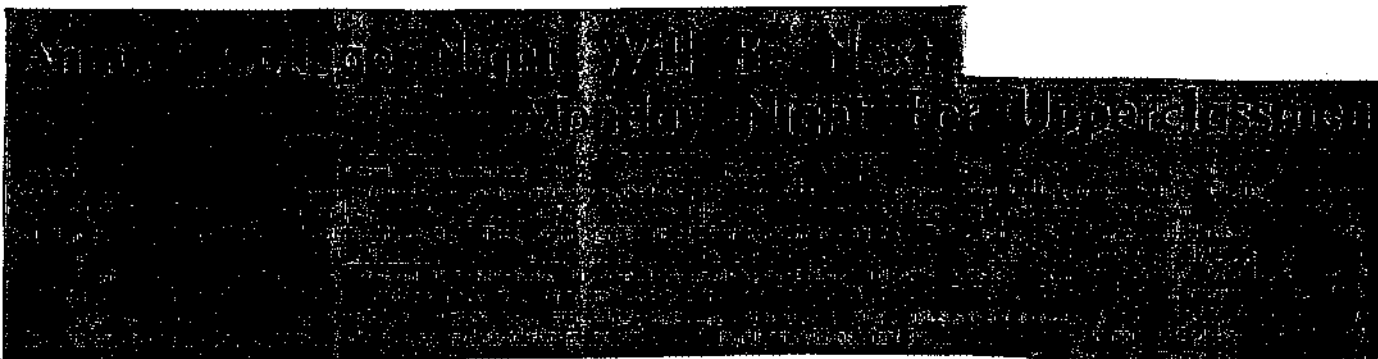


MT. VERNON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

1964-1965

October 1964



FRIDAY, NOV. 13, 1964

### College Night Held Monday

Annual College Night was held Monday, at 7:00 in the auditorium for the upperclassmen and their parents. Mr. Edwin Gieselmann welcomed everyone with a speech and introduced the representatives from the 11 colleges and universities. Thirteen others sent literature.

The upperclassmen and their parents then went to the rooms in Buildings A and C that were assigned to the college representatives. There were two 45-minute sessions.

Approximately 125 juniors, seniors, and parents attended.

December 11, 1964

### College May Have Organic Chemistry

Dec. 11, 1964

The Community College will offer a course in either physics or organic chemistry next year if enough students want to take the course, according to Edward Kownacki, who will teach whichever course is offered.

Organic chemistry would be open to students who have completed the college's present chemistry courses.

December 23, 1964

## Community College Draws Open House Crowd

Wed., Dec. 23, 1964

The Mt. Vernon Township High School, along with the Mt. Vernon Community College, held its annual open house Monday, December 14. Mr. George Kuhn, principal of the high school, said that although the attendance was down somewhat from previous years the open house was still a success.

The open house began in the high school auditorium with a program put on by the Community College Choir directed by Mr. W. H. Beckmeyer. After this program, Mr. Eltis Henson addressed the audience. Finally, the audience visited the classrooms.

The center of attraction was B Building which had recently been remodeled and is now being used by the Community College. Dr. Howard Rawlinson, Dean of the college, said that the remarks which he heard about the building were favorable. He said that many of the people were pleasantly surprised at what had been done to beautify the building.



**THE COMMUNITY CHORUS** performed for Open House under the direction of Mr. W. H. Beckmeyer. This is the first year for such a performance because the Operetta preview has usually been given on Open House night.

January 8, 1965

**THE NEW MT. VERNON**

**COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR MT. VERNON STUDENTS



[Illegible text at the bottom of the page, possibly a caption or address.]

January 8, 1965

## BY G. D. DEWITT

The Vernon Community College building is heating at this time. The building, which was occupied just before Christmas vacation, the college is now located in the newly remodeled Building B on the high school and college campus.

Since its beginning in 1956 the college had not had an adequate building. Some classes were held in a remodeled apartment house, and others in rooms shared with high school students. Now all that is changed and the college has a building of its own.

### Remodeling Gives New Look

This building cannot be called new, for it is the oldest building on the campus, but a first-class remodeling job has made its rooms more modern and attractive than they were when the building was new. Materials and methods unknown to builders in 1905 make the difference. In fact the interior is so different that many visitors at open house Dec. 11 had difficulty in recognizing the rooms where they had classes a few years ago.

