



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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Draft Bill No. 1

An Act to Appropriate Money for Aids to High, Graded and Semi-graded,
and Rural Schools

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. There is hereby appropriated from any moneys in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated \$11,400,000 available for the year ending June 30, 1936, and \$11,400,000 available for the year ending June 30, 1937, to be distributed among all of the school districts of this state on the basis of the aggregate number of days of pupil attendance during the school year of such districts ending on or before June 30, 1935 and 1936, respectively, except that no school district shall be entitled to receive its proportion of said appropriation unless its levy for school maintenance, including the ^{county} ~~one~~-mill tax, is five mills or more. The appropriations hereby made shall not be in lieu of, but shall be used to supplement, all amounts appropriated for school aid under any other law or distributable to such districts by, or from any funds of, the state.

Section 2. The amount that any school district may raise by levies on general property for school maintenance and operation for its school years ending during 1936 and 1937 shall not exceed the amount levied by it thereon for its school year ending during 1931, less the amount received by it from the appropriations made by Section 1 available for the years ending June 30, 1936, and June 30, 1937. In computing these levies on general property the levying authorities may assume a delinquency rate not in excess of that experienced in the district with respect to levies for 1934 payable during 1935.

Section 3. The unconstitutionality of any provision of this act, or of its application to particular cases within its terms, shall not affect the legal force of the remainder of said act or of its application to other cases within its terms.

FILE COPY

Carry The Children Through The Depression!

Work for the Passage of
H. F. 382

This pamphlet is prepared and distributed by the Citizens' Committee on Public School Finance, a lay group interested in the preservation of educational opportunity for the children of Minnesota. The drawings were made by Miss Auril Blunt, a student in a public high school.

For additional copies of this pamphlet, write to Mrs. H. K. Painter, Secretary, 4817 Fremont Avenue South, Minneapolis.

WHO IS BACK OF H. F. 382



Mr. and Mrs. John Citizen, representing the 562,518 school children in Minnesota.

In January, 1934, some parents first met in an attempt to protect the schools from undue economy. They had no axe to grind.

They believed that education is important in a democracy. They believed in economical, efficient operation of schools. They believed that the children should not pay the cost of the depression.

Representatives of many organizations served on the committee. They consulted with educators, with educational organizations and institutions, with experts in the field of government and taxation. They worked out a plan to care for the needs of all children throughout the state to **keep Minnesota where she has always been, among the progressive states in the support of education.**

The following organizations with legislative programs are supporting H. F. 382:

- American Association of University Women
- Citizens' Committee on Public School Finance
- Junior Taxpayers' Association
- Minneapolis Council of Parent-Teacher Associations
- Minnesota Department—American Legion
- Minnesota Department—American Legion Auxiliary
- Minnesota Education Association
- Minnesota Federation of Labor
- Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs
- Minnesota League of Women Voters
- Phi Delta Kappa
- Public School Protective League

WHY WE NEED H. F. 382

You can't stretch a dollar forever. The number of high school pupils has increased 50 per cent. Revenue for schools has decreased 26 per cent. **It will decrease more in 1935 and 1936, unless the legislature acts.**



Why? For almost 80 per cent of their revenue, schools depend upon a local tax (property and real estate). Reduced valuations, tax exemptions, delinquency, and tax limitations have cut funds. They will cut them more next year.

Further cuts mean lack of educational opportunity for children. Something must be done to replace the revenue that used to come from the property tax. Receipts from the present income tax (almost \$2,000,000) go first to debt. They are not enough to solve the problem. Property must be relieved of its undue burden.

This bill, H. F. 382, shifts part of the burden of costs of schools from the local community, which depends on the property tax, to the state, which has other sources of revenue.

The bill will give real relief to property, because it will take from property one-third of the school load it carried in 1931. It will help local communities by reducing their share of school costs from 80 per cent to 50 per cent.

H. F. 382 will help Minnesota live up to its State Constitution, which says, "The stability of a republican form of government depending mainly upon the intelligence of the people, . . . the legislature shall make such provisions, by taxation or otherwise, as . . . will secure a thorough and efficient system of public schools in each township in the State."

H. F. 382 IN A NUTSHELL



The bill, H. F. 382, asks for \$11,400,000 additional state aid. This is an average increase of 12 cents a day per child.

The money is to be distributed to local districts on the basis of aggregate number of days attended.

It does not interfere with existing state aid.

It does not increase the amount of money spent for schools; it merely shifts the burden.

It means that the state would contribute about half of the costs of schools, instead of one-fifth as at present.

It is distributed only to districts which tax themselves at least five mills.

It goes to districts only if they keep their total expenditures for schools down to the 1931 level.

It provides that if, with this aid, school budgets exceed that of 1931, refunds or credits will be given to the local property taxpayer.

It is for a two-year period during which receipts from the present property tax and present income tax will not be enough to keep the schools operating on a satisfactory standard.

WHERE CAN THE MONEY COME FROM

Schools have been out on the property tax limb; now the limb is being cut off.

Minnesota is not bankrupt. It has wealth enough to keep its schools and government operating. One form of wealth, the real estate and property tax, has been carrying most of the load,—that's the trouble.

The burden of taxation must be more equally distributed.

West Virginia voted tax limitation. Until they voted new taxes, government was at a standstill. The school system was wrecked, local governments closed down, giving no police protection, no fire protection, even releasing prisoners from jail.

Ohio, having limited property revenue, couldn't agree on new taxes. Communities borrowed money for current expenses. Taxpayers in Cleveland had to vote deficiency bond issues. In 1949, Ohio taxpayers will still be paying for the operating expenses of 1934. Only 6 per cent of the schools opened with enough money for a year's work.

If property is to have real relief, new taxes must be voted, not only for schools but for the existence of government. We ask merely that from **whatever** sources the state decides to get its revenue, it meet the needs of the children.

Fifty per cent support from the local property tax PLUS 50 per cent support from the state, tapping other sources, EQUALS an equitable distribution of the tax load.

New York, West Virginia, California, and North Carolina, among other states, carry a large share of school costs without depending upon the property tax. Minnesota can do it, too!



WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP



Legislators are interested in knowing what **their constituents** want. See to it that the legislators hear from their own constituents in support of this bill, H. F. 382. **Numbers count.**

Write yourself to the two representatives and the senator from your district. Ask them to support H. F. 382. Ask them to agree on replacement taxes, so that property may have **real relief**, and good schools can be provided.

Get as many of your friends as possible to write to their legislators.

Start to get a representative group in your community organized to support the bill, unless that has already been done. Some communities have already started work. Find out from your local school principal or from the representatives of the organizations listed as supporting the bill whether there is such an organization in your community.

If there is no work being done for the bill in your community, report to the secretary of the Citizens' Committee, Mrs. H. K. Painter, 4817 Fremont Avenue South, Minneapolis.

The help of **many people** must be secured if this bill is to be passed.

The children cannot act to protect themselves. They must depend on you to act for them.

Remember that it is a forward step for Minnesota. It will protect the children. It will protect the taxpayer.

H. F. 382

An Act to appropriate Money for Aids to High, Graded and Semi-graded, and Rural Schools

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. There is hereby appropriated from any moneys in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated \$11,400,000 available for the school year ending during 1936, and \$11,400,000 available for the school year ending during 1937, to be distributed among all of the school districts of this state for school maintenance purposes only on the basis of the aggregate number of days of pupil attendance during the school year of such districts ending on or before June 30, 1935 and 1936, respectively, except that no school district shall be entitled to receive its proportion of said appropriation unless its levy for school maintenance, including the county one-mill tax, is five mills or more. The appropriations hereby made shall not be in lieu of, but shall be used to supplement, all amounts appropriated for school aid under any other law or distributable to such districts by, or from any funds of, the state.

*Section 2 (a). No school district shall receive any amounts from the sums appropriated by Section 1 unless it shall comply with the following conditions:

(1) It shall not levy on general property for school maintenance and operations for its school years ending during 1936 and 1937 any amount in excess of that levied thereon for said purposes for its school year ending during 1931. In computing said levies the levying authorities may assume a delinquency rate not in excess of that experienced in the district with respect to levies for 1934 payable during 1935; and

*(2) It shall refund to any taxpayer who shall have paid the taxes which included said levies, if payment was made prior to the time when such taxes became delinquent, an amount of such taxes equal to each such taxpayer's pro rata share of the amounts received by said district from the sums appropriated by Section 1; or, in the alternative, shall credit such amount against any sum due from the taxpayer on account of the taxes that included such levies, if payment thereof is tendered by such taxpayer prior to the time when such taxes become delinquent.

*(b) The sums appropriated by Section 1 shall be distributed to the several districts upon proof of their compliance with the first condition referred to in subdivision (a) of this Section. If any district shall fail to conform to the second condition therein specified,

and remain in default for three months after it shall have received the final distribution from the appropriations made by Section 1 for each year for which it is available thereunder, then such district shall not receive any sums available to it for school purposes under any statute of this State as long as said default shall continue.

Section 3. The unconstitutionality of any provision of this act, or of its application to particular cases within its terms, shall not affect the legal force of the remainder of said act or of its application to other cases within its terms.

*See suggested amendments.

AMENDMENTS TO H. F. 382 RECOMMENDED BY THE CITIZENS' COMMITTEE

I. Amend Section 2 (a) (2) to read as follows:

(2) The county auditor shall credit against subsequent general property taxes due with respect to the general property of any taxpayer who shall have paid the taxes which included the levies referred to in subdivision (1) hereof prior to the time when they became delinquent, an amount to be computed as follows: (a) Subtract the amount levied by the district authorities of the school district in which the property was taxable for the purposes of school maintenance and operation for its school year ending during 1931 from the sum of the levy on general property for such purposes for each of the school years ending during 1936 and 1937, plus the amount received by it from the appropriations made by Section 1 for each of said school years, and (b) apportion the difference so as to produce a proportional reduction of the taxes on general property paid prior to delinquency which included the levies referred to in subdivision (1) hereof. The credit shall be allowed to the taxpayer who shall have paid the taxes thus to be reduced, and, if no taxes on general property shall be due in respect of any property owned by him payable during the year following that when he paid the tax that included the levies referred to in subdivision (1) hereof, then the auditor shall refund him an amount equal to the credit to which he would have been entitled.

II. Omit the symbol "(a)" between the words, "Section 2" and the wording of the section.

III. Omit the entire subdivision (b) of Section 2.

The Story of the Citizens' Committee and Its Program

What is the Citizens' Committee?

The Citizens' Committee is a volunteer, lay organization, called into being by citizens who were concerned over the extent to which schools were being affected by the reduction of governmental revenues. In its membership are representatives of organizations interested in education, several taxation experts, educators, and public officials. The organizations listed on the reverse side have members on the committee. These members came as individuals, not committing their organizations, as such, to any specific program. Many of the organizations have in their own programs, all or part of the program finally adopted by the committee.

When was the Committee formed, and what are its objectives?

The Committee was first planned in the latter part of 1933. Its objectives are:

1. To awaken citizens to the emergency facing schools in the state, and to safeguard educational opportunities for the 562,000 children now enrolled in public schools in the state.
2. To understand the needs and problems of public schools, to support economies where practicable and desirable, and to help secure revenue needed to maintain schools on a high standard.

What was its method of procedure?

Ten "School Finance Conferences" have been held during the year, and sub-committees have held numerous meetings, taking up in detail and under expert advice various topics relevant to the financing of schools.

What program of action does the Committee recommend?

The Committee has a four point program, which it believes will help the cause of education. They are:

1. Increased school support by the state, such support to be financed not alone by the real estate and property tax

The Committee maintains that increased state support, properly financed, will shift the tax burden, and relieve real estate to some extent of the heavy load of school support that it now carries locally. Although careful study indicates that some methods of taxation offer more hope than others for supplying enough money, the Committee stresses the point that because methods of taxation involve political issues, it is wise for the friends of education not to adopt or suggest a definite method of raising the money. They ask merely that the necessary money be provided, and leave to the legislature the determination of the method of taxation.

