

Children, Adults Express Opinions On Proposed School Bond Issue

O'Neill, Nebraska

Dear Editor:

In answer to OLD GUARD—Yep OLD GUARD is right. Tax payers you must vote no to the School Bond Issue and guard your FINANCES. If you want our town to become another Horse and Buggy era with our Ranchers and Farmers taking their "FINANCES" elsewhere to spend because of our crowded school. Not to mention new industries passing us by because of our crowded school. Can't help but wonder if "OLD GUARD" drives a horse down town or drives an OLDSMOBILE to do his or her buying.

So dear Taxpayers if you feel you can afford to spend a little (that little tax wouldn't even pay for a small party) to gain a lot VOTE "YES" to the School Bond Issue. This Old Guard is interested in our town and our children, and not just a few additional dollars on the tax sheet, called "FINANCES".

Modern Old Guard

Why We Need a New School

I think we need a new high school because if the present conditions are not changed we will be unable to keep good teachers in O'Neill because they will go to other towns where they will get paid more.

The conditions in many other towns are much better than O'Neill's. We are much too crowded and my room (Mrs. Beckwith's) is so hot that in the afternoon we have all the windows open and the temperature never gets below 85 degrees even during the coldest weather.

This year the seventh and fourth grades are going to school half days.

If a school is not built we will soon have to turn away our rural students. In turn we will lose their business because they wouldn't want to shop in a town that couldn't provide schooling for them. Not only will taxes be raised to make up for the loss in tuition, but business will go down too.

If teachers start leaving our school we cannot operate without them. To bring in new teachers, the salaries will have to be raised to get them here which will eventually raise the taxes.

The future of O'Neill lies in its school facilities. The students of today are the business men of tomorrow. We must provide educational opportunities or people will start moving away from O'Neill. This would stop factories from coming here. This in turn would stop O'Neill from growing and would make the towns around us grow bigger because of the people moving out of O'Neill. Those looking for work would bypass us to go on to a bigger town. Our cities future, to a great extent depends upon the schools it provides now and in the years immediately ahead.

Bill Enke

Dear Sir:

How many of us know the operational costs of the O'Neill public schools? Here are a few figures which may help you to decide whether or not District 7 taxpayers can afford to build and operate another school plant and thus multiply your present commitments.

For the school year 1960-61 District 7 asked for and received \$102,150 from the general tax fund. (This is an increase from \$71,595 asked in 1955.)

School levy for 1955 was 16.6 mills and in 1960, 21.62 mills. Total tax levy in 1955 was 19. mills and in 1960, 23.42 mills. These figures show that the operational cost of our public schools takes the lion's share of our tax money.

If this proposed school bond passes, the above school levy will take a jump of 5 to 10 YOTE (maybe more) because there will be a second school plant to operate and finance. (This jump will not cover building costs.)

The above figures do not include the other sources of revenue which go into the school fund. Some of these sources are free high school and grade tuition, traffic fines, head tax, school land leases, state appropriations to agricultural courses, licenses, tax on liquor and tobacco sales, etc. Hence, the "operational" figures exceed, by a considerable margin, the \$102,150 taken from the general tax fund.

Like everything else in recent years, school operational costs have advanced steeply in recent years, and no relief appears on the horizon. So, Mr. and Mrs. Voter, do you feel financially able to assume the additional costs of building and operating yet another school?

Remember that the cost of erecting a new high school building is only the initial cost. Then comes the operational costs. We'll have two school plants to maintain and operate, so our burden will be two-fold.

As anyone knows, it isn't the initial cost, it's the upkeep that counts—always!

Watch It

O'Neill, Nebraska
November 28, 1960

Dear Editor:

In the past election PROGRESS was the cry of the politicians and by the results, "March Ahead" is America's desire.

Progress, prosperity and peace mean much to the American. We can not not protest and lag!

Our most precious possession is the children of O'Neill. They have the best homes and the best of everything that we have.

We must have the best in school facilities to keep up with the progress of our times.

Come on let's vote FOR the new school December 9. We must! It is our civic duty.

A Taxpayer and a Landowner

O'Neill, Nebr.

Nov. 23

Dear Sirs:

Numerous times in the past weeks I have heard the O'Neill Chamber of Commerce advertise for people to fill out a blank form in the local newspapers if they would be interested in working for an industry or factory if one would locate in O'Neill.

It is only logical no progressive industry will come into a town that does not have adequate schools.

Let's wise up and get out December 9 and vote for a new public school.

For Progress

Dear Sir:

The official 1960 census figures for Holt County show a decrease of 1,137 persons since 1950. O'Neill city population has increased only 131 during the same 10 years.

Do these official figures indicate that O'Neill public school enrollment is liable to increase sufficiently to warrant the expenditure of one-half million dollars to house grades 10, 11 and 12 and to build another unnecessary gymnasium?

