

School Head Tells Why Teachers Leave

Why do Torrance Teachers leave their jobs? According to a report made to the Board of Education, a study of the 149 teachers who left teaching posts in the Torrance Unified School District last year shows that the largest single group — 19 percent — left to take jobs or promotions in other school districts. Five percent took foreign teaching jobs; nine percent were promoted. At the same time, the district rehired 10 teachers who had resigned in previous years.

Citing from the same report, 16 percent — all women — left because their husbands' job took them to another area. Fourteen percent — again all women — left to become full-time homemakers or take care of new babies. Twelve percent said they had to drive too far to work and got jobs nearer home.

Seven percent decided to become full-time students again; two percent entered other businesses; and ill health caused two percent to resign. Miscellaneous resignations amounted to one percent.

Fourteen percent of the teachers who left failed to have their contracts renewed because their supervisors felt they were not doing an adequate job.

"In a rapidly-growing district, we have a very large proportion of younger teachers," Superintendent J. H. Hull noted. "Many of the women have babies or follow their husbands to other jobs elsewhere. Many of the men come here because they feel there are many opportunities for promotion. Of course, there always are more applicants than promotions, so some of them leave."

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The Sacramento Report

By Charles Edward Chapel, Member of the Assembly, 46th Assembly District, California State Legislature

Early in the 1959 regular session of the State Legislature, economy-minded Democrats and practically all Republicans fought Governor Brown's big tax increase program because we said that the higher tax rates and new taxes proposed by Governor Brown would create a needless surplus. Time has shown that we were right. Recent estimates from Brown's own administration show that there will be a surplus of more than seventy million dollars (\$70,000,000) by June, 1960, and by 1961, the surplus will reach at least one hundred thirty-four million dollars (\$134,000,000).

Since the Governor argued early in 1959 that the new taxes, all of which I voted against, were necessary to avoid a deficit, it logically follows that with a surplus, we should do either one of two things: (1) Reduce taxes; or (2) Find places to spend the surplus. Your opinion on this subject affects your own pocketbook. Write to me at P. O. Box 777, Inglewood 5, California, and tell me how you think I should vote on this important issue during the March, 1960, budget session.

Also, please write a firm but polite letter to Governor Edward G. Brown, State Capitol, Sacramento 14, and tell him Assemblyman Chapel suggested the letter. I am sure that he is glad to have pen pals because he ran on a platform of doing what the majority of the people want and here is a golden opportunity for you to raise your voice.

During the 1959 regular session of the California Legislature, the Brown tax program increased State revenue as follows: (1) \$73 million increases in individual income taxes; (2) \$8 million increases in inheritance taxes; (3) \$76 million in taxes on beer, cigarettes and horse racing; (4) \$74 million in unemployment insurance taxes; and (5) \$25 million in workmen's compensation taxes. As a result the people of California now pay an average State-and-Local tax per person of \$238.50, which is the highest in the United States. Do you like this tax program of Governor Brown and his followers in the Legislature or are you sufficiently annoyed to write to the Governor? While you are about it, also write to State Senator Richard Richards, State Building, Los Angeles, because he voted for the Brown program. I voted against all tax increases and new taxes.

Instead of offering to repeal some of the new taxes and lower the rate on the old taxes, Governor Brown has suggested several ways to spend the huge new

surplus. His argument is that the surplus is not really a surplus but merely a bookkeeping entry which can be taken care of by a big new spending program, something like the W.P.A. that Franklin D. Roosevelt had under his slogan of "tax and spend, spend, elect and elect." Personally, I have never been able to understand how a man gets elected on a record of constantly raising taxes and finding ways to spend the people's money, unless the public enjoys punishment or does not read the newspapers.

The beaches and parks program is far behind where it would have been if Governor Brown and his henchman had not shifted money from the tideland oil revenue fund into a fund set aside to promote the California Water Plan even before the people had a chance to vote on this gigantic spending program which so far does not guarantee the people of Southern California one drop of water, but promises us only the privilege of paying taxes and passing on to our children and grand children a heavy bond burden which will be lifted only after everyone in California is dead and buried.

Governor Brown has hinted that perhaps the surplus money could be used for a mental health program. He forgets to tell the people of California that he voted the 1959 general session he voted a bill which would have permitted the State to increase its aid to those counties which had bonded their own local mental health programs. Whether you like mental health programs or not, the point is that it is inconsistent for the Governor of California to veto a mental health appropriation bill in 1959 and then turn around in 1960 and say that he does not want to repeal or reduce taxes, but use the surplus for the mental health program. Incidentally, the State's own reports on the mental health program show that its benefits are "inconclusive," which means that even its strongest supporters can not swear that it is doing the job it is supposed to do.