2. Larger units of school administration

In this age of good roads and easy, quick transportation, it is out of date, uneconomical, and inefficient to have 7,755 separate school districts.

3. Improved methods of assessment so that we may have fair, equitable assessment throughout the state
4. Revision of tax delinquency laws, to improve tax collections and remove the encouragement to wait for "moratoriums" and special tax bargain laws.

American Association of University Women

American Legion

American Legion Auxiliary

Council of Jewish Women

Daughters of American Revolution

Junior Taxpayers Association

League of Women Voters

Minnesota Congress of Parents and Teachers

Minnesota Council of School Executives

Minnesota Education Association

Minnesota Federation of Labor

Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs

Phi Delta Kappa

Pi Lambda Theta

Parent-Teacher Associations

Public School Protective League

Woman's Club of Minneapolis

Y. W. C. A.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
WASHINGTON

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
JOHN J. O'CONNOR, MANAGER

December 19, 1932.

Dear Sir:

We need your help upon a difficult problem.

Our Committee on State and Local Taxation and Expenditures is being called upon to confer with other groups, including educational authorities, upon the general problem of advisable adjustments in the budgets of school systems. One conference upon this subject, for which we must make ready at once, may attract considerable attention if, as seems likely, it is held under official auspices.

One task is to determine the relative importance of items in the school budget; that is, to identify those items which best lend themselves to retrenchment without impairment of essential activities.

We will be called upon, of course, to present the points of view of those who, while recognizing the importance of the public schools, propose that economy in government be obtained through discriminating appraisal of all expenditures, including school expenditures, and who favor the judicious apportionment of revenues among indispensable services as a whole, with the reduction, where possible, of tax levies.

In preparation for such discussions, we must anticipate that we may meet ardent proponents of one or another governmental activity, whether it be education or something else, who favor support of that activity in preference to other indispensable services and are inclined to oppose any retrenchment.

It will help if you will inform us concerning the situation in your community with regard to the following:

- (1) The amount and nature of reductions of school costs during the past few years or now proposed.
- (2) How were the reductions determined upon? Was any schedule devised as to the order of preference in reductions? Please note the attached list of items which have come under consideration.
- (3) The extent to which retrenchments have worked injury, if any, to the school system.
- (4) The amount of new revenues that have had to be raised through new or additional taxes to meet the school budget.

- (5) The degree of cooperation between school authorities and civic agencies, especially your organization, in developing economies.

An early statement upon these points and any other phases of local experience in the matter of school economies likely to be of help to us in considering the situation from a national viewpoint will be deeply appreciated and treated as information for our Committee only.

Very truly yours,


Manager
Finance Department.

Who Are Your Friends? Two Programs—Choose

The United States Chamber of Commerce has sent out to local chambers of commerce twenty suggestions for reduction of school costs.

The American Federation of Labor, of whom it has been said that it has a program of liberal progressive education second to none, has also a program for the present crisis.



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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
INSTITUTE OF CHILD WELFARE
MINNEAPOLIS

Date Rec'd **JAN 18 1934**

Read by

File ☒

Encl. ☒

Classified ☒

Final Rec. ☒

PARENTAL EDUCATION

January 19, 1934.

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell
State League of Women Voters,
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Miss Mitchell:

As a part of the Emergency Education program, a project in Parent Education has been authorized. In order that all parts of the state and all groups interested may be thoroughly familiar with the organization and progress of this project, it is proposed to appoint a state advisory committee made up of representatives from organizations already interested or engaged in parent education activities, or in other adult education closely related to parent education.

Will you see that some one is selected to represent your organization at once and the name sent to me as soon as possible? That person will be sent an outline of the project and will be asked to attend the meetings of the advisory committee. He will be responsible for keeping your organization and its members informed and to bring to us any suggestions your group may have.

My telephone is Main 8177, Extension 709. The address is the Institute of Child Welfare, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

With many thanks for your prompt cooperation in this matter.

Cordially,

Esther McGinnis

EMcG:KB

Esther McGinnis
Assistant Director of Emergency Education

Miss Esther McGinnis
Assistant Director of Emergency Education
Institute of Child Welfare
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Miss McGinnis:

Miss Mitchell, who has been called out of town, has asked me to reply to your letter of January 18 and also to her telephone conversation with you this morning.

She wishes me to say that while the Minnesota League of Women Voters gratefully appreciates the recognition and compliment you have shown them by asking that they be represented on your advisory committee in considering the project of Parent Education as a part of the Emergency Education program, they do not feel that at this time the project fits in closely enough with their own program of education, and it is with regret that they must decline your invitation.

The League's program of Education this year contains but two items, namely

- "Different units of school administration in the interests of economy and efficiency
- "Education in its relation to the unemployed youth of Minn."

on which a great deal of study is being done that is taking much intensive work. And this, of course, is but one of several departments in the League all of which are doing a great deal of ^{work} concerned with the present day problems of relief and unemployment. It is because of this heavy program that it feels that just now it cannot ^{add} additional project unless it is directly aligned with its program.

Thank you again for your consideration of us and wishing you the best of success in your project, we are

Most sincerely,

MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Ralph James, Office Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
INSTITUTE OF CHILD WELFARE
MINNEAPOLIS

PARENTAL EDUCATION

January 20, 1934.

Date Rec'd JAN 22 1934

Read by

Pres. ☒

Ex. Sec. ☐

Office Sec. ☒

Field Sec. ☐

Miss Ralph James,
Minnesota League of Women Voters,
914 Marquette Avenue,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

My dear Miss James:

I am sorry that you have decided that the Emergency Program in Parent Education is not closely related with your own program of education. I see several places where it seems to me to tie in quite closely. You say that "education in its relation to the unemployed youth of Minnesota" is one of your main projects. We are carrying on preparental education with the unemployed youth in St. Louis County at the present time and expect to have more projects of that sort under the Emergency Program.

In the second place, as I said over the phone, the next step in parent education in this state and throughout the country, is apparently to attach the work to the state department of education and local boards of education. From this standpoint, it would seem to me your organization would be interested to know the progress of the work *and to help guide its progress.*

Sincerely yours,

EMcG:KB

Esther McGinnis

Esther McGinnis

Assistant Director of Emergency Education

Increased Aid To Schools of State Sought

Citizens Committee Proposes

New Taxes to Boast Re-

venue \$12,500,000

JAN 29 1934

LIFTING OF BURDEN

ON PROPERTY URGED

Gross Income or Sales Levies

Cited as Possible Re-

lief Measures

Additional state aid for schools to the extent of more than \$12,500,000 will be asked of the state legislature this week as the result of a meeting of the Citizens Committee on Public School Finance at the Curtis hotel last night.

JOURNAL

FEB 1

PAGE TWENTY-FOUR

Friday



in the
LEGISLATIVE
Arena

School Aid

Some \$11,000,000 would be provided as aid to schools of the state under terms of a bill sent to the house today by its education committee. It is the program of the



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Date Rec'd FEB 26 1934

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
MINNEAPOLIS

Read by

File
In
Out
Filed

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATION

February 24, 1934

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell
President, State League of Women Voters
914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Miss Mitchell:

The difficult problems which educational institutions now face are apparent to all who are concerned for the welfare of youth. The effect of the depression upon the schools is a nationwide concern since few communities, if any, throughout the land have escaped curtailment of educational opportunity. Many schools are closed, terms have been shortened, subjects have been cast out of the curriculum, and many other measures to restrict education have been adopted. Every level of education and every type of educational institution, public and private, is affected. The restriction of educational opportunity comes at a time when the need for extended and enriched education for the children and youth of our country is greater than ever before in our history.

The situation demands that the friends of education should take counsel together concerning its problems. For this purpose a meeting has been arranged for Friday evening, March 30, on the University of Minnesota Campus. It is singularly appropriate that such a meeting should be held in the Cyrus Northrop Memorial Auditorium.

The Secretary of the Interior, Honorable Harold L. Ickes, has twice indicated his desire to be present and take part in this meeting. He will do so if his Washington duties permit. Professor Jesse Newlon, Director of the Lincoln School at Columbia University, and the Honorable Paul V. McNutt, Governor of Indiana, will speak. It is probable that a portion of the program will be broadcast over a national radio hook-up.

This letter comes to you as an invitation for the Minnesota League of Women Voters to join in sponsoring this citizens' meeting in the interests of education. The cause is worthy, the need for solution of the problems is pressing. We sincerely trust that your organization will lend its support to this movement. May we ask you for a reply at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Charles W. Beachman

Professor of Education

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

Date Rec'd **MAR 5 1934**

Read by
Pres. ✓
Ex. Sec.
Chas. Sec. ✓
Field Sec.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 5, 1934

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell
914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Miss Mitchell:

The difficult problems which educational institutions now face are apparent to all who are concerned for the welfare of youth. The effect of the depression upon the schools is a nationwide concern since few, if any, communities throughout the land have escaped curtailment of educational opportunity. Many schools are closed, terms have been shortened, subjects have been cast out of the curriculum, and many other measures to restrict education have been adopted. Every level of education and every type of educational institution, public and private, is affected. The restriction of educational opportunity comes at a time when the need for extended and enriched education is greater than ever before in our history.

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This letter comes to you as a special invitation to attend this Citizens' Meeting as a representative of the State League of Women Voters. If you will indicate that you can be present, a ticket will be mailed to you entitling you to a reserved seat for special guests. We sincerely hope that you can be present.

Sincerely yours,

L. D. Coffman
President, University of Minnesota

E. M. Phillips
State Commissioner of Education

March 7, 1934

President Lotus D. Coffman
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear President Coffman:

In reply to your letter of March 5 extending to me an invitation to attend the Citizens' Meeting on Friday evening, March 30, in the Northrup Memorial Auditorium, as a representative of the Minnesota League of Women Voters, I wish to say that I shall be most happy to attend.

I shall appreciate very much receiving the ticket which you mentioned entitling me to a seat in the reserved section.

Thanking you again for this recognition of the League of Women Voters, I am

Sincerely yours,

Ruth H. Mitchell
President

RHM:rj

March 9, 1954

Mr. Charles W. Boardman
Professor of Education
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Professor Boardman:

In reply to your letter of February 24 I wish to tell you that the Board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters in meeting this morning voted to join in sponsoring the citizens meeting in the interests of education to which your letter referred. It is entirely in keeping with the subject matter on our program and therefore we are very glad to be called upon to help in any way in which you consider our assistance of value.

As I explained to you over the telephone I have been late in answering your letter so that it might have the proper Board action, and I trust that the delay has in no way lessened the value of our assistance.

I replied to President Coffman's letter which extended an invitation for me to attend this meeting as a representative of the state League of Women Voters. May I request of you that if possible a similar invitation be sent to Mrs. William Pearce, Faribault, Minnesota, who is our state chairman of the Department of Education. We shall do everything possible to call to the attention of our members this meeting and if you will suggest other ways in which we can be of assistance you will find us most cooperative.

Sincerely yours,

Ruth H. Mitchell
President

RHM:rj

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
MINNEAPOLIS

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

March
Tenth
1934

DATE Rec'd 3-13-34

Read by

Pres.

Ex. Sec.

Office Sec.

Field Sec.

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell
President
Minnesota League of Women Voters
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Miss Mitchell:

Thank you for your cordial letter of March 9th signifying that the Minnesota League of Women Voters will sponsor the meeting of friends of education on the evening of March 30th. I shall be happy also to see that special invitations are sent to Mrs. William Pierce at Faribault.

Your assistance in this problem will undoubtedly be of great value in this movement.

Cordially yours,

Charles W. Bonchune.

