



EXAMINE RECORDS—Mrs. Adelaide Bailey, secretary to the county school superintendent, and Bruce Hitt, curriculum coordinator, are examining school census records prior to the opening of school. Census records are compiled for determining the ratio of school monies distribution and for future school construction. The census records are kept on all children between the ages of 4 and 19. At present, there are some 30,000 cards filed since 1946, listing census in second and third class districts. Not pictured are register sheets upon which are compiled some 150,000 records, listing the school census for all districts since 1896.

School Census Has Been Taken in State For About 65 Years

For more than 65 years, school laws of Oregon have required each school district clerk count each year all youths between the ages of four and 19, residing in the district. The county school superintendent has been charged with the responsibility of keeping the records.

The oldest file in this county dates back to 1896 and records have been kept each year since that time, although some records were lost prior to the time that the court house was moved from Jacksonville to Medford. These records have often assisted persons needing verification of age, birthdate, or residence. Certification of these records is available to anyone in need of such information.

Based on Reports
Two of the sources of revenue distribution for public education in Oregon are based on census reports.
Recent legislative action has relieved the school census taking from its annual requirement and placed it on a biennial basis. The new law provides that a school census shall be taken each even-numbered year of all youths between the ages of four and 19 who live in a district on Oct. 25.

In each odd-numbered year, the same figure is used, with a formula applied to determine expected percentage gain. In any case, where a school board is of the opinion that the district has increased sufficiently to

qualify it for reclassification, a special census may be taken.

The most recent census figures for Jackson county released by the county school office for the school year 1956-57 show an increase of approximately 700 students more than the previous year. Estimates from the school districts anticipate a further increase in enrollment for the 1957-58 school year.

Classes Conducted For Handicapped Children Here

Programs of special education for handicapped children are relatively new in Oregon, although larger cities have conducted classes for physically handicapped children for a much longer period than the state. In 1941, the legislature authorized a state-wide survey to determine how many handicapped children would require special education services. This survey, concluded in 1943, did not include children mentally retarded.

Although other states, some for as many as forty years, had conducted classes for the slow learning, Oregon did not initiate such a plan until 1953. That legislature, steering from the Holy Report of 1951, appropriated the sum of \$15,000 to conduct a study of the educational needs of mentally retarded and gifted children in Oregon.

City, County Classes
Medford city schools have had special classes for some time under the direction of Miss Louise Basford. Not until 1953, did the county embark upon a program of education for children unable to keep pace in regular classrooms.

Two classes are in operation at Talent on a county-wide basis, taught by Karl Hayes and Mrs. Kay Ballman. Ashland has a special education department directed by Mrs. Frances Klein.

Classes for the slow learning children are about half the size of regular classes and the curriculum is built around everyday experiences and environment. Basic subjects of reading, writing, arithmetic and social studies are not neglected nor are courses watered down.

Arts and crafts are an important part of the program, as well as the appreciation of music through listening and singing. Such a curriculum develops children's potential ability to the best possible level and prepares students for visitation, conferences and discussion.

Southern Oregon May Have 1,050 Students

Ashland—A fall term enrollment estimated at 1,050 is forecast for Southern Oregon college, according to Dr. Elmo N. Stevenson, president. Faculty members will number between 80 and 90, he added.

Keeping pace with last year's 500 Jackson county students in a total enrollment of 900, an estimated 500 to 600 is anticipated from Jackson county this year.

Vocational Agriculture Successful at Phoenix

Entering its second year, the Phoenix high school vocational agriculture department has maintained its original enrollment of more than 50 boys.

With the addition of new facilities, it is now conducting a full, regular vocational agriculture program with adequate building and equipment, according to John P. Dube, vocational agriculture instructor at the school.

Activities Develop Outside Interests

Phoenix—A full schedule of activities has been set up at the Phoenix high school under the direction of E. M. Skipworth, vice principal, in an effort to develop student interest in music, photography, handcraft, art, journalism, dramatics, speech, athletics, or related fields, according to Phoenix superintendent E. R. James.

A high school testing and counseling program with follow-up information is available to students desiring information and guidance in vocation, interest, or educational fields.

Phoenix Now Has Two Playing Fields

Phoenix—Athletic, physical education, and health facilities are on the upswing with the addition of a second playing field in Phoenix, according to physical education coordinators Jack Woodward and Albert Conbruck.

Through the cooperation of the Phoenix Lion's Club, the school district, community labor, and lumber mills in the Phoenix area, two sets of bleachers are under construction. These same groups made the first set of permanent bleachers possible three years ago when the athletic turf and field light installations were completed.

These facilities will be used for required physical education classes for boys and girls through the tenth grade, with optional eleventh and twelfth grade programs. According to age group, the physical education curricula consists of the Oregon Motor Fitness tests and drills, intramural basketball and track, volley-ball, badminton, archery, tumbling, touch and flag football, horsehoes, and when possible swimming, bowling or tennis instruction. Health units are coordinated in the regular science, homemaking and social studies courses.

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