

# BROOKINGS-HARBOR PILOT

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## What Is Your Answer?

People of this area, the Pilot has been informed by several persons, voted against the first budget of the school because they did not understand the budget. Perhaps that might have been the case, and the Pilot wishes to believe that such is true.

Take a look at the budget on page eight of this issue: Take note of the third item on the Estimated Receipts and Available Cash Balances: "Basic School Fund," which in the case of this school, amounts to \$17,425.15. If this budget is turned down and a standard school is not maintained, this fund is lost. That is no small item in any district to forget.

With the registered warrants of the district now standing at \$8,880.82; together with loss of this basic school fund, certainly little available cash will be realized by the district from other sources than taxation.

You will note, all the way down through the columns under expenditures that each column represents actual minimum needs.

Salaries of teachers, pitifully low in this district, cannot be cut any more, so that question is out. Operation of plant, set at \$5250, can't be pared any more and keep the building in repair. A paltry sum of \$1900 has been asked for maintenance. If not used at all this might be plenty, the transportation of pupils can't be cut any, if pupils are to be enrolled, so the \$7850 fund is not out of reason. Rent of the Harbor school, insurance, and fixed costs can't be altered.

A year ago the building fund was voted in on the tax rolls, so can't be cut off unless it will be included in a bond issue to complete the necessary building for the district, so that is fixed for this year. With completion of the third room, all building will be stopped, members of the school board have told the Pilot.

Pared to the very bone, and below last year, this budget is the last chance for property owners of this district to maintain a "standard school" and to hold up

property values for any prospective residents of this area.

The school board has done a "real job" in administration of the school the past year. Granted that mistakes have been made. So have mistakes been made in county, state and national governments. Human beings are not perfect, and neither will they ever approach that point. The Pilot has realized mistakes made by the board, but these mistakes, the Pilot will hasten to point out were made in the idea of economy for the district.

The new school, which seems to be the bone of contention, is the only excuse it seems for the budget being turned down. Twice the Pilot has received letters, once unsigned, in which personalities were dragged. The second letter, with signatures, was altered before it was handed to the Pilot, was intended to create the same impression.

Back of these letters was a feeling of antagonism due to a few men being "let out" because of incompetency or other reasons and through their influence they charge many things concerning the new school.

True, in 1940 it could have been built for less money, perhaps as low as half as much. That is not 1946 and 1947. There has been no graft, there has been no attempt on the part of anyone to "make money" from the new school building, as much as some would like to point.

What is, and will always be, an enigma to the Pilot is this fact: Why can so many people who may be more or less careless about their own personal finances are so meticulous about the finances of the city, county or state governments.

Democracies are noted for the inefficient manner in which all public matters are conducted. If people wish to live under other conditions, then perhaps that will be the eventual answer to the trends taken in this country.

Certainly this should be uppermost in the minds of the voters, Thursday, July 17—"What I am

about to do is in the best interests of the children—or against their best interests."

## Smith River News

The ladies aid group held its last meeting on Thursday afternoon, to disband for a vacation. Mrs. Una Rowley was in charge of devotions and presented the following program:

Reading—Christian Faith, by Mrs. Rowley.

Piano Solo—Dorothy Rowley.

Sono: "Annie Laurie" — Ida Hall.

Piano Solo—Billie Hall.

Closing Song, "Blest Be the Tie."

Vice-president, Agnes Maris, presided at the business session when several matters were disposed of. Officers and committee chairmen will hold a meeting during the vacation and will lay plans for carrying on the work of the society. At the close of the afternoon ice cream and cake were served by Josephine Peterson and Ilah Robison.

Mr. and Mrs. Ford Wood of Fresno arrived here this week to spend a month's vacation visiting relatives of Mrs. Wood, her sisters, Mrs. Mary Anthony and Mrs. Ella Plaisted, and brother, William McIndoe, and many of their old friends.

Mrs. Lola Wilson and daughter, Miss Alice of Seattle are house guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Hight while renewing acquaintances with their many friends in this area.

Swimming classes are being held at Smith River bridge each afternoon, sponsored by Red Cross. Classes began Monday afternoon with an instructor here to take charge of both beginners and advanced swimmers.

Rev. 5. C. Hicks is slowly recovering from his recent illness, but still must take a rest. On Sunday, July 6, Lyle Allison of Crescent City will have charge of the morning services at the local church. This will be Mr. Allison's last Sunday, as he is leaving Crescent City.

Del Norte County mourns the death of another pioneer citizen, when Frank Cooper passed away Tuesday morning at his home here, following an illness of several months. Surviving are his widow, Emma, two sons: Henry of Crescent City and John of this place.

## Cub Scout Doings

The Cubs had their monthly pick meeting, Monday evening at the Odd Fellows hall. New Cubs were installed in a short initiation ritual. Following this an achievement council was held and four Cubs received awards.

Bill Maloney received the Wolf Silver arrow, which is the highest rank in the Wolf Class.

Jimmy Eller and Gary Ault received their Wolf Rank and a gold arrow each.

Gael Ettinger received his Wolf rank.

Mr. and Mrs. Eller and Mr. and Mrs. Ault were present to pin the awards on their sons. We are sorry Mrs. Ettinger was ill and could not be present. The new den chief, Ronald Akers, of Den No. 1, did a fine job in his part of the achievement ceremony for the Cubs.

After the pack ceremony all enjoyed ice cream, and cookies, including the Boy Scouts who were invited after the ceremony. Every boy had all the ice cream he could hold and some held a lot.

Discussion and plans were held for an overnight hike up the old Gold Beach road. Some of the parents are planning to come along on this trip. One group will stay over night while another will be brought back that evening. A date for this will be set for early part of July when

weather permits.

Some scouts plan to go along to help teach the Cubs a few tricks of camping. This will be a new adventure for Cubs and all are eager and anxious to go on this trip as they had their first taste of camping out all night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Widney where there is a lot of tall timber and strange noises. The next morning they cooked their first hot breakfast on campfires. They fried potatoes, eggs, and bacon, and some of the dishes were eaten half raw, or slightly singed. Eleven Cubs, four scouts and one den-mother and the cub master were present on this trip.

Bob Swan and Joe Maloney are new additions to the Cub pack, and Mrs. Widney and cubs of Den No. 1 welcome them. — George Widney, Cub-Master.

## Local News Items

Mrs. Ed F. Ackley arrived Sunday to spend the next several months in Brookings. She has spent the last six months at her medical laboratory in the Bay area.

Mrs. Bob Chambers and son where she had been at the death of an uncle visited a son and daughter at Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Metler place in Harbor this area Sunday to bring of household furnishings expect to be here again on Monday or tomorrow to witness the Lily Blossom Festivities.

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