

PROPOSED LAW MAKES ADDITIONAL SCHOOL FUNDS

Members of the Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers will soon be called upon to sign and assist in circulating petitions with the proposition of amending section 4 of article 8 of the constitution of the State of Oregon. This amendment deals with the distribution of school funds. Briefly, it states that if the income from the irreducible school fund is not sufficient to provide \$10.00 per census child, it shall be the duty of the legislature to pay from the revenues of the state, a sum sufficient to equal not less than \$10.00. Any funds so distributed shall not be in lieu of any revenues raised at the present time.

Unquestionably there will be much argument for and against such a proposition. In order to keep the issue clearly before the people of Oregon, several important points should constantly be kept in mind.

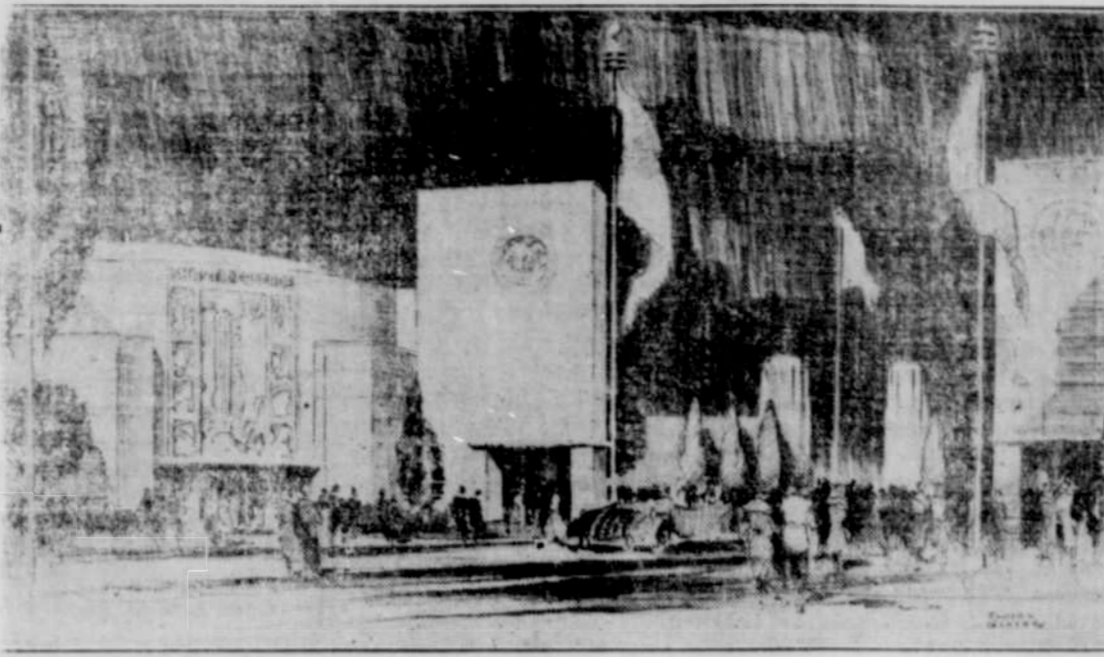
(1) It is the duty of the State of Oregon to provide funds for the maintenance of schools. Section 3 of article 8 says, "the legislative assembly shall provide by law for the establishment of a uniform and general system of common schools." Most other states have recognized this policy by giving definite aid from the state general fund. The State of Oregon ranks lowest of all states in the union in the amount of state support given to schools, according to a survey of the Office of Education, United States Department of the Interior.

(2) It was the original intention that the State of Oregon should have substantial funds for the support of schools on a state-wide basis through land grants from the federal government. Oregon received 3,399,360 acres. Of this amount, 1,162,722, or about one-third, remains and most of this is grazing land of low value. From the sale of the other two-thirds a fund of \$7,000,000 has accumulated which yields approximately \$350,000 per year, or \$1.25 per child. Compare this figure with Washington state. Of the original grant, 2,500,000 acres, there are 1,500,000 valuable acres left. The irreducible school fund in Washington has \$25,118,000, with an annual income of around \$1,150,000. To this is added an amount sufficient to yield

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PROPOSED SHASTA-CASCADE FAIR BUILDING



The drawing above is an artist's conception of the approved building designed to house the exhibits of the Shasta-Cascade counties group at the Golden Gate International Exposition; also the south gateway to the Court of the California Counties Group. The northern counties of Lassen, Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama and Trinity—and Jackson, Klamath and Lake (Oregon) will graphically display their natural resources, industries and vacation lure. Typifying the modern trend in architecture, in harmony with the Exposition theme, the spacious building—on the main arterial of the grounds—will face the California State Building and adjoin the northern entrance to the entire California group.

about \$45.00 per child per year. California pays from state funds \$60.00 per child in elementary school and \$90.00 in high school.

