

Today's Editorial

HB 601 Is Hidden Danger For Schools

Public school leaders, especially those in Lewis County, had better take a sharp look at House Bill 601, introduced this week in the state legislature at Olympia.

HB 601 would presumably guarantee school districts 50 percent of the counties' share of federal forest funds. It has always been a matter of discretion by county commissioners how the forest funds shall be divided. In Lewis County the schools and county roads divide equally about a half-million dollars a year.

But in some Washington counties the division ratio differs. At least one county gives its school \$1, and spends the rest on roads. HB 601 would to all appearances, give schools a better shake at almost \$4 1/2 million their counties get annually from federal forest profits.

It should be recalled the Governor's austerity budget for schools specifies federal funds that various schools get through Public Law 874 require an equal cut in state equalization money. This is

state level thinking — that no school district should have an advantage over another, regardless of its special burdens.

On the matter of federal forest funds, state school finance specialists have always been stumped in that if they demanded cuts in state equalization money the affected counties would simply take all of the forest money for road purposes — leaving schools that much poorer and still getting state equalization money.

If SB 601 becomes law, requiring counties to divvy with schools on a 50-50 basis, school districts would lose all benefits from federal forest funds. State education finance would gain at the expense of counties getting federal aid for special problems and burdens they did not create.

The matter could be extremely serious for Lewis County's school districts. It is the federal forest money, and that alone, that keeps many of them out of special levies for operation.

Family Spending

The U.S. Department of Labor has just made public a survey of family spending in eight major cities that offers an interesting guide for the rest of the country. It found that Boston families lead with annual incomes of \$8,008 and in spending for reading and education, \$220 a year. From that, it deduces that Boston is the most prosperous and cultured city in the country — a judgment which many cities will challenge.

New York led with total family expenditures of \$6336 a year; San Francisco with the largest expenditure for recreation of \$282 and Detroit the largest on automobiles, as might have been expected, of \$870. Other cities surveyed were Atlanta, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington. Like most of us, families in major cities spend most of what they earn. It would be interesting to know how they compare with those in the rest of the country. There's a lot of living in smaller cities and towns, too.

Own Plane Due

Africa Missionaries May Fly Soon

SEATTLE — Nuns of the Medical Missionaries of Mary in Kenya, Africa, may soon fly their own small airplane to isolated tropical East Africa areas, near the Equator.

Two Seattle air line pilots, the gifts of many people and several business firms, two United States senators — even the U. S. Navy and Air Force — are part of what backers here called "Operation Handclasp."

The start goes back to when young Jerry Fay, flying on a Navy contract in World War II, met missionaries of many faiths in Africa. The memory stayed with him.

"I saw they had a rough go of it," he recalled. Fay is now 42, married, the father of five children. He is a flight captain with Pacific whom he has worked since 1951. His close companion is Everett (Bud) Donovan, 28, a bachelor and pilot with the line six years.

Nearly 20 years after Fay's African flying, the two left here in February for Naples, Italy, and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

An audience was arranged for the two with Pope John XXIII at Rome.

Ahead then was flying to Addis Ababa, to pick up and assemble a small plane which the Navy agreed to move to Naples

and the Air Force to carry crated to Africa.

Then there was to be flying the plane to Kitale, Kenya. Also — flying lessons for a few nuns, and landing strips to be lined up in the Turkana area, where the missionary order works in an area bordering Uganda and the Sudan. The nearest spare plane parts are at Nairobi, about 180 miles from Kitale.

Fay told about "Handclasp" before leaving here. "Last fall," he said, "I met Sister Jude. She was on her way back to her native Ireland from missionary work in Nigeria. Her brother, the Rev. John Walsh, is pastor of our church, St. Monica's, on Mercer Island."

"Sister Jude told of the dire need for an airplane for medical work in Kenya. "The problem seemed simple. I thought to myself: Just buy the sisters an expensive, little airplane."

"We had a meeting at my house. About 20 people." But some "embarrassing questions" came up. Fay could not answer all of them. There was the raising of money to buy the plane, how to get it to Kenya, who would teach the nuns to fly. A committee was set up.

