1973

Moscone, the man, the legislator

George Moscone

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RELAXING AT HOME — Senator and Mrs. Moscone (Gina) relax in their San Francisco home. With them are their four children: Jennifer (15), Rebecca (12), Christopher (11) and Jonathan (9). George and Gina met while they were students in San Francisco and were married while he was a student at Hastings College of Law.
NEED TO RETURN DECENTY, TRUST TO HEALTH CARE

In 1973 Senator Moscone will again place heavy emphasis on legislation which would give a decent standard of health care to all Californians.

In 1972 he introduced the Consumers Health Protection Act. That measure was accorded the treatment of four hearings over the state.

The central theme of SB 770 has been that the systems of treatment today in health care are far less than adequate and they are outrageously expensive and inconsistent.

SB 770 would place all physicians into group practice in California under the umbrella of a state agency. Groups, or Health Maintenance Organizations, would contract with individual families to supply complete health care needs.

"As it stands now the average person who is 'insured' in this state pays 63% of the costs of medical care and hospitalization himself. His 'insurance' firm pays but 37% of the average annual cost," says Senator Moscone.

"We have information showing that some firms have cancelled policies for large numbers of specific people on the grounds that they got sick too frequently."

"I ask you - if health insurance is not to guard against sickness, then what good is it?"

"The system I suggest would do away with all the exclusions, deductibles and co-payments in existing insurance policies and grant a standard of coverage for all that will take care of health and accident problems, preventive check-ups and all the other facets that are not now covered.

"The system that exists today results in some $10-billion a year being paid by individuals, state, federal and local governments. I say that we can have much more decent and reasonable coverage for considerably less money than this," added Senator Moscone.

SB 770 would phase-in over a four-year period a system financed by payroll deductions (on a graduated basis) with employer contributions and use of existing governmental expenditures. Safeguards against inefficient hospital management and lack of doctor peer review would be included in the Moscone plan.

"I have found as I have travelled this state that a prime fear of our people is the threat of a devastating illness, the expense of which would wipe out the savings of the average family.

"And for those who have suffered less than a catastrophic illness or who have been plagued by the 'thinness' in health care in our inner cities or rural areas, I believe SB 770 is an answer," added Senator Moscone.

GEORGE MOSCONC - A PERSONAL HISTORY

George Moscone was born in San Francisco, educated there, served in the Navy and was graduated from College of Pacific and Hastings School of Law.

As a student he met and married Gina and they reside now in San Francisco with their four children.

In 1963 he became one of the two youngest persons to be elected to the California State Senate, by the second largest plurality in the state.

In his first year in the Senate, George Moscone gained a reputation almost immediately as a talented spokesman in behalf of humanitarian causes and was voted "Outstanding Freshman Senator" by the Capitol Press Corps in 1967.

In 1968 he was elected Democratic Floor leader and has served in that position since. In 1969 the Capitol Press Corps named him the "Most Effective Democratic Senator."

When Senator Moscone was re-elected to the Senate in 1970 it was by a margin of 113,000 votes - the largest margin for any state legislator in California.

Through those years in the Senate, George Moscone earned a reputation as an effective spokesman both within and outside the Senate for that in which he believes deeply.

He developed a knowledge of the state's inadequacy in preventing 18-year olds from the right to vote, in the state's vague program of providing decent school lunches and was an effective spokesman for closing tax loopholes.

Never one to duck the issues, even involving his future direction, George Moscone freely admits he is interested in seeking the Democratic nomination for Governor in 1974.

1972 Legislation

No Fault Auto Insurance - Senator Moscone introduced no-fault legislation sponsored by the California State Bar Association. The legislation won the accolades of both organized labor and the Consumer Coalition of California as the best of the no-fault bills before the legislature. However, it failed to win approval.

Health Care - The Senator introduced SB 770, the Consumer Health Protection Act which was subjected to a number of hearings and will be re-introduced in 1973. (See adjoining story)

Safety Defects - This legislation by Senator Moscone would require manufacturers of vehicles (who must, under Federal law, report safety defects to current owners) to pay for all costs of repairs, despite the age of the vehicle or status of the warranty. Signed by the Governor.

