cost Santa Barbara County approximately \$3 million to \$3.5 million should it be enacted as proposed, but this loss would be offset to an unknown extent if sales and property taxes are accelerated.

"If this loss is added to the preliminary 1982-83 budget projection for Santa Barbara County in our recent mid-year report, the financing deficit would grow to approximately \$5.1 million to \$7.9 million. Thus, it is more critical than ever that county departments cooperate with the 1982-83 budget guidelines, that the contingency fund be preserved at its current level, and that all efforts are made to save money and collect revenues this year."

In another matter yesterday afternoon, the board tentatively approved a proposal to place a church at a potentially dangerous intersection along Highway 154 in the Santa Ynez Valley.

The Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

seeks a conditional use permit to build a sanctuary, Sunday school, and pastor's office on a four-acre triangle at the northern corner where Edison Street and Baseline Avenue intersect 154.

Although the same project was unanimously rejected by the Planning Commission at the recommendation of staff, the board majority seemed to go along with Transportation Director Leland Steward. He said that he dropped his objections to the project when the church dropped its plans for a daily school.

The potential for a serious traffic accident was still cited by the Department of Resource Management staff as a significant environmental impact. But the church's agent, Sid Goldstein, argued that the DRM traffic figures were wrong and that visibility along that stretch of highway was good.

Supervisors Bill Wallace and David Yager voted against Supervisor DeWayne Holmdahl's motion to tentatively approve the project with additional conditions to be considered Feb. 22.

### Off The Beat

## Is feeding ducks fowl practice?

By Barney Brantingham  
News-Press Columnist

It's long been a custom here to feed the fowl at the Bird Refuge.

And to take those cute little Easter duckies that have grown too big, and dump them at the Refuge.

To that good of bad?

Well, the city doesn't encourage it, says Jerry Ambrose, parks director.

Sure, the 22-acre lake is big enough; there's just not enough food for all the web-footed residents, much less any newcomers.

A few years ago there were 400 ducks, geese and other birds there and they were dying from malnutrition and associated maladies, Ambrose said. Everyone got very concerned.

Now the population is down to about 170 domestic ducks and geese, plus migratory birds. "We spend \$1,200 a year for bird food," he said.

One reason the population is down is that the Humane Society and Audubon Society people snatch eggs every year, he said. "If they didn't, we'd have 1,000 birds there," Ambrose said.

Feeding is fine if it's done properly, but if the birds have already been fed and someone dumps 20 loaves of bread, it just rots and adds to the general problems, according to the parks chief.

Although Ambrose denies that birds are dying because of polluted water in the stagnant pond, he does concede that conditions do get bad enough occasionally in the summertime to kill fish.

And sometimes packs of wild dogs kill 15 or 20 birds at a time, he said. "What can you do?"

The solution to the stagnant water problem apparently would be to get air into the lake water.

One energy-saving idea involves five to 10 wind-powered turbines pumping air in and circulating the water, although they might be eyesores, Ambrose said. A company is hot to sell them to the city.

Electrical pumps to aerate the water would "go a long way" to solve the problem. Water pumped up in the air in a fountain-like effect would also help, he said, adding that on-going power costs a fortune.

But, Ambrose pointed out in Off the Beat yesterday, the city has no plans for improvements at the Bird Refuge with badly needed work on city parks that there is not even \$25,000 for a study of what should be done.

"The capital plant in the parks is so raggedy that the Bird Refuge has taken a back seat," he said. The dollars go to the more heavily used parks.

To tourists driving by, the place "always looks nice," except when the



### BIG MOON RISING

Viewed from Las Positas Road at U.S. 101, a full moon rises over the mountains in the late afternoon, eager to see and be seen as it lights up the earth on its familiar nightly journey through fields of stars.

### Judge declares mistrial in molestation case

By Richard Aguirre  
News-Press Staff Writer

A Superior Court judge declared a mistrial yesterday in the case of a Buellton man accused of molesting a 16-year-old Santa Barbara girl at her home last summer.

