

The Cottage Grove Sentinel

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School Bill Saviour of the Nation; Shool Bill Would Wreck State

Speakers Take Diametrically Opposite Views and Draw Opposite Conclusions from Same Facts.

A sane, sensible, keen analytical exposition of the proposed amendment to the compulsory education law was made Friday night by Charles M. Stevens, of Eugene. He was introduced by Rev. H. B. Her and preceding the talk a piano solo was given by Miss Euse Price.

"The opposition to this amendment," said Mr. Stevens, "have seized upon and dragged into the campaign the most appealing emotion of the human heart, that of religion, yet religion has no place whatever in the discussion of the proposed amendment. There is no mention of religion anywhere in the proposed law and liberty of conscience, the right to worship and according to the dictates of one's own conscience is in no way interfered with.

"It is as true with this proposed law as it has been with every progressive move that the fiercest opponents are those who ultimately are the greatest beneficiaries.

"This is a case where the public welfare is above the rights of parents and there is no need to worry about the constitutionality of the proposed law, Portland lawyers to the contrary notwithstanding. We want every American child to be given all the benefits of Americanism, which can come only through the public schools.

"The proposed law will in no way interfere even with the conduct of private schools. It lays its hand upon the parent, not upon the school, not upon the teacher. We want the child to live for the nation, not to die for it. We want the child to give 30 hours of each week of nine months of the year to attendance at our public schools. During the remainder of the time it may study any religion which the parent may desire. The proposed law assumes no control of the child, makes no provision as to how its time may be occupied except for 30 hours of the week during the school year.

"Even then we only want the child until it has gone through the grammar grades, during the plastic portion of its life, in order that its heart, mind

and spirit may be made truly democratic, truly American. Even then the parent will have the child for four-fifths of that portion of his life. In the interest of public welfare, society has the right to demand one-fifth of a child's time. I defy anyone to show anywhere where it is set out that the right of the parent is superior to the right of the state.

"The state may demand the child's life to protect the state. The state protects the child from its birth to its grave. It tells the child certain things it may or may not do and it tells the parents certain things that they may or may not do.

"Is there anyone who is not satisfied with present laws which circumscribe the actions of child and parent even more than the proposed law? Have any such laws been declared unconstitutional? The child may not marry without a certificate of health. It may not attend school if sick. The parent must provide medical attendance at the child's birth and must provide medical attendance when the child is sick. The parent must clothe and feed the child and must surround it with good moral influence or the state will take the child away from the parent. The parent can not even put the child out to work. The parent must now send that child to school.

"The state is supreme and public welfare is the supreme law. The state may take for the public welfare what it gives or protects. That is the theory of government. It may confiscate property for the public welfare, as it did when the slaves were set free.

"The statement that the state would by this law confiscate the property of public schools and take from teachers in these schools the means of livelihood is not true. Not a word in the law says what shall be done with these schools. The property remains the property of those who now own it, to be disposed of as they may see fit in conformity with law. The teachers, if they are qualified to teach American children will not be deprived of that privilege.

"The same things were said about the eighteenth amendment—saloon buildings and brewery and distillery property would be confiscated and bartenders thrown out of employment.

"Religion is one of the most sacred instincts of human life. Religion and liberty of conscience are the basic principles of Masonry. These are the greatest liberties God Almighty has given man. Masons ask these things as much for those who oppose this bill as they do for themselves. This proposed amendment is in harmony with these principles.

"But law can't be violated under the guise of liberty of conscience. Under this guise a certain set felt that they were entitled to as many wives as they wanted. Public welfare demanded otherwise.

"Who declares what is best for public welfare—foreign princes, potentate or pope, or the American people? Your liberty of conscience and of action only extends so far as to doing the things you ought to do, and the American people determine what the things are that you are at liberty to do.

"They say that the private schools have charters from the state and that constitutionally this law can not touch them. They should know that the state can not give a charter or give away anything that is superior to the public welfare.

"We are not interested, as far as our own conduct is concerned, in what our ancestors were, or what kind of schools they had. It is what we are doing now that guides our actions.