"The money started coming in," Fay continued. "People of

all faiths, even from Montana and Louisiana, sent contributions, from \$3 to \$1,000.

"Bud Donovan was my copilot on a trip to Portland. I mentioned the nuns' need for a plane. Ever since, he's been 90 percent of the production line."

B. J. Oswald, an aircraft dealer in nearby Tacoma, "gave us a good deal on the plane... and tossed \$100 into the kitty."

Every penny of the \$10,000 raised was used. "It cost \$425 just to have the plane crated and shipped from the factory to Norfolk, Va."

Washington's U. S. Sens. Warren G. Magnuson and Henry M. Jackson got the project to qualify under the foreign-aid program. It meant Navy and Air Force help. Fay and Donovan got leaves of absence from their work.

So "Operation Handclasp" moved along. Fay said they expected to be joined in Kenya by Sister Mary Therese of Boston. She gave up flying several years ago to join the Medical Missionaries of Mary. She has been assigned to Kenya.

"We want first to help the missionaries," Fay said.

"But anything we can do to make friends of Africans, rather than have them on the other side, seems like a good investment."

is at home or else the lady is faster on the uptake.

MARINE DI'S
Paul Schiller
Coal Creek

Dear Sir:
For my money nothing can be added to G. W. Rhodes comments on a hot wire fence at Green Hill. He said it all, quite well.

My only other suggestion might concern his thoughts on a change of supervisory personnel and tactics. Might not ex-military corps drill instructors handle the job proficiently?



TRYING TO WEAR THE SAME PANTS

Study Completed

We Have 46 Million School-Agers

By G. K. HODENFIELD
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON — There are 46 million school-age children in the United States, nearly 10 percent of them in California.

Thirty-six percent of the total U. S. population is age 17 or under, 25 percent in the 5-17 age bracket.

The average American aged 25 or older has completed 10.2 years of school, ranging from 12.2 years in Utah to 8.7 years in Kentucky and South Carolina.

These figures, and dozens more, which illustrate the problems and the impact of education in this country were reported today by the National Education Association in its annual "Rankings of the States."

The report, compiled by the NEA's research division, makes no attempt to rank the states in over-all quality of education. However, the 90 tables of facts and figures provide some clues.

For instance, Utah, with the highest average education, tied with Washington the lowest percentage of Selective Service registrants failing the mental test, 4.7. South Carolina, tied with Kentucky for the lowest average education, had the highest percentage of mental test failures, 54.6.

In the 1959-60 school year, only 16.7 percent of the elementary school teachers in North Dakota had at least a B. A. degree, indicating four years of college preparation. South Dakota had 17.6 percent, and Idaho, Iowa, and Nebraska were all below 40 percent.

At the top of the list stands Oklahoma, where 99.7 percent of the elementary school teachers have at least a B. A. degree. Arizona, 99.4 percent, and Florida, 98.7 percent, are close behind.

The report shows there were 46,382,211 school-age youngsters on July 1, 1962. California led with 4,153,812, followed by New York with 3,833,949, and Pennsylvania with 2,722,250.

The actual school enrollment for this school year was estimated to be 40,007,912, of which California enrolled 4,000,000, New York 3,068,000 and Texas 2,291,278.

Between the 1952-53 and 1962-63 school years, the total enroll-

ment of public elementary and secondary schools increased 41 percent. Alaska increased 150.9 percent, California 111.2 percent, and Florida 98.6 percent.

Arkansas lost 3.8 percent of its public school enrollment in the 10-year period and West Virginia gained only 2.2 percent at the end of the list.

In the median number of school years completed by persons age 25 or older, Utah with 12.2 was only slightly ahead of Alaska, California, Colorado, Nevada and Washington, all with 12.1 years.

The Utah and Washington figure of only 4.7 percent of Selective Service registrants failing the mental test was followed closely by Wyoming, 5 percent; Montana, 5.1 percent, and Oregon, 5.5 percent.

