

# Professor predicts reform in school system

By SALLY HODGKINSON  
Of the Emerald

Educational concern will shift from present questions about the quality of public education to concentration on its effectiveness, said Lawrence Pierce, University political science professor.

"American education is falling short of educational expectations, but given the conditions, it's a wonder it works at all," said Pierce, at the League of Women Voters of Central Lane County Tuesday night.

Speaking on the topic of school reform Pierce claimed there has been a 500 percent increase in public education expenditures in the past 50 years, citing recent Gallup polls that show the public is increasingly dissatisfied with the performance of public education.

"Schools have not satisfied their clients," he said.

Pierce also told the league of a reform program discussed in his recently published book: School Finance: The Economics and Politics of Public Education.

Pierce's plan calls for eight years of compulsory education covering basic subjects such as reading, writing, math and the American culture and political system.

In addition to the basic subjects,

parents would be able to purchase "educational coupons" to be used to "buy" supplementary classes. These would include subjects covering music, physical educa-

One advantage to this system, claimed Pierce, is that students will be able to "learn more about the world and what they want to study."

Pierce's plan calls for eight years of compulsory education in basic subjects; beyond these, parents would be able to purchase 'educational coupons' for music, physical education and language classes.

tion and languages.

Upon graduation from the "basic school," a student would receive a six-year grant for additional schooling.

The program would also encourage older people to return for more schooling and to allow parents to make choices in their child's education, said Pierce.



Photo by Dennis Hickok  
"Schools have not satisfied their clients," says political science Professor Lawrence Pierce.

## Supply down, gas prices up

NEW YORK (AP) — Motorists will be paying a couple of cents more for a gallon of gasoline within a week because of the current tight supply of the fuel, industry analysts predicted Tuesday.

"Before next week is out, you will probably see a two- or three-percent increase in most markets," said Dan Lundberg, publisher of the Lundberg Letter, an influential industry newsletter. "This won't take place in specific areas, it will take place on a national level — and especially in rural areas."

The increase is expected to last as long as there is tightness in supply. The oil companies estimate that the tight supply will last about a month, but some experts say it will be longer. The oil companies and the Energy Department say there is no shortage.

The price rises stem in part from tightness in gasoline supplies. Shell Oil Co., the nation's largest gasoline producers, has cut supplies of all products to service stations.

The tight supply is the result of an unusually high amount of driving in the late summer and fall. Gasoline demand, which traditionally drops off markedly after Labor Day, failed to do so this year as Americans took advantage of good autumn weather. Although the oil companies had plenty of crude oil on hand, they couldn't make gasoline fast enough to keep up with demand.

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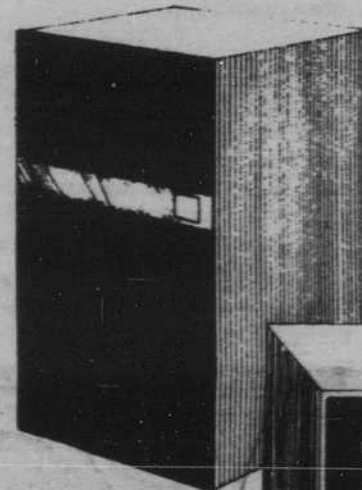


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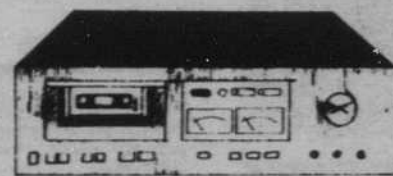


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