

Kennedy Asks \$1.2 Billion as a Start

Solons Get School Aid Bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Kennedy sent to Congress Tuesday a 24-point program of federal aid to education, and asked for \$1.2 billion to get it started.

As before, his proposals made no provision for direct aid to private or parochial schools.

Included in the omnibus measure are 13 new programs and 11 existing programs to be extended and expanded.

They include a complex system of grants for public elementary and secondary education, work projects for college students, expanded student loans, and grants to help public and private colleges alike to meet the surge of new enrollments.

The President placed no price tag on his total package, which he said would "phase out federal aid over a four-year period."

But he told Congress, "It is clearly realistic in terms of its

cost—and it is clearly essential to the growth and security of this nation."

High Priority

An administration spokesman called it a high priority program, designed to pin-point the most crucial needs and problems in American education, and at the same time to avoid controversy wherever possible.

For the past two years, Kennedy's education proposals have foundered in a controversy over aid for church schools. Kennedy says he believed such aid would be unconstitutional, breaching the barrier between church and state.

The Roman Catholic hierarchy has contended this is not true and has opposed any federal program which doesn't include aid for private and parochial schools.

Although his new program contains no provision for direct aid, there is one suggested

change in the college student loan program which might make it easier for church and private schools to secure teachers.

A notable omission in the sweeping program of recommendations was any request for college scholarships, a constant source of congressional bickering in past years.

Study on College Students

Kennedy did, however, ask for a national study to determine why students do not attend or finish college. The administration spokesman said that if the study indicates a need for scholarships, a request for them could be made next year or later.

Highlights of the far-ranging proposals:

• A four-year program to provide \$1.5 billion to the states for selective improvement of public elementary and secondary education. Part of

the money would have to be spent for such special projects as upgrading slum area schools, remedial reading, programs for the gifted, and the like. The balance could be used to build badly needed classrooms or raise teachers' salaries, or both, but only after the state had drawn up and publicized a priority list of needs. A system of allotments would provide more money to the most needy states.

• A three-year program to provide \$1 billion in federal loans to public and private non-profit colleges and universities alike for the construction of academic facilities.

• Expansion of the government's student loan program from the present limit of \$90 million to \$135 million in fiscal 1964. The forgiveness of up to 50 per cent of the loan, now limited to public elementary and secondary teachers, would be extended to college and university teachers, and to teachers in private non-profit elementary and secondary schools.

• A federal guarantee of loans made to college students by banks, up to \$150 million over a three-year period. Students in both public and private institutions of higher education would be eligible.

• A three-year program to pay 50 per cent of the wages to needy students for campus employment of an educational nature (grading papers, working in libraries or laboratories), up to 15 hours per week. All college students eligible. Cost: \$22.8 million in fiscal 1964, starting next July 1.

• A three-year program of federal grants to the states for construction of public community junior colleges. Cost: \$50 million in fiscal 1964.

• Three-year programs of matching grants to both public and private colleges for training technicians in science, engineering and medicine, building and supplying libraries, and expansion of graduate schools. Cost in fiscal 1964: Technician training \$20 million; libraries \$40.25 million; graduate schools \$40.2 million.

• Extension for four years of the present program of aid to federally impacted areas at the current rate of \$300 million—\$400 million a year.

• The graduate fellowship program of the National Defense Education Act (NDEA) to be increased from 1,500 annually to 10,000 annually for the next three years, plus 2,000 additional summer session fellowships.



Feted By JFK

It was a joyous occasion all around when President Kennedy honored poet Robert Frost for his literary contributions to American letters on Frost's 88th birthday anniversary last March. Frost died in Boston Tuesday. Present at the White House ceremony were, from the left, Sen. Leverett Saltonstall, R-Mass., and Interior Secretary Stewart Udall. Story, Page One.

Poet Eulogized By President

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Kennedy Tuesday said the death of Robert Frost "leaves a vacancy in the American spirit."

Eulogizing the poet as "the great American poet of our time," Kennedy said in a statement issued by the White House:

"His art and life summed up the essential qualities of the New England he loved so much; the fresh delight in nature, the plainness in speech, the canny wisdom, and the deep, underlying insight into the human soul."

"His death impoverishes us all; but he has bequeathed his nation a body of imperishable verse from which Americans will forever gain joy and understanding. He had promised to keep, and miles to go, and now he sleeps."