Jurors, after two days of deliberations, told Judge Bruce W. Dodds that they were hopelessly deadlocked 7 to 5 for conviction of Brian Bora Russell, 29, and that further talks would be useless. A unanimous vote is required for any verdict.

Jurors reportedly split into two factions — those who were convinced that Russell was guilty because of the testimony of the girl, and those who believed that there was too much reasonable doubt to convict the man.

Dodds' mistrial order means that Russell, a maintenance man and former U.S. Marine, will return to court Feb. 17 for a readiness and settlement conference. Another trial date could be set then, the district attorney could ask to have the charge dismissed or a plea bargaining agreement — with a guilty plea to a lesser charge — could be worked out between defense and prosecution attorneys.

Deputy District Attorney Robert Calvert said yesterday that he probably won't decide for several days whether to pursue the case.

Russell denied the molestation charges when he testified on his own behalf. Several character witnesses for Russell were also heard in the trial, which began Jan. 26.

Russell was arrested Sept. 3, 1981, several days after he allegedly molested the girl at her Mesa-area home while her mother was at work. Testimony showed that the man frequently spent the night at the residence and had cared for the girl by himself on many occasions without incident. He had known the girl since she was 5 years old, court records show.

The girl testified in tears that Russell pinned her to a bed without warning and molested her Aug. 27. The woman's mother testified that Russell apologized for the alleged molestation during a telephone conversation several days later.

In his closing argument, Calvert told jurors that the evidence clearly pointed to the guilt of a man who he said took advantage of a child and thought he wouldn't get caught.

However, Russell's attorney, James Herman of the public defender's office, maintained during the trial that his client was the victim of a child's imagination. "I think it's one of those stories that got out of hand much to everyone's detriment," he said after learning of the hung jury.

In remarks to jurors, Herman said child molestation is a "terrible crime" and that anyone accused of such an offense has to endure an unfair veil of suspicion.

## New Right feels betrayed by Reagan

### National leader tells students president may lose support

By Jerry Rankin  
News-Press Staff Writer

The New Right feels betrayed by an unfaithful President Reagan and may desert their hero of 1980 and his administration in coming elections, a national leader of the religious-political right wing told UCSB students last night.

William Billings, executive director of the National Christian Action Coalition and first vice president of the Committee for Survival of a Free Congress, gave several hundred people enrolled in the class on religion and politics a taste of the rhetoric and aims of the Christian right and traced its roots.

He brought a solid perspective to the subject, since he and his father organized the first political arm of the religious right in 1977. His father, Robert Billings, was the first head of the Moral Majority and now is a Reagan appointee as undersecretary in the Education Department.

While such groups aren't a factor in Santa Barbara County politics, they wield influence elsewhere and played an important role in the 1980 elections, particularly in helping unseat several liberal Democratic senators such as George McGovern of South Dakota,

who is co-teacher of the course.

But now, a year into the Reagan administration, Billings said his groups — which he described variously as the new, religious and Christian right — feel that not only the honeymoon but the marriage with Reagan may be over. He explained:

"If he makes a turnabout in some areas I would say he has a chance of bringing some of his coalition back to him. But the Reagan administration has spent more time trying to win its adversaries than to mobilize its allies. His allies are leaving him by the scores."

"If he does not begin searching for some of those issues that the new Right constituents and leaders are concerned about, I see little chance of him getting our support in 1984, and instead we will look to someone like (Rep.) Jack Kemp or (Rep.) Phil Crane or (Sen.) Jesse Helms, who operate from a position of principle rather than pragmatic politics."

The first impact will be felt in this

year's congressional elections, at which the Republicans hope to hold their majority in the Senate and secure one in the House, Billings said, painting a sort of "Catch-22" scenario for the president.

"If everything is fine, the Christian coalition and a lot of the New Right coalition will stay home and not vote because it is impossible to organize contented people. If you ever want to organize anybody, you've got to organize the discontented."