(3) Schools should not be obliged to designate the source from which revenues are to come for their support any more than other functions of government. The issue of the above proposal is whether the legislature will accept its obligation to give support to the schools as a function of state government and not shift its responsibility to smaller political subdivisions, such as school districts, frequently incapable of offering adequate school facilities.

(4) This amendment is designed to equalize in a small way educational opportunities. At the present time there is no tax on a truly state-wide basis for the support of the public schools, elementary or secondary. Income of approximately \$1.25 per census child is secured from the interest upon the irreducible school fund. The state elementary school tax is a so-called state-wide tax. However, it is a county tax in every respect except that no deductions are made for possible delinquencies. Under Oregon's plan in which no tax support for schools comes from the state itself, it is impossible to even approach equality of educational opportunity. This is obviously true because of the difficulties in valuations between the various school districts of the state. The state superintendent's biennial report is replete with examples of school districts maintaining schools under the most adverse conditions with a high tax rate, whereas other districts are able to maintain the finest educational service with scarcely no tax levy at all.

(5) This is a constitutional amendment and not unlike the plan followed in the state of California. Washington, through the passage of the new "Bare Foot School Boy Law" in 1933, has a plan for state support which includes among other things, approximately 50 per cent of the costs for common schools.

(6) Both California and Washington found it necessary to add other revenues to the income from the irreducible school fund in order to offer adequate school support on a state-wide basis. In both cases the state assumed the responsibility for finding the necessary sources of revenue.

The American Legion and Auxiliary besides the P.T.A. and other educational ladies are backing this.

Dental School to Be Held Saturday

"According to word received here today by Dr. R. D. Coe, President of the Southern Oregon Dental Society from Dr. Floyd H. DeCamp, Director of Oral Health for the Oregon State Board of Health, final plans have been approved to hold a post-graduate course in Medford on dentistry for the child.

This meeting will be held on the afternoon and evening of Saturday May 14th at the Hotel Medford beginning at 1:30 P.M. and will be sponsored by the local dental society, cooperating with the Dental Division of the Oregon State Board of Health, the Oregon State Dental Society, and the Oregon State Board of Dental Examiners.

Local dentists will be given the opportunity to hear technical papers, scientific discussions, and classes by specialists in the field of children's dentistry.

Among the speakers will be Dr. J. Allan Sampson of Vancouver, B. C., specialist in children's dentistry, formerly Associate Editor of Oral Health. Dr. Sampson is a graduate of the University of Toronto and is a speaker of note. Dr. Floyd H. DeCamp, Director of Oral Health for the State of Oregon, also a specialist in the field of dental health education and children's dentistry, will also be present and have a prominent part in the program.

The local dental committee are formulating plans for an excellent meeting. Dentists will be in attendance from the county and a number of surrounding cities.

Federal Hatcheries Bill for Columbia Up to President

The bill authorizing an appropriation of \$500,000 for establishment of Federal fish hatcheries on the Columbia River and its tributaries, which was sponsored in the National House of Representatives by Congressman James W. Mott, was passed by the House on May 3rd and has been sent to the President for his signature.

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HOWARD NEWS

P.T.A. will meet Friday May 13th at 1:30 P.M. at the school. There will be election of officers and installation by Mrs. Jas. K. Hoey, Council President. Miss Mary Bell, county nurse, will talk on the Health of the child and will answer any questions asked. Plans will be made for the 5th grade banquet.

Mrs. Lander's uncle and aunt Mr. and Mrs. Earl Vaughan of Los Angeles and Mr. Lander's nephew and niece and family, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Munh, all of Boise, Idaho were guests at the Lander's home last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Peabody and Roger VanKewren of McCloud, California spent Sunday with Roger's parents Mr. and Mrs. Frank Glenn of Barnes Ave.

Mrs. John Linville has bought the Casey place on Berrydale Ave.

Mrs. Richard Landers underwent an appendectomy at the Hospital Tuesday morning. She is doing nicely.

Bill Crawford is back in school after having been absent most of last week due to a badly injured eye.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Sater, Helen Storm and Derva Jeanne Sater spent Sunday afternoon in Beagle.

The operetta of "The Legend of the Sleep-Hollow" will be given by the upper grades in the Howard gymnasium Friday May the 13th at 8 P.M.

Wendell and Dale Foss registered in the first grade May 10th for 4 days while their parents are here with the carnival.

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