

PATRONS REQUEST SCHOOL BOARD TO ADOPT CODE

(Continued from Page 1)

or have the opportunities of obtaining an education. Such a right would be a monstrous thing.

Article 10 of the Constitution declares that the State shall provide a general and efficient system of free public schools. This is the vital article with regard to school legislation and nothing is said of the necessity of a two-thirds vote. When this is not specified, according to parliamentary usage, a majority vote is sufficient. When objections have been raised, he said, the special districts look at Article 9 which deals with corporations instead of Article 10 which gives to the General Assembly the right to pass laws establishing an efficient school system. To prove that special districts are not "corporations" but have semi-corporate powers, he referred to the passage of the compulsory school law and other laws binding upon special districts whose constitutionality were not questioned as requiring a two-thirds vote. Counties have semi-corporate powers, can sell land, sue, have their own seal and other things which corporations may do, but no one has questioned the constitutionality of the Code as applied to the rural schools. Likewise, no one questioned the constitutionality of the General Laws passed by the General Assembly in 1898 because they did not receive a two-thirds vote.

Mr. Hoffecker asked if the Code repealed all previous laws relating to running the schools. Receiving an affirmative reply he questioned the status of a district which did not accept the Code. Mr. Ridgely gave it as his opinion that the present officers would continue de facto until an adjustment could be made and would likely operate under the provisions of their special act.

He could not see, he said, why a district should elect to stay out. The Code is an honest endeavor to better conditions that everyone admits are bad and is worth a trial. Since a special district will have under the Code all the powers it has under the present system, and since the status of the district not electing to accept the Code depends entirely on what the State Board will do in the matter, since it will probably mean the loss of the best and most progressive teachers, he could not see why there should be any question of accepting. Civic pride and civic duty require betterment of the old system and staying outside is not a high position to take in this day of big things.

WHY NOT PUT UP TO COURTS

Replying to a question as to why the Governor would not put the matter up to the courts for a decision, Mr. Ridgely said he personally didn't know why he should desire to. If he had not believed in its constitutionality, he would not have signed it, and every lawyer with whom Mr. Ridgely had talked had been convinced that there is no question of its constitutionality.

WHY SPECIAL DISTRICTS HAVE DECISION

To Mr. Hoffecker's question why the special districts were given a decision, Mr. Ridgely replied that there was an objection to passing it otherwise partly because of the misunderstanding with regard to the "corporate" powers and partly because of the unusual powers which the special districts have hitherto enjoyed under special acts.

Reference to the special act for this district developed the fact that this was granted in 1893, whereas the general law of 1898 repealed all previous laws and Newark has not been operating under the special act since that time as Mr. Ridgely proved by having read the article relative to receiving dividends.

Concerning the receiving of dividends if the Code is not accepted, he said that was a matter for the State Board to decide.

REVENUE UNDER CODE

To a question from Dr. Rowan regarding the personnel of the new Board if the Code were accepted, he explained that the law specifically requires that three be chosen from the present Board.

Regarding taxes, the amazing fact developed that there is no limit to the amount that can be assessed under the special act but under the Code there is a limit of 1 1/2 per cent of the assessed valuation. The State dividend is based on enrollment below the High School and \$2400 is given all High Schools of the first grade.

SOME DISADVANTAGES OF NON-ACCEPTANCE

In the event of non-acceptance of the Code the diploma issued will be of less value than one issued

under the authority of the State, as a matter of course; and the stand taken in refusing to enter into the spirit of progress manifested by the attempt to better admittedly bad school conditions is not an enviable one.

NOT PART OF COUNTY SYSTEM

To a question regarding reversion of the district to county control in the event of non-acceptance Mr. Ridgely replied that the district will not be a part of the county system under county supervision. To a question as to what position the district occupies in that case, he said he did not know; that the whole plan was constructed on the assumption that it would be accepted, otherwise the Newark schools would be in what he termed "the twilight zone."

CODE GROWS IN POPULARITY

County Superintendent Wilbur H. Jump expressed his gratification that the Code is growing in popularity. In Kent County 100 per cent of the special districts have accepted and all incorporated districts with the exception of Felton whose civic pride balks at the idea of giving up her high school grades.

The acceptance by Georgetown on Thursday by a 6-3 vote made Sussex 100 per cent with regard to special districts.

In New Castle County all had accepted but two—Newark and Wilmington. He cleared up several points with regard to certification of teachers, giving assurance that no teacher now filling a position creditably has been legislated out of office, and that nothing had been done to discredit anyone who has served the State faithfully in the past.