We are told that our existing public school buildings will not accommodate O'Neill's public school children after 1964, and that we have no room for rural free-tuition pupils. That "prediction" needs investigation.

Here are the facts:

1. O'Neill's kindergarten (1960) is unusually large (80 pupils). However, about one-half of this group will transfer to St. Mary's for their grade and high school education. Thus, the enrollment in grade one (1960) will return to normal (about 40) and remain normal in the ensuing years.

2. Since the September '60 enrollment figures for the O'Neill grades (first through eighth) were published, 21 pupils have been dropped from those class rolls. Total enrollment in these grades is now 336 pupils—about normal with recent years.

These grade school figures indicate that O'Neill public high school classes after 1964 will not show an excessive upswing in enrollment. There will be room for the usual influx of free-tuition students when/if such pupils elect to attend the O'Neill public school. In which case these \$35,000 free-tuition fees will not be lost, (despite the loud warning to that effect).

The O'Neill high school enrollment is less today, (1960), than it was in 1945. If the Holt county census figures mean anything at all, they do not indicate an upswing in public school enrollment within the foreseeable future.

In view of census returns, doesn't the expenditure of one-half million tax dollars for a new public high school building seem to be a rash and unnecessary project for the taxpayer of District 7 to shoulder at this time?

Census Makes Sense

How Can We Get Better Teachers?

We can have better teachers if we get more room. The only way we can have better teachers is by getting a new school. A new high school is needed more than a new runway at the airport. We need a new high school more than we need a paved street.

Airplanes don't land at the airport every day, but the children go to school every day.

Loren Lorenz

O'Neill, Nebraska
November 28, 1960

Dear Editor:

In regard to the letter which appeared in your last edition in regard to the O'Neill school bond issue, I would like to take this opportunity to tell "Old Guard."

"Yes, guard your finances." It is quite evident that you are not aware of the facts on the O'Neill school bond issue or you would be asking people to vote for it.

In my opinion, "Old Guard," is guilty of insulting the taxpayers of O'Neill by reminding them it is their money that is going to pay for the \$465,000 bond issue.

I don't think the taxpayers are stupid enough to think someone is going to give them their greatly needed school. Every worth while project in our fair city was financed by the taxpayers and they should be complimented on the fine projects they built.

The attitude you have taken toward this matter would give indication that you are of the type to take advantage of all the worthwhile projects your fellow taxpayers have built without willfully lending them the helping hand you might have.

You and every other citizen of O'Neill stand to profit and gain by adding the new high school to our community. This new school is needed if the community is to prosper and grow. Without prosperity and growth, any community will soon dwindle and become a real burden to its taxpayers. You and all the rest of us have seen communities near ours die out and property become worthless and yet their taxes keep going higher.

I suggest you look deeper into the O'Neill school bond issue so you can WISELY guard your finances.

It is much wiser to spend more and have something, than to spend less and have nothing.

The Young Guard

O'Neill, Nebraska
November 28, 1960

To The Editor:

Many of the same people who are working against the school bond in O'Neill are also hollering for industry in O'Neill. These people don't seem to realize that one of the first questions representatives of industry ask is, "Do you have adequate schools, churches and recreation?"

Anyone who has intelligently appraised the figures and facts about our school knows it is not adequate. There are many of us that know. Let's vote against the school bond is a vote against industry for O'Neill.

Signed
A Supporter

We Needed a New School

I am an eighth grade student at the O'Neill public school. I am very displeased about how the school bond issue turned out.

I am quite sure the lady who called in on party line Tuesday, Nov. 7 is happy now. She can now have the runways finished at the airport and the street pavement can be paid for. I hope she feels happy, for now close to 700 high school and grade school students can cram themselves into a school too small to hold them. The fourth and seventh grades are each split into two classes, one which goes to school in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Another lady called in on the same day and said that we needed better teachers not a new school. May I ask how many teachers are going to come to school and have classes at 7:30 in the morning or stay till 7:30 at night as Mr. Laft does.

I do hope that the next time the vote will be for instead of against the school bond issue.

Ivan Hurley, Jr.

We Need a New School

This has been a big problem for some people because some think that we do not need one, but for other people the decision was very simple because they were able to see the reason.

Here are my reasons why we need a school: One, there is no room for younger children to have recess in the winter. Another reason is that O'Neill will decline instead of increase because of the lack of trade when the country children have to travel to other towns. The loss in money from the people leaving will have to be made up so taxes will have to be raised even if the new school isn't built.

Need for room is very important because we now have the seventh and fourth grades on split time meaning that one group comes in the morning at 7:30 and stays until 12 with out break and the other class comes at 12:30 until 5 under the same conditions.

So in a conclusion, let's get out and help the school bond pass the next time it comes up!

Cheryl Mullendore

How Can We Get Better Teachers?

I think most of our teachers in this school are pretty good. The question is how are we going to keep these teachers or hire others after they quit.

Our teachers put in many hours more because of the half-day situation. Also why should these teachers work longer hours for less pay than many teachers elsewhere?