The 11 lowest states in this category were all in the South: Florida 31.9, Kentucky 35.8; Virginia 35.9; Tennessee 36; North Louisiana 48.3, Mississippi 54.5, and South Carolina 54.6.

The national average was 23 percent. The NEA figures showed that 87.4 percent of all youths aged

14-17 were enrolled in school in 1960. Oregon had the best mark, 93.9 percent, while in South Carolina, only 77.7 percent of the youths in the 14-17 age bracket were enrolled in school.

Nationwide, the report said, 86.4 percent of all youngsters secondary schools are in public schools, and 13.6 percent are in non-public schools.

World Today

United Nations Ambassador Adlai E. Stevenson's gift for the pointed quip was at its best the other day, when he was given the 10th annual Patriotism Award by the senior class of Notre Dame University. Communist hostility and expansionism is a big problem, he said, whether Soviet Premier Khrushchev and Chinese Communist Chairman Mao Tse-tung pull together or apart, for "Their disagreement so far only turns on the point whether capitalism should be peacefully or violently buried. They are both for the funeral."

YESTERYEARS In the Twin Cities and Lewis County

10 Years Ago
March 2, 1953

The 110 employees of Centralia Plywood Inc., set an industry-wide mark Saturday at exactly 3:21 p.m., when the 3,000,000 feet of plywood they had cut during February was glued and stacked. The occasion was a celebrative one, for the minute the second-making plywood sheet was tallied a modern coffee bar promised the plant crews opened their doors. Harold Buckner, plant manager, said the 3-million mark was set despite the fact the operation has a rated capacity of only near 2 million feet. It was the first production record for the Centralia plant, which opened first in July of 1951.

The Centralia church basketball league will wind up its ses-

son this Monday night with the awarding of trophies. Scheduled to receive the awards are Emanuel Lutheran for winning the A division and the Free Methodist - Church of God for coming out on top in the B division. Norman Whitworth of the Lutherans ended as the high scorer in the A division and Dick Scott of the First Baptists led the B division.

25 Years Ago
March 2, 1928

Celebration of the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Houghton, residents of Centralia for more than 25 years, took place this week, when many friends of the couple called at their home at 1012 West Fifth Street to extend congratulations and best wishes. The Houghtons came to Centralia in 1905 following a short residence in Seattle. Mr. Houghton was an employee of the North Pacific Railroad, retiring in 1929. A daughter, Miss Adeline Houghton, is assistant librarian at the Centralia Carnegie library.

W. N. Beal, Centralia attorney, was named police judge by the Centralia city commission at a meeting yesterday. He succeeds W. H. Cameron, whose resignation was accepted. Beal's appointment was made by Mayor D. O. Nugent with approval by the commission.

50 Years Ago
March 2, 1913

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Reynolds motored down from Tacoma on Saturday to remain a few days visiting relatives. They were accompanied by Mrs. J. W. Miller and little son. Mrs. Miller is a former resident of Chehalis and her many friends were glad to see her again. She is the house guest of Mrs. A. D. Miller. The Lewis County Board of Health has been organized by the county commissioners. E. E. Teachnor, chairman of the board of county commissioners, is president of the board of health, and D. W. Montfort, county auditor, is clerk. Dr. J. T. Coleman, mayor of Chehalis, has been appointed county health officer for a term of two years, beginning July 1, 1913. His compensation will be fixed later.

Gains Fading

Rising Taxes Nibble At Congress' Cuts

EDITORS NOTE — If you're looking forward to a break under President Kennedy's proposed tax program, don't overlook climbing state, local and Social Security taxes. They may eat in sharply an what you save if Congress approves the President's proposals.

BY STERLING F. GREEN
WASHINGTON — Rising state, local and Social Security taxes — possibly half — of tax cuts by the time they would take effect.

The \$2.2-billion increase in Social Security rates on Jan. 1 and the \$300-million hike in postal rates on Jan. 7 will offset most of the \$3.1 billion in individual and corporate tax savings proposed by Kennedy for 1963.

