

TEACHER SALARY PROBLEMS STUDIED BY GOVERNOR

(NOTE: The Governor of Texas says our school teachers must have a cost-of-living increase in pay. The problem is finding the money. His plan, as presented to the Legislature recently, is outlined in a series of articles of which this is the second.)

Is \$600 a proper pay raise for our Texas teachers?

That is the amount they are asking as their first base pay raise since 1949. It would be an increase of about 25 per cent.

There is nothing more important in the view of us parents than the training of our children. I doubt that any competent teacher is ever really overpaid—or expects to be.

But, just as the 1949 salary scale for teachers is too low now, the \$45 million ceiling contribution of local school districts to be minimum foundation program is no longer what it should be.

The state, instead of paying three dollars to one local dollar as under the original Gilmer-Aikin scale, is now making up the difference between one local 1949 dollar and as many 1953 dollars as are needed.

In other words, all of the increase in demand upon the minimum foundation fund must be met by the state.

That can't go on without running the risk of increased state control of the public schools.

And, what is perhaps even more important, it can't go on without running the risk of a possible ceiling on state spending to maintain the minimum foundation program.

I mean by this that the legislature at some time in the foreseeable future might decide that the state should fix a maximum guarantee for its own responsibility in the program.

What would that mean?

It would mean that the major burden of the steadily advancing costs of the Gilmer-Aikin program eventually could come to bear directly upon the local district. It would be the opposite of the present situation. This is not my suggestion, but it is a very definite possibility.

As I have told many of my teacher friends, and as I have said in previous articles of this series, I am not against the idea of a \$600 raise.

As Governor I have to remember, however, that an increase of this size would cost the state more than 33 million dollars per year. And, as we consider the many imperative needs throughout the state, we are forced to decide what we can afford—and what we should do for others, as well as for the public school teachers.

What about a raise for our state senior and junior college teachers?

What of the nurses and other vital workers in our state hospitals?

Can we afford to forget our state law enforcement officers and our prison guards?

What about our thousands of other loyal state employees?

What can we do about larger state pensions for the old people of Texas?

There are many such deserving groups—none more deserving than our public school teachers, and yet none should be overlooked.

For all of these people, as well as for the rest of our citizens, it is important to keep our state financially sound. If that is not done, eight million Texans will reap the whirlwind.

For the immediate relief of our teachers I have proposed a plan by which they could receive a substantial raise without the necessity of increasing state taxes.

Two steps are involved: (1)

shifting of part of the per capita available school fund over to the Gilmer-Aikin fund so that the needy school districts can get more state assistance and the prosperous districts will not grow all the richer on state money, and (2) placing a fair share of the cost of the minimum foundation program on the local districts instead of leaving the local contributions at the 1949 level while the state pays more and more with each passing year.

What does the average classroom teacher in Texas make? A little more than \$3,200 a year, according to records of the Texas Education Agency. And, while beginning teachers with a bachelor's degree are authorized to receive a minimum of \$2,400 per year under the Gilmer-Aikin program, the actual average of such college graduate beginners is around \$2,530 for nine months' work.

I mention these figures because, while we often speak about the salary of new degree-holding teachers as a point of reference, actually there are not many teachers who make exactly \$2,400. The pay scales of numerous schools are above the minimum, and of course our teachers quite properly get additional pay as they acquire more education and experience.

My recommendations to increase the contributions of the local school districts toward the Gilmer-Aikin program is based on the principle of local control. I believe the schools should continue to be run by the citizens of their own communities.

The public school system of Texas as always has been operated on this local control plan. Until recent years, the home school districts provided most of the financial support. By 1920 the first large appropriation for state assistance to rural schools had been made and the state per capita payments had been increased to \$14.50. It was not until after World War II that these payments exceeded \$30. Today they are \$68. If we reduce the available school fund by \$15 million, the per capita payment will go down to about \$58.

Besides these payments based on number of students, the Gilmer-Aikin program, in operation since 1949, has cost the state additional millions of dollars each year in equalization aid.

This Gilmer-Aikin program, that guarantees the opportunity for a good education to every child of school age in Texas, is one of the great accomplishments in the history of education in our state. We should not take any backward steps. The plan should be permitted to function as originally intended: to underwrite a minimum standard program in every school.

