

THURSDAY Morning, MARCH 23, 1972-

Special Pension Proposal Denounced

The Times really shook me up this morning -(March 17). On the front page—an article about Sen. Jack Sihrade (R-San Diego) introducing legislation for special handling for a former political colleague, a San Diego municipal judge, so he can retire 5 years sooner, and enjoy life with a special compensation of over \$122,- 000 because he was a war prisoner for 14 months! -

There are thousands of men around who have been war prisoners for longer than that, and cannot even find a job! And what about those who have been POWs for four six. years now?.If they get home at all, will they get such generous treatment?

Large corporations are ousting men by the thousands when they reach 55 after 20 or more years of loyal service just so they can cut down on the pension these men were counting on, if they could continue to work until retirement -age:

MRS. EDWARD J. LESKO Fullerton

I was appalled by two articles in The Times. One referred to legislation introduced by Sen. Schrade to provide a \$122,000 bonus pension to a San Diego judge. The other article concerned a young mother with three dying children who had her welfare payments stopped by the state because she had received \$24,- 000 in contributions from concerned citizens This money is in a trust fund and not available for day to day use. I think our state government is way off base. Everyone talks about the young having no moral ialues but when we hold up the above as examples of our values I find them very difficult to defend.

MRS THOMAS J. ATCHISON

Schrade amended his proposed legislation to include all professors of history at UCLA, who were POWs for at least 14 months during World War II, allowing them to retire also five years early at a salary of \$24,- 205. After all, this is a petty recompense to those- of us who have suffered so much these 28 years from the “pressures” of having been prisoners of wars

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These days one is seldom surprised by news items concerning our legislators, yet the report about Sen Schrade deserves comment.

As a former POW in time of war myself—three years in North Africa, Italy and Germany, with 11 days off for an unsuccessful escape attempt—I cannot agree that “the pressure is severe for a fellow who has been a *POW* for many years,” as Schrade stated.

Certainly there were time then when the pressure was severe, but was more years ago than I care to remember. And now when all of us at times feel that the pressure is severe, it seems ridiculous to attribute that to events of nearly 30 years ago.

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