

House Group Closes Hearings On School Reorganization Bill

Action by the House Education committee on the comprehensive school re-organization bill—one of three key education bills—was expected tomorrow.

A second hearing on the bill yesterday revealed support for re-organization from the Oregon School Boards Association, Parent Teachers Association, the Oregon Education Association and the League of Women Voters.

Opposition to the bill was voiced by Yamhill and Linn county farm bureau representatives who said they feared it would concentrate too much power in the state. They added that a simple majority vote

of members of a proposed new administrative district would enable more populous districts to gobble up little ones.

Virginia McBride, Coos county PTA council, said she felt re-organization would make the counties stronger by enabling them to completely re-study their school systems and re-organize them along more economic and beneficial lines.

Gardner Knapp, Oregon School Boards Association, said he favored the bill but thought re-organization could be accomplished without any "teeth" to compel re-organization.

Former State Sen. J. O. Johnson, Tigard attorney, did not like the compulsory provision of the bill, but favored re-organization. He drew a laugh from the 200-odd persons and the Democratic-controlled committee by saying "we Republicans did not take care of the schools, but we hope you (the Democrats) do."

Rep. Shirley Field, Portland Republican member of the committee, disputed his statement good-naturedly.

Commenting on loss of local control, C. C. Thompson, Jackson county, said it had been his experience in consolidated districts that geographical jealousies melted as the program progressed.

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Legislatively, Rep. Elfstrom has been interested in highway affairs, and served as vice chairman of legislative interim committee on highways, 1955-57. Presently he is vice chairman of house highway committee.

Rep. Elfstrom was born in Concordia, Kan., August 30, 1904. He came to Salem in the 1920's, married Hulda Roth and they have two children.

He was one of the original advocates of city manager plan for Salem. For many years conducted large retail business in Salem and is now engaged in contracting business under his own name.

He has been president of the Salem Rotary club, director of Salem Chest fund, Salem Base-ball club. He is member of Masons, Shriners and Elks.

NOBODY HURT OR EXCITED

Satch 'Real Cool' as Blast Jolts Concert

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A dynamite explosion outside scarcely caused Louis (Satchmo) Armstrong and his Negro-white band to miss a heat last night in a jazz concert before a segregated audience.

"That's all right, folks," the gravel-throated Negro trumpeter quipped, as the sound of the blast echoed through the administration building at the city's Chilhowee Park. "It's just the phone."

Nobody got excited, only a few persons got up to see what happened, and the show went on. There were no injuries and scarcely any damage.

The blast, which police said apparently was caused by no more than a single stick of dynamite tossed from a passing car, ripped a four-foot hole in mud

about 200 yards east of the building.

About 2,000 whites and 1,000 Negroes were in the building. Armstrong and his combo had returned from an intermission. They were striking up "Back o' Town Blues."

There were three Negro and two white musicians in the band, in addition to the Negro songstress and Armstrong.

He said the incident here, which he obviously wasn't taking very seriously, would not affect his current tour. The group will play tonight in Columbia, S. C., as scheduled, he said.

"Man, the horn don't know anything about it," he said. "I'll play anywhere they'll listen."

Police said the explosive apparently was tossed over a 10-foot wire fence from a car which passed the building without lights. They said they had no clues as to who threw it.

Segregation groups previously have protested white and Negro audiences, even on a segregated basis, at Chilhowee Park for concerts such as Armstrong's. But there had been no public protest against last night's program, billed well in advance.

Man Collapses At Bus Station

Willamette Ambulance Service Tuesday afternoon took Russell C. Johnson, Ontonagon, Mich., to the Salem Memorial hospital after he had collapsed at the Salem bus station.

Johnson was released after being at the hospital only about an hour and continued on to his destination Camp White, Medford, Oregon. Ambulance men said Johnson was believed to have collapsed as a result of medicine he received in Portland.

Recently a U. S. Army helicopter laid 14 miles of communication wire near Ft. Bragg, N. C., in less than six minutes.

MEET THE LEGISLATORS



REP. ROBERT ELFSTROM



REP. ROY FITZWATER

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Rep. Roy Fitzwater, (D), Lebanon, is the owner and operator of large fruit farm near Lebanon known as the Fitzwater Fruit farm. He has also engaged in raising livestock.

He is past chairman of Linn county horticulture committee and is chairman Land and Water Use committee of Farm Bureau. He is on Linn county Development committee and is former director of Lebanon Community hospital.

Rep. Fitzwater was born at Lebanon, Dec. 21, 1887, attended local schools, two years business administration at old Albany college. He married for second time in 1955. He has two sons by the previous marriage.

He is a big shipper of grain and potatoes. Saddle horses are his hobby and he belongs to Sanilum Wranglers, which sponsors annual Lebanon Roundup. He enjoys hunting and fishing.

Rep. Fitzwater is a member of the Christian church and Elks lodge. Even though he has resided on farm all his life, Rep. Fitzwater has been active in many civic enterprises in Lebanon.

He is serving on agriculture and livestock, food and dairying and elections committees in the house.

Millworkers Protest UO Shop Competition

The University of Oregon millwork shop came under fire last night at a public hearing before a subcommittee of the Joint Ways and Means committee.

Representatives of five Oregon woodworking concerns protested the competition they faced against the shop.

Chancellor John R. Richards of the State Board of Higher Education told the committee that the system was virtually forced into doing its own millwork. Most of the machinery and structures involved were obtained from surplus property from the federal government.

A spokesman representing several private woodworking concerns said the state system saved an estimated \$60,000 on a construction project on the Oregon State campus.

The university did not have to meet specifications which private contractors must and also would not have the same quality of inspection standards to meet, the spokesman said.

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CRYSTAL GARDEN
\$60 Cash Prize!
Ask For Your Free Ticket!

Personal Injury Law Suit Settled

A personal injury suit resulting from a traffic accident of 1955 was settled in Circuit Judge Val D. Sloper's court Wednesday before a jury could be drawn.

Robert Witt was the plaintiff in the case that involved several thousand dollars. Gary Neal Strang and Myron Strang were the defendants on the complaint that involved a read end collision.

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TICKETS NOW ON SALE

Chemawa Indian Dances
Chemawa Pageant
Feb. 25-26 Mon.-Tues. 8 P.M.

Willamette University Theatre
"THE VICTORS"
Fri., Sat., March 1-2
8:15 P. M.

FATS DOMINO IN SHOW OF STARS
Mar. 8 Friday 7 & 9:30 P.M.

VIENNA CHOIR BOYS
Willamette Concert Series
Friday, March 8, 8:15 P.M.

PORTLAND SYMPHONY
Tuesday, March 12, 8:15 P.M.

For Reservations
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