



IDAHO

PRESS CLIPPING SERVICE

A Division of

Idaho Newspaper Assn.

P O BOX 1067

BOISE IDAHO

THE INDEPENDENT ENTERPRISE
Payette, Idaho

JAN 10 1990

Editorial 459

McClure will be missed

At this time of change, with the turning of a new year, a new decade, and for Idaho, a new century, the retirement of U.S. Senator James McClure is probably one of the biggest changes Idaho will experience.

We at the Independent Enterprise echo the sentiments of McClure's Boise office manager Julie Harwood, who said, "We're disappointed he's not still running for re-election, but if he's happy, we're happy too. We'll miss him."

Political watchers, debaters and forecasters say McClure's retirement from the U.S. Senate will unlock a log jam of political hopefuls. Speculation has been hot about who will bid for the senate position being vacated by McClure and, in turn, who will run for the posts some of those hopefuls will be leaving.

It is no speculation to predict this will be one of Idaho's most fast-paced and exciting political years as various players jockey for different positions.

Amid all this stir, and despite an unclear personal future, McClure can relax a bit and look forward to a greater portion of calm when he completes his final year in the U.S. Senate. He said the decision wasn't easy, but a few quiet, isolated days at home in McCall helped clear the

perspective for him and his wife, Louise. They agreed this is the right time, and they are looking forward to savoring some experiences put on hold by dedication to his senate post.

McClure has distinguished himself as a man of dedication. He is one of the foremost experts on public lands. He is known for his understanding of obscure legal processes and the willingness to do the homework necessary to gain command of the legal nuances involved in this fairly recent body of legislation.

He is known for being effective, powerful, knowledgeable and articulate, and has earned the respect of ideological foes as well as friends.

He's also earned the respect of the people he represents. He is a personable man, and has demonstrated a commitment to represent all the people of Idaho, while maintaining his personal integrity.

We are thankful not only for the work he had done, but for the wholesome manner in which he has approached his task. We wish him well, on whatever path his life next takes. We are proud that Jim McClure spent his early life in Payette and we like to think he carries a bit of the best of Payette with him wherever he goes.