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ELMER F. GOODWIN OUTLINES NEW COUNTY UNIT SCHOOL PLAN FOR OREGON SCHOOLS

Principal Goodwin of the Union high school has drawn up a plan for a county school unit bill which will be presented to the state teachers' association which will meet in Portland, December 29 to 31.

Mr. Goodwin was asked by County School Superintendent W. C. Alderson to formulate and submit his ideas on this subject. Mr. Goodwin has devoted much time to the matter, has consulted the best authorities and gathered information from all over the United States. The result is a completely outlined plan apparently covering all the essential points in connection with a county unit system of country school supervision for the whole state.

The plan submitted by Mr. Goodwin eliminates the features which many regarded as objectionable in the county unit plan passed by the last session of the legislature and over which there was such a strong local fight. Its operation was made to depend on a favorable vote in the county when submitted by the county superintendent. It was not submitted to the voters.

Of the county unit plan as a method of school administration Principal Goodwin says in his letter to Superintendent Alderson: "It is not new. It has been tried out in other states for several years with good results. Oregon may improve upon the plans in use. At least we may copy anything from them that we are sure will improve our present school system."

The plan provides for the election of a county board by the people and a county superintendent by the board.

Mr Goodwin has studied the laws and has consulted authorities regarding the power of the legislature to change the manner of choosing a county school superintendent, it being contended that this would involve amending the constitution. Mr. Goodwin does not think so. He says:

The county school superintendent is not an officer under the Constitution. County officers are mentioned under Article VI of the Constitution, and in sections 6 and 7. Section 6 reads as follows: "County Officers. There shall be elected in each county, by the qualified voters thereof, at the time of holding general elections, a **county clerk, treasurer, sheriff, coroner,** and **surveyor,** who shall severally hold their offices for the term of two years." There is no mention of county school superintendent in this section. However, there is another section for "Other Officers" under which, I believe, the county school superintendent is elected for each county under the present system. This is section 7, which reads as follows: "Other Officers. Such other **county,** township, precinct, and city officers as may be necessary shall be elected or appointed in such manner as **may be prescribed by** law." The last five words, it seems to me, settle this question. It is a matter of law, and the legislature is supreme in law-making power. I have consulted legal authority on this question, and I know of, at least, one other state with similar law as to election of county school superintendent which was changed by act of legislature."

Proposed Plan.

1. Unit of Taxation—The county should be the unit of taxation, and administration of schools, (except that, in administration, certain incorporated towns and districts of the first class, employing a city school superintendent, would not be included.)

2. County School Tax.—The county school tax should be levied on all the taxable property in the county, and divided between the incorporated towns employing a city school superintendent and districts of the first class, and the rest of the county on a basis of school population.

3. County School Funds.—The county school funds, including those raised by taxation and those received from the state, should be expended in such a way as would as nearly as possible insure equal educational opportunities in all parts of the county regardless of the amount raised in any particular part. Second and third class districts should be permitted to raise by taxation or otherwise, additional funds to supplement the county funds, provided said district desired a better school plant, trict desired a better school plants, ficient teaching force than could be provided from county funds.

4. County Board of Education.—There should be a county board of education elected by popular vote, in which is vested the administration of the public schools of the county, (except those in incorporated towns employing a city school superintendent and districts of the first class,) composed of five persons elected from the county at large or from zones; the board to be non-partisan; the term of office to be five years, and the terms arranged so that not more than one-fifth would expire in any one year.

5. County School Superintendent.—A county superintendent of schools,—a professional educator, should be selected by the county board of education from within or without the state, for a long term (at least two years), who should serve as the secretary and executive officer of the county board, and as such be the recognized head of the public schools of the county, (except those in incorporated towns employing a city school superintendent and districts of the first class.) A superintendent should not superintend a superintendent of equal rank and experience.

6. District Board Members.—Districts of the second and third class should retain their boards of education, to be elected by the voters of the respective districts, or selected by the county board, to be custodians of the local school property and to serve in an advisory capacity to the county board. The expenditures of local funds should rest with these local boards subject to the approval of the county board.