With most of the 47 state legislatures meeting this year considering tax increases totaling perhaps \$2.5 billion, much of the \$3.2-billion reduction envisaged in the Kennedy program for 1964 would be wiped out.

Not all the legislatures are expected to raise taxes but it's true that a four-year cycle of such action has developed, and 1963 is the year for it. Thirty-three states raised taxes in 1959.

Three other factors will be working, tax experts report, to dilute the income-boosting, investment-stimulating and job-creating benefits of Kennedy's net \$10.3-billion, three-year tax reduction.

1. Part of the Taxpayers' savings would be picked up automatically by the 19 states whose taxpayers can deduct federal income taxes from their taxable income. In these states a cut in federal taxes means more income would be subject to state tax.

2. In 13 states whose tax systems are tied to the federal system, the laws require that citizens compute their taxable income on about the same basis as they do for the federal income tax. The revenue-boosting reforms which Kennedy seeks — including curtailed personal deductions — would be come part of these state systems, unless the state rules are changed. The federal rate cuts would not necessarily be carried over into the state systems, so state tax liability would be increased.

3. Cities and other local governments not only are pressing state legislatures to raise taxes and funnel more revenue to the cities, but many are considering new taxes of their own.

Pittsburgh wants the Pennsylvania Legislature to let the city levy a 1 percent income tax on non-residents who work in Pittsburgh. St. Paul has been weighing a 1 percent income tax if the Minnesota Legislature does not enact a state sales tax to be shared with the cities. Buffalo, N. Y., has asked legislation enabling it to levy a 1 percent payroll tax.

Only three states raised taxes in 1962 — Michigan, Mississippi and New Mexico — but state and local government costs went on rising almost everywhere. In many cases the feasible limit of borrowing has been reached.

A survey made by the Tax Foundation, Inc., New York, a privately supported, non-profit research organization, indicated that by early January revenue-

raising proposals were being considered seriously in 23 states. For reasons not fully explained, the years preceding national elections have become the big ones for state tax-boosting.

The Tax Foundation notes that in 1955 32 states enacted new or higher taxes. In 1960 there were 33. The number dipped to 7 in 1960, rose to 24 in 1961, and dwindled to 3 in 1962.

Last year's reprieve, says the foundation, "was by all indications the lull before the storm and not the beginning of any trend." It predicts: "The storm is likely to break in 1963, when scores of major tax proposals are expected to appear on legislative agendas."

The foundation's survey identified specific proposals totaling about \$1.7 billion of new state revenues but dollar estimates were not available, or were available only in part, for 18 of the 33 states.

Since then, governor's budget messages and other state legislative proposals have filled in some gaps. It now appears that the grand total of pending proposals would exceed \$2.5 billion, most of which would be felt in calendar 1964.

Such a total would mean offsetting Kennedy's second-year reductions to almost the same considerable extent as this year's federal tax relief would be offset by the Social Security and postal rate increases.

A good many legislatures almost certainly will reject or reduce the proposed tax increases, or resort to borrowing. Some states, where taxes are linked to the federal income tax, may find increased revenues will eliminate the need for new or higher state levies.

The 19 states where some or all of the federal tax is deductible from state-taxable income — so that state taxes will rise if federal taxes fall — are:

Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, and Utah.

The states whose tax laws would mean higher state tax collections if the federal rule for deductions is tightened are:

Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota and Vermont.

A similar rule for deductions applies in Alaska and West Virginia, but their taxpayers would come out ahead in the long run. Their state tax is figured as a simple percentage of the federal tax they pay; a federal cut would also mean state tax relief.

The hunt for new revenues is leading state legislatures to consider not only sales and income taxes but a bewildering list of levies covering cigarettes, liquor, gasoline, insurance premiums, corporation income, and use taxes.

Other popular devices include raising markups in state liquor stores, reassessing property, raising fees for state services and business licenses, and extending sales taxes to new products.

Shifting to a withholding system for state income taxes is gaining popularity. When it starts, taxpayers not only must pay the past year's taxes but make current payments out of their paychecks, as Virginia citizens are now doing.

