

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN
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Elimination of the small school districts either through consolidations with adjoining districts or through transportation of the pupils to some large district is recommended by Chas. A. Howard, state superintendent of public instruction as the one means of bringing about "the greatest ultimate economy without loss of school efficiency."

Consolidated districts, he points out, should be of sufficient size and valuation to provide stability of school administration at a reasonable cost. The trend in other states, he declares, is definitely in the direction of larger school districts.

In Oregon, according to Howard, there are nearly 600 schools with an average daily attendance for the year ranging from only one pupil to ten. Considerable savings, he suggests, can be made by closing many such schools and arranging for tuition and transportation of the pupils to adjoining districts. He carefully points out, however, that this is not always possible because of distance or poor roads and that many small schools are justified even though the cost per pupil is very high.

The state superintendent also calls attention to the existing gross inequalities in the ability of districts to support their schools, citing the fact that in 1931 tax levies for schools in Oregon's 2200 school districts ranged all the way from a minimum of one mill to a maximum of 49 mills.

Howard expresses considerable concern over the possible effect which salary reductions will have on education in this state.

"Teachers' salaries in Oregon are low in comparison with those of adjoining states," he declares. "Drastic and permanent cuts would ultimately result in serious damage to Oregon education. Any salary readjustments which seems necessary should be made as temporary expedients only and with definite plans for ultimately returning to the present schedules."

In a special letter forwarded to all county superintendents this week, Howard makes the following suggestions for reduction of school costs without loss of efficiency:

That small schools be closed wherever transportation and tuition can be provided for the pupils in an adjoining district at less expense.

That, wherever possible, two or more adjoining districts be merged or consolidated looking toward better schools at lower costs.

That ratio of pupil per teacher be increased where practicable.

That the number of small classes in high school be reduced and that elective subjects chosen by small groups be omitted or offered only in alternate years.

That definite provisions be made in the school budget for yearly payments on outstanding warrants as well as bonds.

That school warrants be issued in small denominations in order that they may be more easily marketable. School boards might well consider the plan of paying teachers' monthly salaries part by cash and part by warrant during the coming year.

Secretary of State Hoes has declared himself in favor of a 50 percent reduction in automobile license fees. Hoes points out that a 25 percent cut in the license fee with an additional one cent a gallon gasoline tax as proposed by some would raise more revenue than the present schedule and that if any relief is to be afforded the motorist a 50 percent slash in the license fee will be necessary.

However, the suggestion of the secretary of state does not meet with favor in the eyes of county judges and commissioners or members of the state highway department, who see in

such a proposal a serious menace to funds available for highway purposes, for construction and maintenance as well as bond and interest payments on obligations already entered into.

Fears entertained last week for the future of vocational education in Oregon appear to have been dispelled through action by Congress in eliminating this federal aid item from the economy bill. Word received here by O. D. Adams, state director for vocational education, indicates that this appropriation will be continued for the time being at least. Oregon receives approximately \$80,000 from this source, the fund going toward the support of vocational agricultural, home economics and trades and industries courses in the high schools of the state. One-half of the salary of instructors in these courses is paid from the federal fund, the other half being paid by the school districts. Forty-four high schools in Oregon benefit directly by this fund, including Coquille, Bandon, Myrtle Point and Coos River, all of which offer courses in vocational agriculture.

Every precaution will be taken against any invasion of Oregon by the foot and mouth disease which has cropped out in California again, according to Max Gehlar, state director of agriculture. Should the disease develop to serious proportions in California it is probable that a rigid quarantine will be set up against importation of any livestock from

that state.

The state highway commission will open bids on 17 projects involving an aggregate outlay estimated at approximately \$1,000,000 at its next meeting which is to be held in Portland on May 11. The commission expects to have its entire program for the year under way shortly after June 1.

R. A. Easton's Weekly Letter

After reading the "statements of candidates," (republican), it looks to me as though some of those candidate had made a date with a shroud and that there are others among them who expect to coast the nomination on calamity's toboggan to farm the farmers while farming is good.

Senator Steiwer gets my vote, he is not a windjammer.

Congressman Hawley was never a bubble-blower before he went to congress and in all the years of his congressional life he has never given windy service. He had "no interests" to serve but the public interests, regardless of fear or favor. That is why he gets my vote.