Professor of Education
Director of Student Teaching

CWB:MH

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 13, 1934

Mrs. William Pearce
Faribault, Minnesota

My dear Mrs. Pearce:

The difficult problems which educational institutions now face are apparent to all who are concerned for the welfare of youth. The effect of the depression upon the schools is a nationwide concern since few, if any, communities throughout the land have escaped curtailment of educational opportunity. Many schools are closed, terms have been shortened, subjects have been cast out of the curriculum, and many other measures to restrict education have been adopted. Every level of education and every type of educational institution, public and private, is affected. The restriction of educational opportunity comes at a time when the need for extended and enriched education is greater than ever before in our history.

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This letter comes to you as a special invitation to attend this Citizens' Meeting as a representative of the State Department of Education. If you will indicate that you can be present, a ticket will be mailed to you entitling you to a seat reserved for special guests. We sincerely hope that you can be present.

Sincerely yours,

L. D. Coffman
President, University of Minnesota

E. M. Phillips
State Commissioner of Education

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
MINNEAPOLIS

3-19-34

Rec'd by
Prov.
U.S. Sec.
U.S. Sec.
Fund. Sec.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

March 17, 1934

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell
914 Marquette Ave.
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Miss Mitchell:

On behalf of President Coffman and Commissioner Phillips I am enclosing tickets for the Citizens' Meeting in behalf of Education, eight o'clock, on March 30. The lower floor of the Cyrus Northrop Memorial Auditorium is reserved for guests holding tickets. The musical program begins at seven-thirty o'clock. The speaking program will begin promptly at eight o'clock.

We are happy that you will join with us on this occasion which is so important for the welfare of Minnesota.

Sincerely yours,

W. L. Haggerty

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 6, 1934

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell
President, State League of Women Voters
914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Miss Mitchell

First let me express to you and through you to your organization the appreciation of the State Department of Public Instruction and of the University of Minnesota for your willingness to sponsor the Citizens Meeting on Educational Recovery which was held in the Cyrus Northrop Auditorium, on March 30, 1934.

At the close of this session the Honorable J. P. Devaney, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Minnesota, presented the enclosed communication and resolution. You will note that this resolution provides for the establishment of a Citizens Council to be composed of the presiding officer of each of the organizations who sponsored the meeting, the organization to be changed and extended as its members may later will; this council to study the problems of education in the State of Minnesota from the standpoint of the public interest and the welfare of young people, to disseminate sound information concerning these problems and the best means of their solution, to report from time to time the results of its deliberations and of its findings to the citizens of the State.

I am calling a meeting of this Council at ten o'clock, on Tuesday, April 17, in my office at the University, 202 Administration Building. At this meeting the committee will be asked to determine whether it desires to effect such an organization as the Chief Justice has suggested.

I suggest that the representatives of the organizations represented in the proposed Council be prepared to lay before us at the meeting any plans and programs which they have relating to education in the State of Minnesota.

I sincerely hope that you will find it possible to attend this meeting and remain for luncheon.

Cordially yours

L. R. Apperson
President

Enc

*Marie Neumann
secretary*

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

726 JACKSON PLACE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

HONORARY PRESIDENT, MRS. CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT, NEW YORK CITY

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SEVENTH REGION
MRS. O. SHEPARD BARNUM
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
MISS BEATRICE H. MARSH
WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 6, 1934

APR 9 1934

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell, President
Minnesota League of Women Voters
Room 224, 914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Miss Mitchell:

The plan for Citizens' Councils for Constructive Economy is under the sponsorship of the National Municipal League and Mr. Howard P. Jones is the Director. I have written him to send you a copy of the report of March 1 telling of the organization of the Councils and particularly including a report of the Alabama State Council.

So far as I know, the Alabama State Council is the only state council functioning. I heard the young man who was responsible for its organization report on its activities at a meeting of the Committee on Citizens' Councils in Atlantic City last fall and it seemed to me that his report, of all those given, indicated real organization and accomplishment.

It would not be fair to omit to tell you that the written reports of the Citizens' Council sound much better than we have found them to be in a number of places.

Miss Sherwin is of the opinion that the organization of the type planned is not possible without greater expenditure of money and personnel than has been available and that existing organizations have been used to do Citizens' Councils work, rather than the Councils themselves.

It is, of course, impossible for me to know what type of organization the University contemplates and it would not be fair to condemn it in advance because the others have not produced the results desired.

Sincerely yours,

Beatrice H. Marsh
Executive Secretary

BHM/B

COMMITTEE on
CITIZENS' COUNCILS
for CONSTRUCTIVE
ECONOMY of the
NATIONAL MUNICIPAL
LEAGUE . . . 309 East 34 St.
NEW YORK CITY

APR 14 1934

Date Recd.

Sec.
Asst. Sec. ✓
Adm. Sec.

April 12, 1934

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell
Room 224
914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Miss Mitchell:

In accordance with the request of Miss Beatrice Marsh, executive secretary of the National League of Women Voters, we are sending you, under separate cover, a report of the Committee on Citizens' Councils for Constructive Economy.

Cordially yours,

Howard P. Jones

Howard P. Jones
Director

HPJ:AL

FILE COPY

A CITIZENS' COUNCIL WHY AND HOW?

A Device to Unite Civic
Groups in Their Common Aim
to Achieve Economy in Local
Government Without Sacri-
fice of Essential Services.

COMMITTEE ON
CITIZENS' COUNCILS FOR CONSTRUCTIVE ECONOMY
. of the NATIONAL MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
309 EAST 34th STREET - - - NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.



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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

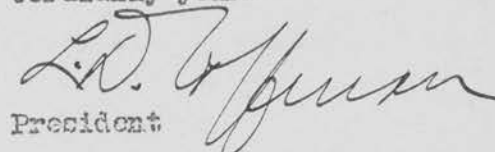
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 12, 1934

To the members of the Minnesota Citizens Council on Education

I am sending you a tentative agenda for the
first meeting of the Citizens Council on Education,
to be held April 17. This, of course, will be subject
to such changes as the Council may desire.

Cordially yours


President

Agenda for the First Meeting of the
Minnesota Citizens Council on Education

April 17, 1934

at

University of Minnesota

1. Agencies and Personnel represented in the Council.

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>
University of Minnesota	L. D. Coffman, President
Minnesota State Dept. of Education	E. M. Phillips, Commissioner
American Association of University Women, Minnesota Division	Mrs. H. K. Painter, President 4917 Fremont Ave. So., Minneapolis
American Legion, Dept. of Minnesota	Mr. M. F. Murray, State Commander St. Cloud, Minn.
American Legion Auxiliary, Dept. of Minnesota	Mrs. Howard Dressel, President Citizens Aid Bldg., Minneapolis
League of Minnesota Municipalities	Mr. F. T. Irvine, President Red Wing, Minn.
Minnesota State League of Women Voters	Miss Ruth H. Mitchell, President 914 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis
Minnesota Division, Daughters of the American Revolution	Mrs. May F. Wisner, Secretary 3231 Blaisdell Avenue, Minneapolis
Minnesota Congress of Parents and Teachers	Mrs. E. L. Baker, President 1734 Como Avenue, S.E., Minneapolis
Minnesota Education Association	Miss Daisy Brown, President Stillwater, Minn.
Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation	Mr. A. J. Olson, President 600 Shubert Bldg., St. Paul
Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs	Mrs. Thomas Mohn, President Red Wing, Minn.
Minnesota Junior Chamber of Commerce	Mr. L. E. Vorpahl, President St. Cloud, Minn.
✓ Minnesota State Bar Association	Mr. Frank W. Murphy, President Wheaton, Minn.

Minnesota State Conference and
Institute of Social Work

Miss Belle Mead, President
Jones Hall, Univ. of Minn.

Minnesota State Federation of
Labor

Mr. E. G. Hall, President
4124 Bryant Ave. So., Minneapolis

Minnesota State Medical Associa-
tion

Dr. F. J. Savage, President
355 Lowry Bldg., St. Paul

Minnesota State School Board
Association

Mr. Otto W. Kolshorn, President
Red Wing, Minn.

✓ Minnesota State Supreme Court

Judge John P. Devaney, Chief Justice

Morning Session

10:00 - 12:00

1. Statement of origin and purposes of the Council

L. D. Coffman, President, University
Hon. John P. Devaney, Chief Justice, Minnesota Supreme Court

2. Consideration of principles bearing upon the purposes and activities of the Council

3. Consideration of additional members, if any, to be added to the Council.
The motion creating the Council provides for the extension of membership "at will."

4. Preliminary organization of the Council

5. A review of the interests in education of each organization represented in the Council. Among the organizations included in the group which are known to have such interests are:

The Minnesota State Department of Education
The University of Minnesota
American Association of University Women (Minn. Division)
American Legion (Minnesota Division)
Minnesota League of Women Voters
Minnesota Education Association
Minnesota Parent-Teachers' Association
Minnesota School Board Association
Minnesota State Federation of Labor

Officers - Pres. Coffman -

Afternoon Session

2:00-4:00

1. Presentation of educational problems by groups and individuals not members of the Council but who have interests in education.
2. Permanent organization to provide a President, Secretary, and Executive Committee.
3. Plans for:
 - a. Studies to be undertaken
 - b. Publications
 - c. Other activities, if any
 - d. Later meetings

Principles bearing upon the purposes and activities of the Minnesota Citizens Council on Education presented for consideration at the first meeting of the Council, April 17, 1934.

1. The Minnesota Citizens Council on Education is designed to promote the thoughtful consideration of the problems of education as they are related to the public welfare in the State of Minnesota and in the nation at large.
2. The Council conceives its functions broadly. It seeks to understand the actual and possible values of educational institutions of every type to the modern social order and to promote the welfare and efficiency of these institutions as useful agencies in a continuously changing and growing society.
3. Because of the nature of the problems to be considered it is desired that the Council should be representative of the entire population of Minnesota. It is probably also desirable that there should be sufficient change in the membership from time to time to keep the Council constantly in touch with changing conditions.
4. The work of the Council will be projected on a long time basis. The fundamental problems of education are continuing problems and their solution can not be determined at once for all time.
5. The Council will be a deliberative assembly for the consideration of educational matters as they are related to the public welfare. It is intended that its deliberations shall result in the formulation of policies and modes of action that may be recommended to the citizens of the State for their consideration.
6. It is intended that the active advocacy of any proposals that are made shall be undertaken, if at all, by other interested agencies and individuals. The function of the Council will be achieved through the clarification of issues, the publication of information, and the arraying of arguments relating to important educational issues. The Council will serve its purpose through being itself an educational agency for the general public. *Personal*
7. In carrying out its purposes the Council will engage in the following activities:
 - a. Receive from its own membership and from other agencies and individuals presentations of educational matters that are of public concern. *appeals*
 - b. Provide full and free discussion of such matters as are presented to it.
 - c. Foster such useful studies as facilities and resources make possible.
 - d. Prepare and consider reports upon educational matters.

- e. Sponsor public meetings in behalf of education when, in its judgment, such meetings would be useful.
 - f. Issue communications to the public covering such matters as it considers in the public interest.
8. It is recognized that the educational problems that may properly fall within the province of the Council are numerous. The pressing problem of educational support which bulks so large in immediate concern is only one among many. A complete enumeration of all the problems that require the counsel of citizens is not possible. Something of the range of matters that call for public consideration may be suggested by the following questions:
- a. To what degree and in what manner can the schools be more effectively employed to combat the prevalence of crime and delinquency?
 - b. In what ways, if at all, can the schools contribute to a better understanding of the changing social and economic order? What are their resources? Equally important, what are their limitations?
 - c. In view of the actual and probable increase of free time for youth and adults, how may the schools be adjusted and developed so that this increased free time may be usefully employed, and human life enriched?
 - d. What changes in school organization and administration are necessary in order that educational institutions may be more effectively adjusted to other governmental agencies?
 - e. What changes in education are required by the conditions of modern life so that the schools may better fulfill their time-honored function of preparing young people for citizenship?
 - f. How should groups having special interests to be advanced through education operate in relation to the schools?
 - g. How can public opinion be led to require and to support a professional administration of public education free from political and partisan interference?
 - h. How shall existing institutions of higher education be adjusted to each other and what additional provision, if any, is needed in Minnesota?

