

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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Costs of Education

Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction, issued on Monday his annual report, which showed among other things that the cost last school year of educating Oregon's 210,219 grade and high school pupils was \$17,663,161. This fact is worthy of attention initially because it is a sizeable amount, an important factor in our taxation load. Even though money spent for schools probably is the best-expended money of all that we pay out in taxes, it is not wise just to spend it, be thankful that it goes for so constructive a purpose, and forget it.

Simple division reveals that the cost of educating a boy or girl in Oregon's grade or high schools amounts to about \$84 a year. That is slightly above the national average which in the school year 1935-36 was \$74.50. That year Oregon's average cost was a little lower, but still slightly above the national average. Let the fact be construed as a criticism, we hasten to analyze the national situation with respect to school costs and find that New York state is the highest with costs over \$130 per pupil; Nevada, California, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Wyoming rank next in order.

At the bottom of the list with costs running down to less than \$30 a year per pupil are Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and the two Carolinas—and right above them all the other southern states. Even comparatively prosperous Texas spends less than \$60 per pupil. Northern states spending less than Oregon include only North Dakota, Iowa, Idaho, Vermont and Nebraska. The reason for low costs in the southern states, aside from low salaries for teachers, is that they cannot afford to pay more and do not provide their boys and girls with adequate education.

Education costs are high, on the other hand, in many districts which do not provide adequate education. These are the small one-room school districts with from 3 to 17 pupils. In Oregon there has been a movement to eliminate these schools, consolidating them and transporting the pupils by bus. There has been some opposition from communities which want to keep their "little red schoolhouse" and a bill which would have speeded up this program was defeated by public pressure in the legislature some years ago. Residents of such districts are paying this extra cost and theirs is the final decision about continuing to pay it, as matters rest now. Something no doubt could be done in the legislature about equalizing costs, but that too might meet with opposition because of the refusal of small districts to unite and eliminate unreasonably costly school units. This is a problem that should be tackled because it affords a visible opportunity to reduce public expenditures without eliminating any essential service—and such opportunities are decidedly rare.

Power, Transmission and Taxes

J. D. Ross, Bonneville administrator, has called a meeting for tomorrow in Centralia at which utility district officials from Oregon and Washington will consider a basis for taxation of these utilities. It has been customary in Oregon to leave publicly-owned utilities tax-free, and though there is little to be said in favor of such a practice, it will be difficult to change. The difficulty is that while a municipality might be anxious to turn some of its utility's revenue to its own general fund, it will oppose turning over another portion to the county and state in the form of taxes.

A recent announcement by Ross that transmission lines would be built to serve existing public utility districts, leaving the impression that they would not be built elsewhere, has aroused considerable comment in Oregon, where such districts are few. It is feared that the transmission lines and the power will go almost exclusively to Washington where the districts are numerous.

There is agitation to amend the Oregon utility district law to permit the sale or revenue bonds, rather than general obligation bonds, to encourage creation of districts, and in view of this threat involving transmission lines, that probably will be done at the 1939 legislative session. There seems to be no objection to such an amendment.

But neither is there any especial cause for alarm over Ross' announcement. If his previous announcements mean as much as this one does, the Bonneville administrator will sell power to all comers, including the private utilities, subject only to the provision that 50 per cent of the power is reserved for public utilities for the present. If there is any power for the private utilities now serving Oregon they presumably will buy it, and they have promised to pass on to the consumer any savings that may result. It is not to be expected that the government will build transmission lines to serve these companies. But it should be expected that in establishing service from Bonneville as a "yardstick," the government will charge the districts a reasonable amount for transmission, otherwise the "yardstick" feature will be a farce.

The Warden Appointment

Continued efficient administration of the Oregon penitentiary seems to have been the sole consideration of the state board of control in the appointment of George Alexander, assistant superintendent of state police, to the position of penitentiary warden succeeding the late Jim Lewis.