Before being remodeled the old building had a roof that sagged with the weight of heavy tiles and rafters that were damaged by fire. The old fire open wiring had become a fire hazard and students were in danger from falling plaster. The second-floor rooms were abandoned in 1961 after they were examined carefully by a firm of engineers and pronounced unsafe.

The walls and other timbers, however, were sound, and the voters turned down a proposition to raze the building. Later they voted funds to modernize it. The rafters and supporting timbers have been strengthened and a new roof has been put on. New and modern windows have replaced the old ones, and fire escapes have been added.

Except for these and other minor improvements the exterior remains unchanged. The interior, however, has a very different look. All rooms have new ceilings of acoustical tile, which in many instances have been dropped to conceal unsightly heat pipes. All the floors have been covered with vinyl tile, and old light fixtures replaced with fluorescent fixtures. The plastering has all been repaired or replaced and newly decorated, and new blackboards installed.

To meet safety requirements the electrical wiring was completely modernized, open pathways were enclosed with doors, and new fire escapes built on the south side.

### Eleven Classrooms

The building now has a library, four offices, eleven classrooms, a women's gymnasium, a student lounge, a faculty lounge, and rest rooms.

Dean Howard Rawlinson has an attractive office on the second floor, and adjoining it is the college office, which was originally the office of the high school principal. J. M. Dixon, the first principal, occupied this office in 1905, and Silas Echols

took it over in 1915. When the high school office was moved to Building A in 1936, the old office was used by Miss Cornelia Pierce, dean of girls and Hi-Tri sponsor. Later it became the office of the school nurse.

### Large Library Provided

The college library is now located in a space containing 3400 square feet which was the high school study hall from 1905 to 1922. The main room of the library in which the books are shelved is 25 by 56 feet in size. Across the hall are two additional rooms, one is for periodicals, and the other, for offices and work room. The college library now has more than 5,200 books and 100 periodicals and is growing rapidly.

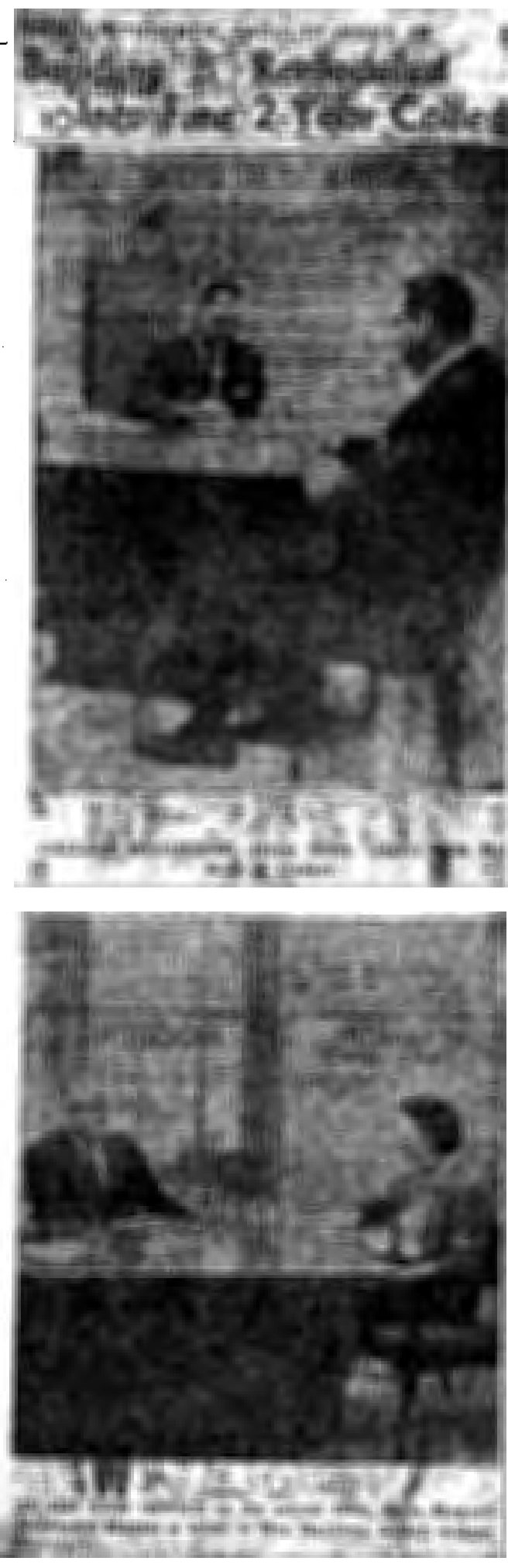
Mrs. Betty Ann Ward, the college counselor, has an office on the first floor where the Vernon News office was formerly located, and James Yates, the registrar, has an office near by. The student lounge is on the basement floor and is furnished with new and colorful furniture.

