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THE FARMER GETS HURT

The discussion over the discontinuance of kindergartens in the city of Portland also raises a question in other parts of the state, a question that will be very pertinent if the basic school bill does happen to pass next November. You see, few other areas in Oregon have ever had kindergartens.

The basic school bill is a new name for the same old thing: a bill to raise more tax money to increase teachers' salaries. There is nothing in the bill that the legislature cannot do at present, and, in fact, nothing that the legislature has not been doing. Oregon has been appropriating increasing amounts of state aid to schools since costs increased so rapidly.

Sec. 2 of the bill says that the money shall be used to "equalize educational opportunities and conserve and improve the standards of public elementary and secondary education throughout the state." For years educators have been saying that the best way to "improve the standards of public education" is to get rid of a lot of school districts and consolidate a lot of schools. That being the case it is probable that our present 1400 or so districts will be further reduced when and if the bill passes.

The provisions of the six percent limitation are waived in this bill, which means that the \$15,000,000 raised can—and eventually will—be in addition to any taxes that can be raised. That also means that this \$15,000,000 will come before other state expenses, before the care of the mentally ill, the criminal, before the payment of salaries of employees, before higher education, before veteran welfare, before agricultural aid, before anything.

The bill says that the revenues received by each district shall be included as revenue but "no part of such fund shall be apportioned and distributed to apply as an offset to a school district tax levy or to a county school fund." In other words the money is to be revenue but is not to be used to hold down school taxes. That means a clear increase in school taxes, either by the state or the district.

Anyone who takes a little thought on the school situation in relation to this bill immediately recognizes its impracticability. There will be no kindergartens in Locust Grove, Cherryville, Pine Ridge or Bear Creek; There will be no domestic science for pupils in Oregon's smaller high schools, no mechanical training, no football stadia. These will be one and two teacher schools and four or five teacher high schools and the educational opportunities will not be equal to those of Portland and the bigger city schools of the state.

What will be equalized is the taxes—to the extent the bill applies, which is intended to be a half. Farmer Brown will be helping to pay for good schools for children in congested areas. Farmer Brown will get the bill and some one else's children will get the education.

Equalization on a state basis puts a very glaring light on the serious inequities in the tax ratios between the counties of Oregon. The state tax commission admits these inequities but has not had to deal with them lately because all state funds have been raised from income taxes. This condition is about at an end. The tax commission refuses to defend these ratios. It has insufficient information to adjust them properly and legislative appropriations have been too small to permit the commission to gather the necessary information. This makes the equalization bear very heavily on some counties—some paying four and five dollars to one—under this proposed scheme. Rural areas are hurt worst.

It is a practical impossibility to equalize educational opportunities between schools; it is therefore unfair to equalize taxes throughout the entire state. The farmer gets hurt.

High feed costs, and ceilings caused a 30 percent drop in Oregon's turkey crop.

POST-HARVEST REST
Farmers taking their ease in town or taking trips to the coast before the start of school will always seem a trifle odd to the old timer who can look back on 30 years of wheat harvesting.

It has been a comparatively short time that the wheat grower could put his combine in the shed, put on his store clothes and go visiting. Other days had other necessities.

When the threshing machine moved off the ranch 30 years ago and relieved the farmer from rustling wood and potatoes for the ever hungry crew, he had to rig up his wagons and start hauling the wheat out of the setting piles. There was no delay about that job; it had to be done.

Horses in fours and sixes loaded up at night and pulled out to a good place to start in the chilly morning for horses sometimes bounced back from the collar if the start was difficult. When the haul was a long one there might be eight horses on three wagons. Such an outfit could sometimes haul 100 sacks to the warehouse at once and usually made one trip a day. Now one truck will deliver as much grain while the driver is smoking his post breakfast cigarette.

Wheat hauling was a long job, especially in good crop years, and often lasted until frost whitened the sacks in the dawn and the earth was hard with cold. On the long trips wheat haulers had lots of leisure for it took hours to make a trip, as many as eight or ten or twelve, with a few minutes banter with the warehouse crew the only respite in a solid day of solitude. One could think long thoughts as the wagons chucked slowly along the road and the mid day sun warmed the wagon seat.

And after that there were weeds to be taken from the fallow, a job that now never arises for they are not allowed to grow. Thirty years ago there wasn't time to keep them off the fallow. Machinery has simplified the job and although one farmer now tends the land that three or four used to farm back in the teens there is time for him to go see if the ocean is still beating the shore.