Such questions are but illustrations. They will serve to indicate the fundamental nature of the problems which the Council accepts as its province for study and consideration.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO FORMULATE A PROGRAM
FOR
FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

(Presented at the fifth Public School Finance Conference, Citizens' Aid Building, Minneapolis, April 16, 1934)

Your committee for formulation of a program submits the following resolutions and recommends their adoption by this conference.

The Conference on Public School Finance, composed of representatives of various civic organizations interested in the welfare of children, having carefully considered the plight of our schools, has adopted and recommends to the organizations represented and to citizens of Minneapolis and of Minnesota the following policy:

1. In the interests of our children and for the welfare of city and state, it is imperative that the impairment of our public schools shall be stopped. No further curtailment of our children's opportunities for schooling shall be endured. Our school service shall be no further reduced in respect to the period of operation or the services provided. We condemn the statement that "fads and frills" should be eliminated, because we are of the opinion that the phrase has no meaning and that the services now offered arose out of a proper public demand and are necessary to the welfare of our children. The impoverishment of our schools has already gone too far and we urge that every effort be made to restore and to improve their services.

2. We recognize the need for economy, but declare that it must be had without further sacrifice of efficiency. We favor any reorganizations of school districts that will ensure better and more nearly equal educational opportunities for all the children of the state, and suggest that such reorganization should be encouraged by provisions for giving greater state aid where reorganization will bring about a higher degree of educational efficiency.

3. We stand for adequate financial support for our schools, and believe that the burden of retrenchment has fallen too heavily upon them. We note that teachers' salaries continue reduced 20% to 30% at a time when smaller reductions in federal public salaries are being restored. We urge salaries adequate to secure competent teachers, and we urge just as strongly that only competent teachers be engaged or retained.

4. We call the attention of all citizens to an emergency impending in 1935. The reduced assessment on homesteads, now required by law, coupled with generally falling values of real property will reduce assessments to such an extent that, unless there is a great increase in the millage rate, the revenues will be inadequate for the public services. It is estimated that the assessment for Minneapolis will fall from 316 millions to 280 millions, or approximately 12%. With the present delinquency, a rate of approximately 100 mills would be necessary in 1935 to produce the revenue from 77 mills in 1934 and the additional sum necessary for debt retirement which is suspended this year. We offer the following suggestions to meet this emergency.

5. Reduce tax delinquency. Taxes are high because of delinquency. This was 17% in Minneapolis in 1933. We urge all organizations and the press to carry on an active campaign to induce citizens to pay their taxes. Our citizens should be informed as to the many services they receive for taxes paid, and made to realize that taxes are not gratuities, but payments for benefits received, and that payment is a social and civic duty.

We also urge that the legislature carefully consider whether the various delinquent tax acts that have been passed are causing increased delinquency, and that laws be formulated which will distinguish between involuntary and willful failure to pay taxes, and which will give relief to the former and compel payment by the latter.

6. We urge improved methods of assessing property, particularly by setting up larger assessment districts to be covered by properly qualified full-time assessors under the proper supervision of the Tax Commission so that the burden of necessary taxes upon property can be equalized.

7. We believe that the present indicated relief on property should be safeguarded, and that decreased valuation should not be offset by an upping of the tax rate. Believing that other sources of revenue should be sought to relieve the burden now borne so heavily by property, we urge serious consideration of ways of increasing revenue now obtained by taxes supplementary to, or in lieu of, property taxes.

8. If, as seems probable, the suggested and practicable modifications of existing taxes and tax administration will not furnish a reasonable minimum for public school support during the next biennium, then we favor the trial of a sales tax, preferably a general retail sales tax, upon all commodities except staple foods and clothing for an emergency period of two years.

We believe it is probable that some modification of our tax system at the next session of the legislature will be imperative, but we hope that general economic conditions will by that time have so improved that existing taxes will provide adequate revenues and that new taxes may be unnecessary or, at least, kept to a minimum. We emphatically declare that we favor emergency taxes if necessary to prevent further deterioration of our schools.

FILE COPY

Emergency Federal Aid for Education

A Review of the Evidence

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Research Division
National Education Association
1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

April, 1934

Price 15 cents



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E. M. PHILLIPS
COMMISSIONER

P. C. TONNING
DEPUTY

State of Minnesota

Department of Education

Saint Paul

April 20, 1934

*Mrs. Pearce
present to Board*

APR 21 1934

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell
State League of Women Voters
914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Madam:

I am enclosing a pamphlet on "Emergency Federal Aid for Education" prepared by the Research Division of the National Education Association. The pamphlet outlines the critical need for Federal aid in supporting public schools throughout most of the nation. Minnesota is now at the point where aid of some kind is imperative.

Prospects for securing Federal aid are brighter now than they have ever been. If the proper support is given by citizens of the nation who are interested in the welfare of public education, I believe that the proposed program can be carried out.

I would appreciate it very much if you would communicate immediately with the President and with our Minnesota members of Congress urging their support of this aid program for public education. The need is very urgent.

Sincerely,

E. M. Phillips

Commissioner of Education

EMP:M

April 21, 1934

Mrs. William R. Pearce
Faribault, Minn.

My dear Mrs. Pearce:

As you know both Miss Mitchell and Miss Horr have left for Boston so I am alone in the office. This morning a letter for Miss Mitchell from W. Phillips, Commissioner of Education, arrived, a copy of which I am enclosing. Have you received a copy of the pamphlet which he mentions? I am keeping the one which he sent for the files, but if you did not get one I can send you a summary of its contents or the pamphlet itself. Is there anything that the State League can do now or does action have to be taken by the National Convention first? Please let me know if there is anything that you want me to do.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Lamson
Office Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 25, 1934

Date Rec'd APR 26 1934

Sent by

Pres.

St. Sec.

Ch. Sec. ✓

Field Sec.

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell
President, Minnesota State League of Women Voters
914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Miss Mitchell

This will confirm the arrangements for the meeting
of the Minnesota Citizens Council on Education, on Tuesday,
May 1, at four o'clock in the afternoon, in the lounge on
the second floor of the Minnesota Union. Dinner will be
served at six o'clock.

Cordially yours

L. D. Jensen
President

Faribault-
April 24-

APR 26 1934

Read by

Pres.

Ex. Sec.

Cl. Sec. ✓

Field Sec.

Dear Miss Lampson-

I thank you for your letter - I do have a copy of the letter from Mr. Phillips and also a copy of the pamphlet from him.

There isn't a thing we can do about Mr. Phillips' request until after the State Board acts on it. "Federal Aid" is not on our League program of work - but the emergency need may make it possible for us to include such a subject under "adequate funds for public school education of a high standard". At any rate - we must wait for the State Board to vote.

I shall be in the office sometime next week - do you know whether I can make a reservation for the Minneapolis "Taft" dinner & meeting - and is it April 30 or May 30th?

Would you please call Mrs. Cant and tell her that I am planning to go to the Education meeting next Tues. at the University - but I don't know what the exact time & place is.

Sincerely,

Helen Pearce.

April 26, 1934

Mrs. Wm. Pearce
Faribault, Minn.

My dear Mrs. Pearce:

I read your letter to the members of the executive board who met this morning. Mrs. Cant has been expecting to receive from the education office minutes of the meeting which she attended but they have not yet arrived. She suggests that if you do come to the Taft dinner Monday night you stay all night with her and she will go over her notes on the meetings with you.

The Taft dinner is Monday, April 30th, at 6:30 and the charge is \$1.50. If one does not attend the dinner but only the talk afterward, the charge is 50%. Miss Baker has made a reservation for you for the dinner. Is anyone coming with you?

The next education meeting is Tuesday, May 1, at four o'clock in the afternoon in the lounge on the second floor of the Minnesota Union. Dinner will be served at six o'clock. Miss Mitchell got a letter about it this morning ~~and~~ enclosing a card on which to check attendance. I said that you would be present at both the meeting and the dinner and sent it back. Was that all right?

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Lanson
Office Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
MINNEAPOLIS

Date Recd. APR 27 1934

Read by
Pres.
Ex. Sec.
Off. Sec. ✓
Field Sec.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

April 26, 1934

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell, President
Minnesota State League of Women Voters
914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Miss Mitchell:

President Coffman has requested me to write you to solicit your services as a member of a membership committee for the Minnesota Council of Education. The motion providing for the creation of the Council reads as follows:

"...that we establish a permanent council of education for the State of Minnesota to be comprised of the Chairman, and the president or presiding officer of each of the organizations that have sponsored this meeting, the organization to be changed and extended as they may later will."

It would be the function of the proposed committee to consider whether and in what manner the Council should be extended. Two proposals have been made, one that additional organizations be invited to be represented by their presiding officers. The second recommendation is that persons who may not at the present time hold positions as heads of organizations may be invited to participate as individual members of the Council. Both of these possibilities should be canvassed and if the committee decides that additional members should be named at this time, a recommendation to that effect may be made at the next meeting of the Council on May 1. Should the Committee feel that longer time is needed for adequate consideration on the problems involved, a report may be made at a later meeting. Mr. Ambrose Fuller who represents the League of Minnesota Municipalities has been asked to serve as chairman of this membership committee. He desires that those named on this Committee should meet with him at 3:00 o'clock on May 1 in the Lounge Room of the Minnesota Union.

Cordially yours,

W. Z. Haggerty

Miss Lamson

Am Fed of Teachers
506 S. Wabash Ave. Chicago
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
WASHINGTON

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
JOHN J. O'CONNOR, MANAGER

American Teacher -
Page 6 -
Mr 2571

April 1933
Possible Economy of
School Retrenchment
200 suggestions
school costs
April 28, 1934.

Miss Elizabeth Lamson,
Minnesota League of Women Voters,
941 Marquette Ave.,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Miss Lamson:

Acknowledgment is made of your letter of April 23. You evidently have been misinformed, for the Chamber has issued no such pamphlet as that which you mention. We made inquiry more than a year ago about certain "possible fields of economy" which appeared on the agenda of a conference to which several Chamber members were invited, in order to obtain facts which might be helpful to these members when attending the conference. We have at no time issued any publication advocating specific proposals for school retrenchment.

Sincerely yours,

Welles A. Gray
WELLES A. GRAY

931/510

MINNESOTA COUNCIL OF EDUCATION

Agenda for meeting May 1, 1934

- 1) Minutes of meeting of April 17
- 2) Report of Committee on Membership
- 3) Proposals for studies
- 4) Educational Recovery Bulletins
- 5) Public Meetings

American Education Week

- 6) Emergency problems to be presented by Commissioner Phillips

Suggested to

PROPOSALS FOR STUDIES

It is proposed that the Council sponsor a series of studies the purpose of which would be to provide a basis for a sound program of educational recovery and development in Minnesota. It is further proposed to create a Committee on Studies which would have administrative direction of such studies, the Committee to consist of the present Chairman of the Council, a representative of the State Department of Education, a representative of the State Teachers Colleges, a representative of the public schools, a representative of the State Planning Board, a representative of the University, and three additional persons chosen from the membership of the Council, the Committee to be named by the Chairman after consultation with the agencies to be represented.

The following studies are suggested for the consideration of the Committee when appointed. It is not intended, however, that the Committee will be bound by this list or limited to the suggested personnel.

