

ASHLAND NORMAL FUTURE DANGERED BY MERGER PLAN

Zorn-MacPherson Move for Higher Education Means Not Less Than \$8,000,000 Speaker Tells Alumni

The Zorn-MacPherson school moving bill which will be before the voters at the November election, will cost the state of Oregon not less than \$8,000,000, declared Alexander G. Brown, secretary of the University of Oregon Alumni association, who spoke at a meeting of alumni and students at the Hotel Medford last night.

"The cost will be an immediate one," Mr. Brown said, "as by the terms of the measure itself it is to be in full force and effect not later than September of 1933.

"The people of Jackson county are interested in their normal school at Ashland," he continued, "and we believe that the effect of this bill, if adopted, would be to close this institution.

Normal Schools Hit. "Normal school work is taken away from Ashland, LaGrande and Monmouth by the Zorn-MacPherson measure and Ashland and LaGrande named as junior colleges at general state expense. Junior colleges usually are community enterprises and there is nothing to indicate that there would be an enrollment as large as that now attending the normal school if these institutions become junior colleges.

"Junior college work is expensive, with its science, foreign languages and other such divisions. The state board of higher education is operating under a reduced budget, and the probable result would be that the schools at Ashland and LaGrande would be closed and fellow Monmouth, which is abandoned by this measure, and become part of the educational history of this state.

Assignment Improbable. "It has been said that the state board might arbitrarily assign certain students to these junior colleges for their first two years, but the board has no such authority and the Zorn-MacPherson bill makes no effort to give it to them.

"Ashland has been very much interested in its normal school. The campus of 24 acres was donated by the city and the community paid \$50,000 of the \$70,000 cost of the training school. The community's elementary school system is built around the normal school and it would be a severe blow to Ashland if this measure were adopted.

LaGrande is in much the same position as Ashland, as they have but recently voted \$80,000 toward a training school there.

Under the Zorn-MacPherson bill elementary teacher training is transferred to Eugene, but the bill is particularly limiting this work to the elementary field, restricted by law to a two-year course. The talk of a great four-year teachers' college at Eugene is just talk. Of the 986 elementary teacher training students last term, not more than 700 could afford to go to Eugene to school.

Means Eugene Abandonment. "These 700 would occupy a plant which has been handling 8,000. The university facilities, valued at \$4,491,822.86 by the state board would be 80 per cent abandoned, with an attending loss of \$3,500,000 to the state.

The abandonment of the plant at Monmouth would add \$713,464.86 to the state's loss from such a reckless policy.

The moving of the law school to Salem is another expensive provision. No provision is made by the act to finance this or any other move called for. No provision is made to house the school in Salem and the school's law library, the conditional gift of the late Judge Penner, would revert to the estate if the school were moved out of Eugene. Divorced from the university and without its own library, the school would lose its standing as an accredited institution.

O. S. C. Inadequate. "There were 2,681 students at Corvallis last term and 2,554 at Eugene. It would be a physical impossibility to handle the combined enrollment at the state college and the scholastic facilities would have to be increased with a minimum investment of \$1,500,000.

It has been found that the fathers and mothers of Oregon are especially interested in the housing situation at Corvallis. This city has a population of 7,585, according to the 1930 census, and last term 887 students lived in the city. The maximum for the dormitories, fraternities and sororities has been set at 2,498, and last term 1,774 students occupied these quarters, leaving accommodations for 700. If 2,500 students were added at Corvallis, dormitories or other approved housing facilities would have to be provided for at least 1,400 of them, at a cost of some \$1,500,000.

Basic Tax Unchanged. "The Zorn-MacPherson bill makes no provision for the reduction of the basic tax for higher education, although branded as a tax saving bill. Higher education is not responsible for higher taxes and in 10 years—1921 to 1931—the tax return for this purpose increased from \$2,448,351 to \$2,803,802, or 1 per cent. For this return with the decline in assessed values, higher education will be conducted on less money than 10 years ago, despite heavy increases in enrollment.

In order to do this the state board cut the cost of higher education last year by more than \$900,000, and this year a greater reduction will be made. At the same time the institution will be able to carry on and continue to afford the young men and young women of Oregon complete and well balanced educational facilities.

Pupil Cost Under Average. "The per student cost in Oregon's institutions of higher education last year was \$231.93 and the average for the 17 states having separate universities and colleges was \$293.84. Oregon was just half way down the list. The average for the 18 states having combined schools was \$442.30, or \$90 more than in Oregon. If the cost per student at a united school in Oregon equaled only the average for such institutions it would increase the cost \$450,000 a year for a combined student body of 5,000.

