

BERN ANTI-REDS SEIZE LEGATION

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Joint Committee Hears Discussion On Teacher Pay

State-Wide Minimum Salary Has Support

Salem—(U.P.)—School boards and school teachers faced one another here last night across the issue of a new state-wide minimum salary for school teachers.

The House and Senate Education Committees, meeting jointly, heard 29 persons favoring Senate bill 7 which would raise present minimums for a teacher with no experience and with a bachelor's degree from \$2100 to \$3700. Six persons were opposed.

Bill Gets Support

The Oregon Education Association and the State Association of Classroom Teachers were solidly behind Sen. Mark Hatfield's bill to raise the minimums to what they said was a more realistic level. They said the increase was essential to help Oregon attract the hundreds of out-of-state teachers it must hire each year to fill burgeoning vacancies.

A few teachers, exemplified by Mrs. Agnes Booth, a Marion county teacher, said the \$3700 minimum might be a little too high but that an increase from \$2100 certainly was necessary. Mrs. Booth said a minimum would serve as a base for the numerous rural school districts that do not now have a salary schedule. Mrs. Antonio Krader, vice-president of the OREA, said neighboring states were bypassing Oregon in the competition for competent teachers.

Said Not Important Factor

Opponents of the bill declared a minimum salary was not an important factor in recruitment of new teachers or in competition with private industry.

J. W. Edwards, superintendent of Portland schools, said Oregon schools need to consider raising their maximum salaries and making it possible to reach those maximums sooner. Teachers, he said, should be fighting for that goal and forgetting about minimums. High starting salaries, he asserted, were of interest mainly to persons not contemplating teaching as a life long career.

Other school board members who testified opposed the bill as an encroachment on local control of school affairs. They declared the terrific demand for school teachers would exert adequate upward pressure on salaries.

(See story on Page 3)

Accident Victim Still In Critical Condition

Donna Nelson, 408 Beatty st., seriously injured early Sunday morning in a car accident at the corner of Pierce road and Spring st., was listed as still in critical condition at Sacred Heart hospital this morning. Hospital attendants stated that Miss Nelson has not regained consciousness.

Donita Wright, 1461 East McAndrews rd., injured in the same accident, was released from the hospital yesterday afternoon, and the condition of Jean Ragsdale, 513 Palm st., still in the hospital, was said to be good.

Timber Marketing Area Act Under Attack at Hearing

Salem—(U.P.)—Small loggers, sawmill employers and employees joined hands with the "big fellows" today in supporting a Senate measure to abolish the timber marketing area act passed by the 1953 Legislature.

All those testifying for Senate bill 63 at a hearing before the Senate Natural Resources Committee expressed apprehension that enforcement of the timber marketing area act would cause some mills to shut down and would lower the price for timber because of lack of competitive bidding.

Under terms of the marketing area act, the State Board of Forestry is empowered to declare a marketing area, and sale of state-owned timber in the area would

Dependent Children Aid Costs Rising; Problem Complex

By PHILIP B. LOWRY
State Senator

Salem—In the Oregon state budget for the biennium 1955-1957 is a request for an appropriation of \$12,278,000 for an item designated "aid to dependent children."

This is a staggering figure to provide for children who are otherwise properly cared for, and a shocking disclosure of a serious situation in Oregon. Although I have not had an opportunity to examine all the statistical data, I believe a substantial part of this appropriation is devoted to the public support of families of fathers who refuse to support them. Nothing said herein is intended to apply to those worthy cases where death, accident or illness is responsible for dependent children.

Not Solely Financial

It is clear that the problem is not solely financial but many dutiful mothers and innocent children are dependent upon public assistance. A real potential for juvenile delinquency exists, if adequate support is not provided from some source.

All of us would agree, I believe, that we are not going to allow any child to go hungry and without adequate clothing or medical care. That is the humanitarian aspect. But our willingness to alleviate hardship is not the solution to either the financial or the social problem. To continue to expand this program, or even maintain it at this high level, indefinitely, because of humanitarian impulses and without facing the problem squarely, can only result in its aggravation. Nothing is more irritating to a taxpayer than to dig into his own earnings to support the family of a neglectful parent.