Sam DAWSON

Money Managers Fret

By SAM DAWSON
NEW YORK — United States money transactions with the rest of the world have taken a turn for the worse in recent months. But there's been nothing that could be called a new raid on its gold reserves.

Times have changed. And the price of the metal in world markets has remained stable — even below the official price at which U. S. Treasury sells, \$35.0075 an ounce.

An increase in the deficit of payments in the final months of 1962 is a cause of worry to the Washington money managers and to those trying to boost U.S. exports higher.

But the stability of gold and the evident strength of the dollar in world financial markets is cause of considerable satisfaction.

Much of the thanks goes to the group of central bankers, American and foreigners, who have rigged up a device to halt the raids that in the past unsettled one or another currency and for a brief period put the American dollar under strain to the surprise of most Americans who thought it as good as gold.

The group acts quietly. In fact, American money managers have never officially said the United States was taking part. But the success of this quiet

pooling of international financial resources to protect currencies against the stress of temporary ups and downs of trade and financial balances shows plainly in the stable gold market as reported daily from London. This week prices have been below \$35.00 an ounce, making any buying of U. S. government gold unprofitable.

This very real, if officially unannounced, international gold pool keeps the London free market stable simply by buying when the price is below the official U. S. Treasury figure. When the price goes above that figure the pool can step in and sell.

This swells the amount of gold available, and as the supply goes up the demand is met and the price returns to the desired level.

The pool doesn't pretend it can protect the dollar forever if the balance of payments deficit keeps mounting. That is why the United States has taken many measures to boost the total of U. S. exports on one hand and to discourage the outflow of dollars on the other. The measures have fallen short of their goal.

The deficit last year was \$2.2 billion — that many more dollars leaving this shore to pay for imports, foreign aid, military aid overseas, and investments there than came back for exports and other dollar winners. The 1962 deficit was an improvement over the \$2.4 billion the previous year and the \$4 billion one of 1960.

BELOW OLYMPUS By Interlandi



...then the Spirit of '75 marches out and we say, 'How can you complain about taxes? At least now you're not without representation!'



Dear Abby . . . Write Him Long Letters

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I am married to a READER. Abby, this man reads constantly. He always has a book, magazine or newspaper in his hands. He even takes his reading to the table. When he shaves, he uses an electric razor so he can read while he shaves. He not only does this at home, but, when we go out to visit relatives or friends, he picks up anything to read that is within reach, and is lost in it for the rest of the evening.

This is terribly embarrassing. I know there are worse faults. But what can I do about this reading habit? We've been married six years, and he is getting worse.

READER'S WIFE

DEAR WIFE: Madam, your husband is "escaping" into the printed page. At home, perhaps he is bored. Why don't you read whatever it is that your husband has found so absorbing, and discuss it with him? When he is away from home, he probably "loses" himself in a magazine to avoid making conversation. This is rude. If you can't get him to listen to you while you tell him how much his constant reading irritates you — write him a letter. He'll read it.

DEAR ABBY: I am 16 and nothing I do is right. My mother criticizes everything I do. I would do anything to get away from this house and HER. There is a sailor I know who is leaving for San Diego soon. He says if I marry

him he will take me away from my unhappy home life. I hate to quit school, but anything is better than living here. Please help me decide.

FED UP
DEAR FED UP: STAY HOME! Of all the reasons to marry, getting away from home is the poorest. The divorce courts are full of girls who learned too late that mother was right, and her criticisms were far easier to bear than the life offered by a spur of the moment Romeo.

DEAR ABBY: I am 43 but no one takes me for a day older than 30. I am going with a man of 25. He knows I am "older" than he is, but he doesn't know how much. We frequently kid each other about our ages. I know I have him fooled. Should I tell him the truth? He is getting serious.

I. M. SERIOUS
DEAR I. M.: You can "kid" each other all you like, but you can't kid Father Time.

CONFIDENTIAL TO E. L.: It seems strange that a guy will propose to a girl under a light he wouldn't think of choosing a suit by.

If you have a problem, write to Abigail Van Buren in care of this paper. She will be glad to answer your letter. For a personal reply, please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.