Per student investment in states with separate schools last year shows that in Oregon the physical investment in buildings, property and equipment was \$759 per student. The average for united institutions is \$252, according to the United States office of education from which all these figures were obtained.

A 5,000 student body at Corvallis brought up to the average property investment would mean an increase of \$231 per student, or a total of some \$1,500,000.

Students who have relied upon their own efforts to pay all or part of their way through school would be under a double handicap if the work was combined at Corvallis. Eugene has a population of 18,901, according to the 1930 census, and has had all it can do to afford employment to deserving students. Corvallis has had its difficulties and if the entire load were at Corvallis it would simply mean that many of these students could not continue in school.

Private Investor Menaced. Mr. Brown also touched upon the matter of private investments, including the \$1,093,000 in student-owned living quarters at Eugene and the associated students' plant valued at \$250,000. The state holds \$450,000 worth of Eugene utility bonds as part of the sinking fund and the industrial accident commission includes \$60,000 worth of Monmouth's obligations as part of its sinking fund.

In this day and age one community cannot be thrown into bankruptcy without it reflecting upon the financial structure of the entire state," Mr. Brown said, "and while Eugene's welfare is of primary interest to Eugene and Lane county, the state at large is interested insofar as building and loan companies, mortgage companies, owners of county or city securities and interest in the state's treasury reserve are concerned."

HOPE, FEAR, DEATH DWELL WITH VETS IN SQUALID CAMP

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lapse from an illness when a gas bomb exploded near him. Another infant from the "army" died Sunday of what hospital attendants called a stomach ailment.

Honors for Victim. William J. Huska, shot by a policeman, was to be buried today with full military honors in Arlington National cemetery. Some B. E. F. leaders here expected to be present, but police were on the alert against any concentration in numbers. At Washington today, too, a grand jury was expected to resume its investigation of events leading to Thursday's riot.

But Walter W. Waters, their leader, stuck to his determination to build a permanent camp in Maryland and was to confer with Gov. Ritchie so that end today.

Mayor Eddie McCloskey, of Johnstown, former pugilist, returned from a vain quest for tents in time to take a hand in a clash between police and communists trying to address a crowd. Several men were arrested, one by the mayor himself.

Governor Clifford Pinchot, who has called the treatment of the B. E. F. at Washington brutal and stupid, was quoted by McCloskey as saying the state had no tents available but would protect the bonus camp from disease.

Babies Cry for Milk. Babies cried in vain for milk in the camp while unwholesome food—and precious little of that—was steaming in greasy garbage cans over fires. The weary thousands, most of whom slept under the open sky, across this morning wet with dew, Gen. Smedley D. Butler, who some of the leaders hope will lead a nation-wide organization of "khaki-shirts," advised them to go home for the present.

Other remnants of the army were huddled or being hustled home. In New York a sea of communists filled Union square yesterday to protest use of troops against the B. E. F. Some said there were 10,000 at the meeting, others 30,000. There were hundreds of placards, one huge one showing President Hoover in a Napoleonic hat with a skull and crossbones on his chest, pointing a pistol at a dead worker.

TO HEAR PROTESTS ON TAX VALUATIONS

Arthur A. Selander, head of the valuation department of the state tax commission will be at the courthouse, Friday and Saturday, August 5 and 6, for a public hearing of protests on the re-valuation of buildings in the city of Medford, as made under the recent survey of the state body. Property owners so desiring can file a protest, and it will be acted upon at a later date, for or against.

Some of the new valuations as made are slightly higher, and some are lower.

We serve only quality foods at lowest possible cost to you at the Cafeteria, 17 So. Riverside, 23c, 35c, & 50c. Body fit in 3-tier lots at \$1.75. Medford Fuel Co. Tel. 631. Picture frames made to order. The Pealeys, opp. Holly theater.

PRE-SCHOOL AND BABY CLINIC TO BE THURSDAY

Of special interest to Medford mothers is announcement today of a pre-school and baby clinic to be held at the Y. W. C. A. Thursday, August 4, at 1:30 p. m. Mothers are asked to phone 1359 for appointments at any time before the clinic. It will be conducted by Dr. C. I. Drummond, county physician, and Miss Blanche Runels, county nurse.

Roxy Ann Grange Meet Postponed

Owing to the death of Mrs. E. L. Redpath, the program which Roxy Ann Grange had planned to put on for the Eagle Point Grange tonight has been postponed until August 16, the next regular meeting of the Eagle Point Grange.



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