Hal Hoes, George Brown and I. H. Van Winkle, we don't have to do any guessing on those men. They get my vote.

Milt Scherping, as state treasurer, looks good to me; any man can vote for him and retain his own self respect.

After studying "statements of candidates," I am quite sure that there is

a chance for some men to have two obituaries, one in the statement of candidates, the other at their funeral services. The first one they can make to order, the other they have to take chances on.

R. A. Easton.

Would Save by Combining

(Myrtle Point Herald)
E. L. Vinton, Democratic candidate for County Surveyor, advocates the consolidation of the office of county surveyor with other offices where engineering is involved. An engineer, who is duly qualified by being registered in the State of Oregon, could take care of all engineering work and make a decided saving for the taxpayer.

Mr. Vinton has served as city engineer of Myrtle Point for six years and city engineer of Coquille for six years and for the past three years has made valuation surveys for the county assessor's office, and was deputy county surveyor for two years.

During the eleven years as a resident of Coos county, Vinton has learned the county from one end to the other and made surveys of all bottom lands as well as laid out drainage districts, logging railroads and county roads, and his experience would be a valuable asset and money saver for the office of county surveyor. The experience thus obtained can only be had by years of service in Coos county.

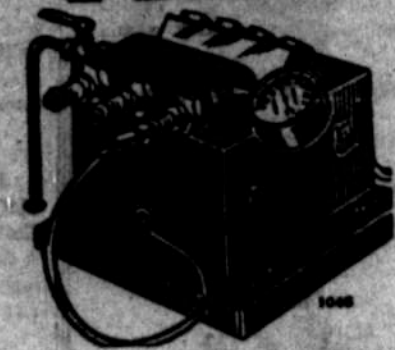
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Phone 133

Junior Hi Notes

To commemorate May Day, which was Child Health Day, Lincoln school held a track meet at the ball park last Friday afternoon. Winners of first and second places in the different events were as follows:

Running Broad Jump
Class I—Marvin Goodman, Vern Oederkirk.
Class II—Norman Ricketts, Alan Bailey.

Class III—Robert Waggoner, Norman Ricketts.
Class IV—Lewis Donaldson, Bruce Ackerman.

High Jump
Class I—Zoe Sinclair, Ted Miller.
Class II—Jim Schaer, Norman Ricketts.

Class III—Gail Cornelius, Norman Ricketts.
Class IV—Bruce Ackerman, Jim Miller.

Shot Put
Class III—Robert Waggoner.
Class IV—Lewis Donaldson, Bruce Ackerman.

Dashes for Boys
Class I, 40 yd.—Marvin Goodman, Vern Oederkirk.
Class II, 50 yd.—Alan Bailey, Norman Ricketts.

Class III, 75 yd.—Alan Bailey, Robert Waggoner.
Class IV, 100 yd.—Bruce Ackerman, Lewis Donaldson.

Dashes for Girls
Class I, 25 yd.—Imogene Hickam, Eileen Percy.
Class II, 40 yd.—Ella Arneson,

Martha Carrier.
Class III, 50 yd.—Caroline Irvine, Ida Caudle.

Class IV, 75 yd.—Caroline Irvine, Margaret Belloni.

Girls' Baseball Throw
Class I—Imogene Hickam, Ruth Mulvihill.

Class II—Lennis Terry, Ella Arneson.
Class III—Caroline Irvine, June Hickam.

Class IV—Caroline Irvine, Wave Gisholt.

In interclass competition the 7-A class was winner by a large number of points.

Bruce Ackerman broke the county broad jump record in practice this week.

Wave Gisholt, Reporter.

Registration Fees Reduced 5%

Purebred Jerseys past two years of age may be registered for a limited time at a fee of \$5.00 instead of \$10.00 according to information received by County Agent Jenkins from the American Jersey Cattle Club.

This temporary reduction was made by the national organization because of its appreciation of the present financial conditions of the country and in order that many worthy purebred Jerseys which have not been registered may now be registered at this saving to their owners.

According to Lewis W. Morley, executive secretary of the national organization, many breeders are taking advantage of this reduction.