FINANCES DISCUSSED

The matter of taxation and finances were gone into thoroughly. He showed how in the past the district had lost money by educating children from outside districts at 20c a day and how under the Code the actual cost of educating these children would be paid to the district. The increase in the number admitted and the consequent increase in revenue to the district, the new basis of attendance as a determining factor in the amount of State appropriation received were discussed. A tentative budget for next year based on figures furnished by Harvey Hoffecker, secretary to the Board of Education, was put upon a blackboard. It showed an approximate income of \$33,517 and an approximate expenditure of \$29,126 leaving about \$4,391 to be applied to the school indebtedness.

The fact was brought out that the School Board has this year paid \$3000 on the debt.

Before adjournment a motion was made and carried unanimously, requesting the Board of Education to adopt the Code.

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION EXPLAINS CODE

Meets With Board at Their Request Friday Evening

At the invitation of the local School Board, Arthur R. Spaid, State Commissioner of Education met with them on Friday evening to explain the provisions of the School Code.

He outlined briefly the steps in the formation of a State system of education and stated the purpose of the Code in providing equality of opportunity for every child from the kindergarten through college, with the kind of training that will best fit him to take his place in the world. To illustrate, he stated that 93 per cent of the girls enrolled in any school, subsequently married. Homemaking is therefore logically a vitally necessary subject in the school curriculum for every girl.

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He reviewed the revelations regarding illiteracy set forth by the draft boards of the country and the awakening that has resulted in a decided impetus to educational projects as evidenced by the Tower Bill now in Congress appropriating 100 millions to drive out illiteracy and by the action of Delaware's legislature in appropriating \$15,000 for its Americanization program. The necessity for cooperation revealed in an illuminating way as a result of war activities made it evident that no locality can be a law unto itself. Particularly is this true with regard to education, for the moral and material welfare of the State depends so vitally on this. Even the large cities are being brought to see that their school systems hitherto considered a unit, must be considered a part of the state system as in the case of New York which recently refused to grant a salary increase provided by the state law. The city was informed in no uncertain terms that her schools were part of the state system and that the state law was applicable to her.

He assured the Board that there was no intention on the part of the State Board to penalize any district which elected to stay out for by so doing the children would be the ones who would suffer and certainly there is no disposition to punish them.

With regard to the status of a district electing to stay out, Dr. Spaid said he would rather present a fair view of the reasons why Newark should adopt the Code and ask for cooperation in the establishment of an efficient State system. Since all of the districts with the exception of Newark and Wilmington have accepted and since a State system will eventually come, he urged adoption now in order that the district might have the distinction of coming in to work with the rest of the State. This is the day of big things and staying out does not place a community in an enviable position.

PRESENT BUILDINGS NOT TO BE CONDEMNED

He could not see, he said, how the district could possibly lose by adoption. In fact actual figures show that there would be a decided

gain. The fear that the present buildings would be condemned immediately is entirely unfounded. Most of the districts have been for years facing the necessity of building, Newark among the number as the local Board unanimously agreed. The State Board will not enforce any harsh measures or expect the impossible. The Code does, however, make a wise provision giving them supervision over buildings to be put up in the future.

He told of the plans already submitted by New Castle and Dover for making temporary arrangements until needed buildings can be provided. Numerous plans for building and for consolidation were enumerated which he said would never have been considered under the old system.

He urged a fair trial of the system for a year and expressed the hope that Newark would move up with the other districts and take its place in the line of progress.

The possibility of consolidation of districts in the vicinity of Cooch was considered in its probable bearing on the local situation—the possibility of attracting pupils from outside districts thus cutting of the revenue which under the Code covers the actual cost of educating each pupil as fixed by the district; and the probable loss of revenue now received from the College for equipment and for expert teachers to supervise teacher training.

Questions were asked freely by the Board with regard to condemnation of buildings, certification of teachers and taxes. A cent was Dr. Spaid's estimate of the difference the Code would make one way or the other and he proved conclusively by comparison with Pennsylvania rates that the talk of high taxes at present is all "bosh." He compared the actual cost of an education with the amount paid by the parent and proved by actual figures that taxes paid all one's life would hardly pay the interest on the investment, to say nothing of the principal.

As to misapprehension concerning teachers' certificates he assured the Board that a teacher now giving satisfactory service need have no fear of being turned out for a

Normal School or College graduate. Teachers now holding positions in the State may retain those positions—nobody is legislated out of a job.

The value of a State diploma and the assured credit for the sale of bonds in the event of building if the district accepts the Code were also dwelt upon and assurance given that the part of the Board just now is to stir up sentiment in favor of a new building. He paid an eloquent tribute to the members of the State Board whose chief aim for the State is that of service.