OBITUARIES

AGUIRRE, FRANCISCA DEFRANCO, age 79, of 2835 23th St. Rosary Thursday, ARY CHAPEL and Requiem High Mass will be sung at Nativity Catholic Church Friday, 9 a. m. Interment in All Souls cemetery. Survived by husband, Jose Aguirre.

PORTER, ROBERT BOYD, age 82, of 1514 W. 205th St. Native of Connecticut. Survived by wife, Catherine Griffin, 2 sons, Richard and David, 2 daughters, Lois Neumar and Mrs. Trudy Hoop, 6 grandchildren. Funeral arrangement by HALVERSON LEAVELL MORTUARY.

VAN CAMP, JACKIE, age 21, of 5136 Pacific Coast Hwy. Services were held Jan. 19, 1960 at HALVERSON LEAVELL MORTUARY by Rev. David Beadles. Survived by parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fenton Van Camp, 2 sisters, Gwendolyn Sue and Donna Lynn, grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Van Camp.

MUNDY, FREDERICK CHARLES, age 52 of 318 Hillside, Inglewood. Native of Mississippi. Services conducted Jan. 21, 1960 at HALVERSON LEAVELL MORTUARY. Interment Pacific Crest cemetery. Survived by wife, Rosemary, 2 sons, Michael and Roger, mother, Mrs. Louise Mundy, 2 sisters, Margaret Mundy and Lillian Fear.

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Medical Mailbag

Question: I've been told that my condition — bronchiectasis — can't be cured. If this is true, what can I do to relieve the chronic cough?

Answer: Although it's true that advanced cases of bronchiectasis can't be cured, a great deal can be done to relieve the symptoms associated with this condition.

Bronchiectasis means a widening of the air passages (bronchi) in the lungs. This enlargement is not the direct cause of the symptoms you have mentioned. They are due to the infection and inflammation brought about by stagnated secretions lodged in the deformed tubelike air passages. These secretions provide an excellent opportunity for bacteria to grow. And since we are breathing bacteria constantly from the atmosphere, it becomes important to provide clearance of any bacterial accumulation in mucous secretions.

Thus, treatment is directed toward cleansing of the air passages. This is accomplished by postural drainage, such as, allowing the head to lean over the edge of the bed or bending it over a chair; control of acute infections, sometimes with antibiotics, and liquefaction of heavy secretions by various medications. Quite frequently an underlying respiratory allergy exists which should be controlled by medication, habits of living and, if possible, change of climate.

These remarks, of course, apply only if surgery has been ruled out as a possible cure. This determination can be made by a bronchography — an X-ray procedure which outlines the extent of the widening of the air passages. If the X-ray shows that the disease process is localized, surgical removal of the affected areas will give freedom of productive cough and recurrent infections.

Question: — My husband and I have been plagued with dandruff for many years, and would appreciate a discussion of this condition. C. E.

Answer: — Dandruff, medically known as seborrheic dermatitis, is a chronic, mildly infectious, scaling condition of the scalp, from which point it may spread to other parts of the body. It is usually found in individuals that have an oily skin.

Although the cause of it is not known, it is believed to be influenced by the endocrine glands, a low basal metabolism rate, a diet deficient in vitamins (particularly Vitamin B complex), and an excess of sweets, fats, alcoholic beverages and a chocolate in the diet. Fatigue and emotional instability also seem to be contributing factors.

Local treatment of dandruff consists of frequent shampooing with a sulphur or tar soap. Sometimes it is necessary to use a disinfectant antiparasitic lotion. For severely infected scalps, a lotion or ointment containing an antibiotic may have to be used. Address your questions to the Medical Editor, Torrance Press. As space allows your questions will be answered. — Ed. Note

Street Crossway Work Approved, Says Sup. Hahn

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn announced this week that the Board of Supervisors has approved plans for the complete reconstruction of the intersection of Manhattan Beach and Crenshaw boulevards to eliminate two dips that are major hazards and to provide adequate underground drainage.

Your Legislator at Work

ASSEMBLYMAN VINCENT THOMAS
68th District
California State Legislature

A hardy perennial around our legislative halls is the tough question of whether top authority in our state public school agency should be elected or appointed. The problem has been tossed around like a basketball for many years, and more than once the voters have refused to change the office of superintendent of public instruction from elective to appointive, the last time only two years ago. Now the Assembly interim education committee is reviewing various phases of the matter again, so it looks as though we may be confronted by it again, in 1961 if not before.

Perhaps a large part of the difficulty has been due to the fact that our policy has been somewhat mixed. On the one hand, the state Constitution provides for an elected superintendent. On the other, our statutes establish the state board of education, its members being appointed by the Governor with consent of the Senate. This dual system of selection has resulted in considerable confusion as to areas of responsibility for superintendent and board, with the latter ordinarily believed coming out second best.

State Boards Appointed
The 1958 ballot proposal, which would have made the superintendent appointive by the board of education, was defeated by a substantial margin. Two bills introduced in our 1959 session would have made the board elective on a district basis, though the method of districting in the two differed. Both bills were referred to the committee for study.