"The social-issue conservatives will see that they have been betrayed by Ronald Reagan. In that case, they will not vote at all, they will drop out of the electoral process."

"And that is what I see happening, and that is my greatest fear."

"There are a number of betrayals. It started with the selection of personnel at the White House . . . George Bush supporters (Presidential counselor) Ed Meese is about the only Reagan Republican who would be on (our) list of the leadership at the White House."

Billings said the New Right also felt double-crossed by the appointment of Sandra Day O'Connor to the Supreme Court, because she "had introduced the Equal Rights Amendment in the Arizona legislature and had on four occasions voted for abortion-on-demand bills. (That was) a betrayal not only of the conservatives who had supported Mr. Reagan but of the Republican platform."

Another betrayal, to Billings, is "the failure of Mr. Reagan to take control of the bureaucracy."

And, "We have seen no support for the social issues that brought our voters to the polls, such as voluntary school prayer, an end to forced busing for the purpose of racial integration, tuition tax credits for parents who send their children to non-public schools."

Reagan and Republican leaders had told Billings and other New Right leaders that the social issues had to be delayed in Congress to concentrate on the economy in Reagan's first year. Now, Reagan and his aides are saying the economy still must retain top priority, worrying the New Right that its key social issues again may be pushed to the side in Congress as it wrestles



DAVID YAGER  
Eyes judgeship

## Yager seeks judgeship in Superior Court race

Just more than a year after winning a second term as county supervisor, David Yager announced today he will seek a Superior Court judgeship in the June primary election.

He will be running for Office 4, now held by Judge John Rickard, who chose not to seek another six-year term and will retire when his term runs out the first week of January 1983.

If elected, Yager then would assume the judgeship and the new governor, possibly of his own Republican Party, would make the appointment to fill out his supervisory term to January 1985.

If Yager won and Rickard retired or otherwise left office before his term ended, Yager could be appointed by Democratic Gov. Brown to take office early. But Yager said today at a news conference at the County Administration Building that such a possibility is remote.

And, he added, "If that happened, I would seriously consider declining such an appointment, because I don't think a lame-duck governor should make a material appointment that affects a large segment of the population."

Yager is likely to face at least two opponents, both of whom already are temporary judges. They are Tom

SUPERVISORS: HOW THEY VOTED					
Issue (Feb. 8 meeting)	Yager	Kallman	Wallace	Holmdahl	Fletcher
Fire station: To provide only one-third of the funding for the Mission Canyon Fire Station next year. Passed, 5-0.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Highway 154 church: To allow a church at a potentially dangerous intersection along Highway 154 in the Santa Ynez Valley. Passed, 3-2.	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Jail expansion: To apply for a state grant to expand the county jail in Goleta, and to pay a consultant \$2,500 to prepare the application. Passed, 5-0.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

See Page B-2, Col. 1



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## VAFB SPACE PROJECT BUDGET WAR WINNER

**LOMPOC**—The space shuttle program at Vandenberg Air Force Base is one of the winners in President Reagan's \$757.6-billion budget for 1983.

While social service programs took a big cut, the space transportation system was funded at the full level—including about \$77.6 million for shuttle construction projects at the base, according to an aide in Rep. Robert Lagomarsino's office.

The hotly debated budget document includes an 18 percent increase in defense spending—\$18.3 million of it for MX missile projects, said aide John Doherty. About half will go toward modifying four Minuteman missile silos at north Vandenberg, and for the MX. The remainder is budgeted for roads, bridges and utilities, he said.

Base construction projects totaling nearly \$92 million in the preliminary budget include:

—\$40 million for a shuttle assembly environment shelter to be located at the launch site.

—\$26.5 million for shuttle facility modifications.

—\$4.9 million for hypergolic fuel storage.

—\$6.2 million for a range safety processing center.

—\$4.35 million for visiting officers' quarters.