DECIDE ON REFERENDUM

At the close of the conference, Dr. Spaid expressed a desire to know the Board's decision before leaving town and recounted his experience at Lewes which accepted the Code unanimously after such a meeting.

He withdrew from the room and after some discussion the School Board informed him that they had decided to put the matter up to the people and let a referendum vote decide acceptance or rejection.

NOTICE

On account of the scarcity of ice and the consequent increase in the wholesale price, I shall be obliged to charge 85c per hundred beginning next Monday.

RECEIVER'S SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

On Saturday, July 12, 1919 at 2 o'clock P. M. at the office of **Jacob Thomas Company** on Main Street, Newark, Delaware, the following described personal property belonging to said Company, to wit: Office equipment, consisting of two typewriters, adding machine, check writer, five desks, safe, letter scale, water cooler, chairs, cabinet, etc., about 600 print rollers, uncollected book accounts, etc. **EDWARD W. COOCH,** Receiver of Jacob Thomas Co. Terms Cash.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court will be exposed to sale at Public Auction or Vendue, **ON TUESDAY, JULY 15, 1919** At 9 o'clock, A. M.,

at the Washington House, in the Town of Newark, Delaware, the following described Real Estate, late of John C. Rupp, deceased, to-wit:

ALL that certain piece, parcel or lot of land situate in White Clay Creek Hundred aforesaid, bounded and described as follows, to wit:

On the Public Road leading from Newark to Cooch's Bridge, adjoining land of William Rupp, having a front on said road of 252 feet and running back to the Pennsylvania and Delaware Railroad.

For Terms of Sale and full description, see large bills posted or consult the undersigned:

CHARLES B. EVANS, Trustee. Attendance will be given by Attest:—**Norman P. Crouch, Clerk** Orphans' Court, Wilmington, Delaware, June 25th, 1919.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE is hereby given that the shares of interest of Florence Clark, Mary R. Pierce, Ella Homewood, Louisa M. Homewood, Annie R. Tasker, Elizabeth Richardson, Jacob R. Rupp and John C. Rupp, Jr., in the above described premises will be sold as above set forth, and all persons having or claiming any lien or encumbrance against or affecting the shares or interests of either or all of said parties in said lands and premises are hereby notified to appear and file in the office of the Clerk of the Orphans' Court in and for New Castle County, on or after Wednesday, July 23d, 1919, a petition setting forth and making proof of said lien or encumbrance and the amount due thereon. **CHARLES B. EVANS, Trustee.**

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Want Advertisements

For Sale, For Rent, Lost and Found

FOR SALE—A Mystic Sunshine hot water back range. 7-2-tf. **MRS. JOHN A. CLARK.** 7-2-2t **WILMER E. RENSHAW.**

FOR SALE—A high and dry building lot on Cleveland Ave., Newark, Del., size 50x167 feet. Sewer paid for. Price low and terms easy. 6-25-4t. **GEO. W. GRIFFIN.**

WANTED—Family spending summer on farm near Newark, Del., wants reliable cook. Good reference required. Apply to **MRS. J. EDGAR RHODES,** 2211 Shallcross Avenue, Wilmington, Del. 7-2-2t

FOR RENT—Satisfactory settled married couple, without children, can have use of part of my residence on Main St., Newark, for the summer, in return for slight service as care takers, etc. Apply by letter. Will make appointment for interview. 7-2-1t **ALBERT L. TEELE,** Newark, Del.

FOR SALE—Sparklers for the Fourth of July celebration on sale at **NEWARK INN AND RESTAURANT** 7-2-1t

FOR SALE—Dort Touring Car. Run 4000 miles. Good rubber. Will demonstrate. Apply at this Office. 6-25-tf.

FOUND—In the New Century Club, Sterling silver bouillon spoon and lady's gold brooch. Owner may have same by identifying property. **ELSIE WRIGHT,** Rental Committee.

WANTED—Six young lady stenographers. Apply in own handwriting to **THE CONTINENTAL FIBRE COMPANY**

FOR SALE—Tomato planter. Inquire 5-4-tf. **J. JEX.**

NOTICE—Gunning, Trapping, Hunting, Trespassing on a my farms positively forbidden. **JOHN J. CHAMBERS.** 10-23-1yr.-pd.

NEWARK TRUST AND SAFE DEPOSIT COMPANY NEWARK, DELAWARE

STATEMENT

JUNE 30, 1919

RESOURCES

Loans and Investments . . .	\$663,458.81
Cash and Due from Banks . . .	85,638.92
Furniture and Fixtures . . .	12,840.53
Real Estate	16,679.14
	\$778,617.40

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Undivided Profits	62,206.53
Deposits	662,410.87
Dividends due Stockholders	4,000.00
	\$778,617.40