The committee was given considerable factual information at its recent meeting. It was told that state boards of education are appointed by the Governor in thirty states. They are elected in eight, and selected by various other means in six. State superintendents are elected in 25 jurisdictions. In 19, they are appointed by the boards of education. On this point, the significant comment was made that

in 1945, boards appointed the superintendents in only eight states. Only in four instances are they now appointed by governors.

Variety in Posting
Witnesses who testified before the committee had, of course, a wide variety of opinions as to which are the best methods for California of selecting a board of education and a superintendent of public instruction. Spokesmen for organized teachers, local school boards, local school administrators, and parent-teacher groups appeared. Present and former members of the state board of education, and the superintendent himself presented their viewpoints. Written testimony was submitted by organized labor.

With respect to the method of selecting the superintendent of public instruction, the principal arguments advanced in favor of his election by the voters centered around the contention that the issue was settled by the 1958 election when the people indicated their preference for the century old California tradition of electing him. It was also asserted that election would insulate him from the "vested interests" and would keep him more responsive to the wishes of the public.

Voters Prefer Election
Major points which favor appointment of the superintendent related to his duties, which are primarily those of an administrative officer, carrying out those functions assigned to his department by law in accordance with the policies laid down either by the Governor or the board of education. There was little feeling that he should be appointed by the Governor. Many felt that he should be appointed by the board, and made responsible for carrying out its policies.

It was apparent that a basic factor in any answer to the problem is the method of selecting, and the powers and duties of the board of education. The committee's further study may be on these matters.

Your State Senator Report

By Senator Richard Richards

By Senator Richard Richards
An expected surplus of \$74,000,000 in the state general fund is now in view by the end of the present fiscal year on June 30. By the same date in 1961, the amount may come to as much as \$134,000,000, according to State Legislative Analyst A. Alan Post.

At the same time, the administration has made it known that it does not regard this money as a true surplus, but rather as a source of funds to "handle urgent building and other capital outlay needs deferred during recent years of fiscal crisis."

Building Costs Primary
These facts were brought out when members of the Senate inquired whether consideration of state building needs had been included in the estimate of a \$134,000,000 surplus by June 30 of 1961.

The Legislative Analyst replied that they had not, and strongly recommended that the Legislature use this carryover for capital outlay purposes as might be required.

During the past 10 years the state has been spending approximately \$90,000,000 each year for capital outlay. An appraisal of prospective requirements for state colleges and the university, as well as other state functions, indicates the need for some \$100,000,000 to \$150,000,000 each

year in capital outlay.

Growing Finance Needs
A possible addition of some \$20,000,000 would be required if recommendations for salary increases by the State Personnel Board are accepted by the Legislature.

In view of these normally recurring capital outlay requirements, the Legislative Analyst believes that it would represent sound fiscal policy to meet them out of current revenue rather than by bond issue financing.

All this, of course, will be thoroughly thrashed out in the

Letters

(Note: Letters are welcomed. However, editorial policy requires that all communications be signed. Names are withheld on request.)

QUESTIONS SCHOOLS

To the Editor:

Every man wants his children to "have it better than he did." He wants them to enjoy the fruits of his labor. Most commonly this desire comes to fruition in terms of an education. The adult, tax paying, interested citizenry of this city of 100,000 population must take a critical look at the education that is planned for the 25,000 youth who attend public schools in the All-America City of Torrance.

Basically, the question may be argued on one point — Are we willing to settle for a little red school house?

Torrance has had a fine educational system. One of the factors which has contributed to good results has been the recognition that students are individuals and as such have varying capabilities and potentials. Teachers and administrators have recognized the import of this and with professional spirit have attempted to organize their classes and their program so that the pupils in their care may go as far as their God given abilities allow.

Teachers have also recognized that there are some practical limitations to the amount of individual attention that can be given. Now, — teachers are suddenly being asked to teach, not one grade with all its diversities, but three grades in one room. This is being done under the pretense that it "helps teachers meet individual needs."

We are asking, and so should you, "Who gains most from the perpetration of this grand hoax?" (Your children don't).

Who are the persons that use our tax dollars and our children to grind their professional axes?

How much validity can you give to the statistics that these axes have chopped up for us? (Figures don't lie, but liars make figures.)

Names available upon request.

Senate and Assembly committees which will be scrutinizing the budget during the month of February, and by the Legislature as a whole in March.

Smooth Budget Passage
By and large, no major controversy over the budget is anticipated at this time, although a general division along political lines is to be expected, and there will be plenty of disagreement over specific items of proposed expenditure.

It will be recalled that the last budget session in 1958 was deadlocked because of disagreement between northern and southern representation over proposed expenditures for water development.

Since that issue was resolved by the passage of the water development program in 1959, no such deadlock is in prospect for the coming session.

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