

County Schools Show Progress

10-Year Record
Discloses All
Around Advance

By BOB BARBER
Bulletin Staff Writer

County school population in Deschutes has increased over ten per cent in the past 10 years, a period which has seen considerable change and improvement in the rural education picture.

Mrs. Velma Buckingham has been Deschutes county school superintendent during the 10 years which saw consolidation of some districts and marked improvement of school facilities in others.

In 1947, this county had 791 students enrolled in elementary rural schools and 63 in high schools for a total of 854. In the half-score years which followed the student population jumped to 972, including 887 in elementary and 85 in the upper grades.

Ten years ago, the county counted 17 school districts which employed 30 teachers, including four in high schools and 26 in elementary schools. At that time, there was an average of 30.4 pupils for each elementary instructor.

Decade's Changes in Detail
Now, with 10 districts and 42 teachers and one part-time instructor in lower grades and 10 in high school, each elementary teacher averages 27.3 students.

Existing districts in 1947 which have either passed from the picture through consolidation or are transporting students to other areas include: Arnold, Plainview, Millican, Buena Vista, Cloverdale, Richardson, Deschutes and Hoeck Rock.

Enrollment in six of the 10 districts is higher now than it was in 1947, it is lower in three and the same in one.

Student totals have gone from 143 ten years ago to 182 in Tumalo, 3C; from 93 to 99 in LaPine, 4; from 250 to 273 in Sisters, 6; from seven to eight in Brothers, 15C; from 31 to 32 in Alfalfa, 24, and from four to five in Harper, No. 25.

Added Facilities For Tumalo
Remaining steady was Lower Bridge, No. 121, at 17. Dropping were Terrebonne, 3C, from 133 to 132; Cloverdale, 15C, from 39 to 23, and Young, No. 21, from 42 to 41.

The Tumalo district, in the fall of 1953, added the fifth teacher to the staff, another in 1954, and a seventh in 1955.

A bond issue was passed in June of this year which will allow an addition to the present school, and doing away with the old white



MRS. EDITH MAE JONES
Peripatetic music teacher with unique job

building and the teacherage which had been used as a class room for the past three years.

The new plant will provide eight class rooms, office, health, cafeteria and a multi-purpose room. Work is expected to start in a month and will be finished during the 1957-58 school year.

Tumalo has a conditionally standard rating.

LaPine, Terrebonne Improve
With one new teacher added in 1956, LaPine district grade school now has four. Three new high school class rooms have been provided in the past three years in addition to library facilities and a new heating plant. Elementary class rooms are being redecorated this year.

The LaPine elementary school has a standard rating and the high school has a conditionally standard mark.

Terrebonne's old two-story building was replaced in 1950 with a modern plant which includes six class rooms, office, health room, library, cafeteria and kitchen. The gymnasium has been re-

modeled and modern dressing rooms and showers installed.

In the opinion of Mrs. Buckingham, Terrebonne has one of the better small schools in Oregon. It carries a full standard rating.

Sisters and Brothers Progress
Improvement at Sisters in recent years has included a new primary building with four class rooms, office and library. A primary gym or multi-purpose room was also completed.

In 1955, a new, four-room upper grade multi-purpose room, cafeteria and kitchen were completed. A large play area and athletic field has been provided.

Both Sisters high and the elementary school carry full standard ratings.

Sisters was the first second class district in Oregon to teach a foreign language to elementary students. French has been taught for the past three years.

Due to decreased enrollment at Lower Bridge and the inability to obtain a suitable teacher, this district will transport pupils to Terrebonne this year.

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No 'Bells on Her Toes' but—

Children Make Music
Wherever She Goes

Mrs. Edith Mae Jones, Deschutes county rural school music instructor, is the only one in the state of Oregon who teaches in every classroom in a county, on a regular weekly basis.

The 1957-58 school year will be the fourth for Mrs. Jones in teaching and supervising music in the county system.

In addition to regular vocal instruction, rhythms, tonettes, rhythm bands and music appreciation are taught.

She carries with her, on trips throughout the mid-Oregon county, equipment which the small schools would find impractical to own.

Equipment includes a tape recorder, film strip machine, albums of records and a 35 mm projector.

Bait Fishermen Like Todd Lake

Frozen over and inaccessible except by foot until well into early summer, Todd lake in the mountains southwest of Bend comes into its own in late summer and early fall.

Then it becomes a favorite Sunday afternoon picnic spot, and bait fishermen line the shores of its upper end.

Only a mile off the surfaced Cascade Lakes highway, North Century Drive, Todd lake sits like a crystal jewel at the foot of one-mighty Broken Top mountain. Its water support a good population of eastern brook trout. The fishing is hard to describe for it fits no pattern; sometimes you catch them, sometimes you don't.

Since no boats or floating devices are allowed on the lake, Todd offers a serenity not found on other lakes of the region. Even when the shores are relatively crowded with people, the lake's surface is unmarred except by the path of the moving wind and the leap of feeding trout.

Camping facilities at the lake are utilized from the day the road is open through the deer season. Though there is always room, you will seldom be alone here, at what some people call Central Oregon's family lake.

Quinn River, not far from Crane Prairie reservoir, was named for a sheep rancher, William E. Quinn, who was shot and killed by a packer on Sept. 2, 1894. A headstone on the burial spot near the river records his death at age 26.

Rural students look forward with anticipation to the weekly 30-minute period which is held in all rooms.

Another unique feature of the program is the music festival each spring when Mrs. Jones brings her class of some 780 pupils together for an afternoon of review of work accomplished during the year.

Metolius Is Spud Capital

The railroad has always been the mainstay of Metolius, the "Potato Capital of Central Oregon", and has made the small farming community, located geographically in the heart of the rich 50,000 acre North Unit irrigation project, a natural shipping point.

Potato warehouses line the railroad tracks at Metolius, shipping out more of the spuds per year than any other central Oregon city.

Recently construction was started by the Jefferson Potato company on a processing plant, slated to begin this fall turning out processed french fry spuds and whole-peels for the commercial restaurant and institution market, an entirely new phase of the potato industry.

Town Grows Again

The town got its start from the railroad when it was made a division point for the Oregon Trunk line in 1910, and at one time had a population of 500. Bad times, including the usual fire few central Oregon cities have avoided in their pasts, hit the town then, and it almost disappeared completely. In recent years, however, the trend has been reversed and the population now numbers nearly 200.

The name Metolius came from the river to the west of the town-site. It is the Indian word for spawning salmon or white colored fish. Early pioneers, however, pronounced it, and spelled it, Metolus.

At present, the future looks bright for the community, with its rising popularity as an agricultural shipping point. And another bright prospect also looms on the horizon—the proposed construction of the Round Butte dam by Portland General Electric. Should this project, to be located almost due west of the town, be undertaken, Metolius may well see a boom reminiscent of the old railroad building days, and somewhat more lasting.

Everyone Enjoys...
The Deschutes
County Fair!

Where else could one get a better look at the prosperity of our fertile lands—the best of the year's harvest—and the accomplishment of our fine 4-H boys and girls?

Actually, the Deschutes County Fair is a reflection of the present—and a preview of things to come.

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