

School Census Analysis Shows 78.5 Per Cent Student Gain During Past 15-Year Period

The number of youngsters 4 through 19 years of age in the Medford school district increased by 78.5 per cent in the 15-year period from 1939 to 1954, according to figures released this week by school officials.

The 1954 school census total is the largest ever recorded for Medford, with 5,785 children included in the through 19 age bracket.

Biggest Five Years
The greatest increase came during the five years following World War II, when the school age population jumped 32.1 per cent, from 3,696 in 1944 to 4,881 in 1949.

The increase from 1939 to 1944 was 14.1 per cent, from 3,240 to 3,696, and the gain from 1949 and 1954 was 18.5 per cent, from 4,881 to 5,784.

The 1954 census shows an increase of 183 children, or 3.2 per cent, over the 1953 census, when the count was 5,607. The 1953 census, in turn, showed a 3.1 per cent increase over that taken the previous year.

See Steady Growth
School officials declare that these figures may indicate "a leveling off of the previous rapid growth cycle." They add that, "Unless unforeseen conditions upset the present trend, the census figures seem to point to a moderate steady growth that should not be too difficult to absorb."

An analysis of the figures compiled in the 1954 census shows that more than three fourths of those enumerated are attending school, and another 15.6 per cent have not yet started school.

This leaves only 5.6 per cent who are out of school. But, of this total, which amounts to 322 youngsters, 165 or 2.9 per cent of the total, have graduated from high school, and another 143, or 2.5 per cent, have graduated from the eighth grade or have attended high school, but have dropped out before graduation.

Only 14 Out
This leaves only 14, or one fifth of one per cent, of the census total, that are out with less than an eighth grade education, and of these, eight are young people who have married. Two

or three were out with work permits.

No pupils were found who were out of school because of physical or mental handicaps. All handicapped pupils enumerated on the census were being taught in the home, or in special class rooms, or in state schools.

The analysis shows that 205 youngsters listed on the census are enrolled in colleges or universities, teacher training school or advanced technical schools. This total includes one 16-year-old, 23 17-year-olds, 77 18-year-olds and 104 19-year-olds. Those more than 19 years of age were not included in the census.

In Armed Forces
Of those in the armed forces, 46 per cent have graduated from high school but have not started college, another four per cent have taken some college training, 39 per cent have taken some high school training, 9 per cent have completed the eighth grade but have not started high school work, and only 2 per cent have less than an eighth grade education.

A number of young people in the higher age groups have married. Of a total of 148 in this classification, 137 are out of school and 11 are still attending school.

Half of the young people who are married and are still in school are in college, and 40 per cent of those out of school have absorbed."

State's Pedestrian Death Mark Improves

Salem—(U.P.)—Oregon had a lower pedestrian death record in 1954 than in 1953, Secretary of State Earl T. Newbry said Saturday.

Sixty-seven pedestrians were struck and killed by motor vehicles in 1954, compared to 76 in 1953.

The 1953 figure was the same as 1952, while 88 pedestrians were killed in 1951 and 82 in 1950.

While pedestrian deaths were declining, fatalities in traffic accidents of all types increased to 421 in 1954 compared to 290 in 1953.

finished their high school education. Only nine, or 6 per cent, have less than an eighth grade education.

Ages of Married
Of the 148 who are married, one is 14 years of age, three are 15, five are 16, 22 are 17, 41 are 18, and 86 are 19.

Another section of the analysis shows that of all the 15-year-olds listed in the census, 97.5 per cent are still in school. Of the other 2.5 per cent, totalling seven, who are out, five are eighth grade graduates.

Of the 16-year-olds, approximately 94 per cent are in school, 84.3 at the high school level. Of the 264 17-year-olds, 77.7 per cent are still in school. The figure drops to 55 per cent of the 18-year-olds who are in school, and increases slightly to 56.5 per cent of the 19-year-old group who are still in school. Many of this group are attending college or teacher training schools.

\$3,000,000 in Pacts For Big Dam Awarded

Portland—(U.P.)—The Portland district, Corps of Engineers, has awarded two contracts totalling more than \$3,000,000 for work in connection with construction of The Dalles dam on the Columbia river.

A \$2,407,076 contract was given Morrison - Knudsen Company of Boise, Ida., for relocating the Spokane, Portland and Seattle Railway on the Washington shore of the river.

General Electric Company of Portland was awarded a \$788,695 contract for furnishing 15 kilowatt system electrical equipment, for the fish turbine bay generators, and the first eight main units of the dam.

Mayor of Halsey Dies Suddenly

Halsey, Ore. — (U.P.)—Funeral services were pending here Saturday for Lawrence Drinkard Taylor, 53, mayor of this community who died suddenly at his home.

He had been mayor of Halsey since 1945. A banker, he had been prominent in Republican circles for many years.



RU LUND
Ad Club President Due

Ad Club President Sets Speeches Here

Ru Lund, Portland, president of the Oregon Advertising club, will visit Medford this week, speaking at the Rotary club Tuesday and to the Kiwanis club Wednesday. His subjects will be "More Mileage for Your Advertising Dollar" and "The Man with 11,000 Eggs."

Lund, 42, is partner and Portland manager of the Moore and Lund advertising agency. He is chairman of the Portland radio chapter of the Oregon State Broadcasters association, and has had many years of experience in radio, television, newspaper and advertising work.

Before World War II, he was a correspondent in the Scandinavian countries, and was a lieutenant commander in the Navy reserve during the war. He first started his career in 1930 with the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, and has been in the business since.

