



School Costs Reviewed for Legislature

(Second in a Series)
School officials, both administrators and board members, individually and as groups, have reviewed for state legislators, through personal contact, and through resolutions, the problem of increasing costs, higher property taxes, and the lack of increased basic school support.

Dr. Leonard B. Mayfield, superintendent of School District 549C, noted at a recent public hearing that state aid now figures out about 35 per cent, and unless state support is increased, state aid could go down to about 32 per cent next year, thereby increasing local property taxes that much more.

School officials generally believe the state can increase its support since it has a broader base from which to derive funds.

Resolution Adopted
In a resolution adopted by the budget committee of School District 549C, the committee pointed out:

"Our district is facing a number of problems resulting from continually rising costs and a continual increase in number of students. These problems are compounded by the austere-type of budgets which have been the rule in recent years. Increased costs each year have exceeded increases in tax revenues.

"Many items relating to maintenance, transportation, and instructional equipment postponed in the past must now be met. We are unable to work out a school budget for 1963-64 without increasing local property taxes materially, even after having pared our budget drastically. Our only source of relief is through financial assistance from the state."

The committee went on to say it believed the "state has the responsibility for sharing in the financing of the public schools' program to an extent of 50 per cent of the operating costs," and that "unavoidable increase in school costs are extending local property taxes beyond acceptable limits."

Expresses Concern
It expressed concern over press reports that indicate an attitude of some legislators against additional state aid, and pointed out that "every legislative effort must be made to resist all attempts to erode the property tax base through legislation exempting properties from assessment roles."

The committee said it would "actively support a legislative program that will assist in attaining" the objectives outlined in the resolution.

"We concede," the resolution noted, "that financing of programs for which the state is responsible comprises the major legislative problem, we sincerely urge that legislators meet this responsibility with positive action."

The Medford district resolution was patterned after a similar resolution sent to state legislators by the Lebanon school board.

Brings Repliation
The resolution brought replies, mostly acknowledgments, from several legislators, some of whom appeared concerned about any tax increases, others about how to broaden the base, and another who suggested exploring the use of additional O and C funds.

State Sen. John J. Inskeep, Oregon City, said: "I agree with the resolutions contained in your letter in principle, but which measures do you favor—broadening the income tax base?—Sales tax?"

The Medford board directed the school administration to contact Senator Inskeep with a statement of support for a sales tax with a stipulation that revenue from a sales tax be used to help offset local property taxes through the basic school support fund.

State Sen. Lynn Newbry, Ashland, said:

"Certainly we are all aware of the tremendous financial problem which are faced by the local districts, many of which are due to the requirements of the state of Oregon. It is for this reason that I have always been in favor of a substantial support from the state level. As you know the state of Oregon finds itself in a very difficult fiscal position at this particular time, however, you may rest assured that I will support increases in the basic school support fund within the limitations imposed by our tax structure."

Agrees With Points
State Representative John R. Dellenback, Medford, said he agreed with various points of the resolution and would do what he could "to implement the concept of increased state aid."

Dellenback said he had information that almost anything this session of the legislature does in the way of creating new taxes is going to run into an effort to be referred, and if such tactic is to be defeated it is going to take the active participation of every educational group in the state.

"May I suggest," he continued, "that it is not too early to alert all friends of education in Jackson county to a realization of the fact that any increase in state aid is going to demand an increase in taxes."

There appears to be little doubt about an increase in taxes. The question is where will any tax increase be least felt — by increasing local property taxes to finance education, by increasing corporate and income taxes to help offset local property taxes, or by broadening the state's tax base through a sales tax with assurance that local property taxes would be relieved?

Hearing to Annex Property Tonight
A public hearing to annex approximately 28 acres north of Capital Ave. and east of the city's reservoir site, a call for bids on the Jackson park diving pool and a resolution to the county court requesting joint planning of fairground area, will be considered by the Medford city council at its meeting at 7:30 o'clock tonight.

A progress report from the freeway sign committee will be presented by Al Bradford, chairman.

It was indicated earlier this week that the proposed ordinance controlling signs along the freeway through Medford will not be ready for tonight's session. It is expected to be presented at the April 4 meeting.

Phoenix Woman Is Saved by Dog
Mrs. Agnes Day of Phoenix owes her life today to her dog, Chubby.

The dog awakened her about 4 o'clock this morning with loud barking and she found that she was in a room dense with smoke, caused by a fire in the electric blanket on her bed.

Mrs. Day called the Phoenix fire department and was unable to get an immediate answer, then called the Medford department, which came and extinguished the blaze, she said.

Blanket and mattress were badly burned and the house was damaged by smoke.