"If it were not for the intelligence of the American people the property of those who oppose this amendment would not be safe. The masses have the power to take property. The ignorant masses do so. We must not be governed by passion and emotion.

"If the burden of taxation is to be so great, why not do away with our schools entirely and save half our tax money? In Eugene, if all those who would be taken out of the private schools, should continue in school, 20 would be added to each of our schools, or about 2 1/2 pupils to the grade. That would not increase our taxes. Portland might have to provide additional facilities for its schools now are crowded, and it must provide additional facilities whether this bill is passed or not, but have we come to such a condition that the wealthy city of Portland can not educate its children?

"Why should this proposed amendment be enacted? Because the theory of our government is each for all, all for each, because it is an onward step such as never taken before. The public school is the melting pot in which the dross is removed from the pure gold.

"Are there any dangers in this country? Forces are working from across the sea. Another catastrophe such as the recent one and there is doubt if civilization would survive.

"We need unity in our education. Private schools separate us into classes. Our institutions must remain in their integrity and be handed down to future generations. The public welfare demands that our children be taught the principles laid down by our fathers and given us by their toil and sacrifices."

A convincing argument against the compulsory education amendment was (Continued on ninth page)

LOCAL TAXPAYERS FAVOR ARMORY BONDS

A Certain Payroll, Need of Community Center and Circulation of Outside Money Named as Benefits.

Following are expressions of opinion by Cottage Grove citizens upon the proposed issue of bonds for an armory: "Cottage Grove has a rare opportunity in the proposed bond issue to enable it to secure an armory building and it will be a great loss if the citizens turn down the measure next Tuesday," said C. C. Cruson, captain of the local military company. "Not every city is given the chance to secure a \$60,000 building by the investment of \$15,000. The bonding measure provides that the payment of this \$15,000 obligation is to be distributed over a period of fifteen years and the increase in the tax rate will scarcely be noticeable—amounting to the insignificant tax of .0016 on the dollar."

Those favoring the armory bond measure point out that Cottage Grove now has one of the best companies in the state of Oregon, that is its record has been unexcelled and this despite the fact that the local company is one of the newest in the state. It is further pointed out that Cottage Grove has for a number of years needed such a building for public gatherings. This the proposed armory will afford.

It is believed that what little opposition there is to the measure is probably due to the fact that the opposition do not fully appreciate just what it will mean to the city. Those circulating the petition met with no opposition and they secured the signatures of sixty freeholders within less than an hour and a half.

"I am heartily in favor of the measure," said North Harvey, of the First National bank, and this for at least five different reasons. First, it will bring \$45,000 outside money into the city, that is \$15,000 from the county and \$30,000 from the state; second, it will mean an addition of \$5000 or \$10,000 to the annual payroll; third, it will give the city a sense of security in having a permanent military organization; fourth, the general value to the community having a building such as this will afford, and fifth, it will mean an increase to the property values of the city.

A. W. Helliwell, of Helliwell, Bangs & Marksbury, said, "It will be a great mistake to turn down the proposal."

"Cottage Grove has never had such an opportunity before, I am strongly in favor of the measure," said S. L. Mackin.

N. E. Glass, president of the Bank of Cottage Grove, said, "It is a good thing. The people of the city would not make a mistake by voting in favor of it. Just consider the increase in the payroll and it can be seen that the city will be repaid in full in two years. By putting up \$25, the city will get in return \$100 in value or an increase of \$75 for its initial investment."

Chas. H. Vandenburg said he will certainly vote for the measure and that a well trained military company is a mighty fine thing.

A. N. Powell said that he can be counted on to support the measure.

"By all means I favor the proposal," said T. C. Wheeler, of the First National bank. "I cannot see how the measure can be turned down."

Homer Galloway points out that Cottage Grove needs such a building as would be secured by voting favorably on the armory bond measure.

"I am strong for the proposition," said C. A. Bartell, "because I think it is a mighty fine thing. We have a company we should be proud of in all ways. A building of this kind is needed."

