



## Salem Scene

by Everett E. Cutter

Probably in no other phase of preation of our state are there to be found more sacred cows than in public education.

Every procedure, standard, method, proposal, requirement, expenditure and budget comes under public scrutiny, and each seemingly has its defenders as well as critics. Public interest is understandable and commendable, because Oregon's exemplary school system takes the lion's share of all state and local tax dollars. And everyone pays, whether or not he has children in school at the moment.

Currently wrestling with complexities of the state's educational system here are Standing Committees on Education in both the Senate and House. They are chaired by veteran legislators and education experts. Senate Majority Leader Al Flegel (D-Roseburg) and Rep. Carrol B. Howe (R-Klamath Falls), and they work within a framework imposed by such limiting forces as Oregon's tax structure, state money available to local districts, legal requirements for teacher certification and trying to preserve concepts of local administration.

Interviewed this week, both chairmen spoke optimistically about the future of Oregon's educational opportunities. Their views on many issues reflect accord between the Senate and House, but they are not without their differences.

### Money Greatest Problem

The greatest problem facing our schools, in Sen. Flegel's mind is a lack of money. He looks for legislation to come out of this session to change the formula for allocating state basic school support funds to local districts, and would support legislation to eliminate distribution equalization on either state or county level.

Rep. Howe believes money problems can be solved, and that a shortage of good teachers and administrators is "Oregon education's most severe headache." Our own higher education system supplies only half our teacher needs, he notes, and cites statistics showing that only 1,261 of Oregon's 2,442 new elementary and secondary

teachers in 1965-66 graduated in Oregon.

While he opposes current bills to remove teacher certification responsibility from the State Board of Education, he does blame overly-stringent certification requirements as the main teacher shortage cause. In 1961, says Rep. Howe, the legislature "leaned over backward to satisfy critics, setting educational requirements too high—far beyond the level of the average teacher then teaching.

"These tight restrictions discourage young people from entering teaching. As a result, we have to issue emergency certificates, and we get lower quality educators."

Sen. Flegel sees no real teacher shortage generally; in some subjects there are shortages and in others there are surpluses. School districts do not contact him regarding shortages, he says, and they always seem to have enough teachers when school starts. He further maintains that a shortage would be "wealthy as far as salary schedules are concerned."

**Merit System Eyed**  
Concerning salaries, the chairmen agree on the value of a new bill which proposes to base teachers' pay on a merit rating system. Sen. Flegel questions the feasibility of having one teacher judge another—"judging the merit is the crux of the situation." But where the system is used, in Parkrose, Rep. Howe points out, it is very expensive but rewarding to good teachers. With one man rating them, all teachers reach the top of their salary schedules and merit rating takes 70 per cent of them beyond, he says.

Both Sen. Flegel and Rep. Howe are enthusiastic in their support of Oregon's now-burgeoning community college system, chiefly because less-expensive education is offered youths in their home towns. The state pays two-thirds of operational expenses and 85 per cent of building costs, the senator notes, "but running them is also a lot cheaper than other colleges. The student pays one-third as much, and avoids prohibitive commuting costs."

Rep. Howe sees great potential in technological fields for "community colleges: They will play an important part in our economy by supplying Oregon industry with the types of skills needed."

Sacred cow consideration comes to the fore in discussing possible cutbacks in curriculum to relieve education costs, and both men are quick to challenge a critic for a definition of "frills."

Sen. Flegel says flatly: "Talk of frills is an excuse for criticizing a system to make inroads in it, politically."

"Frills are different things to different people," the House committee leader agrees, "but any cutting back will have to be done on the district level. He sees more waste—and drain on teachers and administrators—in "grantsmanship" educators working on federal research grants.

"We are wasting personnel and money on paperwork to cook up schemes to get more federal money," Rep. Howe charges. "Why not just return one per cent of the federal income tax and distribute it the same as the other? That's aid to education."

"Federal money now comes to us with the restriction that we can't use it for things we consider important enough to already be paying for ourselves. That's 'add' to education."

### Hold Posture Study

The Ruralettes 4-H club had a meeting on February 14 at Christine McCabe's home. We discussed posture and different ways of improving our own. For roll call we gave the different fashions for this year. Mrs. McCabe served refreshments. The club will meet next on March 13 at the Roland Bergstrom home.

Carley Bergstrom, reporter  
Gazette-Times ads pay

## Irrigon Church Hosts Meeting

By DONNA EFFENBACH

IRRIGON—The Umatilla Baptist Association held its March meeting at the Irrigon Community Baptist church Sunday, March 5. Registration began at 1:45 in the A. C. Houghton School Cafeteria.

First meeting began at 2:15 with a short worship service and a welcome by the host pastor, the Rev. Herbert Vaughan.

Dinner was served at the cafeteria and the evening service was held at the church sanctuary at 7:30 p.m.

### Party Honors Mrs. Vaughan

A group of friends surprised Mrs. Mary Vaughan Saturday evening at their trailer home, with a come as you are birthday party. Cake, punch and coffee were served and she received many nice gifts.

