

**SENATOR
SAM ERVIN
SAYS**



In a major move to coordinate Federal energy policy and allocation programs, President Nixon has established a new Federal Energy Office under the direction of Deputy Treasury Secretary William E. Simon.

Simon replaced Governor John Love as the President's energy advisor, and hopefully will be able to do what seven other energy policy makers have been unable to do in the Nixon Administration. The President, on December 4, requested legislation implementing his Executive Order creating the framework for the new agency to provide for the coordination of all Federal

energy activities. On the date of the White House announcement, I stated, as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Government Operations, that public hearings on the President's proposal would begin two days later. At the opening of the hearings on December 6, I announced my cosponsorship of S. 2776, the Jackson-Ribicoff bill which embodies the President's Federal Energy Administration request.

In brief, the Federal Energy Administration coordinates under one agency the development of domestic and foreign policies relating to energy resource management; the implementation of programs dealing with energy production shortages, such as fuel allocation and possibly rationing; the administration of voluntary and mandatory energy conservation programs; the promulgation of energy price regulations; the establishment of policies on petroleum and energy imports and exports; the implementation of a program to develop our energy self-sufficiency; the coordination of energy policies with industry, state and local governments, and the public; and the collection and dissemination of energy information. Many have advocated that this be done for some months.

One of the greatest problems involved in this situation is that the American people do not have a clear understanding of the energy shortage and what they must do to live with it. Conflicting reports on this subject appear constantly in the press. Almost everyone has a different opinion as to what should be done. Time and again I hear the despairing cry that "nobody in Washington really cares about what is happening."

I would point out that Senator Jackson warned about the dangers of dependence on foreign and particularly Middle East oil in June of 1972. Again in December of last year he said to all who would hear: "I am convinced that development of a national energy policy is the most critical problem—domestic or international—facing the nation today." In my newsletter of December 7, 1972, more than a year ago, I pointed out that we had a fuel crisis, and "in a real sense, it involves the lives, fortunes, and destiny of the country." Since that time many in the Congress, and I must say with only nominal encouragement from the Administration until very recently, have sought to head off this crisis.

Not only must the Administration now give the American people the facts about our energy requirements, production, and resources, but we need to furnish reliable

MIRROR MORSELS

Men can know more than their ancestors did if they start with a knowledge of what their ancestors had already learned. That is why a society can be progressive only if it conserves its traditions.—Walter Lippmann.

Politeness comes from within, from the heart; but if the forms of politeness are dispensed with, the spirit and the thing itself soon die away.—John Hall.

Among the many strange servilities mistaken for pieties one of the least lovely is that which hopes to flatter God by despising the world and villifying human nature.—Lewes.

Let us a little permit Nature to take her own way; she better understands her own affairs than we.—Montaigne.

Sentimentally I am disposed to harmony; but organically I am incapable of a tune.—Charles Lamb.

The young man who has not wept is a savage, and the old man who will not laugh is a fool.—George Santayana.

I wonder why it is that we are not all kinder to each other than we are. How much the world needs it! How easily it is done!—Henry Drummond.

information so that individuals and industry can make plans and not have to grope in the dark. The new Federal Energy Administration must immediately staff offices and work with state and local governments and industry to fairly allocate fuel supplies. I am advised that a few days ago the Atlanta office had more than 5000 applications for fuel allocations with available staff to process only 400 of those applications. Fuel staffing for regional offices is only now underway.

Time and again during the Senate Government Operations Committee hearings on this legislation, the point was made that no energy program will work unless the American people understand the problem and are assured that they will be fairly treated in sharing shortages.

Simon, the new energy czar, comes into his post with a reputation for his ability to make tough and decisive decisions. He will also need the wisdom of a Solomon to promote the national good as we feel the impact of the energy crisis.

Advice, like snow, the softer it falls the longer it dwells upon, and the deeper it sinks into the mind.—Coleridge.

To conceal anything from those to whom I am attached is not in my nature. I can never close my lips where I have opened my heart.—Charles Dickens.

Curiosity is a kernel of the forbidden fruit which still sticketh in the throat of a natural man, sometimes to the danger of choking.—Fuller.

Everybody has his own theatre, in which he is manager, actor, prompter, playwright, boxkeeper, doorkeeper, all in one, and audience into the bargain.—Hare.

Dreams are the children of an idle brain, begot of nothing but vain fantasy; which is as thin of substance as the air, and more inconstant than the wind.—Shakespeare.

What wonderful things are events! The least are of greater importance than the most sublime and comprehensive speculations.—Beaconsfield.

The present hour is the critical, decisive hour. Write it on your heart that every day, including today, is the best day of the year.—Carlyle.

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