We cannot overlook the fact that a \$600 increase for each public school teacher—unaccompanied by any of the financing changes and revisions I have suggested—will mean that the Legislature now in session must raise at least \$67 million in new state taxes for the next two years.

To put it another way, such an increase would use up nearly 40 per cent of the general revenue that is available for our state departments, colleges and universities, state hospitals, prisons, training schools and state courts.

Can we afford a \$600 increase now? Can we afford not to grant it? Who will speak for the rest of those dependent upon state appropriations for the necessities of life? And who is going to pay the bill?

These are questions I have offered for your consideration during the last several weeks. If the net result has been to increase the public store of information and interest in public school financing, and in the overall problems of the state, at least part of the objective has been accomplished.

Personal News Items

Russell Sallee is putting up a house in the Sweat neighborhood.

The Crenwelses moved to the house vacated by the Andy Kirbys, who moved with Ohio Oil Co. to Louisiana. The Gentrys moved to the Earl Parker house vacated by Crenwelses.

Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Yardley have returned from Comanche, where they visited Mrs. Yardley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Haynes.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Speir Jr. have moved here with their trailer from Pasadena, Texas, and Mr. Speir is working for the time for B. L. Blakeway, his brother-in-law. The couple have one child, Deborah. Mrs. Speir is the former Mary Thompson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jess Thompson.

Ernie Bauer, local jeweler, is attending the Gift Show at Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Russell and daughter of Ozona spent the weekend with Mrs. Ora Davis.

Mrs. John Palmer and Sue and Buster Bright of Del Rio visited here last week end and Sue and Mr. Bright attended the Bankers Convention at San Angelo Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sloan, who rent an apartment at the residence of Mrs. W. H. McClatchey, attended a steak supper Saturday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Kennedy of Christoval.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Sudduth have been in Harper visiting Mrs. Harper's mother. Mrs. Sudduth recently returned from Dexter, New Mexico, where she visited in the W. W. Sudduth home.

Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Moore have gone to San Antonio, where they are visiting two sons and a daughter and are attending the Fat Stock Show.

Mrs. H. F. Webb has received word that her brother has returned to his home at Harper after hospital treatment, but that his wife had recently fallen and broken her hip. The couple are Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Bierschwale.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bledsoe of San Angelo and Bill Jones and Joetta Jones, both students at Brownwood, visited here Saturday and Sunday with the John R. Jones family.

Jerry Shotts, Pan American employee here for over a year, left during the week end with his family to make his home in or near Hawkins, where he will be employed. The family lived in a Keeney apartment.

Those returning Sunday night from the Fat Stock Show at Houston were Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Thompson and Jerry and Sylvia, and Mr. and Mrs. James Alexander and Mary Lou Alexander.

Mrs. A. J. Roach and Jim Tom, Mrs. Kenneth Cheek and Mrs. B. K. Cheek visited Sunday in San Antonio. The Roaches visited the boys, who are in school there, and the Cheeks visited relatives in the city.

Juanita McAlpine and Vera Fae Biggs spent the weekend with home folks. Both are employed in San Angelo.

Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Neff and daughter spent the weekend in Junction where they visited Mr. Neff's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Neff.



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dishwasher, or a modern electric refrigerator can make in your home—and remember, they cost only a few cents a day to operate.

That is only a sample of the time and energy modern electric appliances can save you on household chores of all kinds. Just think of the savings in time, money and woman-power an electric range, a