Those attending were Mrs. Sylvia Morgan, Mrs. Mary Adams, Mrs. Eva Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Graybeal, Mr. and Mrs. Al Eppenbach, Mrs. Naomi Marlow, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Eppenbach and Mark, Mrs. Kenneth Eppenbach, Cindy, Terry and Cheryl, Mr. Herb Vaughan and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Eppenbach.

Mrs. Elnora Paxson left Friday with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Paxson for a visit in Vancouver, Wash. Coming with Mr. and Mrs. Paxson were Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hamilton of Vancouver.

Visitors last week at the home of Rev. and Mrs. John Kenney were his brother-in-law, Mark Buchanan and son, Dan Buchanan of Edmonds, Wash.

Guest speaker at the Sunday evening service at the Irrigon Assembly of God church was Rev. Morris Devin Missionary to Indonesia. He showed color slides and spoke on the country.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. McGinnes and family of Vernonia were week-end guests of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Don Gillyhorn.

Mr. and Mrs. James Forney of Hermiston are the parents of a 9 lb., 8 oz. boy, Thomas William, born on February 27, at the Hermiston hospital. Maternal grandparents are: Mr. and Mrs. Earl Sanders, Irrigon, and paternal grandparent is Mrs. Bertha Forney, St. Helens. Maternal great-grandmother is Mrs. Elnora Paxson of Irrigon.

Sunday afternoon visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Al Partlow and Sheril were Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Keller and son of Granger, Wash.

Menus for the A. C. Houghton school for the week of March 20-25 are as follows:

Monday — Barbecued beef, fluffed potatoes, buttered carrots, peaches; Tuesday — Chili beans, corn bread, green salad, prune wrap; Wednesday — Turkey and noodles, buttered broccoli, applesauce, cinnamon rolls; Thursday — Spanish rice, pear gelatin salad, Harvard beets, cherry crunch; Friday — Creamed tuna over hot rolls, green beans, berry cobbler, milk, bread and butter are served with all meals.

## Birthday Wishes Given at Party

(Held over from last week)

By DELPHA JONES

LEXINGTON—Mrs. Gene Cole of Heppner and Mrs. Alvin Wagenblast of Lexington were hostesses to a surprise birthday party on Friday honoring Mrs. Charles Colley. The afternoon was spent visiting and playing pinochle, after her many lovely gifts were opened.

Those winning prizes were Mrs. Florence McMillan, high; Mrs. Wagenblast, low; Mrs. Colley, traveling, and Mrs. John Jackson, door prize.

Others present for the afternoon were, Mrs. C. C. Jones, Mrs. Kenneth Marshall, Mrs. A. F. Majeske, and Mrs. Cole, and Steve Wagenblast joined the group later. Refreshments were served by the hostesses.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Colley were recent callers at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Schafer of Hermiston.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Wagenblast enjoyed a visit from about 47 friends and relatives at their home the evening of the Heppner Sherman game. These guests were Sherman county citizens, and while the group enjoyed refreshments a good deal of getting acquainted and visiting was enjoyed.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Jones were Baker county callers on Wednesday where Mr. Jones visited at the Glenn Payton home at Keating and Mrs. Jones conducted an HEC conference at Haines, Mrs. Eldson of Richland, Ore., was hostess to the affair.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Palmer had as their guests on Friday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Majeske and Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Jones.

Olive Reade and son Kenneth of Spray were visitors in Lexington on Friday, having dinner at the Charles Colley home.

Lt. Gary Miller and Mrs. Miller and three children were dinner guests of the C. C. Jones family last Thursday, where they visited his brother Earl Miller. The family was on its way to Stuttgart, Germany, where he will be stationed for four years. They were also callers at the Charles Doherty home in Ione.

Anita Davidson who has been a patient in St. Anthony hospital is now at her home. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Davidson.

Mrs. Emma Breshears was taken to the hospital in Heppner last Wednesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Greg Levya were visitors at the home of her parents on Friday. Melinda Levya, who has been with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Steagall, returned to her home in La Grande. Dennis remained for a further visit at the Jerry Dougherty home.

Dean Wright, reporter

## Serviceman Moves To New Vietnam Post

SP/4 Richard L. Clark has moved recently to a new location in Vietnam and will soon be due for a rest and recreation leave of five days in Hawaii. Clark has been on active duty in Vietnam for seven months.

At the time of his recent move he was part of a crew that built its own base and he will be living in a building instead of a tent for the first time in his seven months of duty.

According to word received by his family his crew did not have any holiday dinners but they had a chance to see one of the Bob Hope Christmas shows.

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PENDLETON

## 'Sound Footing' Is Requirement For Young Bulls

By GAIL L. McCARTY  
Morrow County Agent

Whoever said "no foot, no horse" might just as well have said "no foot, no bull" and thrown in legs for good measure. Sound feet and legs on your cattle become especially critical on steep or rocky ground where cattle need to travel long distances. While very few cattle are unsound enough to starve to death in such country, a good many are unsound enough to cut gains, milk production or breeding efficiency.

