

Say Teachers Should Never Again Be Forced to Take Payment at Loss

Education Association Cites Depression Experience

"Teachers should never again be forced to take payment in any tender that is not acceptable to those from whom they wish to buy."

Such is the conclusion reached by the Public Relations committee of the Lake Shore division of the Illinois Education association after studying the financing of Cook county schools outside Chicago during the depression years.

Lowers Efficiency

"When a teacher is forced to give up 25 per cent for her salary through discounts because the orders with which she is paid are not properly secured she becomes discouraged and is worth scarcely more than the amount she receives," the committee claims.

"But what happens to the district which issues these orders?" the committee asks. "It has the services of a discouraged teacher but is forced to pay in full for those services plus an interest charge for the term of the teacher's order."

"And the investor? He makes an income ranging from 6 per cent to as high as 60 per cent on orders picked up from teachers who are compelled to sell."

Tax Strike Blamed

The necessity for the issuance by the township treasurers of interest bearing teachers' orders, the committee states, was brought about by a pre-depression tax strike, issuance of tax anticipation warrants to the legal limit, 40 per cent to 60 per cent drops in local assessed valuations and high delinquency in tax payments.

"Most of these orders," the committee reports, "drew interest at the rate of 6 per cent from date to the time there was money on hand to retire them. In some districts where the assessed valuation per child was high these orders were called for payment at an early date; in the less able districts many orders issued as early as 1932 have not yet been called and there is no prospect of their being called in the near future."

Influence on Market Value

"Naturally," the report points out, "the financial ability of a school district had a great deal of influence on the market value of these teachers' orders. Teachers in certain districts had no trouble in disposing of their orders at par, while others, teaching in the least able districts, were fortunate when they disposed of their orders at high discounts since the taxes had already been pledged to redeem tax anticipation warrants."

Estimate Possible Loss

Superintendents of 26 school districts told the committee that their teachers had accepted discounts ranging from 2 per cent to 58 per cent, and the committee computed that if all who were furnishing goods or services to these districts were forced to discount their tax anticipation warrants and teachers' orders, their loss would have totaled \$1,594,164 or about 15 per cent of the same districts' total educational tax levy of \$10,184,318.

"Of course," the committee cautions, "such an assumption is not being made. In the first place, schools generally did not issue teachers' orders until they had marketed tax anticipation warrants up to the legal limit of the tax levy. Furthermore, these warrants were usually sold by

the board of education for cash and at par since the law will not permit the board to sell paper of any kind at less than par. However, when credit was exhausted through the issuance of such tax warrants and the money derived from the sale of these was spent there remained but one of two things to do: (1) close the schools and wait for a new tax year, or (2) pay the teachers in teachers' orders."

Shorten School Terms

Some school terms were shortened, the committee learned, but the general policy was to pay teachers, whose salaries had in many cases already been reduced from 10 per cent to 50 per cent with some cash and the balance in orders over whose selling price there was no regulation. Thus, where outright sales were made, teachers' orders were discounted from 2 per cent to 58 per cent. Fortunately for the teachers, however, some business men exchanged the orders at par for coupon books which could be converted into cash by those willing to earn their salaries twice, once in the classroom and once as a salesman.

"There is no doubt but that the credit of the least able districts will continue to decline," the committee feels. "But properly financed by state aid grants, these districts can continue to run at least a minimum educational program without obligating assessed property beyond its ability to pay."

"Those states which have established substantial state aid programs came through the depression with curtailed school budgets but their paper, drawn as it was against anticipated state revenue, passed readily at par."

Over-Counter Sale of Licenses Begins

Over the counter sales of 1939 automobile license plates started last week at the Springfield and Chicago offices according to a statement issued recently by the automobile department under Secretary of State Edward J. Hughes.

Reassignments of numbers to their present holders on their request are now being sent out and the automobile department states that these will have been issued in entirety by the middle of next week.

In announcing the counter sales opening John J. Nash, chief clerk of the department urged public co-operation.

Early Issuance

"Our offices both at Springfield and Chicago will give every service possible. The issuance of license plates is early this year and we urge motorists to take advantage of the opportunity of getting the routine of licensing out of the way with dispatch. Those who wish counter service should get their licenses now and avoid the rush at the deadline period."

"Every assistance will be given at the Springfield and Chicago offices in advising motorists on the procedure in getting the new drivers' license."

License fees for 1939 are the same in each class as they were in 1938.

RETURNS FOR HOLIDAYS

Mary Alcott Rodger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Rodger, 780 Lincoln avenue, Winnetka, a sophomore at the University of Michigan, is expected home Friday of this week for the Christmas holidays.

NATIONAL HOLIDAY FOOD *Sale* SAVE ON FOODS THIS WEEKEND!

FLOUR

HAZEL BRAND

24½-lb. bag

5-lb. bag 17c

57c

COME AGAIN

24½-lb. bag

5-lb. bag 15c

49c

Gold Medal Flour

24½-lb. bag

73c

AMERICAN HOME QUALITY

SIFTED PEAS CORN

TOMATOES

2 No. 2 cans 23c

COME AGAIN BRAND

PEAS-CORN TOMATOES } 2 No. 2 cans 15c

Big Savings in Fine Quality Meats

PORK LOIN ROAST 15c

Rib End 3-lb. avg.

Whole or Half Pork Loin Tenderloin in 21c/lb.

LEG O' LAMB

Fancy Quality
Genuine
Spring

25c

WAYMAN BRAND PORK
Sausage MEAT 1-lb. roll 17c

BEEF POT ROAST

Best Chuck Cuts.
Blue Ribbon
Quality.

21c

HAZEL SKINLESS FRANKS or
Sm. Wieners 27c/lb.

BACON SQUARES

Cellophane
Wrapped
½ to 3-lb. avg.

15c

FANCY QUALITY LONGHORN
Cheese . . . 19c/lb.

Milk National 4 14½-oz. cans 22c

Evaporated

AMERICAN HOME
Tomato Juice
324-oz. cans 25c

PEACHES

16-oz. can 10c

PINEAPPLE

Dole Sliced 15-oz. can 10c

LIMA BEANS

B & M Brand 20-oz. can 10c

COFFEE NATIONAL DELUXE

1-lb. jar or can 25c

Bacon Sliced in Cellophane 2 ½-lb. pkgs. 27c

Prunes Sunsweet Large Size 16-oz. pkg. 9c

Domino Granulated Sugar 5-lb. bag 24c

Sugar Domino XXXX Conf. or 1-lb. Old Fashioned Brown pkg. 7c

Soap American Family 10 bars 47c

Bacon Hazel Fine Quality Sliced in Cellophane ½-lb. pkg. 17c

Cranberry SAUCE 17-oz. can 10c

Season's Finest Values

MARSH SEEDLESS

Grapefruit . . . 8 80-96 size 23c

FANCY IDAHO RUSSET OR COLORADO McCLURE

Potatoes . . . 10 lbs. 23c

Oranges Fancy dozen 19c dozen large size 25c 2 doz. juice size 27c

Apples Fancy New York Greenings . . . 5 lbs. 23c

Sweet Potatoes Tennessee Yams . . . 10 lbs. 25c

SALERNO
ASSORTED COOKIES
1b. bulk 15c

SALERNO
SALTINE CRACKERS
12-oz. pkg. 12c

DEL MAIZ
NIBLETS
12-oz. can 10c

NATIONAL TEA CO. Food Stores