

Must Find Way to Get Additional Revenue for Schools

Robert C. Moore, executive secretary, and B. F. Shafer, chairman of the legislative committee, of the Illinois Educational association, today answered, in an open letter, the objections offered by S. L. Nudelman, director of finance, to the proposed plan of increased state support of the public schools.

Illinois is a wealthy state and is not supporting its schools in proportion to its ability is the association's statement in reply to Nudelman's contention that Illinois' expenditure per pupil is higher than the national average. They add Illinois' wealth per pupil is 34 per cent higher than the national average. The fact that some districts in Illinois cannot maintain standards equal to those maintained in the poorest states of the south is a reason why the wealthy state of Illinois should provide a state school fund large enough to assure a minimum educational opportunity for all the children is the association's contention.

It is true that the state of Illinois can boast of low state taxes and a balance in its treasury, but this has been achieved by shorting

unbalanced, bonded debt exceeds the constitutional limit, judgments stand against the boards, teachers are unpaid, school term has been cut, classes crowded, and equipment depleted. As long as 90 per cent of the school support comes from the local district property tax, this condition will continue.

Moore and Shafer deny that Illinois has greatly increased its state aid to the public schools. A small increase is helping the elementary schools some, but the high school and non-high school districts not at all. The increase of 30 per cent in the state school annual appropriation in the last six years cannot be called large as compared with the average increase of 78 per cent for all states. Illinois now ranks 36th in the amount of state support per pupil. This amount is less than one-half the average for all states.

They further state that no mandatory reduction of local school taxes is desirable until state support is larger than that proposed by pending legislation. Some districts will need all the money they can get from their present rates, plus all they will get from the state. Districts that can afford it will reduce their local rates, as is evidenced by the number of districts now levying less than the maximum.

In reply to Nudelman's objection

until the school system is reorganized, Moore and Shafer point out that the states used by the director of finance as examples of states having good organization, namely, California, Michigan, Ohio, New York, and Pennsylvania, are states with large grants for education. State support has been used to encourage reorganization in these states.

In regard to new revenue, they say: We have observed that when the General Assembly and the State Administration desire additional revenue they find some way to supply it. Evidence of this fact is the motor license fees, now amounting to over \$18,000,000 a year; the gasoline tax, over \$35,000,000 a year; liquor tax, \$11,000,000 a year; and the occupational and utility tax, over \$70,000,000 a year,—all comparatively new taxes. Adequate revenue should be provided to enable the state to meet its obligations to the schools, to state institutions, and to carry on all other really necessary functions of the state. We believe that state revenues should be raised according to scientific principles and in proportion to ability to pay. The Department of Finance is itself quoted, showing that state taxes in Illinois are low as compared with other states.

The letter concludes: The Constitution places upon the state the responsibility for providing a thorough and efficient system of free schools for all the children. Therefore, the state has the same obligation to the schools as to any other state institution or activity. We shall not have a thorough and efficient system until the state assumes its responsibility and meets its obligations to the school.

Hopkins, Bannockburn; 2nd, Irene Ely, Deerfield; 3rd Nancy Torbet, Bannockburn.

Prizes will go to:
First class—(4th, 5th, and 6th grades).
Medals—Dorothy Jacobson, Deerfield; Mary Bailey, Deerfield.
Honorable mention—1st, Jean Anne Siljestrom, Wilmot; 2nd, Betty Hagblom, Wilmot; 3rd, Katherine Kerrihard, Deerfield.
Second class (7th and 8th).
Medal—Kay Seese, Bannockburn.

Deerfield Awards Medals for Posters

Medal and honorable mention awards for prize winning poppy posters will be made on Monday at the Memorial Day services at the Deerfield Grammar school, an annual event sponsored by the Deerfield Post and its Auxiliary of the American Legion for children in the upper grades of the Bannockburn, Deerfield and Wilmot schools. Medal winning posters are entered each year in the district and state contests, also. The district contest was held on May 10 and Dorothy Jacobson's poster won second place for the Tenth district. Judges of the posters for the local awards were: Mrs. C. J. Davis, Mrs. C. C. Kapschull, and Mrs. W. A. Tennermann.

John P. Denison Dies Enroute to Brown County, Ind.

John Porter Denison of 203 S. Green Bay road died suddenly Saturday morning, May 22 at Hotel Claypool, Indianapolis. Mr. and Mrs. Denison were en route for a week-end in Brown county, Indiana.

Mr. Denison was born in New Bedford, Mass. Son of John H. and Louise Porter Denison and a direct descendant of Gov. Bradford of Massachusetts Bay Colony. A graduate of Harvard, Class 1889. He was associated with the State Mutual Life Assurance, No. 1 La Salle street.

He is survived by his wife Marie Josephine Denison of New York City and three sisters, Mrs. Chas. Pratt and Mrs. Arthur Lucker of New Bedford, Mass., and Mrs. Smith Dexter of Cambridge, Mass.

