

LESH OPINION ON EDUCATION AID PUZZLING

Rules Vocational Department
Support Is Imperative Re-
gardless of Funds.

BARES ODD SITUATION

The State vocational education department has been placed in the predicament of being required to spend fixed amounts without having the money to spend, as a result of action of the Legislature and of an opinion issued by U. S. Lesh, attorney general.

Under the vocational education act the department is required to pay half the salaries of county agents and half the salaries of teachers in approved vocational schools or vocational departments of schools.

The attorney general held that, while the board might refuse to approve the appointment of county agricultural agents, the board could not refuse to approve the establishment of vocational schools and departments on this ground and that they must be approved if they come up to requirements.

He expresses the opinion that it may be necessary for county agents and teachers to await further legislation before making any changes.

L. N. Hines, State superintendent of public instruction, insists that the 1/2 cent levy granted by the Legislature is far from sufficient to meet required expenses and submits figures to show that even 1 cent levy would not be sufficient.

LEGAL RULING.

Mr. Lesh's opinion on the payment of money to schools for vocational work follows in part:

"In my opinion pursuant to the claim of the statutes that the State board of education may legally reduce the expenditures of its vocational funds by paying to school corporations less than one half of the sum expended by such corporation in vocational schools of departments for industrial agriculture and home economics education approved by the State board of education."

"It is my opinion the state board of education has no legal right to refuse to approve vocational schools or departments except in cases where they fail to measure up to the standards prescribed by the board as to organization, buildings, location, equipment, personnel, training, qualifications of teachers, length of term, methods of instruction, conditions of admission, employment of pupils and expenditures of money.

"The State board of education is required to pass on these things, and if it has done so and the school or departments as to such things is up to the standards, then the board has the right to do this.

The State board has any legal right to refuse to approve them on the grounds that sufficient funds are not available to reimburse such schools or departments on the ration of one-half. The statute prescribes that grounds for refusing such approval and the want of funds is not one of them."

RULES ON COUNTY AGENCY SITUATION.

Mr. Lesh's opinion following to say of the county agent situation:

"Your letter of March 21 received calling my attention to section 12 of the vocational act of 1913 and asking whether, when the appointment of a county agent has been made and approved, it is necessary for the State board of education to set aside a sum as provided in the act as an amount sufficient to pay one-half of the annual salary of the county agent thus appointed and approved up to a maximum of \$1,000.

"In answer to your first question it is my opinion that the money derived from the 1/2 cent levy for vocational purposes is required to be set aside and used for the purpose for which it was levied and one of these purposes was to aid in paying the salary of appointed county agents.

"In my opinion when the appointment of a county agent is approved by the State board of education and the county board of education, the State is bound to pay Purdue University an amount equal to one-half his salary provided there is money sufficient derived from the levy which is paid to the Purdue University, and, if any one-half of such salary provided that no more than \$1,000 is to be expended for that purpose in any one county but the State obligation to pay a part of the county agent's salary is just the same as its obligation to reimburse school corporations under section 12 of the vocational act of 1913 as amended by section 8 of the act of 1919.

SETS LIMIT ON EXPENDITURES.

"The one claim I list is as binding as the other but the obligation extends only so far as the levy of one-half of 1 cent on taxable property of the State enables it to pay and when the money thus paid is exhausted the payments necessarily must cease and where the school corporations or county agents are ever to be paid the deficiency must depend upon future legislation."

In another opinion, he says:

"It is my opinion that either the county board of education or the State board, by refusing to approve the appointment of a county agent at all in any such county from having an agent at all, the State board of education by refusing to approve the appointment of a person as county agent may legally reduce the expenditure of money required to pay his salary. Such refusal in my opinion would excuse Purdue University from the payment of \$1,000 or a less sum, as one-half of the salary of the agent in such county."

Strict Rules to Govern Promotion

Strict rules governing promotions in the post office service have been announced by the Postoffice Department at Washington in a bulletin received by Postmaster General E. Springer.

Thereafter, according to the bulletin, the following efficiency rulings for employees will be in force:

Special clerks and applicants for promotion must have and maintain an efficiency rating of 90 per cent or more. Employees with 80 per cent or less whose general ratings fall below 75 per cent will not be eligible for promotion to the next higher grade, those whose ratings fall below 75 per cent will be reduced while those who fall below 60 per cent will be removed. This ruling applies to all postoffices of the first and second class and takes effect July 1.

History Instructor Accepts New Task

Special to The Times.

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., March 28.—Dr. James A. Woodburn, head of the history department of Indiana University, and his service with the school at the close of the academic year, having been appointed research professor of history for 1921-22.

He is a graduate of the university and is the author of a number of books, including history texts.

Greensburg Council May Change Wards

Special to The Times.

GREENSBURG, Ind., March 28.—The city council is considering changing the size of the four wards of the city to make a more equal distribution of the voters and also make a better arrangement for the voting precincts.

Box Car Burns, Sets Blaze in Warehouse

An empty box car on the sidetrack near the Indianapolis Warehouse Company's building, New York street and the canal, caught fire early in the morning and was immediately extinguished. The car was standing on the tracks near the entrance of the warehouse and the flames burned through the door and reached the interior of the building. The heat started the automatic sprinkler working and that turned in an alarm bell. The alarm bell, that was old, papers left in the car were set on fire by a cigarette thrown down by some person who had taken refuge there to escape the rain. The loss was estimated at \$5,000 and is fully covered by insurance.