Open Meetings of Public Agencies Sought in Bill

Salem — (U.P.)—Rep. Maurine Neuberger of Portland introduced a bill in the house Friday that would require all meetings of public agencies called to create legislation be opened to the public.

The measure also would require such meetings to be advertised in advance and minutes kept as a public record. Exceptions would be executive sessions for the purpose of hiring or dismissal of personnel.

Dead line Sunday Classified in at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.

'Third House' of Oregon Legislature Declared Helpful

By PHILIP B. LOWRY
State Senator

Salem—Lobbyists, commonly referred to as the "Third House" of the Oregon Legislature, are, according to the best current figures, not quite as numerous as legislators at Salem. The last published list shows the legislature leading the lobbyists, 90 to 78. No doubt, hotly contested issues will cause the lobbyists to overtake numerically the legislators as the session goes along.

The following breakdown of lobbyists, representing different interests, is my own and is subject to possible inaccuracy, but will give you some idea as to the number representing the varying interests of the state:

Farm and agricultural organizations 7; labor organizations 12; motor and rail carriers, 5; lumber and timber 5; public utilities other than carriers 6; alcoholic beverages 3.

Others Represented
Educational groups, insurance companies, cities, counties, doctors, accountants, public groups

—such as the League of Women Voters, hotels, and dog racing—are all represented, though in somewhat smaller numbers. The employer viewpoint is also thoroughly represented. The lobbyists, themselves, furnish a list of the names and the organizations they represent.

At the outset, the impression is to be avoided that there is anything improper or corrupt in this part of the legislature process which we refer to as "lobbying." It is quite proper that interested individuals and organizations should express their viewpoint on legislative matters.

Listen to All Sides
On many problems, the lawmakers have no fixed ideas or solutions until they have listened to all sides. There is, of course, a distinct difference between the privately expressed view of the individual citizen which he passes along to his elected representatives, and the paid lobbyist who is in constant attendance throughout the session. There may have been times when some lobbyists worked dishonestly, but I doubt that this situation has prevailed in Oregon for years. In times such as these no economic interest or organization could afford the risk of disrepute which would follow such an exposure.

Mistaken Idea
Nevertheless, a few people still believe, I am told, that the poorly paid Oregon legislators compensate themselves liberally from these sources. It is hard to realize this when you know your fellow legislators are citizens of integrity doing their conscientious best for the good of the people.

Lobbyists are a valuable source of information to legislators, and quite often indicate a need for legislation which would otherwise be overlooked. A good lobbyist can be trusted. A good legislator will listen attentively to the facts presented by a reputable lobbyist. When a lobbyist gives unreliable or inaccurate information, he ceases to be of value in the legislative process. At that point, he also ceases to be of value to his employer. Legislators will refuse to listen to him further once it is revealed he has strayed from the narrow path which all good lobbyists should follow. Word travels fast when it is learned that a lobbyist cannot be trusted. Lobbyists often assemble information and facts resulting from intensive research, which would not otherwise be available.

Few Support Vote
Very few lobbyists suggest the way a bill should be voted. It is even rarer for a lobbyist to threaten to arouse public indignation against a legislator because of his stand on a particular measure.

There is very little, if any, legislation of an economic character which does not help or hurt some part of our society. My observation is that lobbying contributes toward a desirable goal of balancing the interests of conflicting and competitive groups, especially in the economic field. The resulting compromise is usually a sound one.

Through this maze of opposing ideas presented by the lobbyists, the Senators and Representatives must thread their way with caution and inquiry to the end of

determining what will best suit the general welfare.

Example Given
A good illustration of the lobbying process, which you can watch at this session through newspaper accounts, is the developing struggle among several well-organized groups of lobbyists—the motor carriers, the baggage companies and the rail carriers. The hard fight appears to be shaping up over the bill supported by the motor and baggage carriers, which would permit the Oregon Utilities Commission to fix minimum rates for railroads as well as trucks.

The truckers and baggage operators charge that, because there are no minimum on rates in Oregon on rail transportation, the railroads resort to selective rate cutting to drive out truck and baggage competition and recoup the loss elsewhere. The rail lobbyists counter with a somewhat complicated explanation of their rate structure and a denial of the charges of selective rate cutting. The rail carriers prevailed without too much difficulty at the last session, when the same issue arose. It now appears that a closer struggle is in the offing.

The significance of this struggle between the common carriers is, of course, that transportation rates have a vital effect upon the economy, particularly in areas where there are no rail carriers competing with each other.

Often Testify
Lobbyists frequently testify at committee hearings on proposed bills affecting their principals. They constantly attend all committee hearings considering bills which would affect their interests. Because this requires attendance in several different places at the same time, a group may find it desirable or necessary to have several lobbyists on the job. Also, several organi-

Water Rights Action Filed in Lake County

Portland — (U.P.)—U. S. attorneys have petitioned federal court here to hear a complaint over water rights near Hart Mountain antelope refuge in Lake County. The action already has been

filed in Lane County Circuit Court by Clarence S. Miller, seeking to restrain the government from diverting Rock Creek waters.

Miller, an alfalfa and grain farmer, said he irrigated his crops with water from the creek and that his water rights were established by the state engineer in 1931.

Named as defendants in the suit are Douglas McKay, secretary of interior; Wallace B. Leonard, wild life service worker and Maurice J. Murphy, who rents land from the government.

WOULD CHANGE DATE

Salem—(U.P.)—Deadline for paying Oregon state income taxes would be set up from April 15 to May 15 if a bill introduced in the House by Rep. Maurine Neuberger of Portland becomes law.

Dead line Sunday Classified in at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.



Station KWIN 1400 K.C. Sundays 10:15 A.M.

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