Nearly all college courses are now taught in Building B, but there are a few exceptions. The Community College of Practical Nursing occupies a remodeled building across the street from the main building. It is air conditioned for use in the summer, and its interior is also quite modern. This building has a classroom, an office, and other rooms with equipment for the teaching of nursing. College science classes have their own modern laboratories in Building G. Men's physical education classes use the high school gymnasium.

### Everyone Pleased

When asked about the reactions of students and faculty to their new quarters, Dean Howard Rawlinson said, "It was a real pleasure to hear the exclamations of surprise and pleasure of the students as they entered the building that first day. The faculty were just as thrilled. I doubt if anyone believed that Superintendent Hanson and the Board of Education would ever be able to accomplish so much with the building."

"I have always thought Building B to be the most beautiful building on the campus from the outside. Now the interior equals the exterior. The thing that is likely to be overlooked, however, is the convenience that comes to students, faculty, and administration from the concentration of the major college activities in one building. Our new facilities make our work easier and give both students and faculty an incentive to



January 8, 1965



OFFICE OF Mrs. Betty Ann Ward, college counselor. Dexter Edrnison discusses plans for student council activities.



At left, Mrs. Betty Ann Ward, college counselor, discusses plans for student council activities with Dexter Edrnison. At right, Mrs. Betty Ann Ward, college counselor, discusses plans for student council activities with Dexter Edrnison.



January 8, 1965



THE GROUP IS ASSEMBLING FOR A MEETING IN THE CLASSROOM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF



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January 8, 1965



MEMBERS OF Miss Rebecca Pettit's physical education class practicing archery in the women's gymnasium. From left, Karen Walker, Patty Tate, Judy Wood, Annette Wilson, Kathleen Abraham, and Elizabeth Baltzell. Jan 8, 1965



MEMBERS OF Miss Rebecca Pettit's physical education class practicing archery in the women's gymnasium. From left, Karen Walker, Patty Tate, Judy Wood, Annette Wilson, Kathleen Abraham, and Elizabeth Baltzell. Jan 8, 1965

January 8, 1965



Students gathered in front of the building for the protest. From left to right, Jim Burton, Dexter Edmison, Teresa Funtrey, and Roger Meylos.



building. Students are, from left, Jim Burton, Dexter Edmison, Teresa Funtrey, and Roger Meylos. Jan. 8, 1965



February 11, 1965

# Mt. VCC Has Many Advantages for Students

This is the third of a series of stories written by former students of Mt. Vernon Township High School telling of college life at their college. *Times, Feb. 11, 1965*

By JANICE ABRAHAM.

Good things come in small packages! This old saying certainly holds true for the Mt. Vernon Community College. Although small in size, Mt. VCC offers its students an inexpensive means of completing their first two years of college work. Along with the modern facilities now available in Building B, Mt. VCC provides a well-equipped library, individual counseling, and a friendly atmosphere.

More students are taking advantage of the conveniences offered in going to college at home than ever before. The enrollment (well over 400 this year is growing by leaps and bounds. The number of people attending Mt. VCC from out of town is consistently rising, too. Over one-fourth of the students presently enrolled live outside Mt. Vernon. This supplies local students with a number of new people to meet and new friends to make.

Students at Mt. VCC are treated as mature individuals, they are given responsibility along with freedom. Since most students have only 15-18 hours of classroom work every week, they have a choice as to how to spend their free time. Both the library and the lounge are available during the day, but the decision of when and how much to study is left up to the student. Most junior college students study an average of 30-35 hours a week outside of class. Informal classes are another feature of Mt. VCC. The small

number of students in each class also help to establish a close student-teacher relationship. Teachers are available for personal conferences all during the week. Two full time guidance counselors are also employed to offer assistance in choosing courses and preparing for a vocation.

Social life at Mt. VCC is at a much smaller scale than at a larger college. Along with Christmas Dance and the Spring Formal, one major social event is scheduled each month of the school year. In addition, a small hop is held after most of the basketball games.