Studies have shown that bulls spent much less time grazing and traveled twice as far as cows each day. This means the ability of a bull to travel is especially critical if he is to maintain himself and tend to business. He might have blue ribbon conformation and more famous ancestors than the Queen of England, but if he can't cover your country and your cows, he sure won't put many calves on the ground.

Be especially critical of legs in buying young bulls. Age and added weight tend to compound problems. Careful inspection before turning bulls out may call for trimming hooves to help correct minor faults and overgrown toes. When excess trimming is required, it should be done in steps over a period of time to prevent quickening and lameness. Animals accidentally cut into the quick might benefit from a tetanus shot.

Remember to try and keep your cattle business on a "sound footing".

**Wool Pool**  
There will be a meeting for all persons interested in the formation of a Morrow County Wool Pool next Tuesday, March 14, starting at 8:00 p.m., in the County Agent's Conference room. All wool producers are invited to attend and express their views.

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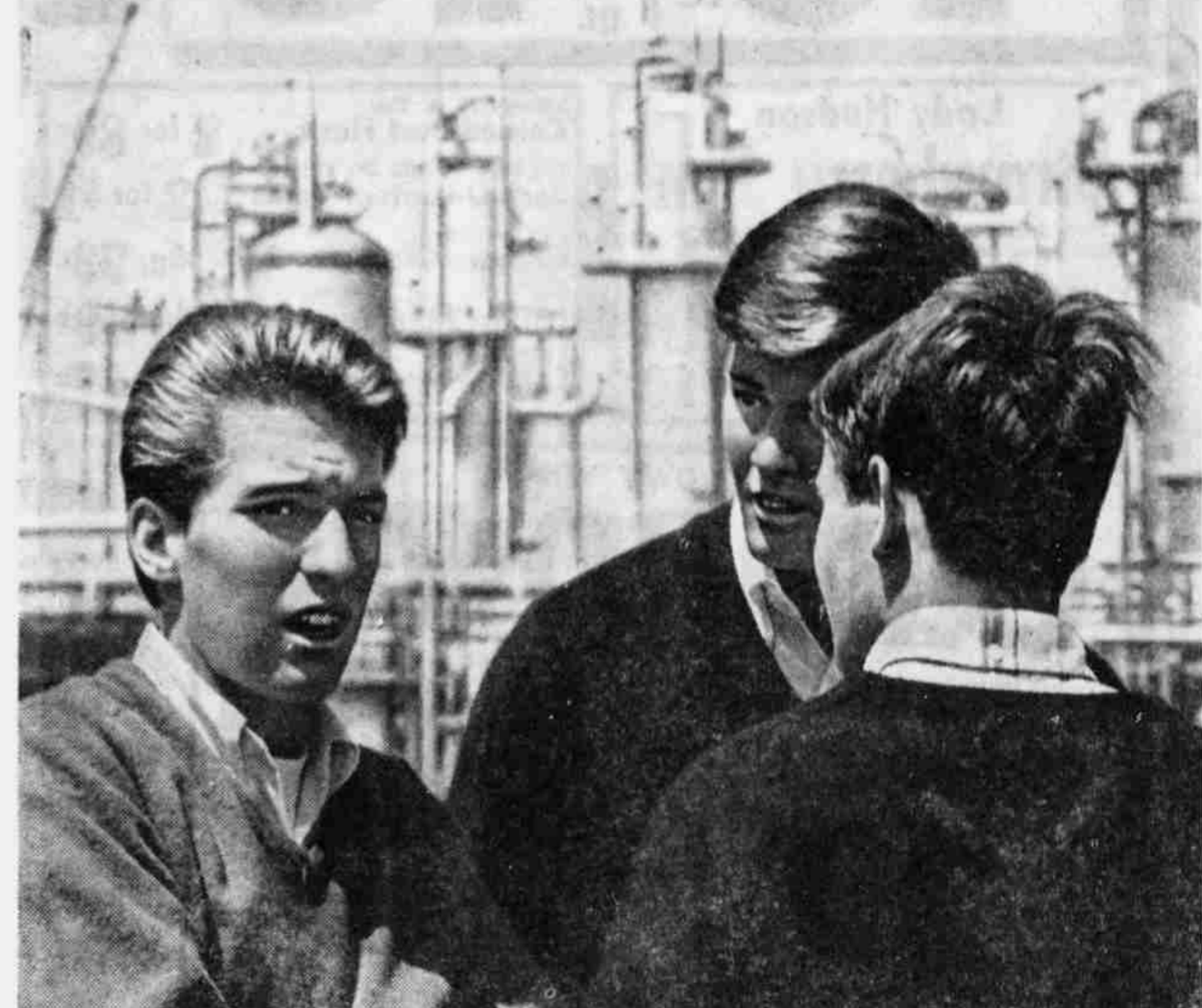
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