Vale Students Flee Flames

VALE (AP) — The vocational agricultural wing of Vale High School was destroyed Monday afternoon by fire which broke out while 40 students were inside.

All fled uninjured. A spark from a welding rod ignited gasoline and caused the fire, which resulted in loss estimated at \$75,000.

The faculty ordered the rest of the school evacuated as a precautionary measure. But the Vale Volunteer fire department kept the flames from the other two wings of the school.

Officials said a student was doing the welding when a spark touched off a small pool of gasoline which had spilled from a tractor.

Lost in the blaze were four tractors, two pickup trucks and other equipment.

Classes as usual in other wings were held Tuesday.

Flemming: 'National Interest Dictated Stockpile Contract'

Combined UPI, AP Reports

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Arthur S. Flemming told Senate investigators Tuesday that the "national interest" dictated the terms of a government contract favorable to a Chicago copper producing company in 1955.

The former Eisenhower administration official defended the disputed contract with Calumet and Hecla Inc. in testimony before the special Senate stockpile subcommittee.

Flemming was director of the Office of Defense Mobilization during negotiations on the contract to supply up to \$57 million worth of copper to the national strategic inventories.

'Forgave' \$5.6 Million

Subcommittee counsel Richard C. Cohn said it appeared Calumet and Hecla got "special treatment" when Flemming let the company stretch out its contracted deliveries almost three more years and "forgave" \$5.6 million in defaulted copper deliveries in June, 1955.

Ranchers Okay Range Program

LAKEVIEW (AP) — An understanding on a range use plan for livestock grazing has been reached by ranchers in the Paisley Unit of the Bureau of Land Management's Lakeview District.

A survey showed that there is not enough forage on the public lands to meet present licensed demands.

At a weekend meeting in Lakeview, sheep and cattle ranchers agreed to keep enough stock off the grazing land the next three years to meet the requirements of the land-use survey.

Flemming acknowledged that he could not remember any company being given comparable treatment. But he said the contract concessions were justified on the basis that it was "in the national interest" to retain this key source of copper for the strategic stockpile.

In his second day of testimony, Flemming also was expected to be questioned by the Special Armed Services Subcommittee, headed by Sen. Stuart Symington, D-Mo., on nickel, lead and zinc contracts negotiated while he was head of ODM.

High Policy-Maker

At previous hearings, stockpile officials estimated that eight times more zinc and four times more lead was purchased than needed.

The General Services Administration figured last Sept. 30 that the taxpayers stand to lose about \$217 million on a zinc and lead investment of \$843 million.

During 1953-57 Flemming was chief of defense mobilization and thus a high policy-maker in the many-sided stockpile effort. Later he entered the Eisenhower Cabinet as secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. He is now president of the University of Oregon.

'In Other Words ...'

The subcommittee has received estimates that the taxpayers could lose from \$1 billion to \$4 billion of the \$9 billion invested in stocks of strategic and critical materials, hoarded against the possibility of national emergency.

William N. Lawrence, who was one of Flemming's top aides and now is deputy director of the Office of Emergency Planning, testified June 20 that he had protested to Flemming against the volume of lead and

zinc purchases but said he learned that Flemming "had his directions, too."

Chairman Stuart Symington, D-Mo., asked Lawrence then: "In other words, you told him you thought this program was wrong; and he said he had been told to do it; is that right?"

"Yes, sir," Lawrence replied.

Lawrence told of what he called some "pretty elastic" figuring used to justify the purchases. He said he believed Flemming was "not following the intent of the law" or Eisenhower's directives, in approving the zinc-lead purchase programs.

Jury Being Picked For Booher Trial

ROSEBURG (Special) — A 12-member jury was expected to be selected by Tuesday noon to hear an appeal by Willis Booher, of Curtin, who was found guilty last November of violating the state compulsory school attendance law.

Booher, who was found guilty in Drain Justice Court, has refused to send his 14-year-old son to Drain High School for religious reasons.

The appeal is being heard in the Douglas County Circuit Court of Judge Charles Woodrich.

Soviets Sending Aid

HAVANA, Cuba (AP) — The Soviet Union will send 400 farm technicians to Cuba, according to press reports here. Among those expected are agricultural engineers, economic and financial experts, veterinarians and specialists in poultry and zoology.

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