

Anti-Trade Stamp Legislation Seen In Many States

By UNITED PRESS
Legislation to curb or regulate the trading stamp business is pending in 20 states, a survey showed today.

In several states, the proposed anti-stamp laws stirred up squabbles involving lawmakers, grocers and irate housewives.

The state by state check, conducted by United Press, turned up several proposals to make the stamps redeemable in cash as well as merchandise.

Other bills would outlaw the stamps completely, require the companies issuing them to take out a license or tax the merchants handling them.

States in which anti-stamp legislation is pending include California, Idaho, Nevada and Oregon.

It appeared doubtful that the measures would pass in many of the states.

Much of the anti-stamp activity was in the South. Stamp-saving housewives, encouraged by merchants, sent a flood of letters to the South Carolina legislature to protest a series of bills, one of which would outlaw stamps altogether.

Many merchants were supplying paper, pens and even postage stamps for customers who wanted to register a protest.

Sponsors of the anti-stamp legislation claimed big stores were using the trading stamps to squeeze little ones out of business.

Higher Savings Bond Interest Gets Approval

Washington — (U.P.) — The House Ways and Means committee today approved the Treasury department's request for authority to raise to 3 1/4 per cent the interest rate on government savings bonds purchased on and after Feb. 1.

The interest rate now is 3 per cent. The treasury wants to make the bonds more attractive to purchasers to bolster sagging sales.

Use Tribune Want Ads

School Officials Discuss Bills Pending in Oregon Legislature

Jackson county and Medford school officials last night discussed about 30 House and Senate bills pending in the state legislature which would affect education, at a county regional meeting in the Jackson county courthouse auditorium.

Thirteen officials representing schools in Jackson county and Medford spoke on issues at the informative session in which no decisions were reached. About 100 residents attended the meeting.

House bill 171 to increase the basic school support fund from \$80 to \$120 per school census child in Oregon was discussed by H. P. Jewett, superintendent of District 6C schools.

Pointing out the history of the basic fund, Jewett said it was enacted in 1946 when the legislature decided education should be broader than just a local problem. The original bill provided that 50 per cent of school costs would be borne on a state-wide level.

At that time, Jewett said, \$50 was appropriated per school census child and was increased to \$80 in 1949. Because of the rapidly changing economy, he added, that amount now only makes available 27 per cent from the state fund to local and school costs.

The new bill, according to Jewett, would increase and restore the state's contribution to local school districts to the originally planned 50 per cent. Its "end result," he said, would relieve local districts of the extra tax burden which has compensated for what the state has not been paying.

Jewett said local property taxes would be "substantially lower." Citing an example of the effect of the new bill, he said the Medford school district would have received \$574,000 in state receipts instead of \$357,000 for the 1956-57 school year had the bill been enacted last year.

Leonard Mayfield, superintendent of Medford schools, explained Senate bill 64 which would revise the distribution formula of state funds to local school districts. State funds are now distributed on a teacher-

student basis to districts irrespective of their wealth, he said.

The new bill is a corrective measure, Mayfield pointed out, intended to restore equalization of state school funds to the less wealthy and populous districts.

The school superintendent said the proposed bill has three provisions: that education in Oregon is a state function and should assume some of its financial burden since it also sets up certain standards, that a basic minimum school program should be established below which no district could go, and that this program would be financed and equalized on state resources as determined by the legislature.

Decrease Noted
Jackson county received \$25,000 in equalization this year which shows a decrease of \$200,000 in the past seven years, he said. According to Mayfield this decrease, which has been similar in the "less wealthy" counties in the state, is due to a fault in the original distribution plan.

He added the proposed bill would eliminate that part of the law which now permits the inequitable distribution. In effect, he said, the bill would change the distribution formula from flat grants to districts already wealthy to a basis of need and tax relief.

More populous areas in the state, like Portland, are fighting the bill because their contribution from state school funds would be less, Mayfield said. To reduce the impact of their loss, he added, the increase in the basic school support fund as outlined by Jewett would keep their school receipts from the state stable.

Would Reduce Taxes
If the proposed distribution formula had been enacted last year, he said, school district taxes in the county would have been reduced about 20 per cent.

Answering a question from a resident on what caused the county's equalization funds to drop, Mayfield explained part of the problem lies in the fact that county assessment ratios have decreased while property valuations have increased.

House bill 163 to reorganize Oregon school districts was outlined by Dr. Howard Balderstone, superintendent of Ashland schools. The bill would establish a county committee of nine legal voters that would make recommendations on location of buildings, use of existing buildings and construction of new ones, he said.

Make Study
The committee would make studies and surveys, with technical aid from the state, on adequacy of local education programs, adequacy of school buildings, determine value of school property, bonds, adjustments of all property, assets, debts and liabilities.

School building aid to local districts from the federal and state government was discussed by John Niedermeyer, chairman of the Jackson County School Boards association.

According to President Eisenhower's proposed program for education, Niedermeyer said,

\$11 1/3 billion in grants-in-aid would be made available for construction of schools over a four-year period.