—\$4.1 million for enlisted personnel housing.

—\$2.6 million for a security police operations facility.

—\$1.55 million for a data processing facility.

—\$1.3 million for a vehicle maintenance shop.

—\$350,000 for a petroleum, oil and lubricants operations facility.

The 1983 budget, which goes into effect in October, must be approved by Congress.

## New Right upset by Reagan actions

Continued from Page B-1 with the sagging economy this election year.

Billings, who sits in the leadership council of the New Right which meets weekly, predicted not much change in the Senate and a loss of about 13 Republicans in the House in November, except that "we'll lose more than that if the election is argued on economic issues."

Billings explained his political rules of thumb: First you try using facts on politicians. "If that doesn't work, you give them the business... through a lobbying organization. A lot of the success that we have had as a political organization in Washington is helping the members of the House and Senate see the light by making them feel the heat. If you can't persuade them with the facts, or with the business, your final alternative is to give them the ax, to vote them out on election day."

Billings told the students it is important to understand, even if they don't agree with, the basic attitudes of the religious fundamentalists he represents.

"(They believe they) will be raptured out of the world, in other words, snatched out of the world and will escape a seven-year tribulation period here on earth. (And they believe) all events that transpire on earth happen because either God directs them to happen or allows them to happen."

For those somewhat fatalistic reasons, he said, few Christian conservatives voted in the past. The trigger, he said, came in 1977 under born-again Christian Jimmy Carter.

At that time, the Internal Revenue Service said it would go into church schools to examine their records and policies to decide if their crucial tax-exempt status was justified.

"So all these Christians who believed in the rapture... and government of God suddenly saw that their Christian church and school was in danger of losing its tax exempt status."

Eventually, he said, the government moved to revoke the tax-free status of Bob Jones University in South Carolina on the basis that it discriminated racially. What isn't clarified in the controversy, he said, is that the university does admit anyone of any race. But, its student handbook prohibits interracial dating. "For Bob Jones University, that is a sincerely held religious belief.

I will say it is not shared by very many people, including myself." Billings said.

But, he added, the crux of the issue is: "Does the federal government have the authority to look at a school's handbook rules and say, we don't like your rules, therefore we are revoking your tax-exempt status?"

The Reagan administration stirred a storm of protest in early January when it announced it was reversing previous government policy and allowing the exemptions. More than half of the lawyers in the Justice Department's civil rights division protested the move—to which the administration responded that they could quit if they disagreed.

But a few days later, Reagan reversed himself and announced the administration would ask Congress for legislation to write past non-discriminatory policy into law.

Billings said that Reagan then "was flooded with opposition and he sank under the storm, because the opposition came to him in a racial context. What Ronald Reagan did was put that monkey on our back. Never before had we of the Christian right... been branded as racists."

Billings said he and leaders of the New Right met with Meese at the White House and were told "You can believe anything you want to believe, but if your belief is contrary to national public policy, you can't act on it. It showed a complete ignorance of the Constitution by the chief presidential adviser."

"It is no better than what Hitler attempted to do in the Third Reich."

However, Billings declared, opposition to Reagan's legislation to write into statute the non-tax-free status for such schools has been mustered by the New Right and blocked the bill in the Senate so far.

"We have succeeded in the last week in derailing that legislation the administration has hoped to push through Congress in a week. It now looks as though Congress may never vote on it. One reason is that (Republican) Sen. Bob Dole, who chairs the Senate Finance Committee, received over 1,900 pieces of mail in one day alone. Every bit of it opposed the president's bill."

"He felt the heat and consequently he saw a little bit of light."

## OFF THE BEAT

Continued from Page B-1 weeds grow on the surface, Ambrose said.

"One day we will get creative" and find a way to come up with money for a study, he said.

In an interview last summer while dead fish floated on the pond, Ambrose said the fish kill is part of a natural cycle afflicting the freshwater lake, making it shallower and shallower.

