

School Superintendent Reports Concern About New State Laws

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
 Assemblyman, 46th District
 J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, and secretary to the Board of Education, Torrance Unified School District, on Jan. 16 sent me the following letter with permission to publish it and with the statement that it has the full approval of the Torrance Board of Education.

my in public education which the last session of the legislature produced.
 "One example is in the area of foreign language where the board is not convinced that it is desirable or necessarily appropriate for all students to be taught a foreign language at the expense of the taxpayer.

"ANOTHER POINT that the board is deeply concerned about is the number of times that this last session of the Legislature gave responsibilities to the school as a result of

various pressure groups approaching the legislature without providing any funds to carry out these responsibilities. Foreign language is an example of this. We feel it should be permissive and state funds should be provided to carry it out.

"Another point is the many additions to the record keeping and procedures in personnel, which are going to be costly to school districts but which are not going to produce any different results in the classroom.

"AT A TIME when the legislature limited the budget so that a certain percentage has to be put into teachers' salaries, it is creating more expenses outside the teachers' salary category to finance additional factors in the area of personnel services.

"These types of inconsistencies are creating considerable consternation among school people and school trustees, and we are writing this letter to inform you of our feelings about such matters for future reference.

"IF THE STATE is going to enter the field of administrative detail and prescription in education, it should clearly provide money with each new requirement. New requirements require more personnel. If the requirement is not supported with funds it simply means watering down of the existing program.
 "Yours very truly,
 "J. H. Hull
 "Secretary to the board"

IF YOU HAVE any comments to make on the letter

from Dr. J. H. Hull quoted above, please write to me at Post Office Box 327, Redondo Beach, and list numerically your comments, stating whether you agree or disagree with Dr. Hull, and exactly what you want the legislature to do to change existing laws. During 1962, we can introduce budget bills, but all other bills require the written consent of the governor.

M. E. WEBBER, M.D., an eminent general practitioner in medicine and surgery in the

area, has asked me to discover the author of the following poem which Dr. Webber regards as pertinent to our Atomic Age:

"On an ancient wall in China Where a brooding Buddha blinks, Deeply graven is this message: 'It is later than you think!' The clock of life is wound but once And no man has the power To tell just when the hands will stop At late or early hour. Now is the only time you own. The past is a golden link. Go fishing now my brother. It is later than you think!"

IF YOU KNOW the author of the above poem and the place and date of its first publication, please write to me, P.O. Box 327, Redondo Beach. The first person who sends me the correct answer will receive a bound copy of a book containing the U.S. Constitution and the Constitution of the State of California.
 In addition to his advice to go fishing, which is the author of the poem would probably agree with me in this Atomic Age all the material forces we can bring to bear will avail us nothing unless we remember the opening lines of the hymn by Martin Luther which begins: "A mighty Fortress is our God, A Bulwark never failing"



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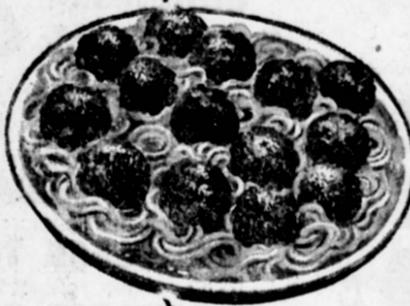


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