Problem Mushrooms

To furnish some idea as to how this program has mushroomed, I checked with the state budget office last week and learned that this program of assistance, administered by the Public Welfare Commission, entered the state budget in 1937, with an expenditure of \$791,287. Thereafter, it grew by leaps and bounds as the following figures show:

1939 - 1940	1,732,740
1941 - 1942	2,068,415
1943 - 1944	2,058,850
1944 - 1945	3,326,117
1945 - 1946	6,467,688
1946 - 1947	9,121,777
1947 - 1948	9,951,000

Of this expenditure the state bears 70 per cent and the counties 30 per cent.

Interest Shown

This session of the legislature is showing considerable interest in attacking this disagreeable situation. We hope to find at least a partial solution. Bills are under consideration which would make it obligatory for a 14 and 16-year-old child to be referred for possible legal action. These bills are designed to eliminate cases where it is easier for a mother to make application for public assistance than to file a nonsupport complaint and prosecute it.

Another bill would limit applications for such assistance to

families that had resided in Oregon for at least two years. It is hoped to eliminate that part of the case load where transient families with children move into the state, and the father subsequently departs from Oregon, well-knowing that Oregon taxpayers will assume his burden of support. Still other bills would provide more realistic penalties upon conviction for nonsupport than are presently on the books.

Estimates Vary

Estimates vary as to how much this load could be reduced with effective enforcement of existing or proposed laws. Reliably informed persons say that not less than 25 per cent could be saved with a reasonable effort.

Why are the taxpayers being forced to assume this tremendous load, that is the responsibility of someone else? These, I think, are some of the reasons:

1. A high divorce rate. 2. Frequent remarriages—even a willing father may not have the financial resources to take care of two families. 3. Changing economic conditions which have disturbed the usual pattern of families providing for their own kin. 4. Cumbersome legal procedures, which either have not been, or cannot be, streamlined to reach effectively into other counties and states to prosecute wandering and absconding fathers. 5. The reluctance, or inability, of many enforcement officials to act where complaints are sought, on the ground they do not have the time, staff or facilities to cope with the situation.

Causes Listed

Where a court has ordered support payments which have not been made, a civil contempt proceeding may be brought for disobedience of the court's order. In any case of non-support a criminal complaint may be filed. The civil remedy has proved of little value in meeting the problem because the procedure is complicated, and there is seldom any money on hand for the legal costs to prosecute it adequately. It is surprising, however, how often money seems to be available to defend such attempted prosecutions.

The criminal remedy appears not to be well-enforced because district attorneys, for one reason or another, do not get the job done in many cases, and the mother often refuses to go through with a criminal prosecution. It is in many cases a very frustrating problem to district attorneys who know that there is not too much hope of success in prosecuting where the delinquent parent's whereabouts may not even be known, or he is out of the state and a lengthy extradition procedure is required. Until we have extensive prosecutions, it is difficult to determine how many fathers would prefer to languish in jail rather than to provide support.

