

# New Proposal for Basic School Fund Distribution Told

Portland — (AP) — A new proposal to distribute state basic school funds was outlined to the Association of Oregon Counties Wednesday by State Sen. Ward Cook, (D-Portland), chairman of the Legislative Interim Committee on Education.

The proposal, called an equalization flat grant program, was criticized by some including Rep. Clarence Barton, (D-Coquille), chairman of the Interim Tax Committee.

Cook said the new plan would lift in biennial steps the burden of school operating expenses from property taxes until in about four years half of the school expenses would come from the state's general fund. The state now distributes about 37 per cent of school operating expenses.

Cook said percentages turned over to school districts would be based on expenditures made in the year prior to the appropriation rather than on a per-census-child basis.

### No Tax Cut

Cook said the plan would not result in any property tax cut but would make more non-school funds available for county projects. He said "every district will get some amount and every district will feel some local tax — there would be no free riders."

Barton said he had "some misgivings" about the proposal, one because it was based on current expenditures and was not a fixed figure, per pupil. "It is a cost-plus figure," he said. "We prefer so much per census child, rather than on what the school administrators choose to spend."

### Already Spending More

The education committee is reported to have suggested that 12.5 per cent of school operating funds in counties receiving O&C money come from these funds. Barton said O&C counties already were spending more on school taxes per home than some non O&C counties.

Rep. Stafford Hansell, (R-Athens), charged Eastern Oregon members of the education committee did not attend enough sessions and that the position of "Eastern Oregon schools is left out of the report." He said the EFG plan was not fair when cities such as Eugene had a non-taxed electric power system and where orchard trees were not taxed in some counties, such as Jackson.

# Murder Charge Dismissal Asked

Gooding, Idaho — (AP) — A motion that murder charges against Mary Katherine Hampton, 18, Sandy Hook, Ky., be dismissed was on file in the 4th district court today.

Prosecutor Cecil Hobday has asked that Miss Hampton be a state witness against Rodger Hall, 22, Crescent City, Calif., who is accused of the gunshot death of Dr. John Hunt, a Portland, Ore., plant pathologist.

Hobday said his motion was made after an investigation by the sheriff and his office.

He said this showed Miss Hampton in no manner aided or participated in the alleged crime.

The 36-year-old doctor was on his way to accept a post at Yale University when he disappeared in Idaho. His body was later found in his deserted car in the desert near Bliss.

**STATISTICIAN DIES**  
Washington — (AP) — Mrs. Virginia Todd Veneman, 54, responsible for many government statistical studies before her retirement this year after 17 years with the Bureau of the Budget, died Wednesday.



**KENNEDY IN TEXAS**—A casually dressed Lyndon B. Johnson, vice president-elect, talks with members of the press after his arrival at Johnson's ranch at Johnson City, Tex. (UPI Telephoto)

# Profit Taking Hits Electronics As Stock Prices Driven Lower

New York — (AP) — Sellers were in control of the proceedings today driving stocks lower all along the line.

Electronics, among the recently favored, were hit by profit-taking. Texas Instruments lost more than 5. Litton around 3 and RCA more than a point.

Steels were easier with U.S. Steel off more than 1 and Youngstown and Bethlehem off small fractions.

Industrial stocks were depressed mainly on losses of around 2 points in Procter & Gamble and more than a point in Du Pont.

Autos edged off despite reports that auto sales during the first nine days of November rose to a new high for the period.

**2.10; 20 railroads 128.39, off 0.31; 15 utilities 94.10, up 0.39, and 65 stocks 200.16, off 0.30, Sales Wednesday were about 3.11 million shares compared with 2.99 million shares Tuesday.**

Wednesday's prices on selected stocks:

Allied Chemical	52 1/2
Alum. Co. Am.	68
American Can	33
American Motors	19 1/2
A. T. & T.	92 1/2
Anacosta Copper	49 1/2
Arco Steel	62 1/2
Bendix Corp.	64 1/2
Bethlehem Steel	46
Boeing Air	35
Caterpillar Corp.	28 1/2
Chrysler Corp. (xd)	41
Continental Can	34 1/2
Crown Zellerbach	47 1/2
Curtis Wright	19 1/2
Dow Chemical	78 1/2
Du Pont	19 1/2
Eastman Kodak	108 1/2
Firestone	38 1/2
General Electric	78 1/2
General Foods	60 1/2
General Motors	42 1/2
Georgia Pacific	32
Graham Paige	1 1/2
Greyhound	20 1/2
Gulf Oil	29 1/2
Homestake Mining	40 1/2
Idaho Power	47 1/2
I. B. M.	54 1/2
Int. Paper	97
Johns Manville	33 1/2
Kennecott Copper	77
Lockheed Aircraft	28 1/2
Montana Power	25 1/2
Montgomery Ward	28 1/2
Nati Biscuit	70 1/2
New York Central	15 1/2
Pac Gas & Elec	65 1/2
Penney, J. C.	42 1/2
Penn RR	52
Radio Corporation	83 1/2
Richfield Oil (xd)	36 1/2
Safeway	30 1/2
Sears	55 1/2
Shell Oil	42 1/2
Society Mobil Oil	38 1/2
Southern Co.	45
Southern Pacific	20 1/2
Standard California	43 1/2
Standard Indiana	44 1/2
Standard N. J.	40 1/2
Sun Mines	67 1/2
Texas Co.	79
Texas Gulf Sulfur	17 1/2
Texas Pac Land Trust	16 1/2
Transamerica	23 1/2
Trans World Air	12 1/2
Tri-Continental	36 1/2
Union Carbide	120 1/2
Union Pacific	27 1/2
United Aircraft	27 1/2
United Air Lines	32 1/2
U. S. Rubber	45 1/2
U. S. Steel	74 1/2
Youngstown S & T	88

**COFFEE INTRODUCED**  
The Turks introduced coffee to Europe in about 1683.

# Former Bus Boy Confesses Killing 3 Chicago Women in Illinois Park

Ottawa, Ill. — (AP) — A muscular outdoorsman with a record of sex offenses today confessed he beat to death three Chicago matrons in a lonely, snow-covered canyon in nearby Starved Rock State Park last March.

The state's attorney's office said Chester Otto Weger, 23, a former bus boy at the park, calmly admitted the triple killings after several hours of questioning.

**No Remorse Shown**  
Authorities said he showed "no remorse and a complete lack of emotion" as he told them how he killed Mrs. Frances Murphy, 47, Mrs. Lillian Oetting, 50, and Mrs. Mildred Lindquist, 50, all wives of prominent Chicago business and civic leaders.

La Salle County State's Attorney Harland Warren said he would take Weger to the park for a reenactment of the crime. A special session of the grand jury was called for this afternoon to consider indictments.

Weger, a short but muscular blond-haired father of two, was charged early today with 11 crimes, including the three killings in Starved Rock.

Assistant State's Attorney Peter Feracutti said Weger was also charged before Justice Louis Goetz with raping a 17-year-old girl, robbery, assault with a deadly weapon and other crimes.

In his oral confession to Feracutti, Weger said he met the three women while out on an afternoon break from his bus boy job in the park lodge.

Weger told authorities the three women were just emerging from the canyon when he accosted them. He said he told the women he intended to rob them and a struggle began.

Weger, who described the killing as a "robbery that got out of hand," said he dragged two of the women to a tree and tied them to it. He said when Mrs. Murphy continued to fight back, he hit her with a tree branch and then beat the other two women.

He told police Mrs. Murphy regained consciousness for a time and he struck her again. He then carried the three women into a canyon cave about 200 yards away. He said he heard a plane overhead and wanted to get them out of sight.

He laid the bodies in a neat row, he said, and then searched their purses for money. He neglected to take the jewelry and rings they were wearing, however.

Sheriff Ray Eutsey said Weger, who now works as a painter in the little nearby community of La Salle, went back to the lodge after the killings and worked as if nothing had happened.

The three women disappeared March 14 while on a hiking trip in the picturesque park, one of the most beautiful in Illinois. Two days later, their bodies were found lying side by side in the cave. All had been beaten to death.



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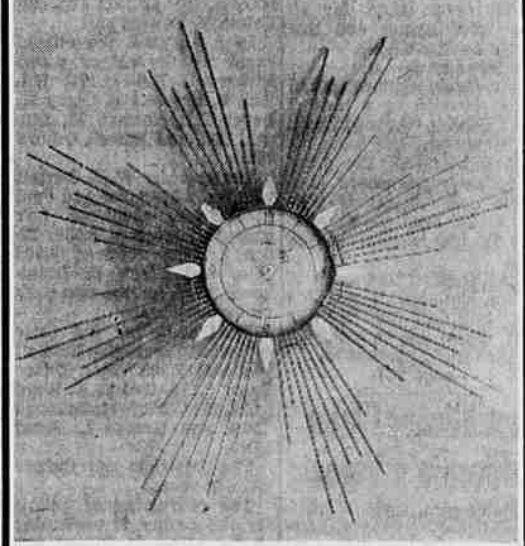
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