Before attempting to enumerate some of the powers and duties of (1) the County Board of Education: (2) the County School Superintendent, and (3) District Boards of Education, permit me to make a brief explanation relative to the above 6 points:

Explanation

1 Unit of Taxation.—With the coming of the automobile, electricity and good roads, community centers have enlarged. The community is no longer just the district,—it may now be the county. For the same reason that the people of the district formerly paid a uniform rate of taxation for school purposes, the people of the county should now pay a uniform rate. Uniform rate of taxation for public school purposes throughout the state will be the next step in advance, and the ideal system will be a uniform rate of taxation on all the property of the nation for public school purposes.

2 County School Tax. — This point needs no explanation except to say that it is approved and recommended by Hon. P. P. Claxton, Commissioner of Education of the United States, and other eminent educators mentioned on page 3.

3 County School Funds.—It is the intention of this change in our school laws to insure as nearly as possible equal opportunity to every boy and girl in our state. The county board of education would take a broad view of the expenditure of the funds of the county so as to make the schools as nearly uniform as possible. At present, the little red schoolhouse in many districts has served the purpose for which it was built several years ago, and should be consolidated with other school property in the community. Uniform equipment and better teachers would come under a proper expenditure of the school funds of the county under this plan.

4 County Boards of Education.—The county board of education has charge of all the schools of the county, (except those in incorporated towns employing a city school superintendent and districts of the first class.) This provision centralizes the administration of the county schools, and gives the rural communities the same kind of school administration enjoyed by our great cities which have made such great progress in educational affairs. There are many more teachers in the city of Portland than in any county in Oregon. If a city board of education, composed of five members, can so successfully direct the educational affairs of a large city, certainly a board of five members can direct the educational affairs of a county in Oregon, exclusive of incorporated towns employing a city school superintendent, and districts of the first class.

5 County School Superintendent.—"The most important problem is to remove the office of county school superintendent entirely from party politics and place the superintendency on a professional basis with a permanent tenure and sufficient salary to attract the best persons in the profession to this exceptionally important office." Relative to the selection of the county school superintendent, Bulletin, 1919, No. 4, issued by the Department of the Interior, says:

"In electing the county superintendent, the county board of education should not be restricted to the county or even the state. The best candidate from anywhere in the country should be selected. The board should not be restricted by a candidate's religion, party affiliations, or sex. The term of office should be long, though at first probationary. The salary should not be less than $2500 in well-established counties."

Never before in the history of our educational system has there been such a need for men of superior skill to pilot our schools, and this is, perhaps, the chief element of strength in the plan suggested. The county school superintendent is to be the executive officer of the board and his principal duties are advisory, clerical assistance being provided to relieve him of the detail work. He can, therefore, give his entire time and attention to the improvement of the school system, especially the teachers in service.

Quoting from Dr. Elwood P. Cubberly of Leland Stanford University: "Under such a system of school organization (the County Unit Plan), educational progress can be made in a year which it would take a decade or more to obtain under the district system." Can we afford to continue longer under the present system, if this last statement is true?

6 District Board Members.—Commissioner Claxton says: "But the local community should invariably retain the right to levy taxes and issue bonds for extraordinary school purposes, such as acquiring additional land sites, erecting new buildings, etc. This is a guaranty of local autonomy; for where the right of taxation is vested, there is the real power."

Continued on page 3

WHERE THE MONEY WENT

This is one of the illuminating pictures brought back to the United States by Representative Royal Johnson, who, with two of his colleagues, has been investigating the War Department's overseas extravagances following the armistice. It shows thousands of motorcycles and other costly vehicles, some of them new, consigned to the trash heap and ready for burning without the removal of tires and other serviceable parts. In this country at many camps colossal waste of automobiles and trucks is similarly in evidence.

FOOTBALL TEAM WINS AGAINST CANBY HIGH

The game here Wednesday afternoon between Union high and Canby high elevens was another "walk over" for the local team, the score standing 58 to 0 in our favor.

Two of the regular and heaviest players, Peak and Skirvin, were out of the game on account of slight injuries recently received. This may have weakened the team somewhat but the whole team is said to have "starred." Gran did particularly good work on the line and Ted Johnson in the backfield.

The local team is trying to arrange a game with Estacada, possibly on December 5.

Out of seven games played this season only one has been lost to Union high.

VETERAN PASTOR DIES AT PORTLAND HOME

Halbert H. Crosier, a well-known minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, died at his home in Portland on November 24, aged nearly 82 years. He is survived by his widow, four sons and two daughters. One son, W. R., lives near Pleasant Home.