Alexander was for a number of years sheriff of Washington county and served with distinction, making an outstanding record in prohibition enforcement. During that period he also had occasion more than once to prove that he had both physical and moral courage, qualities that are both essential in the task he will now assume.

It was because of his Washington county record that Alexander was chosen by Governor I. L. Patterson to head the state prohibition enforcement department. He was placed in the position he now relinquishes in the state police, shortly after its organization.

As a resident of Salem for more than a decade, Mr. Alexander has proved to be a public-spirited citizen, participating in such activities as the Community Chest drive. He seems to have all the qualities necessary for administration of the difficult prison task, in so far as any man's capacity for the job may be estimated in advance. He will have the invaluable assistance of Gene Halley, who has been assistant warden for many years and who did not aspire to the warden's post.

Repeatedly of late the newspapers have recorded instances in which aliens or persons suspected of being aliens, but residents of the United States for many years, have been faced with the threat of deportation. A recent case is that of Quat Yat Hong, 46, Los Angeles Chinese, who served in the United States army in the World War. He made a trip to China and was refused re-entry when he returned. He has no birth certificate, but 46 years ago birth certificates were not so universal as they are now. A suspicion grows that in the immigration service, in resorting to technicalities in one case and ignoring them in another, somehow manages to do injustice in either case.

Secretary Ickes made a speech in St. Louis the other day in which he advocated the creation of more national parks and the inclusion of more territory in the parks now existent, such as the adding the Redwood mountain area to the Sequoia National park in California. That's just an example of how difficult it is for Mr. Ickes to open his mouth without saying something that sounds like politics. The national parks are under jurisdiction of his department and if what he proposes is done, it means more prestige and more jobs in that department.

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Roll of honor grows: 11-29-38 men who learned here and saved the Union for America, democracy for world:

(Continuing from Sunday:) Barnes, in 1862, having been transferred east, was attending surgeon in the city of Washington. There he fell under the eye of Secretary of War Stanton, and, in September, 1863, General Hammond was relieved of his position as surgeon general and Barnes was assigned as acting surgeon general, and, in August, 1863, after the dismissal of General Hammond, as chief of the medical department.

Barnes gathered around him a group of brilliant officers, and his regime was marked by the production of the voluminous Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion, and by the development of the medical and surgical library, and of the Army's medical museum.

"It fell to the lot of Barnes to share in the professional care of two murdered presidents. At that of the assassination of President Lincoln and the attempted assassination of Secretary Seward, he attended at the death bed of the one and aided in the successful restoration of the other.

"During the long illness of President Garfield, he was one of the surgeons who for weeks served in the chamber of the dying president." (The quoted words are from the Dictionary of Biography.) Barnes reached the age of retirement in 1882, and, as noted, died the following year.

John Lorimer Welden, hero of the Monitor-Merrimac fight, the outcome of which, perhaps, as much as any other one thing, saved the Union, is given number 105 in this remarkable and interesting roll of honor. Born in Westchester county, New York, March 12, 1818, he lived till October 19, 1897. He became a midshipman Jan. 10, 1834; was three years in the Brazil squadron and seven months at the Philadelphia naval school; made a passed midshipman July 10, 1840.

"In 1840-42 he was in the Pacific squadron, and, 1844-6, at the naval observatory. During and after the Mexican war he served on the storeship Southampton and other vessels on the west coast." (The quoted words are from the Dictionary of Biography.)

Duty at the naval observatory (1850-52) and cruises to the Mediterranean and home squadrone, occupied most of the next decade. He was stationed at Washington just before the Civil war, and was sent south on April 7, 1861, with secret orders for the squadron at Pensacola for the reinforcement of Fort Pickens. After delivering his message he was arrested on his return journey, near Montgomery, Alabama, and held prisoner till his release seven months later.

Though hardly recovered from illness due to his confinement, he reported, January 16, 1862, to command Ericson's ironclad MONITOR, then building at Greenpoint, Long Island.

"After supervising her completion, he commanded her on her rough passage down the coast. Disaster was constantly threatened by leaks, foul air, defective steering gear, and other faults of experimental construction.