The strange thing about it all, Mrs. Day remarked, was the fact that the dog had returned only Wednesday from being gone for two months. She was so happy to see "Chubby," she let her sleep in the house, not a usual practice. Her three school age children, usually at home, were away spending the spring vacation with relatives and friends.



SNIFF SPRING FLOWERS - Debbie Briggs, 6, Salinas, Calif., and her six-day-old lamb, "Spring," happily sniffed flower blossoms today as winter officially came to an end. (UPI)

Witnesses Call for Merger of State Education Boards

Salem - (UPI) - A legislator and a governor's aide called Wednesday for "an entirely new concept" in the field of education, starting with the merger of the boards of education and higher education.

Educators countered that the two boards have widely differing functions and should remain independent.

Rep. Stafford Hansel (R-Hermiston) and Travis Cross, Gov. Mark Hatfield's press secretary, applied for merger to eliminate conflicts in jurisdiction, efficiency and economy.

Hansel, until recently a foe of reorganization, told the House Education committee: "My position is switching. I appear today as a champion of reorganization."

"It is time to weed out the deadwood, the duplications, the practices that have rolled up over the years..."

Many Conflicts Exist
A veteran legislator and a members of the Ways and Means committee, Hansel said there are conflicts between the branches of education and higher education over salaries, community colleges, education television, teacher certification, and research.

He said they are competing for the state's dollars.

Cross said college education has grown from a program for the few to one for the many. Education should now be "one continuous process administered by a single board for consistent policies and overall relationship," he said.

Charles R. Holloway of the Board of Higher Education opposed consolidation.

"The responsibilities of the two boards are very different and there is not much overlapping," he said.

U.S., Russia May Launch Combined Space Exploration Agreement Seen As Breakthrough

Rome - (UPI) - A space collaboration agreement between the United States and Russia could lead to a joint launching of probes to Venus and Mars, scientific experts said today.

The two powers, in a major space breakthrough, announced agreement Wednesday on details of their first cooperative project in satellite communications.

The accord culminated a week of secret talks here between delegations headed by Dr. Hugh L. Dryden, vice-director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and Soviet Academician Anatoly A. Blagoravov.

Broad Agreement
The two groups of top scientists spelled out the first steps for implementing a broad agreement on space operation reached last year after an exchange of letters between President Kennedy and Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev.

Participating experts said "the hypothesis" of jointly launching a space probe to Mars or Venus had come up during the talks here.

"Such venture could involve direct cooperation in the preparation and launching to avoid unnecessary duplication of experiments," an official communique said.

Agree to Collaborate
The scientists said they had agreed to collaborate on a weather satellite program that would include:

- The establishment of a communications link for exchanging weather data received with the use of artificial satellites.

- Joint testing of communications via a passive reflector satellite, an "Echo II" to be launched within the next few months by the United States.

Medford Building Safety Director Resigns from Post

Oliver R. McNeel, Medford building safety director since November, 1957, has submitted his resignation effective April 12.

In accepting his resignation, City Manager Robert A. Duff commented today on the growth of the city since McNeel joined the department in July, 1951. He expressed his regrets for the loss of McNeel, "who has built up a good department."

McNeel joined the department as a building inspector when there were only two full time employees in the department. Now there are six.

During that period, Medford has increased in size by five times and one and a half times in population.

The city official moved to Medford after operating a garage in the Eagle Point area for a year and a half. Prior to moving to southern Oregon he was with the aircraft industry in San Diego.

While McNeel would not announce his future plans today, he said that he will remain in Medford. He has been living at 235 South Oakdale ave. in the Plaza apartments.

Printers to Look Again at Proposal From Publishers

New York - (UPI) - Bertram A. Powers, local leader of the striking printers, today accepted Mayor Robert F. Wagner's proposal to reconsider the publishers' "last and final" contract offer in a mass union meeting at Madison Square Garden this Sunday.

The publishers' proposal is the same one that was rejected by the printers, by a slim 64-vote margin, at a special meeting last Sunday, but a reversal of that vote would bring an end to the city's prolonged newspaper strike, now in its 104th day.

Powers earlier had insisted that the contract proposal would not come up for reconsideration at this Sunday's regular monthly meeting, but he apparently decided to renege when Wagner Wednesday night publicly urged the printers to reconsider their rejection.

Jury Expected To Get Forgery Case Today
The Jackson county circuit court jury trial of Lillian Zander, Gazelle, Calif., on charges of forgery was expected to go to the jury about noon today, according to attorneys from both sides.

District Attorney Alan Holmes rested his case late yesterday afternoon after introducing five witnesses and nine travelers' checks.

