

Oregon Delegation Undecided on Aid To Education Bill; Durno Waiting

By YVONNE FRANKLIN
Mail Tribune
Washington Bureau

Washington (Special) - Congressional mailmen are staggering under the mounting stacks of voter sentiment on the aid to education bill, and opinion in the Oregon delegation is as divided as that of the constituents who write. The mail in most offices is heavier on whether or not private elementary and secondary schools should receive federal loans.

Rep. Walter Norblad says that his mail is heavier on this issue than any which he has seen during his 16 years in Congress. He was the lone Oregonian to take a position against the \$2.3 billion school construction bill. He has received about 500 letters, 98 per cent of which he said favored aid to parochial schools.

Reps. Edith Green and Al Ullman had not made up their minds about whether or not to support a separate bill providing loans to private schools. Both are against a loan provision in the general construction bill.

Sen. Maurice Neuberger would not take a position on whether or not private schools should receive loans.

"I am not prepared to say yet I don't know what form the bill will take," Mrs. Neuberger said. "The reason I am hesitant is that I support a much more liberal form of aid to education." She continued:

"If we allow allocations of money to go to the States to be distributed according to the laws of those States; then the States should decide if they want to give free textbooks to all children regardless of the school they attend."

"The people of the States have closest control over education. When people talk about federal control, this is the answer. You don't have federal control if you allow States to use the money as they see fit."

States To Decide
The bill as now drawn allows the States to decide whether to spend their share of federal money for construction of buildings or teachers' salaries in the public schools.

Sen. Wayne Morris supports a separate bill granting loans to private schools. He wants no amendment to the general bill, and has been outspoken in his criticism of the position taken by the Catholic church which opposes federal aid to public schools if parochial schools are not included.

Rep. Edwin Durno was in Oregon, however his administrative assistant, Robert Parkman, said that Durno had not made up his mind on aid to private schools, and would not until the Congress was presented with the bill which they were to vote on.

"You can't tell what the committee is going to do," Parkman said, "and you don't know what will be offered in the way of amendments."

On aid to schools, generally, Parkman said that "Durno is against any aid which will lead to federal control of education, and he will have to analyze what the Education committee suggests, with this in mind."

Durno's Mail Heavy

Parkman said that Durno's mail has been very heavy, running 60 per cent to 40 per cent in favor of aid to parochial schools. Much of the mail is coming from the Portland area he said. Some of it is similar in phrasing. They have received mimeographed instruction sheets which the person has simply signed rather than writing a letter, which he said indicates a great effort is being made to urge people to write. He noted that this was equally true on the part of those who write in opposition to aid to private schools.

Ullman says he has been receiving much mail from the Portland, Salem and Eugene area urging his support of aid to private schools. Much of his mail, he said, is well thought out, individually written letters, both pro and con.

Mrs. Green said that her mail was about evenly divided pro and con. Some of the mail was "inspired" on both sides.

Believed Violation
She said that she has always opposed grants (free gifts) to private elementary and secondary schools, "because I think it is a violation of the Constitution."

"I have not made up my mind on the question of loans," she continued. "We do not have the clear constitutional guidelines in this area, and I think there must be a court test on this. I have briefs on my desk from lawyers whom we must respect as

constitutional lawyers, who take opposing positions. Even the decisions of the courts on released time, bus transportation, etc., have not been unanimous on this question."

"Therefore, it isn't very impressive to me to have a person write in and be extreme in his views and be absolutely positive on the constitutional question, because I don't think we have the absolute answer."

Mrs. Green expressed concern that loans to private schools might open the door to so many sectarian schools seeking federal money that the public school system might be undermined.

"This would be my primary reason for opposition," she said. "This nation has been dedicated to the principle that Democracy rests and depends on the education of the masses, and a good, sound nationwide public school system. If you start giving funds to all private schools, there will be an increase in private schools, and I am much concerned as to what it will do to our public education."

Foresees No Danger
Ullman said he does not foresee any danger of this if loans are made to private school systems. Mrs. Green continued, "I am not ready to say that I will oppose it (loans) to private schools on constitutional grounds, because of the conflicting legal opinions on this."

"I hope that we can pass the administration's bill, and later on consider a separate bill which would have the loans and debate this issue," she concluded.

Neuberger, Ullman and Morse agree with her on this. They are not happy that the religious issue has clouded the school construction bill. Ullman said they are fearful that those who oppose an aid to education bill may include the amendments, which will assure its defeat.

