

Superintendent Cites Harmful Effects Of Overcrowding in NHS Classrooms

By W. L. McPARTLAND, Superintendent of Nyssa Schools

In the discussions we have had with the patrons of the school district through the articles in this paper and in private conversations, we have emphasized the harmful effects of overcrowding on the students. The overall efficiency of our school system suffers when conditions make it necessary to pack too many students into classrooms.

It may be hard for people not familiar with school work to realize all of the disadvantages to the youngsters when classes become unwieldy. It should be evident that discipline becomes a problem even for the strongest teacher. As class size grows, you are bound to find the number of trouble makers increasing also. To get maximum benefits from classwork, we need to have what we call a learning situation, such as response to questions and discussion, attention, interest and an industrious attitude.

Poorer Students Neglected

This situation becomes harder to maintain in most classes when the number exceeds 25 pupils. The students who suffer the most under these conditions are those less academically inclined. They are apt to be neglected insofar as individual help is concerned. The probability of these students

becoming "drop outs" increases with their discouragement.

The turmoil of large classes with its attendant problem of discipline is a condition teachers strive to avoid. The only way possible to avoid such a condition when adequate space is not provided is to move to a school that has acceptable working standards. This results in high teacher turnover. The big loss, and this is what we must keep in mind, is to the students.

Advantages Listed

Two rooms will be made available for expansion of the high school program, if the new ag building is constructed. The science rooms for chemistry, physics and general science will have complete use of the space they now must share with the biology department. The biology department will have a room equipped for the study of that subject.

Driver Hospitalized Following Accident

Thomas Kuykendall of Greenville, Miss., was admitted to Malheur Memorial hospital Monday evening following a one-car accident on highway 20-26 east of Nyssa.

He is being retained in the hospital for observation of possible back injuries and was reported in good condition Wednesday afternoon.

Officials report his car missed a turn in the highway near where it joins the Apple Valley road.

Delegation Discusses Legislative Problems

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The total amount of bonds that would be authorized is \$70 million for highway 20 and others. If these bills pass, it will mean considerably less money for highway purposes in the counties which represent.

Would Give Legislative Control

Furthermore, this will lead to log-rolling to an extent never witnessed before in Oregon history. The ultimate result will be to have the legislature rather than the highway commission determine the priority, need and pattern of highways. This would be tragic indeed. It is my intention to oppose such bills.

The state legislature is taking a course opposite from that proposed by the federal administration. Oregon will increase its spending and taxes as well, while the federal government seeks to lower taxes and increase spending. In this respect, I am in agreement with an excellent editorial which recently appeared in the Baker Record-Courier.

As Byron Britton points out, it seems incredible that taxes can be lowered while spending increases. The only solution to the ever-increasing tax burden is to curtail expenditures.

Discusses Action on Bills

The legislature is finally in high gear. This week the Senate refused to reduce the time in which a person can marry after obtaining a divorce. Presently, a divorced person is required to wait six months. Senate Bill 25 would have reduced this to 30 days. This bill failed by one vote in the Senate.

Senate Bill 64, which provides for a \$1.25 minimum hourly wage and time and one-half for overtime including all agriculture workers, has not been set for a hearing as yet. Many people in Eastern Oregon are vitally interested in this proposal.

The tax matters have not "jelled" to the point where a detailed analysis will serve any useful purpose. This discussion will follow in a later article.

Bob Smith and I meet regularly concerning Eastern Oregon problems. Yesterday we discussed the Beef Council, the state engineer's office, Malheur county disaster area, fire protection of grazing lands and assessments therefor, control of state lands and requirement of notice before state lands are either sold or traded by the state to any federal agency—and many other problems. We invite your suggestions on these and other matters.

I have heard nothing from Malheur county concerning the establishment of a district court in Vale. As I pointed out earlier, a request has been made for such a court and I invite the public's reaction.

4-H GIRLS HAVE LESSON ON MAKING SCISSORS CASES

Flying Needles 4-H club members met Feb. 19 at the home of their leader, Mrs. Carl Piercy. She gave the group instructions on making scissors cases.

Next meeting will be March 5 at the home of Ramona Freel in Adrian.

—Pamela Parker, Reporter.

Education Group Plans Workshop, Luncheon Meeting

Malheur County Teacher Education and Professional Standards committee plans a March 9 workshop, according to announcement by Jeff Ford, chairman of the committee.

The session will be held from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the high school with noon luncheon served at the Episcopal church by women of the church guild.

A guest speaker will be Mrs. Regina Ewalt, Oregon state TEPS consultant.

Topics to be discussed will include "Comprehensive Report of the Certification Law—HB 1056 to Go into Effect in 1965," "Explanation of the Work of Future Teachers of America Organization," "The TEPS Movement" and "Brief Explanation of Professional Negotiations and Sanctions."