The Bird Refuge—right now—is a dying testament to eutrophication, the biological process in which water plants die and decompose into organic matter, he told News-Press intern M-

chael Cabanatuan. As they decompose they deplete the oxygen supply, causing fish to die, according to Ambrose.

Because the pond has no fresh water supply, decaying plant matter is slowly filling it up. Ambrose said one water-supply source that should be investigated is use of recycled water from the nearby waste water treatment plant.

Ambrose said he favored converting it back to the tidal salt pond it once was. Or it could be dredged every 10 years or so, a costly alternative, Ambrose said.

(Tomorrow: A salty history.)

## WHAT'S DOING

**TODAY**  
LECTURE, "Relationships: Desires and Differences," UCSB Student Health Services Conference Room, 5:30 p.m.  
BINGO, Santa Barbara Community Center, 6:30 p.m.  
STAGE, Auditions, "Old Star in the Hat" for young performers 11 to 17 years old, Goleta Community Center, 6:45 p.m.  
LECTURE, "Prevention and Control of Allergies Through Health Care Programs," SBCC, Empire Theater, 7:30 p.m. Free.  
FILM, "The Story of Adon H.," The Empty Space, 124 W. Carrillo St., 8 p.m.  
THEATREWORK  
LECTURE, "Blood Disorders and Current Management," Museum of Natural History Field Station Auditorium, 8:30 a.m. Free.  
SANTA BARBARA, Genealogy Library, Goleta Community Center, 10:30 a.m.  
FREE TOUR, Historical Society Museum, 1:30 p.m.  
FREE LEGAL Counseling, Project Outreach, Goleta Senior Center, 4 p.m.  
SIERRA CLUB hike, vigorous, meet at Old Mission, 8:30 a.m.

BINGO, Directors Center, 7:30 p.m.  
BINGO, Goleta Boys Club, 7:30 p.m.  
LECTURE, "Adult Children of Alcoholics," Central Regional Baptist Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Free.  
SANTA BARBARA, Mineral and Gem Society, Meeting of National Audubon Farmland Hall, 7:30 p.m.  
LECTURE, "From Lettmanide to Mount Everest: A Mountaineering Trail," 1232 De La Vina St., 7:30 p.m.  
FILM, "The Story of Adon H.," The Empty Space, 124 W. Carrillo St., 8 p.m.  
MUSIC, University of the Pacific A Cappella Choir, SBCC DM-101, 8 p.m. Free.

## MEETINGS

EL CONCILO de la Raza, 819 E. Haley St., main CITY AIRPORT Commission, City Hall council chamber, 7 p.m.  
ISLA VISTA Planning Commission, 96 Embarradero del Mar, 7 p.m.  
GOLETA UNION School District Board of Trustees, Fairview School, 7:30 p.m.

## 37th Assembly District gets its first Democratic candidate

The new multi-county 37th Assembly District that includes areas in the Lompoc, Santa Ynez and Cuyama valleys got its first Democratic candidate today—C.W. "Dick" Stine, president of American Valley College in Lancaster.

The district is one of the strangest-shaped in the state. It stretches from Lompoc through the Santa Ynez Valley and Cuyama Valley to Ojai, Simi Valley, Fillmore, Lancaster and Palmdale in Los Angeles County, and up to the San Bernardino County border. While the state Supreme Court has ruled the plan will be in effect for the 1982 elections, it also put out the June ballot a Republican referendum to wipe out the new districts. And in November the Legislature reapportionment out of the hands of the legislature is likely to appear, meaning new districts may be drawn for 1984 and this may be the only election in which this particular district appears on the ballot.

The only incumbent legislator in the district is Republican Cathie Wright of Simi Valley who is expected to seek the seat. Registration is just 47-44 percent Democratic, which in state politics normally would make it a safely Republican district. But no

one is certain if that will hold in a totally new district with no logical population center, no logical community of interests and not even a road connecting the eastern part with the western.