Marie LaTerra, Medford, was returned from the state prison to testify yesterday. She was involved in the same forgery charge.

Cave Junction Voters Approve Bond Issue
Cave Junction - Voters approved a \$79,500 bond issue to construct a sewer system by a close margin Tuesday, 41 to 36. About 60 per cent of the registered voters cast ballots in the special election.

Actual construction of the sewer system, however, hinges on confirmation of a \$55,000 federal grant, which is still pending.

SON BORN
Eugene - (UPI) - Mrs. Glenn Moore, wife of the University of Oregon basketball star, gave birth Wednesday to a 7-pound 6-ounce boy, named Glenn Edward Moore Jr. It was the couple's first child.

Kennedy to Report to Nation on Conference



MUSIC PAVILION
PETER BRITT MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL
JACKSONVILLE, OREGON.
CHARLES GILMAN DAVIS - ARCHITECT
DORIS MONROE - DESIGNER

BRITT ARCHITECT NAMED - Charles Gilman Davis, Portland architect and assistant professor of arts at Portland State college, has been commissioned to design the music pavilion for the Peter Britt Gardens Music and Arts festival in Jacksonville Aug. 11 through 24. Dennis Norstrom, junior at Portland State college, will assist Davis. Producers of the concert series, to be directed by John Trudeau, also of Portland State, will be the Peter Britt Gardens Music and Arts Festival association.

Medford Building 84 Per Cent of Valley's Heaters Are Approved Kind

During this current orchard heating season, 84 per cent of the valley's heaters are of the approved, less-smoke-producing type, Hob Duell Jr., chairman of the air pollution committee of the Fruit Growers' League, reported last night during the annual orchard heating meeting at the extension service auditorium.

William Rogers, meteorologist of the fruit frost warning service, said this is the only area which has enlisted the growers in a voluntary smoke abatement program.

The program, which started in 1960, requires all growers to convert to approved type heaters on or before the 1965 season. A census is taken each year by the league's air pollution committee by checking orchard heater sales from two major heater suppliers in the valley.

Group Votes to Limit Education Building Program
Salem - (UPI) - The Ways and Means Education subcommittee voted Wednesday to limit higher education's building program for the biennium to \$20.6 million, and approved two emergency projects.

The subcommittee approved a \$3.5 million appropriation to permit Oregon Technical Institute to move to its new campus in Klamath Falls by the fall of 1964.

It also recommended \$292,000 for replacement of Campbell Hall at Oregon College of Education, Monmouth, severely damaged in the Columbus Day windstorm. The sum would be added to \$458,000 expected from the state restoration fund.

The two projects were the first recommended this session by the subcommittee. They now go before the full committee.

Hatfield Meets With Industrial Leaders
Salem - (UPI) - Gov. Mark Hatfield was in New York today meeting with industrial leaders in an effort to recruit new industry for Oregon, his office advised.

Press Secretary Travis Cross said today's activities, in addition to the industrial appointments, included a discussion of juvenile delinquency rehabilitation programs with officers of Youth Development, Inc., a luncheon at Chase Manhattan Bank with financiers, and a courtesy call on former President Herbert Hoover.

BLM Official Returns From Short Course
Corvallis - Russell D. Barry of the bureau of land management, Medford, completed a special three-day short course in the Oregon State university school of forestry this week.

Sports Bulletin
Eugene - (UPI) - Molalla and Marshall of Portland advanced to the quarter-final consolation round of the Oregon A-1 high school basketball tournament with morning victories today.

Molalla defeated Tillamook 39-31 and Marshall conquered Lebanon 89-55. The winners meet Friday morning at 9:30 a.m. and the losers were eliminated from the tournament.

South Salem defeated Hermiston 82 to 81 in a late morning consolation round.

Meet Called Step To Strengthen West Hemisphere News Conference To Be Televised

Washington - (UPI) - President Kennedy, boosted by the warmth of his welcome in Costa Rica, today prepared a report to the nation on his Central American conference which he regarded as a vital step toward strengthening the Western Hemisphere.

Kennedy will open a 6 p.m. (EST) televised news conference today with a statement on results of his San Jose meeting with presidents of five Central American countries and Panama.

The President flew back from Costa Rica Wednesday night in the fast time of 4 hours and 23 minutes. He was escorted over much of the 2,500-mile non-stop route by F105 fighter planes with accompanying tanker aircraft to refuel them.

Surprise Welcome
Kennedy landed at 11:03 p.m. (EST) at Andrews Air Force Base and received a surprise welcome from his wife, Jacqueline, who had rushed back to Washington from a New York shopping trip to be here when her husband arrived.

