

Research Bureau Recommends Improvements in Plant Facilities

The University of Oregon bureau of educational research, in a survey report published last summer, recommended that the Phoenix-Talent school district plan a five to seven year building program to meet the future needs of the district.

The report has not been made public by Phoenix school officials.

Five major projects listed in the report would cost an estimated \$893,253 over the period, and the bureau suggested that the work be done on a greatest-need-first basis.

The five recommendations for improving plant facilities are:

1. Construction of a new building for grades 1 through 8 to house 180 children at the Argonne ave. site. The building should include, the bureau said, a multi-purpose room, special rooms for home-making, industrial arts, music, science and library, and an office. Estimated cost would be about \$186,800.

Within Medford Limits
Argonne ave. is within the Medford city limits between Ellendale and Black Oak drs. in the vicinity of Barnegut hill. The site consists of nine acres of land, an adequate size by state standards for an elementary school of 400-500 rollment of 500 students at Phoenix High school. Estimated cost of this project is \$276,074.

The bureau estimated that students in grades 1 to 8, the Bureau reported.

2. Construct a girls' gymnasium and dressing room, combined with a lunchroom and kitchen, and additional classrooms to house a total enrollment of 150 students will attend Phoenix High school in the next six years, and with suggested improvements the high school will provide good educational facilities for the size student body expected.

Elementary Classroom
3. Construct nine additional elementary classrooms, a

multi-purpose room, office, library, teachers' room, and health suite, connected to the present primary unit at Talent elementary school. The bureau suggested razing the old building after the new structure is completed. The estimated maximum cost for improving the plant facilities is \$217,875, the bureau noted.

4. Acquisition of five additional acres at Talent Junior High school site, and construction of a combination gymnasium-auditorium with stage and kitchen to serve the building as a multi-purpose room. The bureau suggested that a music room suitable for both choral and instrumental music should also be provided. Total estimated cost of the improvement is \$171,104.

Replace Present Lunchroom
5. Replacing the present lunchroom at Phoenix elementary school with a multi-purpose room connected to the new primary wing. The bureau also suggested razing the existing frame lunchroom building and surface some of the site in the area of the present lunchroom for an outdoor play area. Estimated cost of this project is \$41,500, according to the report.

In reviewing and recommending plant facility improvements in the Phoenix-Talent district, the bureau of educational research pointed out:

Accomplished in Stages
"It is desirable to emphasize, however, that these things should be done as part of a planned program extending over a period of from five to seven years with actual expenditure being worked out to the advantage of the district. It is not contemplated, even if the school board and administration find these projects necessary and desirable, that a bond issue for the total cost of all projects would immediately be submitted to the voters."

"It is possible that all projects might be accomplished in two, three, or four stages with smaller issues to be submitted depending on the priority and scope of the projects."

The bureau of educational research recommended construction of the Argonne ave.

site building as first priority, since the bureau believes it would provide the greatest immediate benefit to the total district.

"It would relieve overcrowding of the Talent Junior High school by taking a considerable number of seventh and eighth grade pupils from the Phoenix part of the district to the new school," the bureau noted.

Relieve Elementary Schools
This would relieve both the Phoenix and Talent elementary schools, the bureau added. Some students now attending Phoenix elementary school could attend the Argonne ave. school, and some who now attend Talent could attend elementary school in Phoenix.

The Argonne ave. school, the bureau noted, would provide better services to the people resident in the Barnett rd. area, to their children, and will involve less transportation for the district since children will go a much shorter distance to school.

Included in the recommendations for new buildings or additions to buildings is the acquisition of additional acreage at all sites. This is included in the suggestions for improving present sites.

All Sites Are Crowded
"All of the school sites in the district are crowded with buildings and children," the bureau noted. "Only the Argonne ave. site can be considered adequate for the purpose for which it was intended."

"Although the elementary sites are crowded, the junior

high school and the high school sites must be considered minimal for secondary schools. More land is needed at each location both for the location of building additions and activity areas," the bureau reported.