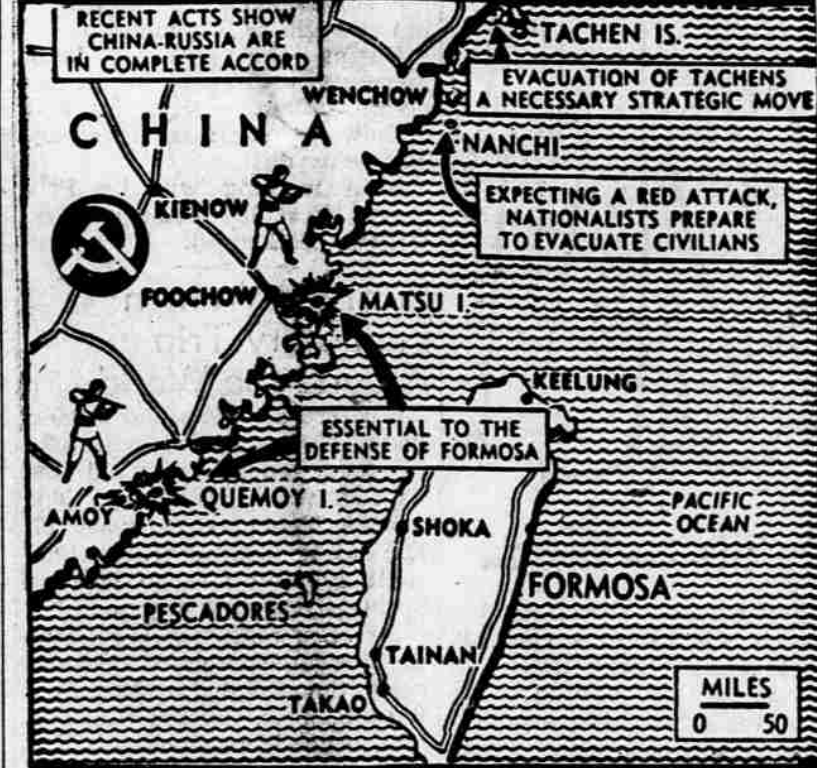
Uniform Act

Some time ago, Oregon adopted the uniform reciprocal nonsupport act, whereby a complaint could be filed in Oregon and forwarded out of state for action at the residence of the nonsupporting parent. For instance, a mother in Jackson county could file proceedings here to have the father summoned into court in California and there face charges.

While this procedure has been helpful, it has been greatly weakened by a legal interpretation that district attorneys are not required to initiate the proceedings in Oregon. This means that the unsupported mother must engage a private attorney to start the action. Private attorneys do as much as they can, principally as a public service and generally without compensation of any consequence.

Multnomah county has made more legal effort than any other to meet the need. Some authorities here hold the opinion that present laws are adequate and only require effective administration. It has been well pointed out that the only successful way of getting at this condition is to use collection agency principles in locating, following and prosecuting claimants.

I am confident that adequate



ARTILLERY DUEL—Chinese Communists and Nationalists exchange heavy artillery bombardments (bomb blasts) at Quemoy and Matsu Islands. Chiang Kai-shek makes it clear that these two outposts are vital to defense of Formosa and will be defended at all costs.

Seven Persons Slated For Sentencing Today

Six men and a woman were scheduled to appear in circuit court this afternoon for sentencing on felony charges ranging from larceny to polygamy, according to court officials.

Four others were fined in district court yesterday, all of them on charges involving liquor.

Among those slated to appear today for sentencing were Mrs. Odessa Evelyn Campbell Mires Davis, 35, Phoenix, charged with polygamy; Fred Warden, 31, of route 1, box 350K, Medford, charged with manslaughter in the death of Philip Stephen Minear, 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Minear, route 1, box 331, Medford, in a hunting accident last year, and Aaron Francis Gentry, 25, of 42 1/2 Third st., Ashland, charged with furnishing liquor to a minor.

Mrs. Davis and Warden pleaded guilty.

Others To Appear

Others scheduled to appear today were George Edison Moore, 23, of route 1, box 671, Central Point, charged with probation violation; Donald Reed Ware, 20, San Dimas, Calif., charged with forgery; Milton Edward Wallace, 18, box 55, Phoenix, charged with larceny from a building, and Oscar Freeman Stallsworth Jr., 20, route 4, Grants Pass, charged with a burglary at Rogue River grade school.

All seven were to appear before Circuit Judge Orval Millard.

Those fined yesterday in district court included Paul Leslie Seagoe, 18, Rogue River, and two 17-year-old Rogue River boys. All three pleaded guilty to charges of illegal possession of intoxicating liquor and each was fined \$10 and court costs.

The fourth to appear in dis-

enforcement efforts would produce results far in excess of cost. Present conditions certainly indicate that some business-like administration would go far to reduce a portion of this responsibility thrust upon the taxpayers.

No doubt a thorough analysis of the statistical evidence would give a better idea as to how to proceed. Probably very little, if any, criticism should be directed against the State Public Welfare commission and the case workers. To its great credit, the Jackson County Public Welfare commission is acutely aware of conditions and is doing everything possible to provide some help.