Stine, a 28-year state resident, said voters should support "seasoned professionals who have established successful careers and bring that experience to the office for the public good."

"I take a moderate political approach to most issues and tend to be restrictive in fiscal matters and measure programs in terms of quality of service and accountability."

Stine said the state "must reject a reactionary course that has created gloom, fear, low morale and self-doubt. We must get back to work on our problems, on our investment in youth, on improving a climate for commerce, to creating jobs and get on with planning for our future."

Stine, 53, said he has worked in drafting legislation for the past 25 years and is now chairman of a statewide association of financially troubled community colleges.

He and his wife, Dona, have three children and live in Lancaster.

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# New Right upset by Reagan actions

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with the sagging economy this election year.

Billings, who sits in the leadership council of the New Right which meets weekly, predicted not much change in the Senate and a loss of about 15 Republicans in the House in November, except that "we'll lose more than that if the election is argued on economic issues."

Billings explained his political rules of thumb: First you try using facts on politicians. "If that doesn't work, you give them the business . . . through a lobbying organization. A lot of the success that we have had as a political organization in Washington is helping the members of the House and Senate see the light by making them feel the heat. If you can't persuade them with the facts, or with the business, your final alternative is to give them the ax, to vote them out on election day."

Billings told the students it is important to understand, even if they don't agree with, the basic attitudes of the religious fundamentalists he represents:

*"(They believe they) will be raptured out of the world, in other words, snatched out of the world and will escape a seven-year tribulation period here on earth. (And they believe) all events that transpire on earth happen because either God directs them to happen or allows them to happen."*

For those somewhat fatalistic reasons, he said, few Christian conservatives voted in the past. The trigger, he said, came in 1977 under born-again Christian Jimmy Carter.

At that time, the Internal Revenue Service said it would go into church schools to examine their records and policies to decide if their crucial tax-exempt status was justified.

*"So all these Christians who believed in the rapture . . . and government of God suddenly saw that their Christian church and school was in danger of losing its tax exempt status."*

Eventually, he said, the government moved to revoke the tax-free status of Bob Jones University in South Carolina on the basis that it discriminated racially. What isn't clarified in the controversy, he said, is that the university does admit anyone of any race. But, its student guidebook prohibits interracial dating. "For Bob Jones University, that is a sincerely held religious belief.

I will say it is not shared by very many people, including myself," Billings said.

But, he added, the crux of the issue is: "Does the federal government have the authority to look at a school's handbook rules and say, we don't like your rules, therefore we are revoking your tax-exempt status?"

The Reagan administration stirred a storm of protest in early January when it announced it was reversing previous government policy and allowing the exemptions. More than half of the lawyers in the Justice Department's civil rights division protested the move — to which the administration responded that they could quit if they disagreed.

But a few days later, Reagan reversed himself and announced the administration would ask Congress for legislation to write past non-discriminatory policy into law.

Billings said that Reagan then "was flooded with opposition and he sank under the storm, because the opposition came to him in a racial context. What Ronald Reagan did was put that monkey on our back. Never before had we of the Christian right . . . been branded as racists."

Billings said he and leaders of the New Right met with Meese at the White House and were told "You can believe anything you want to believe, but if your belief is contrary to national public policy, you can't act on it. It showed a complete ignorance of the Constitution by the chief presidential adviser.

"It is no better than what Hitler attempted to do in the Third Reich."

However, Billings declared, opposition to Reagan's legislation to write into statute the non-tax-free status for such schools has been mustered by the New Right and blocked the bill in the Senate so far:

"We have succeeded in the last week in derailing that legislation the administration had hoped to push through Congress in a week. It now looks as though Congress may never vote on it. One reason is that (Republican) Sen. Bob Dole, who chairs the Senate Finance Committee, received over 1,900 pieces of mail in one day alone. Every bit of it opposed the president's bill.

"He felt the heat and consequently he saw a little bit of light."

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