More room would help this situation a lot.

If our teachers could work under better conditions, we might be able to get better teachers if there are better ones.

Cheryl Graves

Films are Educational But—

Films are very educational, but where will we get room to see them?

One of our teachers has said that one picture in a film is worth one thousand words which are used to describe an object. This is very true. We also need a new school for other things, but when we don't have room to see a film, the new school is a must!

If we want our future children to have an education, we must have a good one now!

Linda Curran

think the pay doesn't count as much as our education.

Do you voters value our education as much?

More room is what we need. More room, we really do. But you do not see it. For you don't go to school. You sit home on the side. You fight against us all. You say we do not need it. But it's really much too small.

Sheryl Brady

O'Neill, Nebraska
November 28, 1960

To The Editor:

From the letters and arguments that come up against the school bond, there must be a larger number of people who have not bothered to look into the facts about this program. Their arguments have no basis when put against the black and white figures that are available and have sound basis.

We have a conscientious, hard-working school board that does a lot of sound thinking on our school system. I would advise the people who don't leave the facts on the school bond to get them from the people we have elected to run our school district for us.

Signed
A Supporter

Phone Your News to

The Frontier—

Phone 788

FARM SALE

Because we are leaving the farm we will dispose of the following property at the farm LOCATED . . . 7 miles south of Lynch on Redbird road . . . OR . . . 32 miles northeast of O'Neill . . . OR . . . 26 miles north of Page . . . OR . . . 1 north, 3 east and 9 north of Opportunity ON . . .

Wednesday, Dec. 7

Sale starts at 1 p.m.

Lunch on grounds by Scott Community club

45 -- HEREFORD CATTLE -- 45

25 Hereford cows, some with

first calf

15 Summer and fall calves

4 Last spring calves

1 Hereford bull, 6 years old

Machinery and Equipment

1941 John Deere B Tractor, good

1936 John Deere B Tractor, good

J. D. tractor cultivator for B tractor, plows, disc

3-section harrow

J. D. No. 5 mower, 7-ft.

McCormick mower, 6-ft.

Overshot stacker

12-ft. dump rake

2-row eli

Letz burr grinder

Cylinder corn sheller

4-wheel I-H manure spreader

Hay rack and gear

2-Wagon boxes and gears

2-row Chase lister

Farm Rite single row corn picker with shucking bed, good

Buzz saw and stand

Ton chain hoist, good

Post drill, good

DeLaval electric cream separator, nearly new

10x38 tractor chains

50-ft. 6-in. drive belt

Goldenrod wire stretcher, fence tools

Shop tools and other items

Delco 32-volt light plant

Several pieces of old machinery

1929 Model A Ford Truck in running order

Also Household Goods

HAY and GRAIN

60 Tons of prairie hay

4 Stacks of alfalfa hay

600 bu. new ear corn, dry

400 bu. old ear corn

POULTRY

2 dozen laying hens

TERMS: CASH. No property to be removed until settled for

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Mellor

Pearson & Larsen, auctioneers

O'Neill National Bank, clerk



DEVOY REXALL DRUG

Christmas Shopping Headquarters

TOILETRIES FOR MEN

Shulton
Kings Men
Stag
Top Brass

FOR THE SMOKER

Pipes
Cigars
Lighters
Tobacco Pouches

TWEEDIE and PUPPY LOVE COSMETICS for Little Misses

Made like Mother's
The little girls will love them!

WE WILL GLADLY GIFT WRAP YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFT PURCHASES FOR YOU

Beautiful CHRISTMAS CARDS by American Greetings

Get yours now while a good selection is available

PANGBURN'S

Western Style
Chocolates
REALLY GOOD CANDY

Be sure to register in our "Merry Christmas Drug Store" contest A valuable, worthwhile prize for a boy and for a girl. ENTER NOW.

Christmas Tree DECORATIONS

Light Sets
Tinsel
Icicles
Ornaments

COSMETIC GIFTS by

Revlon
Coty
Shulton
Cora Nome
Evening in Paris
Others
Sets or Single pieces

TIMEX

Wrist Watches
WESTCLOX
Clocks

GIFTS for YOUNGSTERS

Games
Toys
Dolls
Books

GIFTS for THE HOME

Chip 'n Dip Sets
Glass Tumblers
Household Thermometers
Barometers
Humidiguides

LEATHER GOODS

Billfolds
Purses
Key Cases
by Amity

GIFT WRAPPINGS

Wrapping Paper
Ribbon, Tags, Seals
Enclosure Cards
Package Decorations

CAMERAS

Camera Outfits

Be sure to have plenty of film and flash bulbs on hand

MANICURE SETS by

Revlon
Cutex
Manicure sets for Men

DEVOY REXALL DRUG

We Give S&H Green Stamps on all Purchases

Phone 87

Robert T. Devoy, Pharmacist

O'Neill