Extra curricular activities covering varied interests and abilities are also available to the college students. Basketball, tennis, and baseball are open to all boys of the school and although the team records are low, the school spirit is high. The Student Council, composed of seven students, governs all of the student activities. The Science Club, open to those interested in all phases of science, and the Student Education Association, open to all who plan to go into teaching, are two other clubs that are available.

An informal and friendly atmosphere is the most noticeable characteristic of the Mt. VCC. It's small size and compactness are conducive to learning. Graduates of the local college are well prepared to meet the stiff competition on larger university campuses. Anyone who is interested in going to college, but is unable to meet the high costs or is afraid to face the huge university campuses should enroll in the Mt. Vernon Community College.

April 30, 1965

## Mt. V. C. C. To Conduct Summer School Program June 14-Aug. 6

A summer school program will be conducted by Mt. Vernon Community College from June 14 through August 6. The courses listed below will be offered if enrollment reaches 15 in the class before May 22. A \$10 activity fee will be charged all students. Students should register with Mrs. Ward in her office on the second floor of the college building. Courses offered are history 201, speech 101, botany 100, chemistry 101, sociology, psychology 100, mathematics 101, English 100, business education 91, zoology 101, accounting 101, and English 102.

All classes will meet five days per week except zoology.

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1965

## Seniors Leave High School To Find Greener Pastures

After June 3 our happy-go-lucky seniors will no longer be upperclassmen, for when they attend school in the fall they will once again become "freshmen." Of the seniors, 154 plan to attend Mt. Vernon Community College; 22 will enter Southern Illinois University; 6 will attend the University of Illinois; 5 Murray State Teachers College; and 40 other colleges will receive 47 of our students.

DR. RAWL LASON  
MT. VERNON COMM. COLLEGE  
MT. VERNON, ILL.  
PAGE 65

# Salem Times

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1965

## EXPECT ELECTION SOON ON AREA JR. COLLEGE

### State OKs Petition But Urges More Discussion With Neighbors

In a couple of months, the citizens of this area will probably get a chance to vote "yes" or "no" on the establishment of a Kaskaskia Junior College.

Ray Page, state superintendent of public instruction, sent notice Tuesday afternoon that he had approved a petition setting forth the area of the proposed district and asking for an election.

The district would include all of Marion and Clinton counties, part of Washington county and that portion of Jefferson county which already lies within the Centralia Junior College district.

Page's notice of approval, and authorization to conduct a public hearing on the matter, was sent to Robert Hartley, Marion county superintendent of

schools.

Hartley, as superintendent of the most populous county in the proposed district, has charge of the proceedings.

Hartley announced today that he will hold the public hearing June 3, 8 p.m., in the Centralia High School cafeteria.

At this hearing, anyone living within the proposed district or in an area which might be affected by establishment of the district, will have an opportunity to speak for or against the proposal, Hartley said.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Hartley will either grant or deny the petition.

If he grants it -- and there seems little doubt that he will -- then he will call the election.

This election can be held no sooner than 40 days after the hearing. Hartley indicated it will be on or about July 24.

To carry, the proposal must receive three majorities: in the present Centralia Junior College district, in the incorporated areas of the proposed district and in the unincorporated areas.

Page took more time than had been expected to approve the petition, and the reason, reportedly, was opposition from Mt. Vernon.

Mt. Vernon, which also has a junior college, is apparently feeling the "squeeze" from proposed college districts organizing around it, which would make it difficult for Mt. Vernon to take in new territory for its own proposed area college.

There have been indications that Mt. Vernon might be willing to talk about the possibility of joining forces with Centralia and Salem in the creation of an even larger district than is now envisioned by the Kaskaskia College.

# Commoner

Page made an oblique reference to this possibility in his letter to Hartley (copies of which were sent to other county superintendents in southern Illinois). He wrote:

"In issuing this report and recommendation, I want to point out that the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction feels that formation of such a district should not be the end of, nor create a lull in, considerations for far greater post-high school opportunities for quality education in southern Illinois.

"It is our hope that you will continue earnest discussions with your neighbors throughout all of southern Illinois for the purpose of creating the best, broadest and most comprehensive junior colleges which can be provided for the education of boys, girls and adults both now and in the future.

"To this end I offer you the resources of my staff for a continuation of study and discussion even during the period of time which must by law elapse before a referendum can be conducted on the formation of the proposed district referred to above. I am sure that members of the staff of the Board of Higher Education and the state universities near you would also make such time and service available to you.

