

School District One To Vote On Proposed Budget Of \$612,327.76 For Year

(Editor's Note: This is the second article on the special school elections for Districts 1 and 2 which time budgets for both districts will be submitted.)

By LOIS STEWART

The operating budget for the year 1947-48, for school district No. 1 including all elementary schools in Klamath Falls, will be submitted to the voters in a special election to be held Monday, May 12, at Fremont school from 2 to 7 o'clock. At the same time there is an election for the purpose of voting on the coming year's budget for district No. 2, Klamath Union high school, at KUHHS during the same hours. This story deals with the budget of the elementary system.

The forthcoming year has a budget of \$612,327.76, which will be offered the voters for their stamp of approval or their mark of "no."

Last year's budget totaled \$510,924.77. Faced with an anticipated 10 per cent increase in student population in the seven city schools, with the cost of operations veering sharply upward, the budget committee found it necessary to increase the budget \$101,402.99. There is apparent, in study of 1947 costs, that the word "increase" comes up frequently. There is a 10 per cent up in supplies, added class room facilities, increase in teaching personnel, an increase in population and last, but far from the least item of importance, the increased teachers salary program as proposed by the budget committee after lengthy study by a teachers' committee.

Salary Total
Last year teacher salary totals came to \$275,282, this year \$381,674.88. The increase is \$106,392.88 in teacher salary and supervision. This includes \$19,900 for new teachers necessary to meet the increase in school population. Arnold L. Gralapp, superintendent of city schools, pointed out that there is an anticipated gain of 150 children entering the first grade this year necessitating hiring six new teachers on the basis of 25 students per teacher.

"This does not include the impact we feel will come with the vocational school and is based purely on the present Klamath Falls population," Gralapp said.

The additional levy which the voters will find on the 1947-48 budget totals \$80,425.38. Again it was pointed out by the school superintendent that almost one-third of this figure is for hiring new personnel in the district. Total estimated receipts are \$300,346.75 of which \$123,941 is state aid. This state aid figure is compared to last year's \$105,428.29 or \$18,512.71 in new money.

The total levy, including the operating budget, bond retirement and serial levies, is \$428,580.06, as compared with \$359,104.48 last year.

Enrollment Up
The Klamath Falls school system is faced, not only this year, but in years to come, with an increase in enrollment, this opinion based on the birth rate of the war years. The highest birth rate in the history of Klamath county is recorded for the past year. A chart shows a sharp upswing in the birth rate starting in 1940 when births totaled 934, until 1946, when recorded births reached 1228. At least one-third of this "new population" is in District No. 1, the remainder elsewhere in the county.

The teachers salary item is the major item on the coming year's suggested budget. Under the proposed salary schedule, a teacher with two years' experience starts with a salary of \$2200, and can advance to the maximum of \$3000 at the end of six years. The teacher with three years' experience starts with \$2400, and at the end of eight years may attain a salary of \$3400. This scale continues on the basis of experience and professional training until the teacher with a master's degree may attain a salary of \$3900 after eight years' experience. This is the maximum under the present salary schedule proposal. The schedule provides for 36 weeks of school as compared to 36 weeks of school as in the past.

The second major item is operation of the physical plants including an approximate 10 per cent increase in janitors' salaries and an appreciable up in fuel costs.

Maintenance and repair is up approximately \$4000 including the replacement of the gym floor at Mills school which has rotted out. This will cost the district \$2500. Under the maintenance and repair heading is the five-year program of upkeep wherein each school is given a one-fifth repair job each year.

Under auxiliary agencies heading, the item is down. Last year's item included the purchase of a \$879.36 school bus but this is missing from the new budget. Under fixed charges, insurance rates are up \$2628.20. Buildings of the system were reappraised this year in the light of present day replacement costs. It was necessary to increase insurance. This also includes new insurance on the big addition at Fremont school.

For the first time the pension

item enters the schedule adding \$7619.15 to the budget. This is mandatory.

Cost Advance
As an example how costs have advanced within the past 12 months, the budget committee found that it cost \$11,000 to purchase the text books for which it paid \$7000 last year.

In the art and audio-visual education departments, there has been an increase noted. In the latter, \$8500 has been budgeted for equipment.

Taken school by school, the following improvements are suggested in the budget:

Conger: sidewalk improvement and playground leveling.

Fairview: making present cafeteria lunchroom into classroom and providing one additional classroom and a new lunchroom.