CLYDE KIDD KILLED WHEN STRUCK BY TRAIN

Word has been received here of the death of Clyde Kidd, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Kidd, formerly of this city, who was instantly killed at his home in Trenton, Missouri, last week. Clyde was struck by a passenger train as he stepped from the cab of the engine of which he was engineer. His fireman met death at the same time. Mr. Kidd was the nephew of C. E. Stewart of this city, and visited here several years ago. His brother Homer spent the summer here, returning to Missouri a couple of weeks ago.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH WILL HOLD MEETINGS THIS MONTH

Evangelistic services will be conducted from November 19 to December 3 by Rev. J. E. Carlson, of the Christian church, assisted by Claude Neely, tenor singing evangelist, who is a student at Eugene Bible University. Neely spent the summer traveling with the Ted Lennitt Soul Winning team and has been singing with the group occasionally this fall. Services will be held here each night, including Saturday.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE REACHES 802

The school census which has been completed by North Harvey, school clerk, shows a healthy increase in the number of children of school age in the district. There are 428 boys and 374 girls, a total of 802. This is an increase of about 75 over the number a year ago.

Miss Kathleen Kem, daughter of O. M. Kem, of this city, has been chosen as a member of the University of Oregon woman's glee club again this year. Miss Rita Ridings, who formerly lived here, is also a member of the club for the second year.

LOCAL SYSTEM "TIED IN" ON NEW POWER LINE

California-Oregon Company Furnishing Part of Juice for Section Supplied by Springfield.

The Mountain States Power company's line which had heretofore furnished electric power for this part of the valley, was "tied in" Monday morning on the California-Oregon power line, recently built from Springfield to the Mountain States plant at Springfield, which will remain the distributing center for this section. The work of building the line was completed more than a week before but the Springfield plant was not connected up until Monday.

The securing of additional power from the California-Oregon line was made necessary because Springfield was unable to carry the load of this part of the valley. The plant there will still be operated all of the time as an auxiliary and will be kept in shape for emergency use.

A line is being built this week from the local plant to the Chambers mill to furnish lighting and some operating power for that plant. George McClellan, electrical superintendent of the Mountain States company, was here Monday from Albany inspecting the work.

WATER PIPE FOR INTAKE EXTENSION HERE

City Will Sell Tenth Street Property to Dan Hamant for Erection of Machine Shop.

The first shipment of tile water pipe for the intake extension from Prayther to Layng creek was received yesterday and the second shipment will reach this city by the end of the week, according to a communication received by the city council Monday night from the Eugene Concrete Works, manufacturers of the pipe. The firm will send a man to Cottage Grove at once to superintend the laying of the pipe from the old intake to the new source recently located on Layng creek.

The city attorney was instructed to draw up papers to complete a deal between the city and foundry owners by which transfer of one half of the lot on which the foundry is now located will be made to D. R. Hamant for the erection of a machine shop. A petition for a light at Whiteaker and Fifth street was investigated by the light committee and passed upon favorably. In the rearrangement of the lighting system over the entire city soon the light will be provided.

ARTICLES STOLEN FROM WYNNE HOME RECOVERED

C. L. O'Brien and Theodore Pullman, arrested in Salem on a charge of theft at Coquille, must also answer to the charge of stealing a suit of men's clothing, a gold wrist watch, gold fountain pen and other articles from the Harry Wynne home in this city on September 20. The suit, watch and pen have been sent here for identification by the owners.

The men were apprehended on charges from Coquille and Mrs. Wynne's brother, A. W. Veach, who is employed in a cigar store in Salem, went down to the police station there on a chance that the articles stolen from his sister's home might also be located. The suit had been worn by one of the men and a woman, in their company, was wearing the watch when Mr. Veach visited the police station. The Wynnes were away from home attending Cottage Grove Day at the county fair in Eugene when the house was entered.

RELIEF CORPS HAS CHARGE OF ARMISTICE DAY PROGRAM

The relief corps will have charge of exercises to be held upon Armistice day. A forenoon meeting will be followed by a basket dinner at 12 o'clock for which coffee will be provided by the corps. The dinner will be followed by a program. The American Legion post and the auxiliary to the post have been invited to join the corps and G. A. R. post in the observation of the day and all ex-service men and their families have been invited to participate regardless of whether they are members of the American Legion.