"Not as an intention to delay your progress nor to imperil your plans, but as an earnest appeal that we join in a great effort to provide sound junior college planning for all of southern Illinois to weigh with careful consideration the problems of post-high school education in the south half of our state.

"If such meetings may, or even might, in your opinions, lead to the provision of better opportunity for our boys and girls, will you, please, plan with us in the dangerous period before a Master Plan for Higher Education in Illinois is provided by statute?"

# Junior College Parley Resolves Little

By Jim Johnston

SALEM — Representatives of four counties met for four hours — one eating and three talking — here last night to discuss the area junior college situation.

The result: three hours of conversation.

When it was over, the main question — whether Jefferson County meaning Mt. Vernon, would eventually become part of the proposed area junior college district — was not resolved even though the subject got a lot of verbal mileage.

If anything was clear it was that Marion County Supt. of Schools Robert Hartley will preside over a public hearing on the proposed Kaskaskia Area Junior College District June 3 at Centralia Township High School.

A referendum, perhaps in July, is almost sure to follow.

The Kaskaskia district proposal embraces all of Marion and

Clinton Counties, the northern part of Washington County and that small portion of Jefferson County already within CTHS and Junior College District 200.

These four counties are the ones which took part in the Salem meeting at which Gene Yoltan served as host along with Hartley, Dean Delay, Bond County superintendent, also set in as an observer, underlining the possibility that the district, if approved, eventually might expand more northward than southward.

If you were looking for areas of agreement, the consensus was:

1. Area junior colleges are badly needed.
2. The first concern is for the students and the quality of the educational program they should be offered.
3. It would have been nice if Centralia, Salem, Mt. Vernon, Nashville, Carlyle and points between could have agreed on a

district.

Areas of disagreement included:

1. Whether a potential junior college site should be proposed before a referendum and, if so, where it should be.
2. How large the district might eventually become — most agreed some sort of expansion is likely and desirable.
3. How far students would be willing to commute.

For a short while it appeared as if the air would be cleared when, after more than two hours of discussion, John Kagy, a Salem attorney, pointed out that this was an "11th hour attempt to put this area together" and with the June 3 hearing coming up, time was short.

Verle Besant, president of the Kaskaskia Foundation — prime promoter of the proposed district — noted "our thinking has to be on the basis of what can be done on that petition (for a referendum)."

Ogie Ellis, Jefferson County School superintendent, said:

"We have no part in your petition. The only reason we're here is to see whether we can arrive at the kind of college we can be proud of. We're willing to go to the most logical place the college should be located. We would be perfectly willing to join any area."

Dr. Eugene McClintock, District 200 superintendent, said it appeared the group was closer to agreement than previously evident. But when he asked point blank if Mt. Vernon is interested in petitioning into the Kaskaskia district if — approved at the polls, there was no positive response.

The Mt. Vernon group insisted that any district to which they'd agree must also include at least portions of Wayne, Hamilton and Franklin Counties, which are served by Mt. Vernon Community College.

As J. L. Bluford, former Mt.

Vernon elementary school superintendent, put it, "I don't see how we can lay down four counties and say that is the area we should serve. We can't turn our backs on all these people we've been serving."

The Centralia delegation's position boiled down to establishing the district as proposed in petitions approved by the state superintendent of public instruction and then giving Mt. Vernon and other interested areas a chance to come in by petition or referendum — before trustees are elected, if necessary to give them a voice in site selection and other matters left to the district's board.

Perhaps the most positive statement of the evening came from Donald Glass, Centralia Chamber of Commerce president, when he said:

"We want to go full speed ahead. We want a vote on the referendum. Anything else is aside the point."

# The Times-

# Leader

McLEANSBORO, ILLINOIS

## Call Meeting to Determine County Interest in Area Junior College District

### Session To Be Held at MTHS Monday Night

A meeting to determine county interest in joining a proposed area Junior College District has been set for next Monday, May 10, at 8 p. m. in the MTHS auditorium. The meeting is open to the public.

Decision to hold the public meeting was the outgrowth of a session held Tuesday night at which representatives of local civic organizations and school officials heard an explanation of Junior College districts by two Mt. Vernon educators.

At Monday's session this information, along with some possible additional data, will be presented. Parents of children who will be of college age in future years are especially encouraged to attend.