He said Sen. Richard Neuberger of Oregon has introduced a bill, similar to the previous Kelly bill, which would make available federal funds for distribution over a five-year period on a basis of school-age population.

Niedermeyer said the bill would not necessarily mean wealthier districts would receive federal funds, but it could happen in cases like Portland.

House bill 480 would provide \$7 million annually for school building aid in "distressed" districts, Niedermeyer said. To qualify as a distressed district must be bonded from 95 to 100 per cent of its capacity or have substandard and multiple shift classrooms, he said.

Under these standards no school district in Jackson county now qualifies as distressed, he said.

Rural Districts Low
All B. Mekvold, county school superintendent, explained Senate bill 174, which would revise the present rural school district law. The bill originally was enacted in 1947 to provide equalization of education costs on the county level, he said.

The law has upgraded standards of rural schools, he added, but recently rural school districts have become less in number, smaller and ineffective.

Mekvold said the bill would do six things. They are: provide partial equalization on the county level, reorganize administration of rural school districts, include equalization provisions for all school districts and not just rural, establish a tax base for rural school districts, revise the district's budget procedure so its funds would be divided by a county board instead of several sources, and make the county school superintendent appointive by the county board instead of elective.

Increase Bonding
Frank Bash, member of the Medford school board, outlined House bills 168 and 317 which would increase the bonding capacity of school districts. He said 168 would increase it in district 549C, Medford, 30.7 per cent from \$5,696,023 to \$7,445,479, and 317 would increase it 29 per cent to \$7,346,205.

Harry Heidenreich, chairman of the Lone Pine school board, and John Harr, superintendent of Rogue River schools, summarized about 25 bills now pending in the House and Senate of the state legislature.

Discussed was House bill 369 providing state funds for students educationally advanced, House bill 385 increasing appropriations for the physically handicapped and mentally retarded, and House bill 476 providing for the instruction of alcohol and narcotics in public schools.

Others were Senate bill 17 providing \$45,000 for a state recreation board, Senate bill 134 providing \$220,000 in grants-in-aid for public libraries and Senate bill 1, co-sponsored by Senator Phil Lowry, of Medford, to provide for an interim committee to study extent of mental retardation. He is a member of the senate education committee.

Discussion Panel
A group discussion panel concluded the program. Members of the panel were Glenn Smith, Lyndal Newbury, Mrs. G. O. Grove, Claude Thompson and Otto Bohnert.

Mrs. Leigh Gustafson was general chairman for the conference. She said one of the purposes of the meeting was to prompt citizens to inform Jackson county legislators their views on education.

Dr. Marshall Woodell, professor of political science at Southern Oregon college and chairman of the Ashland school board, was moderator for the conference.

The conference was sponsored by the state joint committee composed of representatives from the Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers, Oregon Education association and the Oregon School Boards association.

Wilsonville Hospital Name Voted in Senate

Salem — (U.P.) — The Oregon Senate voted unanimously yesterday to name the new state mental hospital to be located in the Wilsonville area near Portland the F. H. Dammasch state hospital.

The measure now goes to the House, where Dr. Dammasch, as state representative from Portland, fought for nearly a quarter of a century and finally succeeded in obtaining a state mental hospital in the Portland area. Dr. Dammasch died a year ago last December.

FROZEN SIREN
Port Huron, Mich. — (U.P.) — Volunteer firemen at Gratiot Township were summoned to duty by a police car siren Wednesday because the regular siren atop the firehouse was clogged with ice.

SURE SIGNS of Spring

Red Radishes 7 ^c Bunch	Green ONIONS 7 ^c Bunch	Very Lean Meaty SHORT RIBS 2 lbs. 49 ^c	FRESH SPRING CHICKEN Broil or Fry 1 3/4 to 2 1/4 lb. 89 ^c each	Armour Banner Bacon 45 ^c lb
Spring TURNIPS 12 ^c Bunch	Mustard GREENS 12 ^c Bunch	Nebergall HAM Shank or Whole 55 ^c lb	Frosted Soran's HEN TURKEY 12 to 18 lbs. 47 ^c lb	
Artichokes 10 ^c ea	Zucchini SQUASH 15 ^c lb	Strawberry Rhubarb 2-lbs. 49 ^c	New Spring Cabbage 7 ^c lb	New Red Potatoes 9 ^c lb
Green Asparagus 29 ^c lb	BLISS COFFEE VAC CAN 89 ^c lb	Standby CATSUP 19 ^c Bottle	EGGS Med. AA 2 DOZ. 99 ^c	
MORE SIGNS FOR WISE Shoppers	Mary Ellen Jam STRAWBERRY 69 ^c 28 oz. Jar	Nubora SOAP 59 ^c Giant Box Free Glassware	Dinty Moore BEEF STEW 2 BIG CANS 89 ^c	

Jewel Shortening 3 lbs. 79 ^c	Gold Medal-Sperry's FLOUR 10 lbs. 99 ^c	Wesson Oil 59 ^c qt.	Sunny Jim SYRUP 29 ^c 24-oz. Bottle
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