A fire of unknown origin started in the Famous Picture Company's office, 22 South Capitol avenue, at 4:45 a. m. The loss was estimated at more than \$200.

MISS CLAYBAUGH, TEACHER, IS DEAD

Shortridge Latin Instructor
for Twenty Years.

Miss Virginia E. Claybaugh, for twenty years a Latin teacher at Shortridge High School, died Saturday night at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Lafayette. She had long made her home at Frankfort.

Miss Claybaugh was about 45 and was a graduate of Judge Joseph Claybaugh, who served on the bench of the Clinton Circuit Court for several terms, and Mrs. Anna Settembrini Claybaugh, both of whom are dead.

After being graduated from the Frankfort High School, Miss Claybaugh entered Indiana University, where she specialized in the study of Latin, and soon after graduated. During the entire of her long period of service as teacher at Shortridge, during her teaching period, she took several additional training courses at the University of Chicago.

At the time of her death she was vice president of the Kappa Alpha Theta. She was an active member of the Shortridge Red Cross, a member of the Shortridge Club in 1919-20.

Miss Anna Claybaugh, a sister, is an instructor in the Latin department at Shortridge, and the only other surviving relative is a brother, Nat B. Claybaugh of Frankfort.

The body will be taken to Frankfort for burial. Funeral services will be held at the brother's home there tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

Refuses Girl Joy of Easter Nuptials

Special to The Times.

SELBYVILLE, Ind., March 28.—Indiana marriage laws were fatal to the hopes of a young couple for an Easter marriage when they arrived here to secure a license. The girl had to wait until the prospective bride reaches the age limit prescribed by State law. Miss Alma Marie Vawter, the girl, was accompanied by her father, who offered to sign his consent to the girl, but was informed that even this would not permit the issuing of the license. Edward Frank Weintraut, 24, the bridegroom-to-be, said they would call later. Miss Vawter will be 16 years old on May 6.

Names Trustees for State Soldiers' Home

Trustees for the State Soldiers' Home at Lafayette have been named by Governor Warren T. McCray in compliance with an act of the last Legislature. The act provided that the board be composed of two Civil War veterans, one Spanish War veteran, one World War veteran and the wife of a veteran.

The trustees are Col. D. M. Foster of Ft. Wayne and John B. Lyons of Brook, Civil War veterans; former Governor Winfield T. Durbin of Anderson, Spanish War veteran; Dr. Carlton R. McCullough of Indianapolis, World War veteran, and Mrs. Caroline Blackstock Morrison of Lafayette, wife of a Spanish War veteran.

O. K. Accounts for State Sanitary Work

Approval of the accounts of the State sanitary board is contained in a report of the State board of accounts which has been turned over to the sanitary board.

The report shows that the department spent \$34,193.72 of its appropriation of \$40,000 for expenses, \$300 of the \$20,000 appropriated for state aid to foot and mouth disease and glands and \$23,349.59 of the appropriation of \$75,000 for the payment of the price of cattle condemned because of tuberculosis.

Despite the small payment for tubercular cattle the last Legislature appropriated \$100,000 for this purpose.

January Wedding Just Announced

Special to The Times.

HARTFORD CITY, Ind., March 28.—Announcement was made today of the marriage of Miss Louise Mattax, music instructor in the local high school and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Mattax of Geneva, Ind., and Harry Lynch, son of Mrs. Jenny Lynch of this city.

The wedding took place at Adrian, Mich., Jan. 18, but had been kept secret.

Marion Democrats to Have Full Ticket

Special to The Times.

MARION, Ind., March 28.—According to announcement made today the Democrats of Marion will go into conference the first of this week for the purpose of naming candidates for the city ticket.

It was stated that the Democratic party will have a full city ticket in the field for the coming election.

Epsom Salts like Drinking Lemonade

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BUILDERS SEE REVIVAL WITH CUT IN WAGES

Labor Committee of Indiana
Contractors' Association
Favors Reduction.

'WOULD BE INCENTIVE'

The general labor committee of the Associated Building Contractors of Indiana has gone on record as unanimously favoring throughout the State a reduction of from 15 to 20 per cent in the wages now being paid the building craftsmen, according to an article in the current issue of the Indiana Construction.

Believing that there must be reductions in costs all along the line in order to make construction operations attractive, the article reads, "and that declines in material quotations alone will not encourage building activity on a large scale, the general labor committee of the Associated Building Contractors of Indiana has gone on record as unanimously favoring, throughout the State, a reduction of from 15 to 20 per cent in the wages now being paid the building craftsmen. This, the committee feels, is absolutely necessary in order to effect a revival of building in Indiana, that will relieve the stagnation now prevailing in construction circles, ameliorate the shortage of labor, and bring about a more even distribution of buildings and obvious relief to the danger of unemployment among the building mechanics."

IS RESULT OF
STATE SURVEY.

"The labor committee at a recent meeting at Indianapolis, after a careful survey of reports from all over the State and a serious consideration of the building situation in Indiana, reached the foregoing conclusion and decision. An endeavor was made to have this result carried out by the committee of the Associated Building Contractors of Indiana, but the committee, it is believed, has not been able to effect a reduction of wages in all the states, but the general labor committee of the Associated Building Contractors of Indiana has gone on record as favoring a reduction of from 15 to 20 per cent in the wages now being paid the building craftsmen. This, the committee feels, is absolutely necessary in order to effect a revival of building in Indiana, that will relieve the stagnation now prevailing in construction circles, ameliorate the shortage of labor, and bring about a more even distribution of buildings and obvious relief to the danger of unemployment among the building mechanics."

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