1. Factors which create the educational emergency in Minnesota. Decreased revenues -- increased enrolments -- threatened shortening of school terms, closing of schools -- unemployed teachers.
2. Problems of taxation as related to school revenues. Needed improvements in taxation methods.
3. Needed legislation relating to State aid to schools.
4. Teachers Salaries

A study of the situation with a view to the formulation of a state program.

5. The larger administrative district.
6. Education and the Changing Social Pattern

A series of fundamental studies designed to discover what changes, if any, are needed to improve the services of educational

*Mr. Schuch's report
for amended plan
of the objectives
various groups, I
MFA to issue
brief bulletins
on some subjects
short time program*

State Dept.

*Mr. Blakey
Mr. Utne*

agencies to current social and civic needs. Among the many phases of this problem are those relating to crime and delinquency, unemployment, shifts in economic conditions, changes in standards of living, the emergence of new social ideas and practices, the incidence of international influences.

*Ever. Edw.
Dr. Benjamin*

7. New educational movements, particularly the growth of adult education.
8. Need for improvement of teaching personnel.
9. The relationship of educational organization and administration to other governmental agencies and functions.
10. The present and needed participation of the Federal Government in Minnesota education.
11. Factors threatening the freedom of the schools.
12. Needed organization of higher education in Minnesota.
13. The improvement of the materials of instruction.

EDUCATIONAL RECOVERY BULLETINS

It is proposed that the Council sponsor a series of bulletins modelled after the style of the Educational Recovery Bulletin issued at the Citizens Meeting; material to be chiefly factual; style simple and brief; size from four to twenty-four pages; wide distribution to citizens; issue to begin about September 1. Partial mailing list already available.

It is further proposed that an editorial board of five persons be appointed to have executive charge of the series.

Provisional arrangements have been made for the following titles:

1. How Minnesota educates her children

An explanation of the educational agencies in Minnesota and how they operate. To be prepared by the State Department of Education and others.

2. Emergency problems of Minnesota schools

Problems created by the depression -- need for remedial adjustments. To be prepared by the State Department of Education and others.

3. Inquiries about Minnesota education

• 4. Minnesota's school revenues

Sources of revenue -- problems created by changing conditions -- possible adjustments in methods of raising revenue. To be prepared by Mr. Blakey.

5. The enlarged administrative unit.

The difficulties of the small district -- the problems of buildings -- transportation -- school organization -- supervision -- support. To be prepared by Mr. Engelhardt.

6. The Emergency Education program

A statement covering the six lines of effort undertaken in 1933-34. A suggested program for the future. To be prepared by Mr. Benjamin.

7. The Minnesota theory of educational support and control

A review of the constitutional provision and Supreme Court decisions. To be prepared by Mr. O. P. Field and Mr. Rottschaefer.

Emergency problems.

Dr. Benjamin - Mr. Bunting -

Mr. Atue

certain schools run entirely
on state aid, other receiving
money used for paying off
indebtedness

Educational Recovery

Number Two

MINNESOTA COUNCIL OF EDUCATION

ORIGIN AND POLICIES

TELEGRAM TO CITIZENS MEETING MARCH 30, 1934:

Please convey my keen regrets at being unable to attend and address the Conference on Education at the University of Minnesota tonight. The pressure of public business keeps me in Washington. There never was a time in our history when education was so vital to us as a nation and so essential to us as citizens. Yet strangely enough friends of education are finding it necessary to educate the people on the importance of education. There are those who, taking advantage of the economic situation, assert that we have spent too much money on education, that we are over-educated. They do not seem to realize that education and civilization go hand in hand and that without a highly educated electorate our system of government cannot be maintained. Economy that cuts at the roots of our educational system is dangerous economy. If we continue to deny educational opportunities to hundreds of thousands of children, our country will suffer when these same uneducated men and women are called upon to undertake the responsibilities of government.—HON. HAROLD L. ICKES, Secretary of the Interior.

May 1, 1934

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

ORIGIN OF THE COUNCIL

At a Citizens Meeting held in Cyrus Northrop Memorial Auditorium on March 30, 1934, Honorable John P. Devaney, Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, spoke as follows:

"When the Constitution of the State of Minnesota was adopted in 1858 its framers inserted these two provisions with respect to public education. Section one of article eight says:

'The stability of a Republican form of Government depending mainly upon the intelligence of the people it shall be the duty of the legislature to establish a general and uniform system of public schools.'

Again in section three of article eight the Constitution says this:

'The Legislature shall make such provision by taxation or otherwise as will secure a thorough and efficient system of public schools in each township in the state.'

The maintenance of the public school system in the State of Minnesota thereafter became a matter not of local but of state concern. The object of these quoted provisions of the Constitution was stated thus by Justice Ripley in a decision of the Supreme Court in the State of Minnesota written in 1871:

'To insure a regular method throughout the state whereby all might be enabled to acquire an education which will fit them to discharge intelligently their duties as citizens of the Republic.'

These provisions of the Constitution were not a grant of power to the legislature—they were a mandate prescribing as a duty the exercise of this inherent power. It is well to have in mind that the framers of our Constitution and the courts of our state interpreting that Constitution from its inception, have proceeded in the belief that good government and the intelligent exercise of the franchise of citizenship cannot be continued in this state without popular education. It was apparently their belief that without popular education the form of government established by our Constitution would fail. Democratic government and popular education are inseparably united in its fabric. It was never more important to our people than it is at this time that we safeguard those principles upon which our Constitution rests and in which our democratic government has its being. When we see democracies the world over failing, we realize that the preservation of popular education was never more important to the state and the nation than it is today. The young people in these schools will, within a few years, become the responsible citizens of the state. By all the portents life promises to be for them vastly more complex, and wise conduct more difficult than

it has been for their elders. If they are to be adequately prepared the schools must continue to improve and to function at a higher level than in the past. The welfare of these young people demands it; the safety and perpetuity of the state require it.

"Because of the splendid work that has been here undertaken, because of the progress that has been made, I propose, Mr. Chairman, that if there be a second and the motion meets the approval of those present, that we establish a permanent council of education for the State of Minnesota to be comprised of the Chairman, and the president or presiding officer of each of the organizations that have sponsored this meeting, the organization to be changed and extended as they may later will. I believe that if this is done, much can be accomplished in the fight to preserve our democratic form of government and our scheme of popular education.

"The function of this Council will be as follows:

"To study the problems of education in Minnesota from the standpoint of the public interest and the welfare of young people; to disseminate sound information concerning these problems and the best means of their solution; to report from time to time the results of its deliberations and of its findings to the citizens of the state."

THE FIRST MEETING

The Council created by the motion above stated was called to meet in the room of the Board of Regents at the University of Minnesota on April 17, 1934. The call was issued by President Coffman who had presided at the Citizens Meeting. The official membership of the Council is given on page 8 of this bulletin. All the agencies starred in that list were represented at the first meeting either by the person named as the official head of the organization or by some other officer.

In addition to those officially composing the Council the following persons were present by invitation:

AGENCY	NAME
University of Minnesota	ROY G. BLAKEY, Professor of Economics FRED ENGELHARDT, Professor of Education M. E. HAGGERTY, Dean, College of Education
University of Minnesota and Minnesota State Department of Education	HAROLD BENJAMIN, Assistant Dean, College of Education, and Director, Minnesota Emergency Education

Minnesota State Department of Education	T. J. BERNING, Director of Graded Elementary Schools and State Board Examinations P. C. TONNING, Deputy Commissioner THEODORE UTNE, Director, Class A and Class B Four-Year High Schools and High School Departments
American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Minnesota	MISS BLANCHE W. SCALLEN, State Secretary
League of Minnesota Municipalities	AMBROSE FULLER, Acting Secretary and Attorney
Minnesota State League of Women Voters	MRS. HAROLD G. CANT, Treasurer
Minnesota Division, Daughters of the American Revolution	MRS. LELAND S. DUXBURY, Recording Secretary
Minnesota Congress of Parents and Teachers	MRS. H. C. JAMES, First Vice-President, St. Paul Council of Parents and Teachers
Minnesota Education Association	C. G. SCHULZ, Secretary
Minnesota State Conference and Institute of Social Work	MRS. KATE MARTIN DORR, Secretary
Minnesota Council of School Executives	W. E. ENGLUND, President, Superintendent of Schools, Ely, Minn.
Minneapolis Council of Parent-Teacher Associations	GLENN MATHER, Chairman, School Finance Committee

President Coffman served as temporary chairman of the Council and Dean Haggerty acted as secretary.

Sessions were held from ten to twelve and from two to four o'clock. The discussions were largely informal and were designed to achieve two ends: (1) to set forth the educational problems that call for public attention, and (2) to discover points of common interest for the agencies represented as a means of evolving a plan of activity in behalf of education. Discussion centered about the following issues falling within the scope of the Council.

1. The emergency problems of Minnesota schools as created by
 - a. The failure of adequate support due to tax reduction and tax delinquencies
 - b. The threatened closing of schools
 - c. The shortening of school terms
 - d. The increased enrolments
 - e. Unemployed teachers.
2. Needed legislation relating to
 - a. State aid to school districts
 - b. Teachers' salaries
 - c. Larger school district.
3. Needed improvements in taxation methods.

4. Education in relation to the total social pattern—education and crime, poverty, unemployment, prosperity, and economic stability.
5. Need for improvement in teaching personnel through
 - a. Better selection of candidates for training
 - b. Extension of training period
 - c. Certification legislation.
6. Improvement of the materials of school instruction.
7. New educational movements, particularly the rapid expansion of adult education as exemplified in the Minnesota Emergency Education program.
8. The desirable relationship of the organization and administration of education to other governmental agencies. The constitutional provision for the state control and support of education was pointed out.
9. The possibility and need for federal participation in the support of education.
10. Dangers threatening the freedom of the schools. The need for a public control as against a partisan or political control of schools was stressed.

Commissioner Phillips called attention to the fact that fifty-nine Minnesota schools are now without funds to continue to the end of the year and that a request for funds had been made to the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. On motion the secretary was authorized to wire Mr. Harry Hopkins in the name of the Council urging that this request be approved. The telegram was sent and the following reply was received on April 19.

To M. E. HAGGERTY, Secretary, Citizens Committee

"Hopkins signed grant for sixty-five thousand, five hundred and eighteen dollars to keep rural schools open normal term in Minnesota." C. F. KLINEFELTER, Assistant Director of Emergency Education Programs.

MEETING MAY FIRST

A second meeting of the Council has been arranged for four o'clock on May 1. Commissioner Phillips was requested to present at that time further information relative to the emergency problems of Minnesota schools.

POLICIES OF THE COUNCIL

On motion a statement of principles bearing upon the purposes and activities of the Council was approved. This statement is given herewith:

1. The Minnesota Citizens Council of Education is designed to promote the thoughtful consideration of the problems of education as they are related to the public welfare in the State of Minnesota and in the nation at large.
2. The Council conceives its functions broadly. It seeks to understand the actual and possible values of educational institutions of every type to the modern social order and to promote the welfare and efficiency of these institutions as useful agencies in a continuously changing and growing society.
3. Because of the nature of the problems to be considered it is desired that the Council should be representative of the entire population of Minnesota. It is probably also desirable that there should be sufficient change in the membership from time to time to keep the Council constantly in touch with changing conditions.
4. The work of the Council will be projected on a long time basis. The fundamental problems of education are continuing problems and their solution can not be determined at once for all time.
5. The Council will be a deliberative assembly for the consideration of educational matters as they are related to the public welfare. It is intended that its deliberations shall result in the formulation of policies and modes of action that may be recommended to the citizens of the State for their consideration.
6. It is intended that the active advocacy of any proposals that are made shall be undertaken, if at all, by other interested agencies and individuals. The function of the Council will be achieved through the clarification of issues, the publication of information, and the arraying of arguments relating to important educational issues. The Council will serve its purpose through being itself an educational agency for the general public.
7. In carrying out its purpose the Council will engage in the following activities:
 - a. Receive from its own membership and from other agencies and individuals presentations of educational matters that are of public concern.
 - b. Provide full and free discussion of such matters as are presented to it.
 - c. Foster such useful studies as facilities and resources make possible.