Services were held Monday at 3 p.m. at Trinity church, Highland Park and interment at Maple Grove, Long Island, New York.

Mrs. Bates Appoints Committees for Deerfield Club

Mrs. Carl Bates, president-elect of the Deerfield Woman's club, has announced the standing committees for the 1937-38 season beginning in October.

Mrs. Walter Metcalf is chairman

of the program committee. Department heads are: Mrs. C. E. Piper, art and literature; Mrs. Carl E. Frick, garden; Mrs. C. W. Boyle, home and education; Mrs. Lewis Ashman, social service.

Mrs. Monroe McKillip is membership chairman. Mrs. F. C. Ritter is in charge of the club hospitality. Mrs. Robert E. Jordan is chairman of press and publicity.

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Deerfield Police Chiefs Car Taken

Sheriff's deputies and police on Monday were searching for the automobile owned by Chief of Police Percy McLaughlin of Deerfield, which disappeared from its parking space early Sunday morning. Chief McLaughlin had parked his car about 1:30 a.m. Sunday, and when he came to the parking space ten minutes later it was gone. The car, a dark maroon sedan, had a Deerfield village vehicle sticker on the windshield but did not have a state license plate.

Worthy Grand Matron Visits Eastern Star

Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star of Illinois, made her official visit to Campbell Chapter on Wednesday evening May 19, 1937. A 6 o'clock dinner was served and the regular meeting convened at 8 o'clock.

Two candidates, Mrs. Gladys Mae Hawley and Mrs. Frances Maschner, were admitted to membership. The officers performed their initiatory work very commendably. After welcoming the new members, the chapter was appropriately addressed by the lovely and gracious Bertha M. Eagle. Her enjoyable message was followed by other speeches from the East.

Each member of the Eastern Star who attended the meeting will long remember it as one of the finest and most impressive affairs of the entire year.

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Announce Lecture on Christian Science

First Church of Christ, Scientist of Highland Park, announces a free lecture on Christian Science by William Wallace Porter, C. S. B. of New York, member of the Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts on Friday evening, May 28 at 8 o'clock. The lecture will be held in the Elm Place School auditorium to which the public is invited.