In Other Days

From the Observer, Sept. 9, 1927
Workmen for the Sherman Electric company last Saturday completed the work of connecting the farm residence and buildings on the C. W. Kenney farm with the high power line of the company running east of DeMoss Junction.

Last Saturday afternoon, when the tractor-pulled combine harvester operated by Bart Burrell pulled into the shed, I. D. Calbreath finished chalking up a record for sack sewing on a combine harvester in Sherman county. Mr. Calbreath sewed 28,860 sacks single handed in 37 days.

Mr and Mrs B. F. Payne of Grass Valley, are the parents of 8 1/2 pound daughter, born at The Dalles on Friday, September 2.

A heavy rain and hail storm from the east hit the town and farming country surrounding Grass Valley about noon Tuesday, covering the earth's surface with nearly an inch of hail stones.

From the Grass Valley Journal September 7, 1917
Glen King made an auto trip over the highway to Portland, Monday, taking his mother and two sisters, going from Portland to Mt. Angel where Misses Gladys and Mabel will enter college.

James F. Perkins of Wasco, order No. 33 and Albert Benefiel of Klondike, order No. 22 left Wednesday for the American Lake cantonment, the first two Sherman county boys to be called to the new National army.

At the session of the County Court Wednesday Geo. B. Bourhill was appointed County Treasurer to serve Mr. Wallan's unexpired term. The number of names on the petition were: Bourhill, 539; Fortner, 278.

From the Observer, Sept. 6, 1907
The Sherman county board of equalization will meet in Moro on the 16th.

Sherman county harvest is not half over. Too many wet mornings during this week.

Lost Wheel Causes Plane Accident

An airplane, flown by Jerry Barnett, overturned and was badly damaged on landing at the Wasco airfield Saturday afternoon. F. L. Watkins was also in the plane at the time of the crash. The plane, owned by Clarence Morrison, lost a wheel as it took off from the field, causing the accident on landing. Neither occupant was injured beyond considerable shock.

The Wasco Masons, Taylor lodge A. F. and A. M. met Tuesday evening at the Masonic hall for the first meeting of the fall. The attendance was not very large as many members are on vacation.

Mr and Mrs Stephen McMillin and Mrs B. E. Hailey have been enjoying a vacation at Seaside where they also visited friends, returning Tuesday evening.

Vivian Rust spent several days in a hospital in The Dalles last week where he received treatment for bronchitis. Mr Rust returned home last Thursday.

Albert Dormaier drove to The Dalles Monday morning where he called for his wife and infant daughter, Maxine Frances, born in a Dalles hospital Saturday evening, August 23rd. Mrs. Bernice Guy, mother of Mrs. Dormaier has come from her home in Portland to be with her daughter for a while.

Mr and Mrs Joe Hilderbrand and daughter, Patty, returned Sunday evening from a vacation trip in Washington. While there they visited Mr Hilderbrand's sister, and family who reside in Sunnyside.

Mr and Mrs A. D. Edgington have spent several days visiting in Wasco. They returned to Spokane Tuesday afternoon where they are now living.

Mr and Mrs Carl Tuggle, accompanied by Gaylord Guy, drove to the Hay Creek ranch near Madras on Wednesday. Mr and Mrs Tuggle returned on the same day. Mr Guy will work with Mr Tuggle's brother, R. L. Tuggle, doing

plowing work. Mr Tuggle recently returned to his home from Madras, due to illness.

Mr and Mrs Ora Workman and daughter, Janet, spent the Labor day week end visiting friends in Bend. They returned Monday evening.

Mr and Mrs Charles Everett are enjoying a visit from their son-in-law and daughter, Mr and Mrs G. G. Wolcott of Ashland. The Wolcotts plan to stay several days and visit many of their friends while in Wasco.

Mr and Mrs Williams Reid Jr. of Portland were guests of their parents, Mr and Mrs W. R. Reid over the Labor day week end. While in Sherman county they also visited, at the home of Mrs Reid's parents, Mr and Mrs Howard Conlee of Moro.

Mr and Mrs Vivian Rust left Thursday for an extended vacation trip in Washington and Oregon. While gone they will visit many friends and relatives and Mr Rust hopes to recover more fully from his recent illness.

Among business visitors in The Dalles Tuesday were Mrs T. Lester Johnson, Mrs George Harris, Mrs Ed Olson, Mr and Mrs Carl Tuggle, F. L. Watkins, Mrs Sadie Rich, Mrs Ove T. Hansen, Gaylord Guy and Mrs Willard Harp-er.

Mr and Mrs Tom Stultz and family have returned to their home in Wasco having recently purchased property owned by Mrs Jacobsen. Mr Stultz has been employed in the construction of grain elevators.