- d. Prepare and consider reports upon educational matters.
 - e. Sponsor public meetings in behalf of education when, in its judgment, such meetings would be useful.
 - f. Issue communications to the public covering such matters as it considers in the public interest.
8. It is recognized that the educational problems that may properly fall within the province of the Council are numerous. The pressing problem of educational support which bulks so large in immediate concern is only one among many. A complete enumeration of all the problems that require the counsel of citizens is not possible. Something of the range of matters that call for public consideration may be suggested by the following questions:
- a. To what degree and in what manner can the schools be more effectively employed to combat the prevalence of crime and delinquency?
 - b. In what ways, if at all, can the schools contribute to a better understanding of the changing social and economic order? What are their resources? Equally important, what are their limitations?
 - c. In view of the actual and probable increase of free time for youth and adults, how may the schools be adjusted and developed so that this increased free time may be usefully employed, and human life enriched?
 - d. What changes in school organization and administration are necessary in order that educational institutions may be more effectively adjusted to other governmental agencies?
 - e. What changes in education are required by the conditions of modern life so that the schools may better fulfill their time-honored function of preparing young people for citizenship?
 - f. How should groups having special interests to be advanced through education operate in relation to the schools?
 - g. How can public opinion be led to require and to support a professional administration of public education free from political and partisan interference?
 - h. How shall existing institutions of higher education be adjusted to each other and what additional provision, if any, is needed in Minnesota?

Such questions are but illustrations. They will serve to indicate the fundamental nature of the problems which the Council accepts as its province for study and consideration.

THE MINNESOTA COUNCIL OF EDUCATION

The membership of the Minnesota Council of Education provided by Judge Devaney's motion, which was unanimously approved by the Citizens Meeting, follows. The agencies whose "presiding officers" are named as the initial members of the Council are all state-wide organizations. The persons named below are those who at the time held the office of president or a corresponding position.

AGENCY	NAME
*University of Minnesota	L. D. COFFMAN, President
*Minnesota State Department of Education	E. M. PHILLIPS, Commissioner
*American Association of University Women, Minnesota Division	MRS. H. K. PAINTER, President 4817 Fremont Ave. So., Minneapolis
American Legion, Department of Minnesota	M. F. MURRAY, State Commander St. Cloud, Minn.
*American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Minnesota	MRS. HOWARD DRESSEL, President Citizens Aid Building, Minneapolis
*League of Minnesota Municipalities	F. T. IRVINE, President Red Wing, Minn.
*Minnesota Division, Daughters of the American Revolution	MRS. MAY F. WISNER, Secretary 3231 Blaisdell Avenue, Minneapolis
*Minnesota State League of Women Voters	MISS RUTH H. MITCHELL, President 914 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis
*Minnesota Congress of Parents and Teachers	MRS. E. L. BAKER, President 1734 Como Avenue S.E., Minneapolis
*Minnesota Education Association	MISS DAISY BROWN, President Stillwater, Minn.
*Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation	A. J. OLSON, President 600 Shubert Building, St. Paul
*Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs	MRS. THOMAS MOHN, President Red Wing, Minn.
Minnesota Junior Chamber of Commerce	L. E. VORPAHL, President St. Cloud, Minn.
Minnesota State Bar Association	FRANK W. MURPHY, President Wheaton, Minn.
*Minnesota State Conference and Institute of Social Work	MISS BELLE MEAD, President Jones Hall, University of Minnesota
*Minnesota State Federation of Labor	E. G. HALL, President 4124 Bryant Ave. So., Minneapolis
Minnesota State Medical Association	DR. F. J. SAVAGE, President 355 Lowry Building, St. Paul
*Minnesota State School Board Association	OTTO W. KOLSHORN, President Red Wing, Minn.
*Author of the Motion Creating the Council	JUDGE JOHN P. DEVANEY, Chief Justice Minnesota State Supreme Court

* Agencies represented at the first meeting.

May 3, 1934

American Federation of Teachers
506 S. Wabash Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Gentlemen:

Do you have any extra copies of the April, 1933, issue of the magazine which you publish, ~~THE~~ American Teacher? We have been informed that that issue contains an article with 20 suggestions on retrenchment of school costs, proposed by some business men's organization. We are very eager to secure a copy of the article in order to know what the suggestions were and by whom they were proposed. We shall be glad to pay whatever charge there is for a copy. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Lamson
Office Secretary

April 23, 1934

Chamber of Commerce of the U. S.
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

We understand that you publish a pamphlet containing twenty points for possible reductions in expenditures for education. If there is no charge, will you please send us a copy. If there is a charge, please let us know how much it is. Thank you.

Sincerely,

MINNESOTA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

By

Elizabeth Lanson
Office Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

May 5, 1934

Date Rec'd. **MAY 5 1934**

Re: by

1. Sec.

1. Sec.

1. Sec.

1. Sec.

Honorable John P. Devaney, Chairman
Honorable E. M. Phillips
Honorable G. W. Lawson
Mrs. E. L. Baker
Miss Ruth Mitchell

Committee on Permanent Organization

Gentlemen and Ladies

I am appointing you to serve as members of a committee on the permanent organization of the Minnesota Council of Education. I should like to have this committee make recommendations at the next meeting for a president, vice-president, and secretary.

I enclose a list of the membership of the Council to date.

Cordially yours

L. D. Giffen
Acting President
Minnesota Council of Education

Organizations to be invited to membership in the Minnesota
Council of Education (Principal officer indicated)

Conservation Department

Mr. E. V. Willard, Commissioner of Conservation
State Office Building, St. Paul, Minn.

County Superintendents

Mr. John M. Henderson, Ottertail County, Fergus Falls, Minn.
Miss Nora A. Nilsen, Carleton County, Moose Lake, Minn.

Minnesota Association of Commercial Secretaries

Mr. H. C. Jensen, President, Hutchinson, Minn.

Minnesota Council of School Executives

Mr. W. E. Englund, President
Superintendent of Schools, Ely, Minn.

Minnesota Crop Improvement Association

Mr. C. L. Blanchar, Fairmont, Minn.

Minnesota Horticulture Association

Mr. R. S. Mackintosh, President
Horticultural Building, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

Minnesota State Dental Association

Dr. C. C. Sparrow, President, 618 LaSalle Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.

Minnesota State Tax Commission

Mr. George Wallace, State Capitol, St. Paul, Minn.

Minnesota Teachers Colleges

Mr. James J. Quigley, St. Cloud, Minn.
Mr. Frank A. Sheehan, Winona, Minn.

State Livestock Breeders Association

Mr. W. S. Moscrip, Lake Elmo, Minn.

Minnesota State Planning Board

Dean R. E. Scammon, University of Minnesota

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Minnesota Division

Mr. John B. LaDue, State Commander, Highway Building, St. Paul, Minn.

Women's Auxiliary to the Minnesota State Medical Association

Mrs. A. A. Passer, President, Olivia, Minn.

Individuals to be invited to membership in the Minnesota Council of Education

Ames, C. L.	West Pub. Co., 50 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul	
Benson, Harry W.		St. Peter
Boddy, Rev. Wm. H.	25 Groveland Terrace	Minneapolis
Botsford, Mrs. C. M.		Winona
Bryn-Jones, Rev. David	1915 Colfax Avenue So. . . .	Minneapolis
Campton, C. E.	Supt. of Schools	Two Harbors
Dragoo, Mrs. C. C.		St. Cloud
Eastman, Alva		St. Cloud
Eliot, F. M.	807 Fairmount Avenue	St. Paul
Evans, John		Montevideo
Flatt, Ole		Fisher
Gemnell, W. H.		Brainerd
Gillam, Paul	Mayor	Windom
Hitchcock, Gilbert		Hibbing
Jones, E. J.	Mayor	Worthington
Keyes, C. F.	1218 McKnight Bldg.	Minneapolis
King, Alexander		Coleraine
Lawson, George W.	416 N. Franklin St.	St. Paul
Lokken, O. E.		Crookston
Luwe, Mrs. W. R.		Mankato
Mather, Glenn	c/o Council of Parent-Teacher Assns.	Citizens Aid Bldg.
Meighen, Judge John F. L.		Albert Lea /Mpls.
Mendenhall, Mrs. A. A.	1747 Columbus Avenue	Duluth
Minda, Rabbi A. G.	1919 Dupont Ave. So.	Minneapolis
Mitchell, H. Z.		Bemidji
Morrison, J. C.		Morris
Moynihan, Rev. H.	3817 Pleasant Ave. So. . . .	Minneapolis
Muir, Harry		Winnebago
Robilliard, Dr. C. M.		Faribault
Roe, Herman		Northfield
Rossmann, L. A.		Grand Rapids
Sander, Parker		Redwood Falls
Sommers, Charles L.	9 Crocus Hill	St. Paul
Stub, Rev. J.A.O.	2016 Emerson Ave. So. . . .	Minneapolis
Waite, Judge E. F.	City Hall	Minneapolis
White, Frank		Marshall

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

Mrs. Pearce

Date Rec'd MAY 8 1934

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Read by

May 5, 1934

Pres.
Asst. Sec.
Office Sec.
Field Sec.

Dean M. E. Haggerty, Chairman

Mr. Harold R. Benjamin, Acting Chairman during Dean Haggerty's absence
this summer

President George A. Selke - State Teachers College

Dean R. E. Scammon - Minnesota State Planning Board

Mrs. H. K. Painter - American Association of University Women

✓ Mrs. William Pierce - Minnesota League of Women Voters

Mr. Herman Roe - Minnesota Editorial Association

Mr. George Wallace - Minnesota State Tax Commission

Committee on Studies

Gentlemen and Ladies

At the meeting on May 1 of the Minnesota Council of Education
I was directed to appoint a Committee on Studies. I am appointing you
to serve as members of this committee.

Some suggestions have been made for studies. I enclose a copy
of these suggestions. The personnel listed in each instance was not
intended in any sense to be inclusive; as a matter of fact, none of those
mentioned need to be appointed on any of these studies. I may say that
I have prepared a general plan which includes some of these studies to be
submitted to the Minnesota State Planning Board in the hope that it may
be willing to give us some funds for our work. Further than that I have
taken no steps as yet to arrange for any studies.

Cordially yours

R. D. Hoffman
Acting President
Minnesota Council of Education

MINNESOTA COUNCIL OF EDUCATION

Proposals for Studies

It is proposed that the Council sponsor a series of studies, the purpose of which would be to provide a basis for a sound program of educational recovery and development in Minnesota.

The following studies are suggested for the consideration of the Committee.

- 1) Factors which create the educational emergency in Minnesota. Decreased revenues - increased enrolments - threatened shortening of school terms, closing of schools - unemployed teachers.

Suggested personnel: Mr. E. M. Phillips and colleagues in the State Department of Education.

- 2) Problems of taxation as related to school revenues. - Needed improvements in taxation methods.

Suggested personnel: Mr. Roy G. Blakey, George Wallace, et al.

- 3) Needed legislation relating to State aid to schools.

Suggested personnel: Members of the State Department of Education, Mr. Engelhardt, et al.

- 4) Teachers Salaries. A study of the situation with a view to the formulation of a state program.

Suggested personnel: Mr. Engelhardt, a representative of the State Department of Education, a representative of the State School Board Association, and representatives of the public schools.

- 5) The larger administrative district.

Suggested personnel: Mr. Campton, Mr. Engelhardt, Mr. Engum, Mr. Elsberg, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Jesness.

6) Education and the Changing Social Pattern.