Fremont: lockers for the junior high section, additional furniture for the new wing.

Mills: additional classroom space and completion of the three new classrooms, remodeling three rooms and installation of a protection fence on the Owens street playfield.

Pelican: improve grounds, new plumbing and new chute for furnace conveyor.

Riverside: weather strip three rooms, new blackboards, ground improvement and some new furniture.

Roosevelt: work benches in classroom, ground improvements and janitor facilities.

All Phases
All phases of education have come under the eye of the budget committee. In the music department, \$2000 has been budgeted for large instruments, and in the industrial arts, \$581 has been allocated for expansion of the junior high program.

In the art field, \$328 has been allocated for new equipment. In physical education, playground equipment of \$3238 has been approved by the committee, and science supplies and equipment for use by all grades has been placed at \$1200. The emergency fund is set at \$7500 as compared to \$6500 for last year. This was necessary to anticipate changing costs.

Any person living in District No. 1 and a taxpayer is eligible to vote. Those persons residing in District No. 2 and meeting the same requirements may vote at that election.

Members of the budget committee of District No. 1 are: R. E. Hooker, George McIntyre, Percy Murray, Victor O'Neill and C. S. Elliot, working with the board of education.

Debate Set On Charter

TULELAKE, May 8—Two speakers will present both sides of the question on the proposed form of charter government for Siskiyou county at an open meeting sponsored by the chamber of commerce scheduled for Monday night, May 12.

The session has been called for 8 p. m. in the Legion hall and the names of the speakers have not been announced.

Interest in the proposed change in county government is gaining momentum as the date for the special election, May 27, nears and a heavy vote is anticipated.

Earl Ager, chairman of the good government committee for the county, Charles K. Wiese and Don Potter will attend a meeting at Weed this Thursday evening, held in the interest of the charter.

Seventeen counties in the state have already adopted the charter system.

Acting Governor Cornett And Lei



Lei is not the name of the lady, however, she is Kay Hanks, United Air Lines' passenger agent in Salem, who handed to Acting Governor Marshall Cornett of Klamath Falls a Hawaiian lei (flower wreath) sent by Hawaiian Governor Stainback on United's inaugural trip from the islands. Cornett has taken over the gubernatorial chair in the absence of Governor Earl Snell.

Auditorium Vote To Settle Dispute

SEASIDE, May 8—If voters approve construction of an \$80,000 auditorium here in a special election May 20, the city won't have to build it in the middle of Edgewood street.

At least that is the opinion of John W. Shuler, Portland, municipal bond authority, who advised City Attorney Thomas Chave Jr., Wednesday.

A flaw in the petition located the building in the middle of the street and there was no way, according to Chave, that the city could legally withdraw or amend it before election day.

But Shuler said the city could follow the "intent" of the petition.

TRUMAN CONCERT
PITTSBURGH, May 8—Concert Manager Thomas P. Beegle announced today that Margaret Truman, daughter of the president, will make her first concert stage appearance here May 20.



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Mac Assures Jap Defense

TOKYO, May 8—General MacArthur gave the Japanese their first official assurance today that the allies would protect them until a peace treaty is signed, but vigorously denied promising that "the United States would undertake future defense" of the country.

The supreme commander issued a special statement which obviously referred to reports following his meeting Tuesday with Emperor Hirohito. He did not specifically mention the conference.

Neither allied headquarters nor Japanese government officials would discuss the matter further.

MacArthur said the future defense of Japan would depend upon the provisions in the peace treaty.

Headless Body Found In River

ST. HELENS, Ore., May 8—The headless, armless body of a man was recovered yesterday from the Columbia river and Columbia County Coroner Ben Coleman said it appeared to have been in the water three to six months.

It was taken from the river by fishermen.

There was no identity clue. The body was clad in blue pants and wore a watch with no face.

The coroner said the condition of the torso was such he could not determine whether lack of head and arms was due to dismemberment or decomposition.

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Spanish-American War Pensions Upped

WASHINGTON, May 8—The house veterans committee approved unanimously Wednesday a bill to increase by 20 per cent the pensions of 185,000 Spanish-American war veterans and their dependents. The bill goes to the house for action.

The cost is estimated at \$27,450,000 in the first year. After that deaths are expected to reduce the amount.

Spanish war veterans now get \$62 a month at the age of 62 and \$75 at age 65.

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