Speaker at the Monday meeting will be Dr. Richard Brown of Springfield. Brown is executive secretary of the Board for Higher Education, State of Illinois, and is credited with formulating much of the Master plan for Junior College Districts.

A committee composed of Eugene Johnson, John Wesley Davis and Bill Hindahl is formulating plans for the session. Special invitations will be given governmental representatives, school officials and civic and farm organizations. Committee members, however, strongly urge everyone to attend, and emphasized that all are welcome.

#### Talk With Group

Presenting information about Junior College districts Tuesday were Dr. Howard Rawlinson, dean of the Mt. Vernon Community College, and Ellis Henson, superintendent of the Mt. Vernon High School and Community College.

Both men were quick to point out that should plans for a Junior College District materialize in the area an entire new plant would probably be constructed at a site now undetermined . . . but located to the best interest of the entire district.

It was stressed that major colleges are now becoming so crowded that enrollments are limited in some cases to students in the top scholastic brackets. Furthermore, cost of attending these colleges and universities continues to climb.

A need for more Junior Colleges (sometimes called commuter colleges) has been in the study stage for several years. With college enrollments increasing annually, these appear

Thursday, May 6, 1965

to be the answer. Junior Colleges would not have dormitories but would serve youth within driving distance. This would permit the student to live at home but still attend a school of higher learning. After completing Junior College, the individual would still have the opportunity to pursue additional knowledge at the major college or university level.

#### New Legislative

New state legislation on Junior Colleges is expected this year and this may provide certain financial advantages for the districts formed and actually in the building stage within the next five years, the educators indicated.

Among those at the meeting Tuesday night were Supt. Charles Raglin of the Dahlgren schools and J. A. Tucker, Dahlgren school board member. Raglin and Tucker said the idea of joining an area Junior College district had met with instant

approval among many persons to whom it had been voiced in that community recently.

No lines or boundaries for the district are contemplated at this time. The district is strictly in the talking stage with efforts being made to acquaint residents of the area with the school situation that lies ahead and with the Master plan for Junior Colleges.

May 13, 1965

# Some Interest Shown in Junior College District

Less than 50 persons turned out Monday night at MTHS to give further consideration to this community's interest in becoming a part of a Junior College District.

Speaker for the occasion was Richard G. Browne, executive director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education. He discussed length many of the provisions of the master plan for Junior Colleges now being considered in the legislature.

Dr. Browne also reviewed the history of community or Junior Colleges and reported the progress made in recent years and the growing need for such institutions of higher learning.

Following his talk Dr. Browne answered questions.

At the conclusion of the meeting a committee composed of the MTHS board was named to keep abreast of plans for a Junior College in this area. Later, John W. Davis, school board president, named Albert Foote, Carl Dietz and Bill Hindahl, non-members of the board, to attend Wednesday night's meeting in Mt. Vernon on an area Junior College.

Browne said that it requires an area of 30,000 population with a \$75,000,000 assessed valuation to establish a junior college district.

The present plan before the

legislature provides for the state to finance 50 per cent of the operating costs with the remainder to be borne by local districts, either through taxation or tuition.

The master plan also recommends that 75 percent of building expenses be supplied by the state and federal governments and the balance from local funds.

The present and future need, it was declared is for commuter institutions which the student may attend while living at home. This saves the student money and the institutions are more economical to operate than residence colleges and universities.

Dr. Browne also encouraged the local group to consider a survey of the area to determine interest, need and future possibilities of success. He said a Junior College should be built in an area where enrollment will reach 1,000 in a few years.

In the talking stage now is an area Junior College district in all or parts of Jefferson, Wayne, Hamilton and Franklin counties. There has been considerable doubt expressed as to the interest of southern Franklin and parts of Hamilton and Wayne in the district.

## Agree to Pursue Study of Area Junior College

Representatives of five counties—including a delegation from this county—conferred in Mt. Vernon last week on a proposed Junior College district.

The group agreed to pursue studies for establishment of such a district. Counties represented were Jefferson, Hamilton, Wayne, Marion and Franklin.

Representatives from Salem in Marion county were also present. Centralia and Mt. Vernon are both talking junior college districts.

Enlargement of a steering committee to consider the district was an outcome of the meeting and another session is set for this coming Monday, May 24, at 8 p. m. at Mt. Vernon.

Meanwhile, administration bills to set up a statewide master plan for public junior colleges were introduced recently in the Illinois House.

The plan carries these major provisions:

—A nine-member board would be created to administer the system.