Mr and Mrs S. J. Brock are proud to report the birth of their grand daughter, Karen, born August 29 in a hospital in The Dalles. Parents of the baby girl are Mr and Mrs Brock's son and daughter in law, Mr and Mrs V. Brock who reside in The Dalles.

Mrs Cora Conley, sister of Mrs S. J. Brock, and daughter, Mrs Mamie Colby of Reno, Nevada are visitors at the Brock home.

W. Govro of Portland is visiting at the home of Mr and Mrs F. S. Lamborn.

Week end guests at the home of Mr and Mrs S. J. Brock were Mr and Mrs Donald Danta and daughter of Reedsport.

Arthur Van Gilder has gone to Gilliam county where he is doing harvest work for Ernest Shull.

Moro Lodge No. 113, I.O.O.F. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in I.O.O.F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us.

Ernest Hinton, N. G. A. R. Kessinger, Secretary

Lapine Rebekah Lodge No. 116 Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome.

L. McLaughlin, N. G. Florence Johnston, Sec.

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Mrs Sadie Rich was pleasantly surprised on Tuesday evening with a visit from her son, Gordon and his wife of Portland. Mr Rich and Miss Edna Bainter, of Portland, were married August 26 and were returning from a honeymoon trip in California.

Mr and Mrs Clinton Brock of Great Falls, Montana were visitors last week at the home of Mr Brock's parents, Mr and Mrs S. J. Brock.

Guests at the home of Mr and Mrs Everett Watkins over the Labor day week end were Mr and Mrs Percy Hargood, Mrs Robert Skibinski and daughter, Barbara; also their son in law and daughter, Mr and Mrs John Foss and their son and daughter in law, Mr and Mrs F. L. Watkins and family.

The first meeting of the fall session of Annie Fulton Chapter, O. E. S. will be held at the Masonic hall on Tuesday evening, September 10 at eight o'clock.

CHURCHES

Grass Valley Baptist Church
Morning Worship 11:00 a. m.
Evening service of song, prayer, and Bible study. 8:00 p. m.
Come and Fellowship with us.
Rev. Howard A. Schilling, Pastor

Wasco Methodist Church
Sunday School at 10:00 a. m.
Morning Worship at 11:00 a. m.
Preaching service at the Grass Valley Methodist church Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock.
F. L. Cannel, pastor.

Moro Community Church
Sunday School 10:00 a. m.
Church Services 11:00 a. m.
Haldane Duff is to be in Moro every night this coming week. Descendant of an old Irish family engaged one time in linen manufacturing Duff has traveled over the European continent.

Christian Science Society
Subject of Christian Science
Lesson Sermon 11:00 A. M.
"CHRIST JESUS"
Wednesday meetings first and third Wednesdays of each month include testimonials of healing. The reading room in the rear of the church contains all authorized Christian Science literature which may be borrowed or purchased.

E. A. Ruggles
INSURANCE
MORO Phone 271 OREGON

T. Lester Johnson
LAWYER
WASCO MORO

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
All persons having claims against the estate of Kathryn Kersey, deceased, are hereby notified to present them, in proper form, to the undersigned, the duly appointed, qualified and acting Administratrix, with the will annexed, of the estate of Kathryn Kersey, deceased, at the office of Geo. G. Updegraff, Moro, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice, to wit: August 16, 1946.
May Kuks
Geo. G. Updegraff,
Attorney for Administratrix with the Will Annexed.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
All persons having claims against the estate of John Cecil Fields, deceased, are required to present them with vouchers to the undersigned, at my residence at Wasco, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice. The date of the first publication of this notice is August 30, 1946.
PRUDENCE DINGLE FIELDS
Administratrix
DICK & DICK
Attorneys for the Estate
43-6c

Wasco Public School will open its doors at 9 a. m. on the morning of September 16 to welcome the students for another year's work. The teaching staff is entirely complete and awaiting action.

The measure of a man's real character is what he would do if he knew he would never be found out.

WASHINGTON COLUMN

(Continued from Page One)

counted for 71% of the value, but only 19% of the weight. Russia exported 1,682 carats of cut emeralds to the United States last year. However, the quality was poor, and only brought 19 dollars a carat. New York City, the whole sale jewelry trade center, expects a drastic drop in prices some time within the next year, and dealers of all classes are beginning to unload as fast as they can. New purchases are being made on a month to month basis. Oregon farmers have been producing only about half of the pork consumed within the state.

GEORGE C. UPDEGRAFF
Attorney At Law
Moro and Wasco

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