MRS. DAVID STERLING NEW MOTHERS' CLUB SECRETARY

Mrs. David Sterling was elected secretary of the Mothers' club at the meeting of that organization last Saturday succeeding Mrs. R. C. Houser, whose resignation was accepted the same day. Arrangements were made for again holding cooked food sales this winter. Mrs. Amelia Phelps was placed in charge of arranging for these sales. This was the first meeting of the club has held in the new quarters in the Morris building.

Tom Thum Wedding to Be Given

Cottage Grove children will figure in a presentation of a Tom Thum Wedding to be given on the night of November 14 at the high school auditorium under the auspices of the Mothers' club. About 75 children will take part. Miss Ruth Phelps has charge of arrangements for the entertainment. A director will arrive a few days before the presentation to put on the finishing touches.

Miss Neita Hazleton, of Eugene, spent the week end here.

Analysis of Provisions of School Bill as They Appear to Editor

Probability of This Being Beginning of Nation Wide Campaign Is of Greatest Importance.

The Sentinel has endeavored to give a fair and impartial hearing to both sides in the discussion of the proposed amendment to the compulsory school law and its own conclusions have been reached only after a careful consideration of the arguments of both sides.

The Sentinel is not unmindful of the fact that sincere and brilliant minds have reached conclusions contrary to those about to be stated. It will not question the sincerity of such people, nor will any reflection be cast upon their Americanism, their religious beliefs, their good citizenship or their intelligence. Brilliant minds have sincerely opposed every great progressive move of the world's history and it is possible that this is history repeating itself.

The Sentinel feels that as a newspaper it should have no distinctions to race or religion. Among those whom we esteem as friends and patrons are Protestants and Catholics, Jews and Gentiles—good citizens, obedient to our laws, willing supporters of our schools. As a newspaper, especially as the only newspaper in the community, we are bound to be tolerant towards the religious and political beliefs of each of these and to give each a fair hearing in this controversy. Our discussion will be more analytical than argumentative.

What the Proposed Law Would Do.

The issue is before us upon an amendment to the compulsory school law now upon our statute books. The amendment would accomplish two things. It would change the school age from "between the ages of 9 and 15 years" to "between the ages of 8 and 16 years." This proposed change is not a vital one and merely makes the law conform more nearly to the actual ages during which children attend the grammar grades.

The vital change is the striking out of the present law the section permitting the child to attend a private or parochial school in lieu of the public school. This means that the child must get its GRAMMAR school education in the public schools. The parochial schools could be continued for the instruction of the child either before or after the regular public school hours or for the entire time of any child who had completed the grammar grades.

The amendment would not go into effect until 1926, in order that all concerned might fully prepare for the change.

The Religious Issue.

Discussion of the religious issue would gladly be avoided by The Sentinel were it possible. Mixing of religion and politics always produces a touchy subject for public discussion, but if a law such as this is necessary to the perpetuity in their fullest splendor of our American institutions, as the proponents of the law state, the fact that temporary religious contention was bound to follow would have been no excuse for neglecting to make the effort to secure what so many thousands sincerely believe to be for the best interests not only of those who favor the bill but also of those thousands who oppose it.

It is said that those Masons, particularly Scottish Rite Masons, who support this measure, are renewing an age-old feud between these two organizations. Yet it is a fact that while these things are being said Catholics and Masons in Cottage Grove are meeting each other daily in their business and social life. The contact is most friendly. The business transactions are entirely satisfactory. There is not the slightest indication that any feud exists between them. The feud then must be some indefinite, intangible thing that exists between the two organizations but does not extend to the members in their personal contact. Do not the facts stated indicate that the intolerance so much spoken of in this campaign, if such there be, would be entirely broken down by closer personal contact of members of one organization with member of the other organization? Following this conclusion further, what better method of breaking down religious intolerance than by the free and unrestricted, even compulsory, mingling of the children of all classes and creeds?

If the intolerance spoken of exists, how explain the fact that many Masons are striving to increase the number of Catholics with whom their children must associate in attendance at public school, where life-long friendships develop? It seems to us that this is a queer form of intolerance that invites into the family circle those who can not be tolerated.