"The difficulties that overcome were as great as those of the subsequent battle. Reaching Hampton Roads about 9 p. m. March 8, (1862), all hands spent a disturbing night in preparation for meeting the Merrimac next day.

"In the battle, fatal for the maintenance of the Northern Blockade, and revolutionary in its influence on naval design, Worden had his station in the pilot house forward of the turret. After three hours of fighting, he was wounded in the face and nearly blinded by a shell explosion on the outside. The command was taken over by the first officer, Samuel D. Greene, but when the Monitor returned after temporary withdrawal, the Merrimac had also withdrawn.

"For his resolute conduct of the action, and in general relief at its outcome, Worden at once gained national renown. Congress gave him a special vote of thanks and advanced him from commander to captain, on Feb. 3, 1863." (The quoted words are from the Dictionary of Biography.)

From October, '63 to April, '65, Worden commanded the monitor Montauk in the South Blockading squadron; engaged, Jan. 27, in a four hour action with Fort Mifflin, which served chiefly as a favorable test of the monitor type, and a month later destroyed, once five well placed shots, the Confederate cruiser Nashville under the guns of this fort. His vessel was struck 14 times on April 7, in the general monitor attack on Charleston.

Detached soon after, Worden engaged in ironclad construction work at New York till after the close of the war. Was made Commodore May 26, '68; rear admiral Nov. 20, '72; superintendent of the naval academy '69-'74. From '75 to '77, commanded the European squadron. Retired December 23, 1886, when congress awarded him, for life, the full sea pay of his grade. He had in his last years occupied many important board positions.

The Hart (Harvard) School History of the United States has matter concerning the Monitor and Merrimac a few words of which should be copied here. They are:

"A Confederate ironclad called the Virginia, which was rebuilt from the old frigate Merrimac, came out of Norfolk. The only force to oppose her was a few wooden ships of war. The Merrimac easily defeated and sank the Congress and the Cumberland, whose old fashioned cannon made no impression on her ironclad hull. There was almost a panic in Washington, where it was expected that the Merrimac would come

They'll Do It Every Time



up the Potomac. Next day (March 9) a little craft called the Monitor appeared at Newport News. She was built by a Swedish engineer named Ericsson, on a new plan, with big guns in a revolving turret. The Monitor dared to engage the big Merrimac in this, the first sea fight in history between ironclad vessels. At the end of the fight the Merrimac retired to Norfolk, and never again performed any service for the Confederacy. (Had not the Monitor, "the Yankee cheesebox on a raft," come to the rescue in the very nick of time, the exploits of the Merrimac, captured in the first days of the war by the Confederates, would have gone far in getting for the Confederacy foreign recognition—and final victory for its cause.)

To Ayres Romney Beck goes number 106 on this grand and glorious roll. Born in Montgomery county, New York, December 20, 1825, he died till December 4, 1888. The son of a country doctor, he was a member of the 1847 West Point class, commissioned to the artillery and sent to the Mexican war—arriving too late to participate.

"He served at many posts, from Maine to California, on routine duties, and was promoted to be a captain just at the outbreak of the Civil war." (The quoted words are from the Dictionary of Biography.)

(Continued tomorrow.)

Lyons Folk in Hospital

LYONS—Two Lyons residents, Ruth Holtorf, young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Holtorf, and Charlie Peterson, are patients at the Deaconess hospital in Salem, where they submitted to major operations.