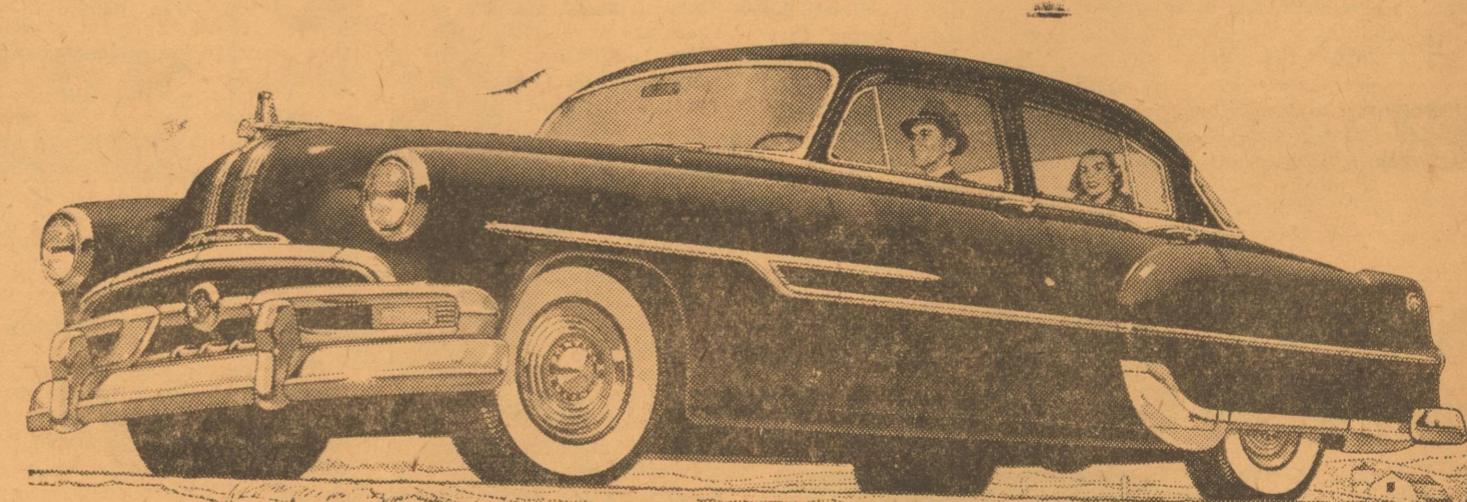
For the ease, convenience, and economy of modern electrical living, see your local electric appliance dealer. He will be glad to show you how modern electric home appliances can save you hours and hours of work each week.

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**MRS. EDWIN JACKSON
FOUNDER'S SPEAKER
AT P.T.A. MEETINGS**

Mrs. Edwin Jackson was in charge of the Founder's Day program Tuesday afternoon at the Stephen F. Austin School PTA meeting. Mrs. Edgar Spencer directed a play in which characters were Mrs. Spencer, Mrs. Horace Linthicum, Mrs. John Stigler, Mrs. Roy Phelps, Mrs. Jess Walston and Mrs. Palmer West, in addition to Mrs. Jackson. The school presented the Eldorado library with a book as a token of appreciation.

Mrs. Jackson remained in San Angelo for the evening when she and Mr. Jackson attended Oper House for the new David Crockett elementary school.

Last week Mrs. Jackson was Founder's Day speaker at the meeting of the Sterling City PTA on Thursday and that night stopped in Christoval to address the PTA there on a similar program.

MERRYMAKERS MEET

The Merry-makers' "42" Club met in regular session Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Jud Branman. The hostess carried out the Valentine motif in the refreshment plate and the decorations.

Engagement Is Announced



Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Dickens announce the engagement of their daughter, Carol Lynn to Benjamin Daniel Dusek, son of Mrs. Frank Dusek of San Angelo, and the late Mr. Dusek.

Formerly of Eldorado, Carol

Lynn is a junior student at Lakeview high school. Mr. Dusek, who farms near Rowena, is a graduate of Lakeview high school. He expects to be inducted in the U. S. Army soon, and the couple plan to marry following his period of Army service.

DAR MEMBERS HONORED

Mrs. Horace Linthicum and Mrs. Gerald Hartgraves have been invited to go to the DAR National Convention in Washington, D. C., this spring as pages, and Mrs. Linthicum has already sent in her acceptance. More information concerning this will be worked out at a later date.

Carson West spent two weeks in the Sonora Hospital and was dismissed to return to his home here Saturday. He is much improved and is able to be up some of the time.

**FOUNDERS HONORED
AT SPECIAL PROGRAM
FOR P.T.A. MEETING**

Mrs. Edgar Spencer, as program chairman, presented a group of Parent-Teacher members in a play at the Founders Day PTA program Tuesday night at the school.