As regrettable as religious contention is, we are not certain but what the contention over this proposed measure has resulted in the accomplishment of good. The members of the two organizations most bitterly attacked have freely attended the meetings of both sides to the controversy. Both have been quiet and interested listeners at the meetings of the other. The Catholics unquestionably have convinced many that many of the things their enemies have said about them were either not true or greatly exaggerated. The opportunity given them to declare their hearty sympathy with the public school and their willingness to support it unquestionably has enabled them to make a favorable impression upon many who thought otherwise.

Likewise the attack upon Masonry has given a similar opportunity and both sides may find that their minds have been made clear upon points

which to them previously seemed dark and inexplicable.

Contrary to the impression gained by many, the proposed amendment in no way attempts to dictate what religion a child may be taught. What it does do is to take away from grammar grade pupils the privilege now enjoyed by many of getting both secular and religious training from the same source. The proposed amendment also takes grammar grade pupils out of private schools where religion is not a part of the training and it takes the child regardless of what denomination may be conducting the school which it is attending. The Catholics, it is true, would be the greatest sufferers.

The proposed law would give the state complete control of the child, for what amounts to 24 hours of every week during the year, or for 30 hours of each week during the school year. Religious training could absorb the remaining 5 1/2 or 6 days of the week, as far as the law is concerned. Religious training, it is true, would be made more difficult because of the necessity of sending the child to two schools instead of one and because of the fact that parochial schools might be broken up by the loss of half of their pupils. While this might result in neglect of religious training, there is merit in the contention that the training for secular citizenship should, during the plastic portion of the child's life, be separated from denominational training, that what the state requires should during that period of life be separated from what a denomination requires. There is merit to the contention that during the plastic portion of the child's life it should not be made to feel that it has been set apart in some sect or class because of religious beliefs or the social or financial standing of its parents.

There is merit in the contention that because all religions are upon an equal basis in this land of the free and home of the brave, there should be no denominational training in connection with secular training during the formative period of the child's life and particularly that there should be no denominational text books to supplement those required by the state.

Masonic Position.

It is unnecessary to defend Masonry against the charge of being an irreligious body which has been made against it. Masonic performances speak for themselves. Blue lodge Masons of Oregon, Scottish Rite Masons of the world and Shriners of the world have committed themselves to the spirit of this proposed amendment, but not to the bill itself. This is consistent. (Continued on twelfth page)

GLEN SMITH WATCHES BOLD BAD BULL DOG STEAL HIS MOTOR IN BROAD DAYLIGHT

Glen Smith was a witness a few days ago to the stealing of his car, watched the thief retain possession of the car and yet was in a quandary as to what to do. The thief was a vicious looking bulldog which evidently thought the car belonged to his master and he quietly retained possession while the real owner tried to coax him to a position on the sidewalk. Evidently Glen does not know how to make bulldogs understand his language, for a few moments later Mr. Smith's mother, Mrs. W. W. McFarland, approached the dog, ordered it to vacate and it promptly did so.

MRS. IRVINE AND ANGEL OF DEMOCRACY SHOW JUDGMENT IN CHOICE OF HOSTELRIES

Mrs. B. F. Irvine, of Portland, and Jesse Winburn, of Ashland, were members of an automobile party of a half dozen who spent Sunday night here on their way to Portland from Ashland. Mrs. Irvine, who is the wife of the editor of the Oregon Journal, had been a member of a house party at the Winburn canyon home out from Ashland. Mr. Winburn frequently is referred to as the angel of the democratic party in Oregon. He remarked that this is his first, last and only appearance in Oregon politics.

HANDS & SON HAVE BIDDIES WHO ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO FLOOD THE EGG MARKET

Wm. Hands & son have two White Leghorns of which they are rightfully quite proud. No. 139 laid her first egg Oct. 6, 1920. During her first year she produced 281 eggs. During her second year recently completed she added 231 to her string, making a total of 512 eggs in two years.

No. 11 laid her first egg Sept. 14, 1921, and during the year laid 292 eggs. Up to October 17 she had added 20 eggs to her string, making a total of 322 eggs at that time.

All of the Hands hens are trapped.