The bureau's report continued:

New Unit Stands Out
"Of the buildings, the new primary unit at Phoenix stands out. It is excellent and furnishes adequate facilities for a modern elementary school program. The primary unit at Talent is usable for a modern school program, and can be used as a basis for school plant expansion at that location."

The bureau pointed out that older buildings at Phoenix and Talent, although not well adapted to a modern instructional program, also offer a safety hazard. Every arrangement has been made to make the buildings safer, the bureau noted, "but they still leave much to be desired from a safety standpoint."

The bureau of educational research found that "Their (the older buildings) age, original construction, multi-story design, the small rooms, and the open stairways present hazards for elementary children which cannot be approved by present-day standards."

Financial Ability
In reviewing the financial ability of the district, the bureau found that with the substantial increase in the assessed valuation of the district during recent years, the bonding capacity is now \$2,127,956, an amount more than

"adequate to take care of any foreseeable building needs."

The district is bonded at only 11.2 per cent of its capacity now, and the original Phoenix High school and primary bonded indebtedness will be paid off in 1964-65.

"The instructional program observed in operation in the Phoenix schools was sound and there was substantial effort being made to further improve it," the bureau found.

Operate Under Handicap
The bureau noted, however, that some of the schools and some of the classes are operating under a considerable handicap due to overcrowding and the sharing of facilities between schools.

"This is particularly noticeable in the sharing of the gymnasium and music room between the Talent elementary and junior high schools. The smaller classrooms limit the program in the older elementary buildings both in Phoenix and Talent. They make it difficult, if not impossible, for children to have the learning experiences which are usually considered to be a necessary part of the modern elementary school program," the bureau reported.

Schools in the district follow in general the state course of study, the bureau pointed out, with some adaptations to meet local needs or in the interest of extensions of the school program.

Class for Retarded
"There is a class for retarded children in Phoenix and a well organized special reading program extending through all of the schools in the district. The high school has a variety of offerings, some of which are not usually found in a school of its size," the bureau noted.

The bureau of educational research reported that "it is predicted that there will be 1,700 students in all grades in the Phoenix district by 1967." The district now has an average daily attendance of 1,407.5.

The area between Medford and Phoenix probably will grow faster than the area between Phoenix and Talent, the bureau noted, and if a new school is built immediately adjacent to Medford, population growth in that area will be somewhat accelerated.

Statement by Phoenix Board On Consolidation Proposal

Following is a statement of the school board of District 4, the Phoenix-Talent district, concerning the consolidation proposal on which patrons in both the Phoenix-Talent and Medford districts will vote Feb. 11:

"On Jan. 4, the Jackson county rural board of education denied the petition of consolidation of the Phoenix-Talent and Medford school districts. As a result of a remonstrance being filed, an election has been set for Feb. 11, so that the people can decide whether to consolidate or not."

"The school board of Phoenix-Talent is opposed to the consolidation. It is their considered judgment that consolidation would not provide educational advantages over those already available to the

children of the Phoenix-Talent district, and may be a disadvantage in that there would undoubtedly be no vocational-agriculture training, which is definitely important in a rural area."

Equal Opportunity
"Fundamentally and most important is the equal opportunity for each child to obtain the kind of an education which will enable them to become useful citizens. The basic requirements for this kind of education must be supplied in grades one through twelve."

"The state of Oregon, which can be justly proud of its educational system, supplies, through its state board of education, the yardstick by which local school districts can be measured. The Phoenix-Talent district meets all state standards and in many cases exceeds requirements."

"Last year a survey made of Phoenix-Talent School District 4 by the University of Oregon bureau of educational research, made nine specific references attesting to the excellence of our program."

Courses Being Offered
"These are (1) the large number of courses being offered in the high school, (2) low teacher pupil ratio, (3) a librarian in each elementary school, (4) the emphasis on language arts-social studies area of the curriculum in junior high, (5) twelve position language laboratory, (6) special reading improvement programs in elementary and junior high school, (7) ability grouping in special subjects, (8) School Mathematics Study Group for the more capable students at junior high and high school, (9) employment of teacher aides for grading English papers."