In the play Mrs. Spencer explained the four-fold aims of the organization in welding together the church, school, home and community, after which Mrs. Palmer West, Mrs. Elizabeth Ballew, Mrs. John Stigler and Mrs. Jess Walston, representing these four cornerstones of PTA work, lit the candles, followed by Mrs. Roy Phelps, who summarized PTA aims. Mrs. Edwin Jackson, last speaker of the group, mentioned the work done by the founders in whose honor the program was given.

Mrs. Jack Hext, PTA president, conducted the business session, during which Mrs. Arthur Mund announced plans for Texas Public Schools Week, and the nominating committee read the list of new officers to be voted on at the March meeting:

Mrs. Gus Love, president
Mrs. John Williams, Vice pres.
Mrs. Carroll Ratliff, prog. chm.
Mrs. James Williams, membership
Mrs. Horace Linthicum, finance
Mrs. Ethel Etheredge, secretary
Mrs. George Cales, treasurer.
Dates of the spring conference, March 26 and 27, were announced — the place to be Eldorado.

Reception Follows

Past presidents of the local unit were honored with a reception in the school cafeteria after the meeting and program. Mrs. Bert Page poured, Mrs. W. O. Alexander cut the decorated cake, and Mrs. Jack Hext, Mrs. S. D. Harper, Mrs. Edwin Jackson, Mrs. J. C. Ratliff and Mrs. John Williams received the guests. There are 18 past-presidents now living in Eldorado.

Mrs. Edwin Jackson, sixth District president, will preside at the spring meeting, which will open with a board meeting on the 26th, followed by a banquet, and all-day meeting on Friday. Plans for entertainment of the out of town guests are being worked out.

Mrs. E. C. Peters has been named chairman of the summer round-up of pre-school children. Her assistants will be announced later.

WOMAN'S CLUB

The next meeting of the Woman's Club will be at the Memorial building on Tuesday of next week.

Members are reminded that this is the day to bring contributions to the German youth assistance project.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Morris of DeLeon are here visiting Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Sweet Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Yates and families.

ESTERBROOK FOUNTAIN pens, \$2.30 — Eldorado Success.

The Eldorado Success

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Bill Gunstead — Associate Editor

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of the Success will be gladly corrected upon same being brought to the attention of the publisher.

Notice of entertainments where a charge of admission is made, obituaries, cards of thanks, resolutions of respect, and all matters not news will be charged for at the regular rates.

Recipe of the Week

Meat and Vegetable Casserole
1 lb. ground meat
1 green pepper
1 onion
1 garlic pod (if desired)
3 tablespoons fat
2 eggs
2 cups canned corn
2 cups canned tomatoes
salt and pepper to taste
1 cup bread crumbs

Melt fat in skillet, add chopped onion, pepper and garlic and cook until tender. Add seasoned ground meat combined with the eggs. Cook until the mixture loses its red color. Butter a casserole, and sprinkle with bread crumbs, then put in half of meat mixture, a layer of corn, and one of tomatoes. Repeat, and sprinkle top with bread crumbs. Bake in a moderate oven (350 F.) 30 to 45 minutes.

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CONTINUE TO OPERATE IT
UNDER THE NEW NAME OF

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HUMBLE STATION**

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PATRONAGE OF THE STATION'S OLD
CUSTOMERS AND WILL WELCOME NEW
STATION PATRONS. I WILL CONTINUE TO
CARRY THOSE GOOD

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ALSO — WE HAVE GOOD WASHING
AND GREASING FACILITIES—
SO GIVE US A RING!
COME IN AND GET ACQUAINTED

RAY GENTRY, Prop.

THANK YOU

Having sold my Humble Station in Eldorado, I wish to thank the people of this county for their generous patronage during the time I have operated this business. I feel that I am leaving the business in good hands and hope you will be as generous with Mr. Gentry as you were with me. Again I say—Thank You.

MARTIN ESTES

Mrs. T. K. Jones is on the sick list.
R. J. Page returned Tuesday from San Angelo where he had treatment in Clinic Hospital.
The Elton McGinnes family visited with Mr. and Mrs. Claude Dittmore in Tennyson.
Michael Sproul, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Sproul, has been quite sick and has been hospitalized in San Angelo.
Glyndon Everet Aldridge called this week from the West Coast stating that he had arrived safely.
Mrs. Marvin McAngus and new daughter Lisa Elizabeth are back from a San Angelo hospital.