A special invitation is issued to all teachers, other school personnel, Future Teachers of America and all interested patrons, Ford said.

For luncheon reservations, Ford said those planning to attend should contact him.

Rep. Smith Reports Over 140 Measures Introduced at Salem

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life interests to protect the counties in future tax needs.

The third proposal provides a solution for problems which arose primarily in Malheur county concerning nursing homes and hospitals. The 1961 legislature passed a law requiring old buildings, as well as new buildings, to acquire a certificate from the state fire marshal before issuance of a license by the State Board of Health.

Insufficient Time Given

This put tremendous pressure cost-wise on many of the nursing homes and hospitals in Malheur county. The state fire marshal allowed insufficient time to meet these new higher standards. Since that time the fire marshal has amended his early demands and required that all nursing homes and hospitals meet the deadline of July 1, 1963.

My bill would provide that all nursing homes and hospitals must meet these new higher standards by July 1, 1965. This would allow the non-profit hospitals time to raise the needed money to improve fire standards. Also it would allow Malheur county time sufficient to budget the necessary money to comply.

It is difficult to argue against improved fire standards for hospitals and nursing homes, especially in the case of bed-ridden patients. However, this is an attempt to correct the arbitrary nature in which the state fire marshal has been setting standards and effective dates for compliance.

Conservative Trend Seen

This session of the legislature is beginning to take a conservative trend, in my opinion. Money matters are running into exceedingly tough circumstances in committees. The first budgets to appear on the floor of the House, concerning the state engineer, State Water Resources Board and Soil Conservation Board carried cuts of \$250,000.

Subsequent to some discussion from the floor concerning people who had not been heard on these bills, they were referred back to the Ways and Means committee for further hearing.

The speaker and the Democratic majority in both houses have been condemning the governor's budget as being too high in one place but too low in another. This seems to be inconsistent because of the fact that there are now 24 more employees in both the House and the Senate. In this session it will cost the Oregon taxpayers at least \$500,000 more than last session.

Suggests Economy in House

These are expenses incurred only in the actual operations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. I have suggested to the speaker that if he is so concerned with economy he should start in his own backyard and exercise the leadership necessary for an economical House. I said that since Dec. 1 the legislators have had the governor's budget to work over.

Many decisions could and should have been made by now. The people have a right to know why the governor has been presented with only five bills in five weeks. The time has come for action and an awakening from the milltown pace.

Where Income Goes . . .

Americans spend about 11 cents of every dollar for recreation, alcohol and tobacco but only 5.9 cents for medical care.

Poisoning Involves Children



"Let me put it this way—if your car were a horse, it would have to be shot."

County Government Day Slated Saturday For 4-H Delegates

Older 4-H members will learn about county government at a county 4-H club conference March 2. This will be an all-day meeting at the county courthouse in Vale.

Delegates to the conference will visit four departments of the county government. These will include the county judge, county assessor, sheriff and treasurer. In addition, operation of the circuit court will be explained by Judge Jeff Dorroh.

County officials who will be explaining the function and operation of their departments are Judge Ellis White, John Koopman, Robert Ingram, Don Hosler and George Van Horn.

Each 4-H club may send one delegate. Clubs with an enrollment of over 12 members may send two delegates. However, all delegates must be 13 years or older. All 4-H junior leaders are eligible to attend.

Purpose of the conference is to teach better citizenship to the 4-H members.

Disabled Veterans Told of Deadline For Tax Exemptions

Disabled war veterans and widows of veterans must apply for their annual state property tax exemptions by April 1, the Department of Veterans' Affairs reported recently.

Application for the exemption, which amounts to \$7500 of the true cash value of the property, is filed with the county assessor. Those entitled include:

1. War veterans 40 percent or more disabled as certified by the Veterans Administration or the Armed Forces, regardless of their income.
2. Unremarried widows of war veterans, regardless of income. Pensioned widows of Spanish-American war veterans get an extra \$500 exemption.
3. Spanish-American war veterans, regardless of disability or income.

Veterans whose disabilities are certified by a private physician and the county health officer, rather than by the VA or Armed Forces, are also entitled, provided they have not received more than \$2500 total gross income in the past year.

Disabled veterans and widows living in house trailers may receive an annual license fee reduction of up to \$100 by filing with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Assistance is also available from county service officers or the state veterans' department.

DeMOLAY TO INSTALL

Open installation of officers for Owyhee chapter of DeMolay will be held at 8 o'clock Saturday evening, March 2, in the Ontario Masonic hall, it has been announced by officers of the group.

Park Facilities To Be Increased At Farewell Bend

Boating and water sports enthusiasts will have the benefit this summer of a public building for concessions and a marina on Brownlee reservoir at Farewell Bend state park, some four miles east of Huntington on Interstate 80N (Old Oregon Trail).

