

OREGON IS BACKWARD IN STATE SCHOOLS

Washington Pays \$30 a Year
For Education of Each
Child; Oregon \$11.85.

"It is the question of the undermost as against the uppermost, property values over human values," said M. H. Marvin, a member of the Washington State Industrial Welfare Commission, who made a plea at the Portland hotel recently before the Portland Ministerial association for the state two-mill elementary school measure, which is to be voted upon May 21 at the primary. He continued:

"The church has made mistakes, but this is one place where the church must not err. You must get behind this measure so that the child of the poor man can have his or her deserved opportunity in life. Oregon is face to face with a crisis in its educational system, that, if not met, will put it back toward the dark ages instead of in the light of the twentieth century which it should hold. It is one of seven states which still holds to the antiquated idea of district school taxation plan. It must get out of the rut in which it finds itself today and place herself alongside the other 39 or forty states and make the tax for its schools equal throughout the state."

"Washington today pays per year \$30 for the education of each child within its boundaries. I am told you in Oregon pay toward this great work for the voter of the future only \$11.85. It is time for a change and I, from your sister state, urge you to announce from your pulpits, from the house-tops if you please, the benefits of this measure, and I hope it will be voted in by a big majority."

Rev. W. T. McElveen of the First Congregational church of Portland, also made a strong plea for the measure and declared that it was not only a problem for Oregon to solve, but "a national one, to handle this situation which Oregon now faces, namely—the education of the illiterate, of which there are today in the United States, 5½ millions," said Dr. McElveen.

"Labor counts on the church in this crisis," said the speaker, "Oregon is behind the times in her educational system and every 'tightwad' citizen in Oregon is to blame for this situation which we now must face at the polls on May 21."

"Do you know how Boston Tech handles her students? They have one teacher to every six students. Oregon has one teacher to every 64. How's that for a contrast? Isn't it about time you and I went to the polls and voted for something new in this state? I think so."

Mrs. Alexander Thompson and Mrs. S. M. Blumauer also made striking addresses to the ministers on this measure, being followed by President Campbell of the University of Oregon, who pointed out the necessity of aiding the elementary schools, that the higher educational institutions would have a basis on which to work, a groundwork on which to build the citizen of the future.

The ministers endorsed the measure unanimously.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS UPPERMOST IN STATE

One Hundred Schools Closed
In Oregon Last Year Due
to Teacher Shortage.

Every community needs teachers. In every locality are many persons who would make good teachers but who do not enter the profession.

Also in every community there are teachers who are planning to leave and go elsewhere to teach or to enter other professions. Why? Salary partly, but mostly because the teacher like the prophet, is without honor in his own country.

Making the home schools safe for home talent will help to solve the teacher shortage. There must be good salaries, of course. Teachers teach because they need money. There must also be sane protection against the spoils system. It is an old story in many communities for a new superintendent and his assistant to find jobs for their friends at the expense of local teachers, or to bottle them so that they must resign in self-respect.

Does the community know about it or do anything about it? Do the patrons of each school know the material of the teaching force? If they have an up-to-date, accomplished, gifted teacher, will they encourage her with salary increases and back her against unfair discrimination?

How many good teachers have left the community, and why? That will tell the story. How many young people who would make fine teachers are doing something else instead?

Keep the home fires burning until all the cumbering dress and all the unfairness which is driving home teaching talent away from home is burned up, and then see how rapidly the teacher shortage becomes a thing of the past.

Oregon can remedy her condition by voting "Yes" for the 2-mill Elementary School bill popularly known as the Children's Bill.

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These Pastors Look for More Women to Fill Vacant Pulpits



Left—Miss Ella J. Nash. Right—Miss Alice M. Whittier.

As a solution of the problem of the pastorless churches in the North Woods of Maine, Baptists have ordained two women ministers, and they are now serving in the pulpit of the picturesque little church at Jay, Maine. While other women evangelists are "helping out" at churches where ministers with large families have not been able to meet the rising cost on an average salary of \$1.87 a day, Miss Alice M. Whittier and Miss Ella J. Nash, so far as known, are the only Baptist feminine clergymen in the whole of New England.

They were ordained in 1917, when the war was making a heavy demand on the man power of Maine. Their first assignment was to the church at Jay, one of the oldest of the state, having a history that dates back 110 years, when the congregation met in a log house. As a rule Miss Whittier makes the morning service and Miss Nash has charge of the evening meeting.

Both were graduated from the Gordon Bible College in Boston, and both worked for a number of years afterward under the direction of the American Baptist Missionary Society. They have served the out of the way settlements in the far north Aroostook County and other sections of Maine, where the people depend on the colporteur for their gospel teaching. They have filled two pastorates of five years' each, one at Owl's Head and the other at Jay, where they are at present stationed.

Will the woman pastor solve the problem of the shortage of ministers? Miss Whittier says she will. A woman gifted with the power of oratory, trained in a high class theological in-

stitution, and willing to make the combined sacrifices of not only a preacher's wife, but a preacher himself, should be allowed to fill a pulpit, she declares.

According to Miss Whittier, the woman preacher has come to stay. It is her opinion that very soon a large percentage of clergymen of all Protestant denominations will be women. The Baptists and the Congregationalists are among the first denominations to admit women to the ministry.

"Will women pastors be content to work on salaries that average less than \$700 a year, as men preachers have been doing for years?" is another question Miss Whittier answered.

She said they decidedly would not. "All over the country," she said, "people are realizing more and more the injustice that has been done to the ministers. The time has come, I believe, when pastors are to receive their just due. The country pastor's salary should not merely be raised—it should be doubled. He receives less than an ordinary day laborer and depends to an humiliating extent upon the charity of his congregation. No, women who enter the ministry will not be so patient, I'm sure. Conditions in America today do not warrant the practice of such self-denial."

Miss Whittier is one of the leaders in Maine of the New World Movement of Northern Baptists. That state has been asked to raise a quota of \$2,000,000. The amount didn't stagger the pastor of Jay.

"Will your congregation be able to come across with their apportionment?" she was asked. "Certainly, there's no doubt about it," she said.

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