A series of fundamental studies designed to discover what changes, if any, are needed to improve the services of educational agencies to current social and civic needs. Among the many phases of this problem are those relating to crime and delinquency, unemployment, shifts in economic conditions, changes in standards of living, the emergence of new social ideas and practices, the incidence of international influences.

Suggestions of personnel to consider studies in this area: Mr. Coffman, Judge Deveney, Mr. Scammon, Mr. Haggerty, Miss Marguerite Wells, Mr. Chapin, Rev. Bryn-Jones, Mr. Cowling, Father Moynihan, Mr. Willey, Mr. Muir, Judge Melghan, Dr. Savage, Mr. Coffey, Mr. A.J. Olson, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Vaughn, Mr. Wahlstrand, Mr. Hegel, Miss Wright.

7) New educational movements, particularly the growth of adult education.

Suggested personnel: Mr. Benjamin, Mr. Murchie, Miss Kohler, Judge Waite.

8) Need for improvement of teaching personnel.

Personnel: Mr. Phillips, Mr. Selke, Mr. Peik, Mr. Simley.

9) The relationship of educational organization and administration to other governmental agencies and functions.

Personnel: Mr. Fraser, Mr. O.P. Field, Mr. McKelroy, Mr. Kirk, Mr. Keyes, Mr. Haggerty, Mr. Irvine, Mrs. W.F. Decker.

10) The present and needed participation of the Federal Government in Minnesota education.

Suggested personnel: The Executive Committee of the Governor's Commission on Unemployed Youth.

11) Factors threatening the freedom of the schools.

Suggested personnel: Mr. Swenson, Dr. Will H. Mayo, Rev. Eliot

12) Needed organization of higher education in Minnesota.
Suggested personnel:

13) The improvement of the materials of instruction.
Suggested personnel:

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

Date Recd. MAY 8 1934

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Read by

May 5, 1934

Pres.
Ex. Sec.
Ch. Sec. ✓
Field Sec.

Miss Ruth H. Mitchell
Minnesota State League of Women Voters
Minneapolis, Minnesota

My dear Miss Mitchell

Attached is a list of the names of those who were
voted to membership in the Minnesota Council of Education
at the meeting on May 1, 1934.

It was my understanding that each member of the
Council would submit names of others who might be added to
the list. I should appreciate it, therefore, if you would
send me the names of any additional persons whom you would
like to have considered for membership.

Cordially yours



Acting President
Minnesota Council of Education

Organizations to be invited to membership in the Minnesota
Council of Education (Principal officer indicated)

Conservation Department

Mr. E. V. Willard, Commissioner of Conservation
State Office Building, St. Paul, Minn.

County Superintendents

Mr. John M. Henderson, Ottertail County, Fergus Falls, Minn.
Miss Nora A. Nilsen, Carleton County, Moose Lake, Minn.

Minnesota Association of Commercial Secretaries

Mr. H. C. Jensen, President, Hutchinson, Minn.

Minnesota Council of School Executives

Mr. W. E. Englund, President
Superintendent of Schools, Ely, Minn.

Minnesota Crop Improvement Association

Mr. C. L. Blanchar, Fairmont, Minn.

Minnesota Horticulture Association

Mr. R. S. Mackintosh, President
Horticultural Building, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

Minnesota State Dental Association

Dr. C. C. Sparrow, President, 618 LaSalle Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.

Minnesota State Tax Commission

Mr. George Wallace, State Capitol, St. Paul, Minn.

Minnesota Teachers Colleges

Mr. James J. Quigley, St. Cloud, Minn.
Mr. Frank A. Sheehan, Winona, Minn.

State Livestock Breeders Association

Mr. W. S. Moscrip, Lake Elmo, Minn.

Minnesota State Planning Board

Dean R. E. Scammon, University of Minnesota

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Minnesota Division

Mr. John B. LaDue, State Commander, Highway Building, St. Paul, Minn.

Women's Auxiliary to the Minnesota State Medical Association

Mrs. A. A. Passer, President, Olivia, Minn.

Individuals to be invited to membership in the Minnesota Council of Education

Ames, C. L.	West Pub. Co., 50 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul	
Benson, Harry W.		St. Peter
Boddy, Rev. Wm. H.	25 Groveland Terrace	Minneapolis
Botsford, Mrs. C. M.		Winona
Bryn-Jones, Rev. David	1915 Colfax Avenue So. . . .	Minneapolis
Campton, C. E.	Supt. of Schools	Two Harbors
Dragoo, Mrs. C. C.		St. Cloud
Eastman, Alva		St. Cloud
Eliot, F. M.	807 Fairmount Avenue	St. Paul
Evans, John		Montevideo
Flatt, Ole		Fisher
Gemmell, W. H.		Brainerd
Gillam, Paul	Mayor	Windom
Hitchcock, Gilbert		Hibbing
Jones, E. J.	Mayor	Worthington
Keyes, C. F.	1218 McKnight Bldg.	Minneapolis
King, Alexander		Coleraine
Lawson, George W.	416 N. Franklin St.	St. Paul
Lokken, O. E.		Crookston
Luwe, Mrs. W. R.		Mankato
Mather, Glenn	c/o Council of Parent-Teacher Assns.	Citizens Aid Bldg.
Meighen, Judge John F. L.		Albert Lea /Mpls.
Mendenhall, Mrs. A. A.	1747 Columbus Avenue	Duluth
Minda, Rabbi A. G.	1919 Dupont Ave. So.	Minneapolis
Mitchell, H. Z.		Bemidji
Morrison, J. C.		Morris
Moynihan, Rev. H.	3817 Pleasant Ave. So. . . .	Minneapolis
Muir, Harry		Winnebago
Robilliard, Dr. C. M.		Faribault
Roe, Herman		Northfield
Rossmann, L. A.		Grand Rapids
Sander, Parker		Redwood Falls
Sommers, Charles L.	9 Crocus Hill	St. Paul
Stub, Rev. J.A.C.	2016 Emerson Ave. So. . . .	Minneapolis
Waite, Judge E. F.	City Hall	Minneapolis
White, Frank		Marshall



Mrs. Pearce

FLORENCE CURTIS HANSON, Sec'y-Treas

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor

506 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago, Illinois



May 7, 1934

MAY 9 1934

Read by

Pres.

Ex. Sec.

Off. Sec. ✓

Field Sec.

Miss Elizabeth Lamson, Office Sec'y
Minnesota League of Women Voters
914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Miss Lamson:

The requested copy of The AMERICAN TEACHER
of April 1933 has been forwarded to you. I am
enclosing for your further information a photostat
copy of this communication of the U. S. Chamber of
Commerce, and the story of how it came to our
knowledge.

Faithfully yours,

Florence Curtis Hanson

Sec.-Treas.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

FCH:P

POSSIBLE FIELDS OF ECONOMY
IN SCHOOL RETRENCHMENT

1. Purchase of supplies.
2. Operation of physical plant.
3. Reduction in cost of collecting school funds and of debt service by consolidation and refunding of outstanding indebtedness where possible.
4. Postponement of new capital outlay for buildings and replacements.
5. Transfer supervisors to classrooms.
6. Simplify curricula.
7. Simplify overhead administration and centralize responsibility.
8. Shorten school day one hour.
9. Increase size of classes.
10. Increase teaching hours.
11. Repairs and maintenance of physical plant.
12. Suspend automatic increases of salaries.
13. Reduction in teachers' salaries not to exceed ten per cent.
14. Shorten school year not to exceed twelve per cent.
15. Discontinue evening classes.
16. Discontinue kindergartens.
17. Reduce elementary school curriculums by consolidation from eight to seven years.
18. Reduce high school curriculums by consolidation from four to three.
19. Transfer one-third of cost of all instruction above high school level from taxpayer to pupil.
20. Impose fee on high school students.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
MINNEAPOLIS

Date Rec'd MAY 9 1934

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Read by

Pres.
Ex. Sec. ✓
Office Sec.
Field Sec.

May 8, 1934

Denny weat

Memorandum to the Committee on Studies of the Minnesota
Council of Education:

In the absence of Dean Haggerty from the city
Dr. Coffman has appointed me as acting chairman of the
Committee on Studies of the Minnesota Council of Educa-
tion. I am therefore calling the first meeting of this
Committee for Saturday, May 12, at 12:15 o'clock in the
Minnesota Union on the University Campus. I should be
glad to know if you will be present.

Cordially yours,

Harold Benjamin

Assistant Dean

Mrs. William Pierce
914 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, Minn.

May 9, 1934

Mrs. Wm. R. Pearce
Faribault, Minn.

My dear Mrs. Pearce:

You have been appointed a member of the Committee on Studies which President Coffman was authorized to appoint at the May 1st meeting of the Minnesota Council of Education. Mr. Don-
jamin is Acting Chairman of this Committee in Leon Haggerty's ab-
sence. He has called the first meeting for Saturday, May 12th,
at 12:15 o'clock in the Minnesota Union, and wishes to know whether
or not you can attend. Probably Friday when you come up for Board
meeting will not be too late to let him know. I thought that I had
better write you about the meeting so that you could be planning
for it.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Lensen
Office Secretary

REPORT OF MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON STUDIES, MAY 12, 1934
Meeting held in small dining room at Men's Union. Dr. Benjamin presided-
Others present were President Selke of St. Cloud, Mr. Wallace of the State Tax Com.,

Mr. Rowe 1) Factor# which create the educational emergency in Minnesota. Decreased revenues -
of the Minn. increased enrolments - threatened shortening of school terms, closing of schools -
Editorial unemployed teachers.

Association
and Mrs. C. M.
Denny.

Mr. Selke remarked that the people of the state should have the figures
on Emergency in Education, most of which can be obtained from the State
Department of Education, and he moved that the committee be continued.
The motion was seconded by Mr. Wallace.
It was decided that Mr. Phillips, Chairman of this Committee, should
select his helpers and Committee.

- 2) Problems of taxation as related to school revenues. Needed improvements in
taxation methods.

Possible economies suggested instead of consolidation of districts.
The names of Mr. Blakey, Mr. Wallace, Mrs. Richards, Mr. Inglehart and
Mr. McDonald were suggested for the committee. The fact that farmers
should be represented upon the committee was mentioned and Mr. Wallace
thought it might be well to add a member of the Senate Committee.

- 3) Needed legislation relating to State aid to schools.

President Selke remarked that State Aid might be thrown in with 5 (the
larger administrative unit). Mr. Benjamin said that undoubtedly all
the subjects will be coordinated. It was suggested that administrative
economies in education such as larger administrative units might be
stimulated through state aid. Suggestions for improved state aid are
to be recommended.

Professor Boraas, President of the State Board of Education, Mr. Ingle-
hart, Mr. Spindler, Mr. Utney, were suggested as members of the Committee
President Selke thought Mr. Spindler should be Chairman. Mr. Benjamin agreed.

- 4) Teachers salaries. A study of the situation with a view to the formulation of
a state program.

President Selke thought 4 might be dropped. Mr. Benjamin thought it would
probably adjust itself.

- 5) The larger administrative district.

The names of Mr. Compton, Mrs. Pearce and Mr. Larson (Superintendent of
Koochiching County Schools) were proposed for this committee.

6) Education and the Changing Social Pattern

A series of fundamental studies designed to discover what changes, if any, are needed to improve the services of educational agencies to current social and civic needs. Among the many phases of this problem are those relating to crime and delinquency, unemployment, shifts in economic conditions, changes in standards of living, the emergence of new social ideas and practices, the incidence of international influences.

Dr. Coffman was suggested for chairman of the committee. Miss Wells, President Selke, Mr. Smith of Stillwater among those named for the committee, and the dropping of several professors from the list was proposed.

7) New educational movements, particularly the growth of adult education.

8) Need for improvement of teaching personnel.

Mr. Sinley's name was proposed for chairman and Mr. Phillips, President Selke and Mrs. Painter were suggested for members of the committee.