"Dr. Ernest Hayes, professor of education at the University of Portland and director of admissions, testing and research states: 'Neither the size of the graduating class nor the size of the high school is an indication of the quality of preparation a student has had for college. Other factors being equal, a college freshman from a small secondary school may do as well as one from a large school.'"

"The Phoenix-Talent board

feels this has definitely been the case with students attending college from Phoenix High school."

"In college, the grade point average of Phoenix freshmen is consistently above the general average of college freshmen."

"Facts prove that children have available in the Phoenix system an excellent program, not a backward program, but a program that is on the march toward a better, finer opportunity at all times to become well educated, useful citizens."

"Currently there is much 'to do' about size of districts. Now, of course, in discussing size there are two opinions, one for large districts, massive in area, and one for economically sound districts of smaller area. When the legislature, in its wisdom, decided that school districts in Oregon should be reorganized into economically sound units capable of supplying education compatible with state standards in grades one through twelve, area, as such, was not mentioned."

Major Specification
"The major specification was that they be economically sound. District, Phoenix-Talent No. 4, is sound."

"Currently, Phoenix-Talent owes in mortgage debt, commonly referred to as bonded debt, \$265,000. The bureau of educational research of the University of Oregon in its survey refers to the fact that the remaining bonding capacity at the end of the 1961-62 school year is more than adequate to cover building needs in the foreseeable future."

"Since District 4 currently has a lower millage levy than Medford it is obvious that consolidation will mean an increase in millage for present residents of our district. A proposed Medford bond issue would further increase this differential."

"It is quite apparent, in the judgment of the board of education of Phoenix-Talent district, that increase in size would have no advantages cost wise for District 4. It would require just as many teachers, just as many school rooms, and just as many buses."

Resolution Adopted
"On Oct. 27, 1958, over four years ago, the Jackson county reorganization committee, composed of dedicated intelligent men, adopted a resolution to approve the con-

solidation of Phoenix and Talent. On Aug. 25, 1959, the committee declared this consolidation 'in line with reorganization procedure.'"

"On Sept. 3, 1959, at the suggestion of members of the reorganization committee, Barnett road was made the northern boundary of District 4, the district relinquishing the area north of Barnett rd. On Sept. 16, 1959, by a vote of the people, Phoenix and Talent consolidated; and the boundary board approved it two weeks later. The state, after a public hearing, Oct. 5, approved, declaring the consolidated district a new administrative district effective July, 1960."

"It took almost two years of publicity, the combined talents of the reorganization committee, the boundary board, and the state board of education, to create the administrative school district 4. There was no organized opposition during this period. There was no suggestion that the new district would be unable, in less than two years, to supply a high quality of educational opportunity without joining 549C."

Administrative District
"On July 21, 1960, after we legally became an administrative district, an attempt was made to take an area south of Barnett road and join it to the boundary board. Less than a year later, on May 23, 1961, another attempt was made to take a still larger area and join it to Medford."

"The reorganization board denied this attempt. Again on Nov. 8, 1962, the rural board denied another petition to join the Barnett road area."

"Now the attempt to join District 4 as a whole with Medford has been denied by the rural school board. It is quite apparent that men and women who comprise these various boards, who spend many hours working on school problems, and having a great understanding of educational values, do not approve of any partitioning or consolidation of administrative district 4."

"The board of education of District 4, Phoenix-Talent, reminds the people of the district that as a practical matter, under consolidation, they would have no representation on the school board. You do now have 'home rule' and elect seven board members, all from your district."

Ben-Gurion Has Five Possible Successors

By ELIAV SIMON
United Press International
Jerusalem, Israel—What about these reports that the Old Man may be quitting soon?

In Israel, the "Old Man" could be no one other than David Ben-Gurion, who has led this Jewish state virtually without interruption since its inception in 1948. He is the father of his country in every sense.