None of us would wish to turn our back when small children are in real need, whatever the cause. Whether the present program is resulting in supplying higher standards for publicly supported children than those of other families with very modest incomes, I am unable to say. Every attorney in Jackson county, including myself, could document this gloomy report with extremely sordid cases where the only deserving feature is an innocent child needing help.

Something needs to be done. It will probably be done only when the public becomes sufficiently interested to demand action.

Weather

FORECAST: Fair tonight, variable high cloudiness Wednesday with patches of morning fog. Low tonight 28; high Wednesday 50.

Highest Yesterday 51
Lowest this Morning 25

Nanchi Evacuees Land at Taipei; Outposts Alerted

Communist Attack Seen in Coming Week

Taipei, Formosa—(U.P.)—A Nationalist warship brought the first civilian evacuees to Formosa today from Nanchi, one of the Nationalist outposts the high command has alerted against the Communist attack during the coming week.

There was no military activity reported along the 300-mile island front for the second day, but military quarters described this as the lull before the storm and predicted major Red attempts against Nationalist bases soon.

Matsu Strike Expected

A high ranking Nationalist official said the Communists were expected to strike first at Matsu island, 177 miles south of recently abandoned Tachen island and one of the two most heavily defended islands still in Nationalist hands. The other is Quemoy.

A Communist "invasion fleet" of 70 armored junks was spotted recently near Matsu and Nationalist authorities have alerted their forces for an attack.

A total of 2,000 civilians were to be brought out of Nanchi, northern-most of the Nationalist outposts, in expectation of Communist attacks. Officials insisted the island would be defended, however.

United Nations, N.Y.—(U.P.)—Diplomatic observers in Moscow reported today the Soviet government apparently was dead serious in its attempts to find some way of reducing the boiling point of the Formosa crisis.

They noted the expressions of support given to Red China by the Soviet leaders were couched in the most general tones and that Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin promised aid only when "the necessity arises."

They were much milder than statements by Chinese Communist Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Premier Chou En-lai warning the United States it would be "wiped clean from the surface of the globe" in any World War III.

Higher Gasoline Taxes Proposed

Salem—(U.P.)—The House Rules Committee today received drafts of bills Sen. Warren Gill wants to introduce to raise the state gasoline tax from six to eight cents a gallon and to authorize an \$11,000,000 highway revenue bond issue.

The two measures will have to be cleared by the committee since the deadline for member filing of new bills has passed. Gill's bills would have to be introduced in the House because they are revenue measures.

Gov. Paul Patterson has opposed an increase in the gasoline tax. The State Highway Commission has asked for the two cent increase to bolster its fund for new construction and maintenance. It has virtually exhausted its earlier bond issue revenue authorized by the two previous legislatures make up the wartime lag in new construction.

Portland—(U.P.)—Port commissioners here have approved architects' plans for the projected \$3,120,000 air terminal.

Planning Commission Approves Proposal To Rename Front Street D'Anjou Street

A proposal to change the name of Front st. to D'Anjou st., which was the thoroughfare's original name, was approved by the Medford Planning commission last night.

Commission Secretary Ed McKinstry said city officials can find no evidence that the council ever officially changed it from "D'Anjou" to "Front," but commission members felt that a change back should be done officially, by city council action, to avoid confusion. They recommended the change to the council. It was pointed out that D'Anjou conforms to the alphabetical system of street names, whereas Front does not.

Letter Written

A letter to the commission suggested the change to "improve the character of the street" in line with present and future developments. It said the name "Front st." has an "onerous connotation." Signing the letter were Richard Henselman,

ROMANIAN RELEASE OF CAPTIVES SOUGHT

Bern, Switzerland—(U.P.)—A daring group of Romanian anti-Communists shot their way into the Romanian Legation today, rejected demands of Swiss police that they surrender, and announced they would stay until Red Romania release five resistance fighters from prison.