9) The relationship of educational organization and administration to other governmental agencies and functions.

This was pronounced a very important question. All agreed that Dean Fraser would be an excellent chairman of the committee.

10) The present and needed participation of the Federal Government in Minnesota education.

It was suggested that the Executive Committee of the Governor's Commission on Unemployed Youth serve as the committee on this subject.

- 11) Factors threatening the freedom of the schools.

It was proposed that Dr. Will Mayo be asked to serve as chairman of the committee and Mr. Rowe, because of his newspaper experience, was suggested as a member of the committee.

- 12) Needed organization of higher education in Minnesota

Dean Haggerty named as Chairman.

- 13) The improvement of the materials of instruction.

J. R. McCrory of St. Cloud was suggested for this committee.

Mabel S. Denny,
May 12, 1934.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

July 3, 1934

Superintendent C. E. Campton, Chairman
Superintendent W. E. Englund
Superintendent John Henderson
Professor William Anderson
Professor Fred Engelhardt
Professor O. E. Jesness
Mr. N. W. Elsberg
Mr. Otto W. Kolshorn
✓ Mrs. William Pearce

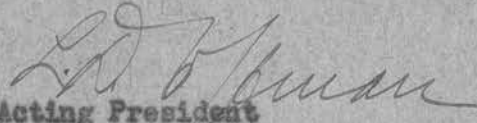
Gentlemen and Madam

On March 30, 1934, at a great public meeting held at the University of Minnesota, a permanent Council of Education was created. I enclose a pamphlet giving you the information relative to this Council. Later, at a meeting of the Council, I was directed to appoint a committee to draw up certain subjects for investigation, with the understanding that the committees would report upon these subjects at some meeting of the Council this winter.

I am taking the liberty of asking if you would be willing to serve as a member of the committee to study the possible economies through administrative re-arrangements:

- a. The larger administrative district,
- b. Other possible economies.

Cordially yours


Acting President
Minnesota Council of Education

Enc

August 29, 1934

Dr. L. D. Coffman
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear President Coffman:

Mrs. Wm. Pearce, chairman of our department of Government and Education, has asked me to inform you that she will be very glad to serve as a member of the committee of the Minnesota Council of Education to study the possible economies through administrative rearrangements of which Superintendent C. E. Compton is chairman.

Mrs. Pearce is sorry for the delay in letting you know of her acceptance.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Lamson
Office Secretary

LAKE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

C. E. CAMPTON, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

TWO HARBORS, MINNESOTA

Two Harbors,
Minnesota,
October 22nd,
Nineteen thirty-four.

Supt. W. E. Englund, Ely, Minnesota.
Supt. J. M. Henderson, Fergus Falls, Minn.
Prof. William Anderson, Minneapolis, Minn.
Prof. Fred Englehardt, Minneapolis, Minn.
Prof. O. B. Jesnes, St. Paul, Minn.
Mrs. William Pearce, Faribault, Minn.
Mr. T. C. Engum, St. Paul, Minn.
Mr. J. T. Allison, St. Paul, Minn.
Mr. Otto W. Kolshorn, Red Wing, Minn.

Gentlemen and Madam:

There will be a luncheon meeting of the committee appointed by President Lotus D. Coffman to study the possible economies through administrative rearrangement: a. A larger administrative unit. b. Other possible economies. This meeting will be held on Thursday, November 1, at 12:15 in the Men's Union on the University campus.

I am calling this meeting for the purpose of outlining the study to be made, and for the assigning of different parts to different individuals to work on same.

I trust that it will be possible for you to be present. A reply to this letter will be appreciated so that we may know how many to arrange for.

Yours truly,



Superintendent of Schools.

CEC:NC

Meeting of the Committee on Larger Administration Units and Other Possible
Economics, November 1, Minnesota Union, University of Minnesota

Members Present: C.E. Campton, chairman, W. E. Englund, Wm. Anderson, Fred Engelhardt, O. B. Jesness, T. C. Engum, J. T. Allison, Mrs. Wm. Pearce.

The chairman presented as his idea of the purpose of this committee to be the outlining of steps to be taken to promote larger units - should this be further research or sponsoring a bill, or what?

Mr. Engum reported that the State Department of Education has within the week received a grant of Federal funds to conduct a survey in 14 representative counties as to present conditions in school districts and as to possible reorganizations. This will take about 4 months for its completion and analysis and summary.

Mr. Engelhardt thought we ought not to wait for the results of this survey which will suggest details of procedure but that we should request the Dept. of Education or the Commissioner to draft a measure permitting counties to reorganize. This was the opinion of the committee. Mr. Engelhardt and Mr. Campton were asked to represent the committee in making this request of Mr. Rockwell.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Pearce.

MEETING OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AT THE CURTIS HOTEL

January 14, 1935, 8 p.m.

Present: Dr. Boquist, American Legion; Mrs. Moore, American Legion; Mr. Rosenbloom, School Protective League; Mrs. Ladd, Tri-City Legislative Committee; Mrs. Smith, State Federation of Clubs; Mrs. Warren, Fifth District Federation of Clubs; Miss Daisey Brown, M. E. A.; Mr. Mather, Chairman, Citizens Committee; Mrs. Powers, Legislative Committee; Mr. Umstattd, Chairman, Legislative Committee.

Mrs. Ladd reported first on tax bills introduced so far and gave us the names of committeemen both in Senate and House.

There are four bills drawn for restoring auto vehicle tax. As the house is not completely organized, no bills have as yet been introduced.

Senator Sullivan has introduced a bill in Senate taking all the state tax off real estate.

Senator Rockne has a bill to relieve real estate 50%. Ready for introduction.

Senator McKenzie has a tax limitation bill to be introduced soon. Miss Brown said the M. E. A. would stand for tax limitation, only on condition other satisfactory bills are introduced to restore lost revenue.

A discussion followed concerning the advisability of our entering into the tax limitation battle, on the theory that it might make enemies for us.

Mr. Mather moves that we defer any comments on tax limitation in our bulletins until assent had been given by a majority of the legislative committees. Mrs. Ladd seconds. Carried.

Mr. Umstattd took up the bills which have been prepared by the State Department. He reported on a conference he and Miss Brown had had with Dr. Rockwell.

The first bill is the ~~Larger~~ Unit. It is similar to the bill introduced in the last session. Ready for introduction. Mr. Rosenbloom moves we favor this bill. Mrs. Smith seconds. Carried.

The bill for State Aid was then brought up. As this bill is highly technical, it was not fully discussed.

This committee favors constructive revision of State Aid.

Mr. Umstattd read the committee's bill, enclosed herewith, prepared by Mr. Rottshafer, and moved we approve this bill. Carried.

A discussion followed as to the advisability of approaching Lynn Thompson to try to line up the Junior Taxpayers Association with our program. A committee was chosen to approach Mr. Thompson. The committee is to be Dr. Boquist, Mr. Mather, and Mrs. Powers.

Mrs. Smith reported Mrs. Painter will speak in the auditorium of the State Office Building, January 16. February 6 a speaker will broadcast over WCCO. Mrs. Powers will speak over WTCN January 23.

The next meeting of the general committee will be January 28.

The legislative committee will meet Saturday, January 26, at Leamington Hotel at 12:15.

Gertrude S. Powers
Secretary, Legislative Committee

(Tentative draft)

No. 1

An Act to Appropriate Money for Aids to High, Graded and Semi-graded, and
Rural Schools

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. There is hereby appropriated from any moneys in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated \$11,400,000 available for the year ending June 30, 1936, and \$11,400,000 available for the year ending June 30, 1937, to be distributed among all of the school districts of this state on the basis of the aggregate number of days of pupil attendance during the school year of such districts ending on or before June 30, 1935 and 1936, respectively. The amounts hereby appropriated shall be in addition to all other amounts now or hereafter appropriated for distribution to any or all such districts.

Section 2. Amounts received by any district hereunder shall be used by it for the current operating and maintenance expenses of the schools of said district, for the payment of interest on its capital obligations, and for the discharge of any capital obligation incurred prior to January 1, 1935, that matures during the year for which the appropriation is made available, under Section 1.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of each district receiving any money from the sums hereby appropriated to reduce the amount to be raised by it for maintenance and operation by levies on general property so that the amount thus raised shall not exceed the amount thus raised for such purposes for the school year ending during the calendar year 1931, minus the amount received by it from the amounts hereby appropriated. In computing this levy on general property the levying authorities may assume a delinquency rate not in excess of that experienced in the district with respect to levies for 1934 payable during 1935.

Mrs. Cant's Minutes of Educational Conference

[1935?]

Apr 17

- Questions:
- (1) Need of Permanent organization?
 - (2) Personnel?
 - (3) Organization?
 - (4) Functions?
 - (5) Interference with programs of participating organizations

Coordination?

Phillips - Need for legislative changes

State aid - more uniform basis for support

Supplemental state aid for districts which cannot raise \$40 for each pupil enrolled from 20 mill tax on assessed valuation.

Need for measure to determine ability of locality to raise \$40 per pupil enrolled.

Present abuse - districts try to get more pupils to get more aid.

Twining - Teacher Training

Certificate law: 1 yr. course

2 yr. course

Raise qualification

1700 college graduates unemployed

2400 - 2-4 yr. training unemployed

Selection of Teachers

Bd. of state normal presidents turned down selective admission due to reluctance to refuse chance of further education to youth when we have no real selective standard

Coffman - a second year of education a selective means.

Coffman - What changes in school system?

Unit - Suggests federal survey of school population and need for schoolhouses. Map and stars to represent.

Engelhardt - No federal expenditure for new buildings

Blakey - Past consolidation and costly buildings have prejudiced taxpayers.

Coffman - Opposition to Destructive Economy

Interpretation of new methods

Demonstrations

Minimum salary - 600 elemental

800 elemental

helped by state aid in N. Y. and Pa.

Adjustment to cost of living

Coffman - suppose sales tax to guarantee a minimum salary.

Tax delinquency - lifting in certain areas due to federal loans and destruction of buildings. \$1,000,000 less delinquency

Indirect taxes reduced 20%

Direct taxes take from 30-40%; increased from 20-25%

Finance - Remake tax program

State Aid

New Units - In charter - Cooperation of school board and council in Moorhead and Lake City

Maps made by state highway dept.

Shall schools be kept separate to keep them free from politics?

How improve teachers - 1/5 have only high school training - salaries below unskilled labor

Education in relation to social program

Crime

Genetics

Unemployment

To prosperity and economic stability

Benjamin - Program for next year

Now 7 main projects under fed. relief funds through Dept. of Ed.

Outside school: Adult illiteracy
Vocational Education
Vocational Rehabilitation
Adult Education
Nursery School
Part time collegiate work

Next year: Study problem - Take rural ed. administration as
crucial area

Building, operation and evaluation area.

Develop technique

Demonstration program for stimulation

Engelhardt - Demonstration of Larger School Unit.

Equal opportunity - county next step - present school dist. entrenched

Must show what larger unit will do - Survey and Study

Source of Economy:

1. School building, location, utilization - fitness

2. Transportation

3. Coordinate 1 and 2

State Highway Dept. - roads, maps etc.

4. Manner of school support - standardized teachers salary

5. Detailed study of existing consolidations

6. Analysis of cost load on farm lands

7. Plan for liquidation of buildings. Building Plan in
advance on cash basis.

Moved to send telegram, suggested by Mrs. Painter and recommended by Phillips,
to Federal Emergency Relief Administration asking for immediate relief
for 59 school without funds.

Mather of P.T.A. - Immediate Program

1. Improvement in tax collections - encourage public to pay

2. Systematic survey of laws dealing with tax delinquency
too many bargaining arrangements

3. Mr. Geo. Wallace has files of how tax delinquency works

1933 compromise basis

collection of rents

law? how constitutional?

Progress - issuing of minutes.