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- Pay a Minimum of 10% Down When Purchased.
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WE'RE CHOPPING
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Vine Ripened Pound
Tomatoes 19c

Fresh, Cello Bag
Carrots - 9c

California Each
CALAVAS 10c

Vine Ripened Pint
STRAWBERRIES 39c

ARMOURS CHOICE MEATS

Armours — Center Cut Pound
Pork Chops - 59c

Armours — Choice Pound
Short Ribs - 29c

Armours — Seasoned Tast-Rite Pound
Rolled Roast - 49c

Armours — Semi-Boneless Pound
Pork Roast - 49c

Armours Star — Flavor Fresh Pound
FRYERS - 53c

Red & White 14 Oz. Bottle
CATSUP - 19c

Armours Can
TEXAS CHILI - 49c

Flour 25 Lb. Bag
RED & WHITE - 1.98

Regular Box
TIDE - 17c

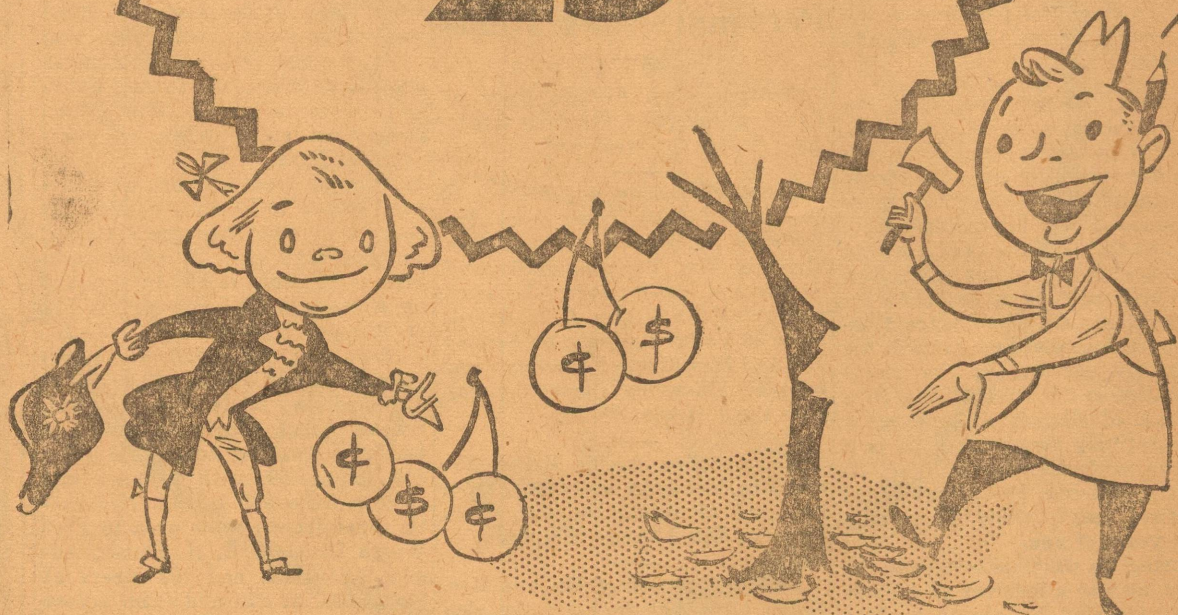
Imperial Cane Limit One 10 Pounds
SUGAR 89c

RED & WHITE

PEACHES

NO. 2½ CAN

25c



No. 2½ Can

ROSEDALE PEARS \$1.00 3 Cans

No 303 Sun Spun 2 For
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Tomatoes - 39c

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No 300 Sun Spun 3 For
Pork & Beans 29c

Sun Spun—No. 303 2 For
PEAS 29c

Delicious Macaroni and Cheese 2 Regular Pkgs.
KRAFT DINNER 25c

Krafts Quart
MIRACLE WHIP 49c

Ballard 2 For
BISCUITS - 19c

Red & White—46 oz. 4 For
Grapefruit Juice \$1

Red & White 12 Oz.
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Red & White 12 Oz.
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All Flavors 2 Pkgs.
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Supreme Pound
Salad Wafers 25c

Gladiola Box
White Cake Mix 37c

Armours Columbia Pound
BACON 43c

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