The legation chauffeur went down in a burst of tommygun fire when he tried to halt the pre-dawn invasion of the Legation Building. He died later in a hospital with gunshot wounds in the stomach, chest and thigh.

Police said five to seven men were in the anti-Red group that attacked just before midnight, ousted the Legation staff and achieved complete control of the Legation early today.

At the request of Bern city officials, police cut off light, gas and water in the building in the hope of forcing the barricaded refugees to surrender without a fight.

But the refugees held out. They were reported well armed with submachine guns, hand grenades and other arms and were equipped with gas masks.

Swiss Police Avoid Attempt To Oust Invaders

In spite of vigorous Romanian protests and demands that the police oust the invaders, the Swiss police did not attempt to enter the Legation Building by force.

This enraged Romanian Charge d'Affaires Emeric Stoffel, who was ousted from his residence and the Legation and who spent most of the day pacing angrily in the Legation grounds. He said he had authorized the police to force entry into the building "several times since quite early this morning immediately after the gun battle."

He said he "also demanded several times that the police arrest the aggressors."

The action placed neutral Switzerland in the midst of an international crisis similar to one in Copenhagen, where police and detectives were besieging the Romanian Legation in belief the Communists were holding as hostage the child bride of a Romanian who chose freedom.

Police said a band of five to seven Romanian anti-Reds stormed into the legation buildings and ousted the consular staff in a night attack that jumped off just before midnight and achieved complete control of the legation early today.

Swiss police, wearing steel helmets against the threat of further shooting, ringed the consulate buildings in a usually quiet Bern Park this morning and arrested one of the anti-Communists who tried to slip out of the legation.

Two others were reported to have fled, but a holdout group remained inside.

The Swiss Cabinet held a special morning session and the Foreign Department, Switzerland's State Department, held urgent consultations with advisers on international law. They were seeking some means by which Swiss police could clean out the attackers under diplomatic protocol that decrees the legation Romanian territory.

Bulletin

Washington—(U.P.)—Interior Secretary Douglas McKay disclosed today the treasury has issued checks totaling \$5,171,623.59 to 18 counties in Oregon to end a land dispute which has existed for 39 years.

The payment was the long awaited disbursement of the controversial Oregon and California land fund which has been in dispute since 1916.

Jackson county, as one of the O&C land grant county, will receive a portion of the amount disbursed, but no word was received this afternoon as to the amount the county will get.

Board of Control Hears Outline of Construction Plan

Salem—(U.P.)—A program of construction of the intermediate penal institution over a period of eight years and at a total cost of \$4,800,000 was outlined to the Board of Control today by J. D. Annand, Portland architect.

The first two-year program for which the 1953 legislature appropriated \$1,250,000, is recommended for contract work in place of convict labor and includes installation of sewer lines, sewage treatment plant, water well pump and tank and fencing a 20-acre portion of the land already purchased.

The first unit also would include a shop building to be used for temporary living quarters, part of the kitchen unit, the administration building and the first unit of the boiler plant.

Annand said planning throughout called for permanent buildings to avoid waste of money in temporary buildings. The legislature is being asked for an additional appropriation of \$1,200,000 to carry on work at the institution during the 1955-57 biennium.

This work would include completion of the kitchen and construction of a laundry building and warehouse. A medium housing unit costing \$190,000 is included in the work for this period as are three other housing units.

Wednesday Atomic Test Chance Not Good

Las Vegas—(U.P.)—The Office of Joint Information for the Atomic Energy Commission announced today that the prospects for shooting off the first A-bomb tomorrow in the winter-spring test series "are not good."

A statement said the forecast wind direction "is not acceptable" for a possible shot before dawn tomorrow.

"However, there is some slight indication that it might improve," the statement said. "We will reevaluate the situation at 10 o'clock (PST) tonight."

Adverse wind and cloud conditions early this morning caused the first postponement of the shot scheduled from a 500-foot steel tower.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES

New York—(U.P.)—Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrials 411.95 up 0.56; 20 railroads 146.52 up 0.83; 15 utilities 63.77 up 0.15; and 65 stocks 152.50 up 0.43.