College Hens are Vaccinated.

Hens entered from Corvallis in the big egg laying contest at Storrs, Conn., Pullman, Wash., and Puyallup, Wash., which started Nov. 1, were vaccinated for roup by Dr. F. W. Miller of the department of veterinary medicine at the college. The college poultry department sent two pens to each contest and J. A. Hansen, owner and manager of the College View Poultry farm, also sent two to be entered in each contest.

The vaccine used was obtained from Dr. W. T. Johnson of the Washington State Experiment station at Puyallup, Wash. The veterinary department plans to produce all of the vaccine needed here in the future. The vaccine is injected into the inner side of the thigh by means of a hypodermic needle.

A Coleman Quick-Lite lamp will make your home bright as day. L. L. Kidder Hdw. Co.

OFFICERS ELECTED IN WOODCRAFT CIRCLE

An interesting session of Clover Circle Neighbors of Woodcraft was held this week, when officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Past G. N., Mrs. Elizabeth Jack; G. N., Mrs. Minnie Clanahan; advisor, Mrs. Ella Middleton; clerk, Mrs. Erdine Beadle; banker, Mrs. Eliza Metzger; magician, Mrs. Emma Manning; captain of guards, Mrs. Carrie Powell; attendant, Mrs. Alta Truitt; inner sentinel, Mrs. Josie Bliss; outer sentinel, Mrs. Rose Metzger; managers, John Metzger; Ella Middleton, Harry Truitt; musician, Miss Mildred St. Clair.

War Loan Organizations.

Fraternal organizations, counties, municipalities and other political subdivisions are classed as individuals in a telegram from the Treasury Department to Governor John U. Calkins of the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank ruling that such societies and corporations cannot invest more than the limit of $10,000 in war savings stamps and treasury savings certificates. The ruling was asked by Robert E. Smith, Director for the Twelfth Reserve District, in part of fraternal organizations especi- response to a general demand on the of the War Loan Organizations esally for the privilege of investing beyond the thousand dollar mark in the Government War Savings Securities.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Leffingwell, who sent the telegram, called attention, however, to the fact that the individuals of a fraternal organization can each invest the limit or have $1000 invested in his name. Secretary Leffingwell also pointed out that many fraternal organizations are buying Liberty Bonds and Victory notes with excess funds.

The emperor of Japan is a lover of horses. He has sent a livestock expert to this country to find him horses. A trotter that meets requirements will be bought for as high as $50,000.

I shall pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.—Anonymous.

THERE AIN'T GONNA BE ANY BONES

Y. M. C. A. TO EXTEND PRE-WAR PROGRAM

Plans for the continuance and extension of its pre-war program of work among the men of the army and navy were announced recently by the Pacific Coast office of the Y. M. C. A. The re-adjustments of its personnel and equipment which have been necessary in complying with the new government regulations placing all welfare work in camps with the exception of the permanent pre-war buildings of the Y. M. C. A. under direction of the war-plans division of the General Staff, are being rapidly completed and the efforts of the army and navy branches of the association are now being directed toward strengthening their program and increasing their facilities for service in the communities adjacent to the camps.

"There is no cessation of effort on the part of the Y. M. C. A. to aid the men in service," stated F. A. McCarl, executive secretary for the Western division. "The war department has decided that certain duplication of effort which has resulted from the presence of several warfare organizations in the camps can be best avoided by attempting to provide the men with this class of service through a department of the army itself. So far as the war-work type of camp activities are concerned the Y. M. C. A. steps out from that along the other welfare organizations, but holds itself ready to co-operate with the army in every possible way."

At the request of the government the 1300 secretaries who on Nov. 1 were still conducting activities in 593 temporary Y. M. C. A. huts in camps within the continental limits of the United States have been urged by the national war-work council to consider remaining with the army under direction of Major General W. G. Han. The temporary huts have been turned over to the government without reimbursement wherever it has been found feasible for them to be used. Twenty-nine huts have been so taken in the Western department.

The present arrangement leaves the Y. M. C. A. free to continue its activities in the permanent buildings and navy yards and in army and navy Y. M. C. A. buildings located in communities adjoining any camp or cantonment. In fact the war department has urged that the association continue and enlarge this type of service and provide new buildings for this work where needed.

