

Details of New Non-High School District Law Are Told by Superintendent

By C. R. BOWMAN
Superintendent of Schools

On June 19th at the annual school election held in all school districts in the county besides the regular annual school business and election of district school officers, there will be held an election for the purpose of establishing a board of five members to administer the High School Tuition fund for Jackson county.

People of the county should bear in mind that this law was passed by the last legislature and is now in the process of being put into operation. The board to be elected does not cause any new tax to be levied, nor any new expense in the matter of handling high school tuition. It is merely a better and more businesslike way of administering a tax which we already have and have had for several years.

Considerable misunderstanding has developed regarding this law. The following points should be kept clearly in mind:

1. The Non-High School district board has nothing to do with the so-called County Unit plan of school government.
2. This board does not levy any new tax.
3. It will not dictate the school to which any particular pupil must go.
4. There has been no consolidation of school districts, but the districts in Jackson county that do not maintain high schools have been grouped into five zones solely and entirely for the purpose of electing board members. A zone has no other meaning than that it is a group of districts, which group is entitled to one member on the board.

5. The board has no authority in school district matters and does not in any way interfere with the function of any district school board in the county.

6. The board is in no way obligated and the law contains no mandate whereby transportation for high school pupils shall be provided. The law leaves this to the discretion of the board.

The duties and powers of the board as set forth in the law are as follows:

1. To make contracts in writing with high schools relative to matters of standardization, tuition costs, number of pupils to be accommodated, and transportation at the discretion of the board.

2. To levy the High School Tuition tax which heretofore has been levied by the county court upon the advice of the county school superintendent.

3. To draw warrants upon the fund in the payment of tuition and other legitimate bills.

4. To make reports, to the state and county superintendents of schools.

5. To provide for the election of its members.

6. To make an annual written report to the taxpayers of the county.

7. To pay election and other necessary incidental expenses.

It should be clearly understood that this board, while it may render some assistance in the transportation of high school pupils, is under no obligation or mandate to do so. It is, however, under a legal mandate to pay the high school tuitions of pupils attending high school who do not live in regular high school districts. The state of Oregon has for a number of years through the high school tuition law undertaken to see that every boy and girl qualified to attend high school in this state shall have the right to do so and to select his high school, and to have this privilege without the payment of any tuition if he lives in any district that does not maintain a high school. The administration of the law to date has been in the hands of the county superintendent and the county court, the county treasurer holding the fund subject to the warrant of the county superintendent. The new board simply takes over these duties and services as a regularly constituted body that can study the problems of the county, listen to petitions and requests from boards, and have authority to take definite action.

Board members serve for periods of five years. The first election is county wide so far as non-high school territory is concerned. That is, all voters in non-high school territory vote on all five candidates. The district boundary board which is the county court and the county superintendent will canvass the vote and declare the winning candidates. The candidate having the highest number of votes will have the five year term, the next highest the four year term, and so on. The zone, or group of districts, whose candidate receives the lowest number of votes will have the one year term, and that zone will elect a successor to its member next year. Members serve without compensation and the county superintendent is ex-officio secretary of the board, without a vote on the board, and without additional compensation. This could relieve the mistaken idea that this board is creating extra expense for the taxpayers. Under the law, nominal traveling expenses for attendance at board meetings may be allowed which expense should be very nominal.

The date for candidates filing petitions for nomination ended at midnight, June 3rd. The following candidates are filed from the following zones:

Zone 1, Northwest, comprising the following districts:
Dist. No. 14—Willow Springs.
Dist. No. 16—Agate.
Dist. No. 18—Antikich.
Dist. No. 26—Meadows.
Dist. No. 37—Long Mountain.
Dist. No. 41—Pantry.
Dist. No. 44—Table Rock.
Dist. No. 50—Debeneger Gap.
Dist. No. 63—Evans Valley.
Dist. No. 88—Alderbrook.
Dist. No. 98—Toto.

Mrs. Ruth Sparrow, candidate.

Zone 2, Northeast, comprising the following districts:
Dist. No. 12—Antelope.
Dist. No. 20—Creek.
Dist. No. 22—
Dist. No. 24—
Dist. No. 28—Bryansboro.