Call Board

- HOLLYWOOD
 - Today—Bobby Breen in "Breaking the Ice" with "Wardens" later, "The world's toughest ice skater," Irene Dore.
 - Wednesday—Family night, double bill, "The Saint" with "New York" with Louis Hayward and Kay Sutton and Bob Baker in "O-T-Law Express."
 - Friday—Double bill, Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy in "Swiss Miss" and "Blind Alibi" with Richard Dix and Whitney Bourne.
- ELSINORE
 - Today—Double bill, Bette Davis and Errol Flynn in "The Sisters" and "Down in Arkansas" with The Weaver Bros. and Elvira.
 - Wednesday—Double bill, "Thanks for the Memory" with Bob Hope and Shirley Ross and "Secrets of the Navy" with Edmund Lowe and Helen Mack.
 - Saturday—Double bill, "Angels with Dirty Faces" with Pat O'Brien and James Cagney and "The Declaration of Independence" with John Littel and Ted Osborne.
- CAPITOL
 - Today—Double bill, "Arrest Bulldog Drummond" with John Howard and Heather Angel and "Under the Big Top" with Marjorie Main and Jack LaRue, plus chapters of "Dick Tracy Returns."
 - Wednesday—Double bill, "Mr. Wong Detective" with Boris Karloff and Evelyn Brent and "Rhythm of the Saddle" with Gene Autry and Smiley Burnette.
 - Sunday—Double bill, "Torchy Gets Her Man" with Glenda Farrell and Barton Mac Lane and "Down the Stretch" with Mickey Rooney and Patricia Ellis.
- STATE
 - Today—"Adventures of Chico" and "My Old Kentucky Home" with Evelyn Venable, Grant Richards and Hall-Johnson choir.
 - Thursday—"Mickey Rooney in 'Hoosier School Boy' and George Huston and Ruth Coleman in 'Wallaby Jim of the Islands'."
 - Saturday midnight show—"Alexander's Ragtime Band."
- GRAND
 - Today—Shirley Temple in "Just Around the Corner" with Charles Farrell and Joan Davis.
 - Wednesday—"Sharpshooters" with Brian Donlevy and Lynn Bari.
 - Saturday—"The Dionne Quintuplets in 'Five of a Kind' with Jean Hersholt and Slim Summerville."

By Jimmy Hatlo



On the Record

By DOROTHY THOMPSON

It is my belief that Mr. Wendell Willkie, in attempting to protect his own interests, and those of his corporation, is making a genuine contribution to the democratic process. For Mr. Willkie is concentrating attention where it certainly ought to be directed, by the administrative agencies, which more and more are the actual government of the United States.

Mr. Willkie's method of procedure is uncommon, in these days, the fact in itself being an indication of what is happening to our democracy. Big Business has "learned its lesson" to such an extent that by and large it prefers to go around to the back door, and by contacts with inside people come to terms with the government, by "playing the game," while often, with its other hand, it fights the government under cover.

Mr. Willkie, however, believing that he has a just and reasonable case, has had the temerity to take the issue of TVA and private power to the public, on the platform, in the press, and in person. For that reason he has been singled out for isolation and retaliation by the champions of public power.

The question which Mr. Willkie has raised time and again in the past months is a very important question indeed. He has demanded to know under what rules the TVA is operating in respect to private power industries operating in the Tennessee valley.

He has attempted to demonstrate that the present policy of government competition has sized two ways—first in the TVA itself, and then by outright grants of federal money to municipalities—means bankruptcy for the private companies, with consequent losses to the many thousands of investors, who are also citizens of the United States.

He has proposed to the TVA that, instead of making a ruinous competition with the private interests in the Tennessee Valley, they be bought out, intact, so as not to destroy an existing and functioning complex.

He has asked, however, that the price be set, not by the buyer—the Tennessee Valley Authority—but by a disinterested board. He has suggested a board composed of a representative of his own corporation, of the TVA, and of the supreme court. He has proposed that the price be set by the SEC. He has proposed a board composed of Professor Felix Frankfurter, President Clarence Dwystra of the University of Wisconsin—the LaFollette's choice to succeed Glenn Frank—and Karl Compton, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a leading expert in the field of utility engineering.

Nobody could call any of these boards rigged in favor of "economic royalists."

But the TVA has turned a deaf ear to all these proposals and pursues its own course of duplication, which is nothing more or less than slow confiscation.