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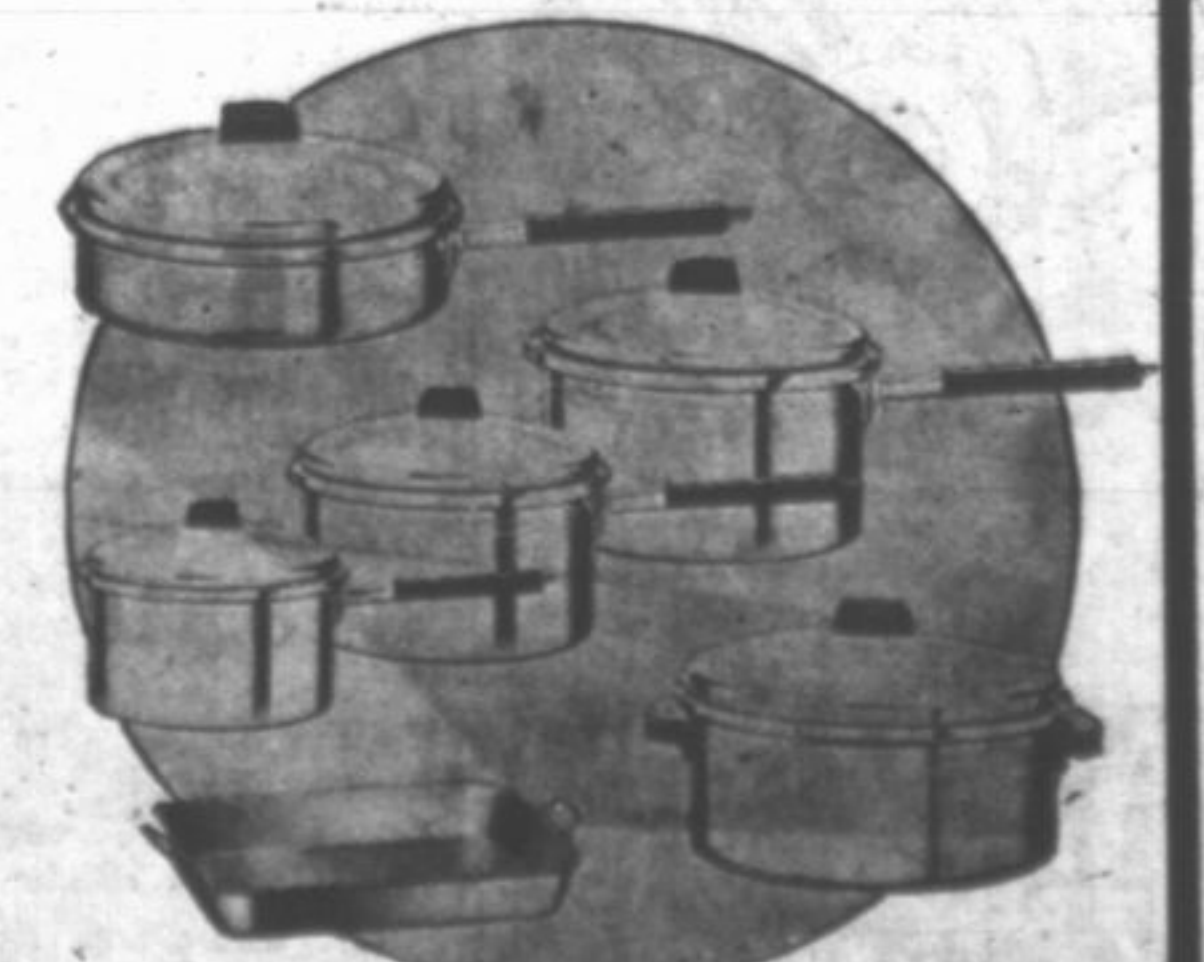
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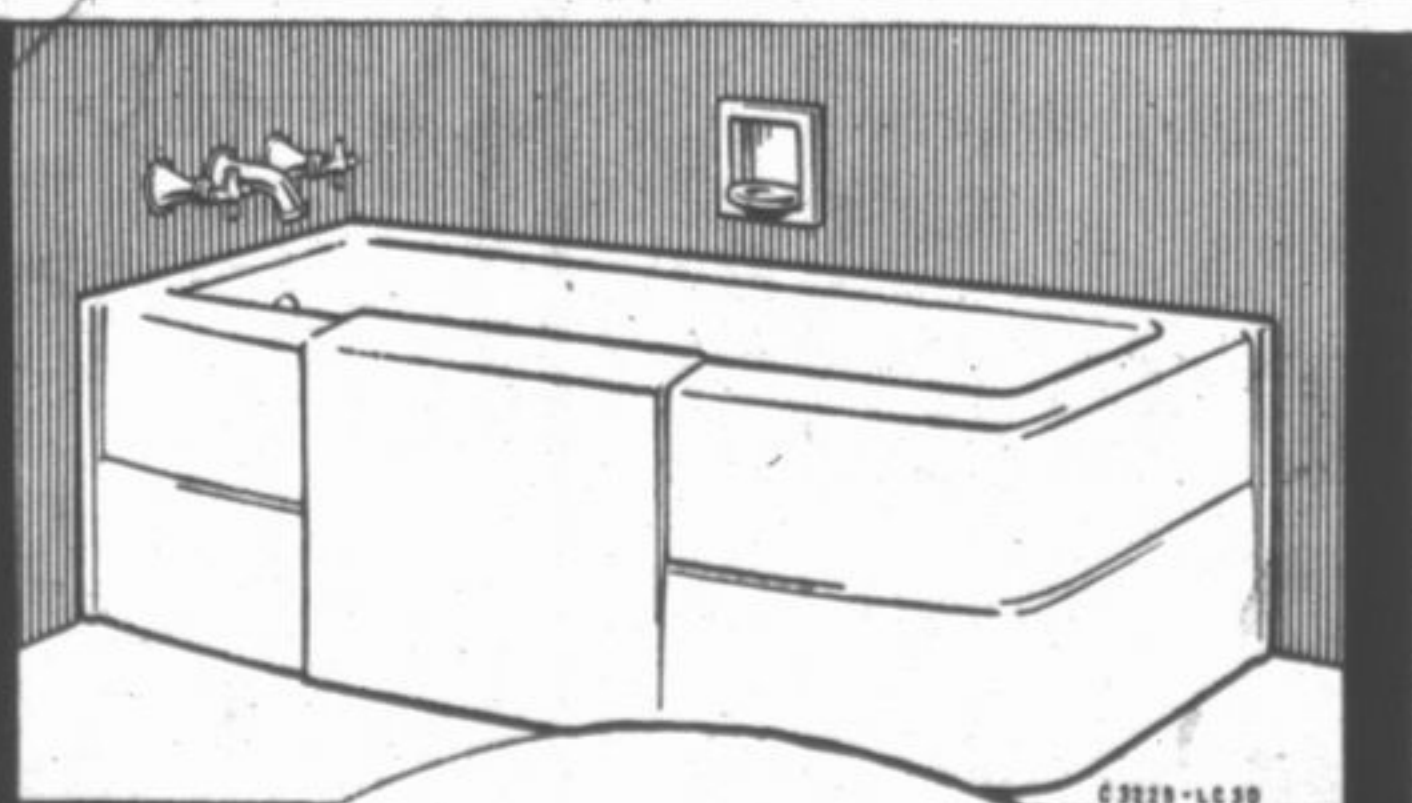
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