There are reports—more abroad than in Israel itself—that, at 76, Ben-Gurion may be thinking about retiring soon. It is almost unthinkable here that the premier, white-haired but young-looking, vigorous and a devotee of yoga (the Hindu system of philosophic meditation), could leave office for good.

Yet whether he is thinking of stepping down or not—he personally maintains a strict silence on the subject—every man in such a position and age has political heirs. Ben-Gurion has his.

Five Leading Possibles
There are five leading "possibles" around whom most speculation centers. Two of them are the "enfants terribles" of Ben-Gurion's Mapai Labor party: 40-year-old Deputy Defense Minister Shimon Peres, and 47-year-old Moshe Dayan, former army chief of staff and present minister of agriculture.

Both are favorites of the premier and belong to a group of advisors sometimes called "Ben-Gurion's Boys."

But if Ben-Gurion were to retire tomorrow the man most insiders think would take over first, even if only for an interim period, is Finance Minister Levi Eshkol who is 67. The names of Israel's Minnesota-born foreign minister, Mrs. Golda Meir, 64, and former Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett, 68, also are discussed as possibilities for "interim" or short-term premiership. Eshkol, however, gets most votes in the guessing game.

Political Veteran
A shrewd politician veteran, Eshkol was once described by a visiting American official as "the only professional in Israeli politics." He is the man responsible for collecting and allocating the millions needed to finance the state of Israel. A born compromiser, he has helped the government weather many a crisis. His wit often serves to lighten a grim situation. Once when posed a tough question he answered, "he who answered Daniel in the lion's den will answer you."

Eshkol came to Palestine, as Israel was called before 1948, from Russia at the age of 18 and worked with Ben-Gurion as a farm hand. Fellow workers recall that Eshkol was the best worker in the orange groves and Ben-Gurion the worst. "Ben-Gurion was always busy mak-



ing in Degania which was the first successful collective farming settlement of the Jewish labor movement in Palestine. He still considers himself a farmer.

A colorful figure with a black patch over his left eye (which he lost while serving with the British in Syria in 1941) Dayan's record stamps him as a brilliant soldier. He served as a battalion commander in the war of liberation and toward the end of that war he became military commander of Jerusalem. There, in contacts and dealings with the United Nations and commanders of the Jordanian Arab legion, he became known as an adept "military diplomat."

Commission Member
He was a member of the Israel armistice commission at Rhodes and there first met Dr. Ralph Bunche who subsequently won a Nobel peace prize. Dayan says Bunche is one of three men who most influenced his life. The others are Ben-Gurion and the late Charles Orde Wingate who, while serving in the British army in Palestine during 1936, taught Dayan and other future Israeli generals their first lessons in military tactics.

After the 1956 Sinai campaign Dayan as chief of staff had gone as high as he could in the army. He resigned soon afterward to enter politics. Today as minister of agriculture he is credited with having rejuvenated the department. Like Peres, Dayan is a protégé of Ben-Gurion. If Peres became premier it is thought Dayan would be his defense minister.

Mrs. Meir succeeded Moshe Sharett as foreign minister in 1956. She was the world's first woman foreign minister and in Israel she has won wide respect for having done "a man's job" in the post.

Mrs. Meir emigrated to Palestine from the United States in 1921 on a ship named the SS Pocahontas and still speaks Hebrew with a mid-western American accent. If Eshkol took over the reins from Ben-Gurion it is thought likely Mrs. Meir would continue as foreign minister. With a younger man in office it is felt she might decide to retire.

Moshe Sharett is the only one of the five leading candidates to succeed to the premiership who does not get along with Ben-Gurion. Sharett resigned as foreign minister in 1956 because of differences with Ben-Gurion over policy. He had been foreign minister since Israel became a state and before that he headed the political department of the Jewish agency for Palestine, the Jewish government-in-making during the period of the British mandate in Palestine.