Both the war and navy departments have been very warm in their commendation of the work which the Y. M. C. A. has performed and Secretary Baker and Secretary Daniels have each urged the further cooperation of the association with their departments. In the Western division we will continue to operate the permanent building in the Presidio and the Embarkadero building in the city of San Francisco, together with the navy association buildings at Bremerton, Mare Island, Yerba Buena, San Pedro and San Diego.

The huts in operation on November 1 of this year and which are taken by the government, represent but a small fraction of the number which were being operated a year ago at the signing of the armistice, when there were in the United States 1,171 huts with 5,715 secretaries and other employes. Altogether the Y. M. C. A. constructed a total of 5,953 buildings in the camps during the war period at a cost of $7,768,984. These served their purpose during the training and demobilization of the troops and were closed when the abandonment of camps or withdrawal of men removed the further need for them.

Read by all—Outlook want ads.

FARMERS' WEEK OFFERS COURSES

Farmers and home-makers week at the Oregon Agricultural college this year will be held beginning December 29 and ending January 3.

To Oregon farmers and housewives will be offered 15 courses in scientific farming and home making.

A series of five evening assemblies has been arranged, consisting of get-together and "mixer meets," a college products banquet and special addresses by the nation's leading farm produces distribution specialists. The courses grouped under five heads are as follows:

Agronomy—Farm crops, farm machinery, soils and moisture control.

Farm Livestock and Bacteriology—Horses, beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry; veterinary medicine and special course in bookkeeping.

Horticulture—Orchard and cane fruits; garden vegetables in the open and under glass; horticultural products and landscape gardening, with special attention to insect and plant-disease control.

Farm Business Practice—Laying out the farmstead; crop rotation; farm record keeping and computation of income tax on typical $4000 farm.

Home Economics — Household art, household science and household administration.

A special program dealing with club work—projects, methods, demonstrations and reports—will be supplied by the state club leader's office.

All work offered in all courses will be fundamental, subject to such modifications as may suit the circumstances under which different farmers apply them. This is a radical departure from former practices, in which much of the work dealt with special details as applied by certain special farmers. The new policy is thought to offer farmers the best opportunity ever presented to them to get just what they want in advancing their farming interests.

In addition to the fundamental instruction offered numerous demonstrations and exhibits will be given to enforce the most vital points. The use of Oregon factory-made, homemade and remade family supplies will feature the exhibits. Economy and good taste in dress, labor-saving appliances, refreshments for social gatherings, one day's ration and reducing its cost, and home canning will all be staged by the home economics department. Like exhibits will be presented by the farm departments.

"Mixer Meet" Promising.

Holding daily assembly in the evening instead of the day is another radical departure from former farmer week practices. The "mixer meet" December 29, will bring all farmers' week patrons together, where they may get acquainted with each other, the college faculty, leading townspeople and distinguished speakers. The meetings will be informal, with rousing music and oratory as special features.

Inspirational addresses by men of national reputation will be the main feature of the evening assembles, but good music and oratory will not be lacking.

The college products banquet has always proved the climax of farmers' week. Its only drawbacks was limited accommodations and the committee this year will make every effort to provide tickets for all who ask places at the big table.

A country life conference will be held to consider plans to serve rural schools, educational and recreational needs.

Organizations Are Invited.

All district and state organizations that have found it convenient to hold regular or special meetings at the college on farmers' week, and all others that may wish to give the plan a trial, are invited to hold their business sessions as heretofore. All classes will be adjourned at 3:30 every afternoon to allow time for these association meetings. Ample room with supplies of stationery and office equipment will be placed at their disposal.

Students who do not desire to attend these meetings will have an opportunity to inspect such parts of college farm, laboratory and office operations as they are most interested in. No work or meets of any kind will be conducted by the college during the period from 3:30 to 5, so as to allow ample opportunity for public meetings, investigations and recreation.

Living accommodations will be listed by the reception committee and pleasant and convenient rooms at moderate cost, with college cafeteria service, will be offered patrons.

Fully 2000 students are expected.

Notice to Telephone Subscribers.

Plans are being made for a new telephone directory to be issued about December 15. Please notify the secretary of changes in firm names and of advertising space desired. Multnomah & Clackamas Mutual Tel. Co.
PEARL RUEGG, Sec'y.

When in doubt try a Want Ad.