Dist. No. 42—Lost Creek.
Dist. No. 45—Trail.
Dist. No. 46—North Trail.
Dist. No. 47—Reese Creek.
Dist. No. 65—Little Butte Creek.
Dist. No. 66—Latrehurst.
Dist. No. 74—Elk Creek.
Dist. No. 76—Liberty.
Dist. No. 84—Hatchery.
Dist. No. 89—Steady Cove.
Dist. No. 93—Crater Lake.

W. H. Merriman, Trail, candidate.
Harry Herford, Mt. Pitt, candidate.

Zone 3, Central, comprising the following districts:
Dist. No. 69—Oak Grove.
Dist. No. 95—West Side.
Dist. No. 100—Howard.
Dist. No. 102—Kenwood.
Dist. No. 29—Dewey.
Dist. No. 90—Roguelanda.
A. E. Brockway, Oak Grove, candidate.
L. Pennington, Oak Grove, candidate.
Mrs. R. E. Carley, Howard, candidate.

Zone 4, Southwest, comprising the following districts:
Dist. No. 2—Griffin Creek.
Dist. No. 3—Ruch.
Dist. No. 15—Independence.
Dist. No. 21—Missouri Flat.

Dist. No. 27—Uniontown.
Dist. No. 30—Frovolt.
Dist. No. 33—Sterling.
Dist. No. 34—Thompson Creek.
Dist. No. 40—Applegate.
Dist. No. 43—Forest Creek.
Dist. No. 68—Watkins.
Dist. No. 72—Anderson Creek.
Dist. No. 82—Beaver Creek.
Dist. No. 87—Little Applegate.
Edwin H. Taylor, Uniontown, candidate.

Zone 5, Southeast, comprising the following districts:
Dist. No. 7—Neil Creek.
Dist. No. 8—Valley View.
Dist. No. 10—Lone Pine.
Dist. No. 13—Climax.
Dist. No. 24—North Phoenix.
Dist. No. 38—Slakiyou.
Dist. No. 54—Dead Indian.
Dist. No. 56—Wagner Creek.
Dist. No. 60—Soda Springs.

Dist. No. 73—Bellview.
Dist. No. 94—Pinehurst.
Dist. No. 97—Colestin.
Dist. No. 99—Fern Valley.
J. R. McCracken, Valley View, candidate.
Ben Gibson, Pinehurst, candidate.

Ballots and full instructions to district school boards who will conduct the election at the various school houses throughout the county, will be sent from the county superintendent's office in due time to take care of the election. Any voter qualified to vote for director in his district is qualified to vote for directors of the Non-High School board. The county superintendent will be glad to answer by phone, letter or in person all inquiries.

Real estate or insurance—Leave it to Jones, Phone 696.

GOLD BEACH MINER STRIKES RICH VEIN

GOLD BEACH, Ore.—(UP)—Twenty years of fruitless labor failed to shake John Smith's faith in his gold mine. Working alone, he drilled a tunnel 90 feet into the side of a mountain, following an elusive vein, that at times bore traces of metal, while his friends wandered from claim to claim seeking pay dirt. The other day John R. Smith came to town with two pounds five ounces of fine gold he recovered at the end of his tunnel in less than three days.

WREN IS ATTRACTION AT GEN. COXEY'S HOME

MASSILLON, O.—(UP)—"General" Jacob S. Coxe, of Coxe's Army fame, doesn't stay out of the news very long at a time. Just now, a tiny wren is bringing visitors to the Coxe home. The wren, says the "General," is every bit as militant as Kansas City's famed Cock Robin. Each day it demonstrates its ability as a shadow boxer by attacking its reflection in a window of Coxe's home. Coxe now is Mayor of Massillon.

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Every business and professional man in Medford should ask every solicitor for any kind of printing including sales and cash slips of all kinds, ledger sheets, if the printing is done in Medford and if not refuse to order it. The printing industry furnishes one of the largest payrolls in the city and their employees should receive the patronage of some people.

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