Shortly before takeoff from San Jose, Kennedy addressed the students of the University of Costa Rica. While attempting to walk to his helicopter after the speech, the President was the center of another friendly melee as hundreds of wildly cheering young Costa Ricans attempted to shake his hand.

Pummeled President
It was a wilder replay of a similar reception of the day before at a new housing project extensively financed with U.S. funds. At the university, the crowd broke away from a thin line of civilian guards.

Police, tore down rope barriers and pummeled the President uproariously as his Secret Service protectors incited him toward the helicopter.

Anti-Pollution Bill Approved
Salem - (UPI) - Two new steps to combat air and water pollution were approved today by the Senate Committee on Local Government.

The committee gave a unanimous "do pass" recommendation to SB259, which would provide for summary abatement and for local anti-pollution programs.

The action came after industry and the State Sanitary authority agreed on a summary abatement procedure. It would let the SSA obtain a preliminary court injunction to halt serious pollution before holding formal hearings. Notice and a summary hearing would be required prior to the court injunction.

The bill also authorizes local governmental units to undertake anti-pollution programs. The SSA said local units are better able to control such situations as trash burning.

Health Department Budget Discussed
The Jackson county budget committee spent most of this morning discussing and studying the proposed health department budget of \$103,200.

This is slightly down from the current year's total of \$103,430. Only major increase in the budget is a \$1,080 total rise in a salary total of \$87,450. Part of the health budget is reimbursed by state and schools.

Dr. A. Erin Merkel, public health officer, said county salaries for his professional people, nurses and sanitarians, is "way under the state average."

"This is already causing us some recruiting problems," he said.

The civil defense budget is scheduled for a hearing at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Last of the major department budgets, the road department's, will be presented April 2.

Five Youths Arrested In Tire Theft Case
Ashland - Five Ashland youths, two of them 17, the other three 16, have been arrested in connection with the theft of a tire from an auto at Jim Busch Ford garage here, Ashland police said this morning.

The youths, arrested Tuesday, have been released to their parents pending further action, police said.

Jackrabbit Urged as Official State Animal, Sagebrush as State Flower

Salem - (UPI) - An impassioned plea to establish lepus townsendi as Oregon's official animal, and the artemisia tridentata as the state flower, was made Wednesday before the House Planning and Development committee.

Rep. Clinton Haight (D-Baker), author of house joint resolution 24, said lepus townsendi (the jackrabbit), and artemisia tridentata (sagebrush) were more representative of Oregon - especially Eastern Oregon. The official state flower is the Oregon grape.

Presented Samples
As Haight began his testimony, he presented committee members with samples of artemisia tridentata.

Committee Chairman Ed Whelan (D-Portland) growled "I've got an allergy," and fled the committee table.

With a straight face, Haight explained he had the proposed legislation drawn by the Legislative Counsel committee last year "to avoid placing a burden on the counsel during the legislative session."

He said the state's unofficial animal, the beaver, "cuts up fields, downs trees and dams streams."

"And I remind you that in reality many beaver coats are made of the hide of lepus townsendi," he said.

"And," he asked, "What other animal lays eggs on Easter?"

Of opponents to his plan he countered "the hare-brained are found only in Western Oregon."

Haight said he had planned to exhibit a pair of lepus townsendi, "but by the time I was ready to leave there were so many I couldn't get them in the car."

NEWS BRIEFS

SOVIETS LAUNCH UNMANNED SATELLITE
Moscow - (UPI) - The Soviet Union today launched another unmanned earth satellite to gather space data for future manned flights.

The official Tass news agency said the spuznik "Cosmos 13" was set off at 2:54 p.m. (6:54 a.m. EST). It was the first Soviet satellite spuznik launched this year.

RED CROSS SHIPS SUPPLIES
Jakarta - (UPI) - The Indonesian Red Cross announced that six tons of medicines, bandages and antibiotics were flown to Bali today for the victims of Sunday's eruption of 9,700-foot Gunung Agung Volcano.

BRAZILIAN MINISTER MAY RESIGN
Buenos Aires - (UPI) - Informed sources predicted today Interior Minister Rodolfo Martinez will resign soon as a result of mounting tension generated by his plans for the coming elections.

WEATHER
FORECAST: Rain showers and possibility of thunderstorms tonight. Cloudy and showery Friday. Strong southerly winds diminishing tonight. Low tonight 46-51. High tomorrow 50-55.

Our Skies Tonight
Sunset today 6:24 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 6:13 a.m.
The Moon rises 1:32 a.m. tomorrow between the planets, Saturn and Venus. It is nearer Saturn, and high above the Moon and the two planets is the star, Altair.

March 25
New Moon