The answer to Mr. Willkie's charges and arguments has always been that he is "the spokesman for the utility interests" and a reference to past abuses on the part of utility companies. Although I know of a number of utility representatives who criticize Mr. Willkie very severely for "getting them in a hutch with the administration," the answer, were it one hundred per cent true, has nothing whatever to do with the case—unless one is to assume that private industry no longer has a right to have a spokesman or to be heard in this country unless it behaves, in its "behavior" is coming to be judged, not by the way it treats its labor or its stockholder.

The right to fair and collective bargaining vis-a-vis the government belongs to the representatives of capital, as well as to the other citizens, unless we have abolished private enterprise in principle and in fact. Otherwise government becomes a racket.

Issues like the one between Mr. Willkie and the TVA can only be arbitrated inside the democratic process. Mr. Willkie wants arbitration, that is to say, peace. The TVA wants dictation, capitulation, at the point of a pistol, that is to say, a peace of Munich. Dr. Arthur Morgan's essential quarrel with the TVA was on precisely this matter of decent democratic procedure. "The sovereign government is under obligation not to make capricious or arbitrary use of its power, but to act with restraint and fairness, without the spirit of retaliation."

In the congressional hearing Mr. Willkie is made to appear in the role of a defendant. Why? The authority, and even the counsel in the committee have functioned as though they were instruments of and advocates for Mr. Lillenthal and Mr. Frankfurter—"such inquiries into political problems must be pursued (if they are to be effective) in a scientific temper, must be dedicated to the search for fact and as free from dependence on the actual or supposed wish or needs, even of the president, as in the supreme court of the United States."

That question involving administrative agencies are investigated in this spirit, then the administrative agency can become the destroyer of free government. We will get in its place neither socialism or "liberal" government, but merely arbitrary and self-perpetuating government.

It would seem to me that there is a patent nullification of the intent of congress with regard to government competition, pending the inquiry. When the PWA funds were voted, the president, through leader Barkley, gave assurances that duplication would not be permitted except where a private utility refused to accept a "reasonable offer."

That was subsequently made to depend on the first of Secretary Ickes, who by no means of gifts of 45 per cent of the cost is, in effect bribing municipalities to accept the remaining loans. Even if the administration and allocation of the funds were in the hands of more judicial-minded individuals, the method would have no parallel in the practices of labor and semi-socialist governments abroad.

President Roosevelt's own committee on reorganization nullified this method in their report of January 8, 1937. "At the same time the independent commission is obliged to carry on judicial functions under conditions which threaten the impartial performance of that judicial work. . . . Pressure and influences constitute an unwholesome at-