Forrest Cooper, state engineer, announced that a call for bids on construction of the building will be made on March 12. When completed, the concession facilities will be operated by Bruce Kirkpatrick of Baker, the successful bidder. Kirkpatrick presently operates the Valley Ho Marina at Richland, Ore.

The state-owned building will be erected on the banks of the reservoir, where a floating boat dock is to be placed.

The marina concession will add to the facilities of the 65-acre park which already has picnic facilities, electric stoves, swimming beach and comfort stations with dressing rooms. Many travelers use the park as an overnight camping spot.

This park is only a short distance from the Old Oregon Trail used during the 1840's. This is where travelers on the trail for the last time loaded up with water from the Snake river after a dusty trip from Vale and headed west again, bidding farewell to the river as it disappeared down the gorge and rolled on toward Hells canyon.

Residents Ask Flood Control Program

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age being done to dwellings, machinery, fences, canals and drain ditches.

Major Personal Losses

The Walter Bishop ranch and the Bob Davis ranch were the heaviest hit below the canyon of Succor Creek, while Jack Strode and the Tiffin ranch in the Rockville area suffered major damage.

Loss on the Bishop ranch was estimated at \$20,000 and consisted of 45 head of calves, 60 tons of hay, one mile of fence, 40 acres of land to be reveled, stream channel and diversion structures.

Damage at the Bob Davis ranch estimated at \$10,000 consisted of two diversion dams destroyed, 60 tons of hay destroyed and 20 tons damaged and land reveled.

Strode ranch damage of \$11,000 was made up of two concrete diversion dams, 30 tons of hay, ditches destroyed, land and stream bank erosion.

Buck and Helen Tiffin ranch \$3,500 damage was caused by irrigation structure damage and ditches filled with sedimentation.

Want Flood Control Program

The report shows that nearly all ranchers in the area have expressed the opinion that a flood control program is absolutely necessary on Succor Creek as it is too expensive to replace structures and reclaim damaged land from flooding.

If study shows a project feasible, it would probably be done under Public Law 566 under which private landowners affected would pay 40 percent of the cost over a 40-year period with the remaining portion being paid by the state and federal governments.

Preliminary investigation calls for two dams to be constructed for flood control and irrigation. The upper one has been proposed for a location about four miles North of Sheaville at a cost of about \$1½ million.

The lower one considered would be about one mile below the Bob Davis ranch and no cost estimate has been made. Both would be earth dams.

If the property owners decide this normally little placid stream should be controlled they will need to organize a water control district before they can legally take any action.

More than 822,000 accidental poisoning cases—chiefly involving children under five—were reported in the U.S. last year.

Bulldog Awarded TB Press Honor

(From the Nyssa High Bulldog)

Word was received last week by adviser Clyde Swisher that the Bulldog has been awarded, for the sixth consecutive year, a State Certificate of Achievement for its participation in the TB Press Project.

The Bulldog will receive its award in the near future. The entry has been forwarded to Columbia University for national judging. The paper has won the national award five times.

Entries are judged for accuracy, originality, subject matter, research and journalistic style.

"The members of the judging team were very impressed with the amount of time and research given to this project and the individualistic writing," stated Mrs. Evelyn J. Harriman of the state TB association.

ATTEND COLLEGE MEETING

Dr. Eugene F. Voris and Dean W. B. Pentz of Treasure Valley Community college left Tuesday for Seattle to attend the annual conference of the Association of National Junior Colleges.

SIGHT Quiz

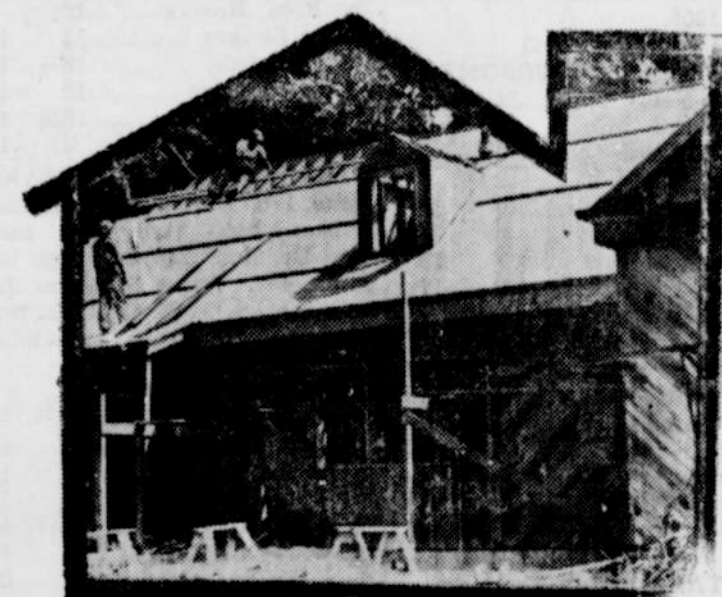
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