Disability Insurance - This legislation would have provided disability insurance benefits for "complications" arising from pregnancy. At present such compensation is not accorded women. The legislation was vetoed by the Governor.

School Lunches - This legislation would have required all school districts in California to serve at least one hot meal per day. At present there are approximately 500,000 students in California who are hungry daily and many of them do not have school lunch programs in their schools. Vetoed by the Governor.

Retail Credit - This bill would have prevented those merchants who charge interest on money paid in the interim between statements from doing so. A potential savings of $20-million to California consumers. The bill failed in the legislature.

Bi-lingual, Bi-cultural Instruction - A bill that would have allocated $5-million for state support of local programs in this area. Wide approval in the legislature, but vetoed by the Governor.

Earthquake Hazardous Schools - Sen. Moscone introduced and achieved passage by a two-thirds margin in both houses legislation designed to make it easier to replace school buildings deemed subject to collapse in earthquakes.

Voter Registration - This legislation by Senator Moscone places into California law the decision of the Supreme Court that registration of voters can take place up to 29 days before the election. Signed by the Governor.
1973 Legislation

State Surplus — It was proposed recently by Sen. Moscone that the state use its giant surplus, not as a one-time windfall to wealthy income tax payers, but as a tool to insure against high state taxes of the future.

California has huge outstanding debt of bonds voted and sold in the past. The Senator proposes that some of these bonds be "called" to save on interest charges and that many of those other bonds, already authorized by the voters, not be sold, but that the state pay the costs in cash. For expenditures of $616-million the state can get $794-million in services.

For every dollar borrowed at the state's good credit rating for 20 years, it costs $1.52 to repay.

Senator Moscone suggests not the political expedience of simply returning our money to income taxpayers, but using it wisely, saving our resources for adequately meeting the needs of the future.

Health Care — Senator Moscone will reintroduce SB 770 (1972) which would provide for universal health care coverage. The legislation will again be entitled "Consumer Health Protection Act (see page 2.)

Housing — The Governor saw fit in 1972 to veto Senator Moscone's legislation which passed both Senate and Assembly by substantial margins. This legislation would have allowed the state to borrow money at lower-than-average costs and channel it into organizations that could open the market to those earning between $8,000 and $12,000 a year. Low interest from a State Housing Bond Issue would aid those presently unable to enjoy private, single-family housing.

Pacific Hospital — The Administration has been so lagging in taking care of the mentally ill and mentally retarded that the wards in a Pomona area Pacific Hospital have reached summer temperatures — inside — of 108 degrees. This factor, added to the lack of protection from flies, has left the immobilized patients within unable to keep flies from their bodies. This legislation would appropriate $5-million for air conditioning of the hospital.

Teacher Bargaining — This legislation would provide ground rules for teacher employee organizations and for good faith and binding arbitration features in contract negotiations.

Aged, Blind and Disabled Pension Act — This legislation is designed to prevent new Federal law from working a severe disadvantage to those who would be adversely affected.

I BELIEVE . . .

The quality of life in California has lagged behind the vast technological changes that have taken place in the last few years. Sadly, one of the reasons this has happened is that this state administration has miserably failed to lead or even respond.

We are now at a point in California's history where the population has reached what seems to be a plateau. We read of declines in the number of children in our public schools, we hear of a leveling out of the population or, in some of our metropolitan areas, an actual decline or exodus from the city.

We are thus at the threshold of a time when we can begin to make the kind of inroads that must be made on the quality of every day life in this state.

State government, as I see it, ought to have a sense of conviction about its duty to lead us into an era of more decency and compassion for our fellow Californians.

We have developed this state at such a record pace over the years that all too often we have foolishly failed to recognize the environmental problems we were creating.

I believe that the state needs fresh and innovative leadership to bring together those who would build ad infinitum and those who say there must be no development of anything.