Radio Programs

- KALM—TUESDAY—1370 Mc.
 - 7:30—News.
 - 7:45—Quiz Hour.
 - 8:00—Foursquare Church.
 - 8:15—Salon Melodica.
 - 8:30—Station of Best.
 - 8:45—News.
 - 9:00—Pastor's Call.
 - 9:15—Pastor's Call.
 - 9:30—Homeschoolers.
 - 9:45—Homeschoolers.
 - 10:00—Homeschoolers.
 - 10:15—Homeschoolers.
 - 10:30—Homeschoolers.
 - 10:45—Homeschoolers.
 - 11:00—Homeschoolers.
 - 11:15—Homeschoolers.
 - 11:30—Homeschoolers.
 - 11:45—Homeschoolers.
 - 12:00—Homeschoolers.
- KOAG—TUESDAY—550 Kc.
 - 9:00—Homemakers' Hour.
 - 10:15—Story Hour for Adults.
 - 10:30—Today's News.
 - 11:00—Annals of Oregon.
 - 11:30—Music of the Masters.
 - 12:00—News.
 - 12:30—Market Crop Reports.
 - 1:15—Variety.
 - 2:00—R. W. Leeper.
 - 2:45—Guard Your Health.
 - 3:45—D.H.—"Colonial Music."
 - 4:00—Symphonic Half Hour.
 - 4:30—Stories for Boys and Girls.
 - 5:00—On the Campus.
 - 5:45—Vespers.
 - 6:15—News.
 - 6:30—Agriculture as Viewed by Editors.
 - 6:45—Market Crop Reports.
 - 7:00—Farm Crops Department.
 - 7:15—Hair Department.
 - 7:30—Citizens and His School.
 - 8:15—Book of the Week.
 - 8:30—Music for You.
 - 8:45—Evelyn Atherton.
- KOIN—TUESDAY—940 Kc.
 - 9:30—Market Reports.
 - 9:45—KOIN Clock.
 - 10:00—The Golden Rule.
 - 10:15—Rhythms.
 - 10:30—This and That.
 - 10:45—The Golden Rule.
 - 11:00—Romance of Helen Trent.
 - 11:15—Our Gal Sunday.
 - 11:30—The Golden Rule.
 - 11:45—Life Can Be Beautiful.
 - 12:00—Milk Fund Talk.
 - 12:15—Big Sister Department.
 - 12:30—Real Life Stories.
 - 12:45—School of the Air.
 - 1:00—News.
 - 1:15—Singin' Sam.
 - 1:30—Silver Serenade.
 - 1:45—Edward G. Robinson.
 - 2:00—Myrt and Marge.
 - 2:15—Hilltop House.
 - 2:30—On the Campus.
 - 2:45—Music for Fun.
 - 3:00—Hella Again.
 - 3:15—Songs for You.
 - 3:30—Mary Lou Cook.
 - 3:45—Newspaper of the Air.
 - 4:00—Background of the News.
 - 4:20—Second Husband.
 - 4:30—Fashion Chat.
 - 4:45—Howie Wing.
 - 5:00—Roadmaster.
 - 5:15—Leon F. Drews.
 - 5:30—Live the People.
 - 5:45—Orchestra.
 - 6:00—Dr. Christian.
 - 6:15—Jimmy Fidler.
 - 6:30—Little Show.
 - 6:45—Oregon on Parade.
 - 7:00—Edward G. Robinson.
 - 7:15—Al Jolson, Martha Raye.
 - 7:30—Jollytime.
 - 7:45—Orchestra.
 - 8:00—Elmer F. Andrews.
 - 8:15—Five Star Final.
 - 8:30—Conversation at Organ.
 - 8:45—Orchestra.
 - 9:00—Prelude to Midnight.

ELSMORE
Last Times Today
2nd FLOOR
ERROL FLYNN
BETTE DAVIS
THE SISTERS
PLUS
Weaver Bros. in "Down in Arkansas" with SUPER CAST

10 Years Ago
November 29, 1928
Enrollment in the Salem schools was eight more on November 23 than on same day a year ago, according to report issued from city superintendent's office.

15 Years Ago
November 29, 1923
Governor Pierce has received resignation of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Myers as superintendent and matron of new Oregon Employment Institution for blind.

Miss Helen Brice, national secretary of the YWCA visited in Woodburn last night with the Girl Reserve club there.

mosphere in which to adjudicate private rights. But the mixed duties of the commissions render escape from such subversive influences impossible.

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WARNER'S
5050
APOLLO
TWO BIG HITS 25c

STARTS WEDNESDAY

THE PERFECT MURDER
—and the Perfect Sleuth to Solve It!

NEW THRILLS! NEW SONGS!
With a song in his heart and a gun in his hand, Gene Artery, dazzling pace as he drives his motor in the greatest rodeo race of the year.

HERE HE IS!
GENE ARTERY

BORIS KARLOFF
MR. WONG DETECTIVE

THE WHOLE TOWN'S TALKING ABOUT
The Adventures of CHICO
The "Battle to Death" Between the Mexican Panhandle and the Mexican Range. Fight between a Mountain Lion and a Wild Bear. Thrills—Thrills—Thrills!

My Old Kentucky Home Hit 2
with Evelyn Venable Grant Richards and the Hall Johnson Choir

15c Anytime
NEW STATE

Last Times Tonight
"Arrest Bulldog Drummond"

"Under the Big Top" and Tracy Serial