Cultured, polished, a lifelong diplomat, Sharett prefers moderation in approach to even acute problems. His method of compromise often brought him into conflict with Ben-Gurion. On the eve of May 15, 1948, when Ben-Gurion and his colleagues in Tel Aviv prepared to declare the formation of an independent Jewish state, Sharett cabled Ben-Gurion from Lake Success, N.Y., then the seat of the United Nations, urging postponement of the decision until a more favorable time.

Today Sharett is on the political sidelines. But he still enjoys vast personal prestige and popularity and cannot be ruled out as a potential key figure in Israel if Ben-Gurion should go.

IT'S HERE—OUR ANNUAL POST & WIRE SALE

Starts Monday—February 4th

CASH & CARRY PRICES!

LIFETIME—Studied Tee Posts

"101"—6 Ft. 77c Ea.

"101"—6½ Ft. 82c Ea.

"133"—6 Ft. \$1.02 Ea.

"133"—6½ Ft. \$1.09 Ea.



CANDIDATES—Possible candidates for Israeli premiership after Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion steps down are (top, left to right) Finance Minister Levi Eshkol, 67, and Foreign Minister Mrs. Golda Meir, 64; (bottom, left to right) Deputy Minister Shimon Peres, 40, and Moshe Dayan, 47, former Army Chief of Staff and present Agriculture Minister. (UPI)

ing speeches," the old timers said, "while Eshkol was doing the job at hand."

Even today Eshkol is known as a man who sticks to the job at hand, a quality Ben-Gurion admires. The two men have a warm admiration for each other.

More In Limelight
More in the limelight in recent years has been Shimon Peres whose comings and goings abroad on security missions have identified him in the public's mind with the army and national strength. The talk is that if Peres did not immediately succeed Ben-Gurion he would serve as defense minister under Eshkol.

Peres' rise has been swift. In 1948 when Moshe Dayan already was a popular Haganah underground army hero Peres was unknown. Until 1947 he was a member of a farming colony. Like Dayan but without attaining Dayan's prominence he joined Haganah, the Jewish self-defense organization. In 1952 Peres entered the defense ministry and in a year became its director general. After the elections in 1961 he moved up to

the post of deputy minister. Peres enjoys the complete confidence of Ben-Gurion and is one of the most powerful men in the Ben-Gurion government. Politically, he represents the dynamic younger generation coming up to take over from the old guard in the moderate Socialist Mapai party. With the support of Ben-Gurion these younger men have been demanding that planning and efficiency replace the sporadic and sometimes wild-eyed ventures of the early Israel.

Credit to Pioneers
While giving full credit to the pioneers who drained the swamps, created villages and built the foundations of the present nation, Peres and his supporters stress that the survival of Israel depends on its ability to train technicians and scientists to compensate for the numerical superiority of the Arab states which have sworn this country's destruction.

Moshe Dayan, second of the "enfants terribles," is the Sabra—native-born Israeli—of the group of possible Ben-Gurion heirs. Born in 1918

ATTENTION DOG OWNERS!

Jackson County dog owners may apply and receive their dog licenses and tags by simply filling in the form below and mailing with the required fee to E. M. MADDEN, COUNTY CLERK, COURT HOUSE, MEDFORD, OREGON. License fees are as follows: Male dogs \$2.00; spayed female dogs \$2.00; female dogs \$3.00. PLEASE SEND ONLY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER WITH YOUR APPLICATION. Your license and tag will be mailed to you immediately upon application and remittance. If you have more than one dog, please use other forms of this nature or attach a separate schedule with the required information.

FINAL DATE FOR PURCHASING A DOG LICENSE WITHOUT PENALTY IS MARCH 1, 1963.

Application for Dog License
1963
Date _____

Owner _____
Address _____

Indicate sex of dog by encircling one of the following: MALE SPAYED FEMALE FEMALE

Dog's Name _____ Color _____ Breed _____

Amount of Money Enclosed _____ Signature of Applicant _____

Cap C. Vandagriff
REAL ESTATE APPRAISER, CONSULTANT & NEGOTIATOR
ANNOUNCES
HIS NEW LOCATION
1 King Street • Phone 779-1666
Medford, Oregon