The state has been a virtual void in using the power and dignity of its government to find an equitable solution to the problems that arise.

Whether we admit it or not, there is not, in fact equal opportunity for all in education, in jobs, in housing in this state. A part of the blame must be shared by our state government.

That attitude is simply no longer acceptable.

All persons in the state ought to have the right to decent working conditions in all facets of employment — from industry to agriculture, including basic safety standards backed by state government.

For too long state government and those it regulates have been among those who discriminate against women.

I believe it has no right to sit idly by when as many as 500,000 school children are hungry each day.

I believe it has no right to continue leaving the financial responsibility for local education squarely on the back of the property owner.

I believe that it has every reason to get involved in answering the demands of its citizens who seek better health care.

I believe that the state has virtually abdicated its role in finding an answer for full employment and decent working conditions for the people of this state. Much of the problem has, of course, been centered around a Governor who cares little for those beneath his financial status.

A kind of lethargy seems to have fallen over state government. Its purported leader talks of the state turning over its hospital facilities for the mentally ill and retarded to local government, but balks at providing the wherewithal to accomplish anything constructive.

I believe that the state needs fresh and innovative leadership to bring together those who would build ad infinitum and those who say there must be no more development of anything.

I believe that California must take full advantage of this pause or plateau in its growth to develop quality education for all our students.

Now is the time when we must marshal all the resources and leadership at our command and work together to bring to California a truly decent life.

And I firmly believe that the year 1974 will be a year when we must make choices between leaders with imagination and vision — and those who accept the status quo.
In his six years as a State Senator, George Moscone has espoused many issues that he believes would bring about a better life for the people of California. He has been especially active in education, equal rights, health, environmental and consumer fields. He has authored the following:

**CONSUMER PROTECTION**
* makes it unlawful to offer a gift by telephone or mail with the intent of then making a sales presentation
* in auto leasing, provider must fully disclose customer's liability and extent of his payments
* purchaser may buy in unlimited quantities if the item is advertised in unlimited quantities
* lowering interest rates on credit card carrying charges
* elimination of the "previous month's carrying charges" for interest purposes when previous payments have been made

**HEALTH CARE**
* universal prepaid health system offering full medical coverage through health maintenance organizations (see page 2.)
* establish rehabilitation programs for chronic alcoholics
* emergency treatment for all at hospitals
* health care for disabled veterans

**FINANCIAL AID TO STUDENTS**
* major appropriation bill for financial aid to disadvantaged students
* major appropriation for EOP

**EDUCATION**
* bi-lingual-bi-cultural education, six bills in five years for experimental programs and for a statewide program
* additional state aid to education
* legislation to support local reading programs
* education of the physically and mentally handicapped adult
* attempts to override Governor's vetoes in University and State college budgets
* tax reform, with benefits to local education

**CONSERVATION EDUCATION**
* establishment of a conservation education office in the State Department of Education

**CONSERVATION, AIR POLLUTION**
* requires public hearings to determine specific conditions under which air pollution variances may be allowed
* requires guidelines and regulations for determination of matters which have a significant effect on the environment, including such reports by the PUC

**WATER POLLUTION**
* directs Water Resources Control Board to adopt state policy guidelines to protect long term water quality

**NOISE POLLUTION**
* increases function of state environmental study council to include noise emission control

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION**
* broadens definition of nuisance to include environmental pollution

**IN MEMORIAM**
HARRY TRUMAN
LYNDON JOHNSON
RAYMOND PETERS
EUGENE WYMAN
STATESMEN . . . . .
HUMANITARIANS . . . .
FRIENDS . . . .

**EARTHQUAKES**
* establishing the California seismic safety commission for the purpose of studying seismic hazards
* lowering to a simple majority the local school bond vote (from two-thirds) needed to replace earthquake hazardous schools

**NUTRITION**
* authored state's first school lunch program

**THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL** — The Senator discusses in further detail an issue raised during a campaign rally speech in Sunnyvale. The Senator's speech was one of a number for all segments of the ticket — this one for Assembly candidate Rhoda Freier.