They also support the bill to provide \$1.5 billion of loans over five years to construct academic facilities at both public and private universities plus scholarships.

Bill Not Studied

Norblad said that he had not studied Mrs. Green's bill for aid to colleges and would withhold judgment until the bill is before Congress. Mrs. Green said that her bill would probably come before Congress first, and then the general construction bill for elementary and secondary schools. Norblad said:

"I think the local school districts in Oregon have been doing an excellent job. They have constructed in all corners of our State, and I think they will continue to do a good job. I think the Federal Government should keep out of grade

schools and high schools. We ought to worry more about some of our tremendous problems of defense and our national debt, and let the local people take care of the schools."

Mrs. Neuberger disagreed with Norblad. "I don't think this is the way to look at it," she said. "It is important to our defense to have young people adequately trained and educated. Admiral Rickover says we now have great difficulty getting as many trained scientists and technicians as we need."

Sink or Swim
"Maybe Oregon is taking care of its school needs, but I like to look at this thing nationally. We will sink or

swim on our educational quality. All that Norblad would have to do is go into a few of these poorer states to see whether the need is being met."

"Depressed areas and unemployment is a national, not just a State problem. Just because one State is rich and another is economically depressed and has unemployment doesn't mean that we have a good situation in our country."

"The rich States suffer from the degeneration and unemployment in another State because it drags down the whole national picture. It is the same with education," she concluded.

Variety Stores Are Largest Toy Outlets

New York - (UPI) - Variety stores accounted for 24.5 per cent of the national toy market in 1960, making them the nation's largest toy outlet, according to Variety Store Merchandiser.

Independent department stores sold 23 per cent, chain department stores 14 per cent, toy stores 7 per cent, discount and mail order houses 17.5 per cent, auto supply stores 5 per cent, drug and hardware stores 4 per cent each and food stores 1 per cent.

Firecrackers Used In Pecan Groves

Stillwater, Okla. - (UPI) - Oklahoma pecan growers hope to save thousands of dollars each year by scaring crows away from their crop with firecrackers strung in long rope fuses.

Cotton ropes which burn about one foot per hour are strung in pecan groves. Firecrackers are spaced along the rope to explode every 15 to 30 minutes to scare the crows away.

Legislative Tempo Increases; Bills Move to Senators

By L. W. NEWBRY
State Senator from
Jackson County

During the last two weeks the legislative tempo has increased tremendously. Although the committee work has been at a high plane since the legislature opened, the hearings are completed on the most important pieces of legislation in each house, and the bills are starting to come to the floor for final passage. Tension is mounting and patience is beginning to dwindle.

The Senate has passed virtually all of the so-called "housekeeping" measures.

Teen-Age Charge Plan Meeting With Success

Tulsa, Okla. - (UPI) - A Tulsa department store reports "real success" with a program which allows charge accounts for teenagers without parents as co-signers.

"We limit them to \$30 and try to impress them with the importance of good credit," said credit manager Bill Vance of Froug's Department Store. This country's economy is being built on credit and you must teach children to use credit... and use it wisely."

HEAT NEEDED
Chicago - The nation's greenhouses - about 15,000 of them - require 50 to 15,000 tons of coal each growing season.

(Those which facilitate the administration of present laws). It has also acted on some of the extremely important new legislation, bills to control water and air pollution, the reorganization bills having to do with the department of "commerce" and department of "revenue" and the extremely controversial "three way bill."

There are many other Senate bills which have not come to the floor as yet and most of the major House bills are just getting into committee. President Boivin and Speaker Duncan are setting their target for adjournment on April 20. I hope that we can accomplish this but it will require a tremendous amount of work.

Busy Week

Last week was an extremely busy one for me. In addition to the usual duties of attending the sessions and participating in the debate and functioning in the committees, I appeared at a hearing of the joint ways and means committee Monday night to get agricultural research funds reinstated in the budget (a portion of which will be devoted to pear decline studies), had a conference with Governor Hatfield concerning pending

legislation and appeared on the television program "View Point" in Portland on a discussion of the three way bill.

I was also privileged last week to have as my "legislative intern" Richard Swinney of Medford who is a senior at Southern Oregon college. Dick sat with me on the floor of the Senate, accompanied me to the various committees and participated in the activities of the Senate wherever possible for the entire week. This was made possible through the political science department of SOC.

I believe this to be an extremely valuable program and

I am sure that Swinney now has an accurate and intimate knowledge of the workings of the legislature.

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