## Ohe Oregoliow

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall A
THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.
Charles A. Sprague
Samidon y. Sackett Editor-Manage

As a Business Proposition
OOKING at the proposed school bond issue
OOKING at the proposed school bond issue as a business
proposition there are manifestly two sides to the deal
On the farorable side is the On the favorable side is the possibility of obtaining
$\$ 650,000$ some $\$$ provide 000 to supw schoment the district funds o
fuildings. Another factor prevailing low interest rates on bond issues. Weigh against these facts other considerations. Th
PWA grant is not an unconditional grant. The money to b
spent must be spent in compliance with PWA regulations. spent must be spent in compliance with PWA regulations
Experience has shown that these cause delay and increas
expense. Hockley's office says the increase is about five pe ed the fact that the increases run from 20 to 35 per cent. It
is a fairly safe conclusion that the excess would be at leas 20 per cent, which makes a big hole in the gift from the gov
ernment.
There is this further question: do the taxpayers wa
now to assume a load of $\$ 650,000$ in debt? The school distri
has been carrying a heavy load over a long term of years. has been carrying a heavy load over a long term of years.
has reduced its bond debt to $\$ 42,000$; and its note debt
$\$ 100,000$. It recently wiped out its warrant debt, but thet probably pick up again in intervals between tax periods.
the tappayers want to enjoy a respite from the debt servic burdens;
$\qquad$ The proposal means the abandonment of the presen
senior hish school plant. While its original cost was $\$ 175,000$
its replacement value is much higher. The building is of sub portion only 12 years old. It needs some changes for fir
patet; and additional room is needed. But should the dis
strict abandon this. property and enter into a new $\$ 700,00$
high school plant? We say aband high sc
building
been abl

It' is a practical question, how will the district meet the
problem of more room unless the new high school is built We do not beliere it would be wise to spend a lot of mone
enlarging the present plant. Is it not wiser to look ahead
the time when Salem will be the sensible
$\qquad$ If a new high school plant is built near Olinger field
will not be many years before the call will come for one in ter of the disfrict, but it is far off the convenience center o
the district. The present location is best in that respect, be
cause the normal lines of travel both of bus lines and parent driving to
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 and high school is needed. By that time tIn view of the building program already in sight for this
community, is it wise to proceed with a big school construc tion program now? In sight are a new capitol, perhaps a ne
university plant, a new postoff fice, an expensive grade sep-
aration project. These will fully employ the building trade spite of the bait of PWA funds, to defer the school construc
tion to a later date, and then build out of our own money, the

## buildings done now

done now
float awa
ployment
The one unit which is urgently needed is the Lesli
school gymnasium. This should be authorized; and if the
present bond proposal fails this project should be resubmit
The Statesman does not oppose but support school prog
ress; and does not like to be parsimonious in school expenditures. But we can see many places where additional fund
are needed, -higher school teacher salaries, attracting and holding better teachers; a fuller school program, such as mu-
sici. If we start service of principal and interest on a new
hesvy debt load, these matters would need to be further de heavy d
ferred.
We desire to have taxpayers study this bond proposal
from all sides; and then to have them vote their convictions
next Tuesday. The question is important enough to draw out next Tuesday. The question is important enough to draw out









Bits for
Breakfast


Wherever Statehouse is Built
Some Will Growl, Some Will Grin By D. $\mathbf{\text { B. TALMADGE, Sage of Salem }}$

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