—The state would pay 50 per cent of operating costs, with the balance coming from local districts.

—The state and federal governments would furnish 75 per cent of building costs, the remainder coming from local funds.

Kerner has recommended that tuition in schools newly formed under the master plan be limited to one-fourth of the cost of education, and that existing junior colleges charge no more than one-third.

Schools would not be compelled to charge tuition.

JUNE 3, 1965

## Education In Illinois

Ray Page  
Supt. of Public Instruction

### JUNIOR COLLEGES

One out of every five students enrolled in higher education in Illinois is in a junior college. This ratio is increasing each year with the four year colleges forced to turn away applicants due to lack of facilities. At present, there are over 65,000 students enrolled in the state's 41 junior colleges, an increase of 20 per cent over the 1963-64 school year.

At the start of the present school year, 26,000 applicants for entrance into state universities were rejected due to lack of facilities. However, most of these applicants entered private four-year schools with several thousand enrolling in junior colleges.

Each year, thousands of high school graduates will be depending on junior colleges for higher education. To meet with this need, the Board of Higher Education is requesting special funds to begin new junior colleges. It is estimated that at least 75 more junior colleges will be needed by 1970 to handle the students who wish to continue higher education after high school.

The public junior college is the only wholly American aspect of American education. The oldest public junior college operating in the world is Joliet Township Junior College, beginning operation about 1900. Joliet was the prototype of more than 500 public junior colleges in the United States, more than 300 in modern Japan and other hundreds elsewhere. Today Joliet Junior College provides post-high school education for 2,500 people in curriculum ranging from occupation-related, vocational, terminal-technical programs, to and including pre-professional and liberal arts.

To establish a junior college district in Illinois, it requires an area of 30,000 population with a \$75,000,000 assessed valuation.

JUNE 3, 1965

# HEARING TONIGHT ON AREA JUNIOR COLLEGE

MAY 20, 1965

## Tri City Meeting On College Is "Inconclusive"

Representatives of Salem, Mt. Vernon and Centralia met here last night to talk about the possibility of including the Mt. Vernon area in the proposed Kaskaskia College district.

Robert Hartley, Marion county superintendent of schools, said the meeting could best be described as "inconclusive."

No further meetings were scheduled.

A petition has already been filed for an election to create a Kaskaskia district including all of Marion and Clinton counties and part of Washington. A public hearing on the petition is set for June 8. The election could be held 40 days after that.

Certain Salem citizens would like to see the proposed district made larger, to include Mt. Vernon.

"Everyone seemed to think it was a wonderful idea," Hartley said, "but the problem is how to do it."

Location of the campus seems to be a major obstacle. Mt. Vernon would like to see the college located along new Interstate 57, somewhere between Salem and Benton.

Centralia would like to have it either north or south of Centralia, along Highway 51.

Gene Yelton of Salem presided at last night's meeting, which was attended by about 25 persons.

## Move To Include Bond, Fayette; Campus Might Be Near Shattuc

A public hearing is set for tonight on a petition to establish a Kaskaskia Junior College and it appears certain that the issue will be put to the voters the latter part of next month.

The hearing will be conducted by Robert Hartley, Marion county superintendent of schools, at 8 o'clock, in the Centralia High School cafeteria.

The petition calls for the creation of a junior college district to include Marion and Clinton counties and part of Washington.

If Hartley approves the petition—and unless there is some unforeseen development, he doubts less will—then he will schedule an election. This election could be held on or about July 24.

In order to pass, the proposal would have to receive a majority of votes in the unincorporated areas, in the incorporated areas and in the present Centralia Junior College district.

Efforts have been made recently, spearheaded by Salem citizens, to enlarge the district so as to include Mt. Vernon and Jefferson county.

However, at this point, there seems little hope that Mt. Vernon can be included.

Instead, other efforts have been made to get Bond and Fayette counties into the district. This plan would be to hold the election on creation of the district, then have Bond and Fayette petition in prior to the election of the district's board of trustees.

An informal meeting, including representatives of Bond and Fayette counties, was scheduled for 6 o'clock tonight, ahead of the public hearing. The talk is that if these two counties do come in, the college will be located near Shattuc, along new Route 50.

John Kagy, Salem attorney, has been one of the leaders in Salem's effort to get Mt. Vernon into the district. He said bringing in Bond and Fayette instead of Jefferson was a poor second on his estimation. "But maybe it's the best we can do."

"Why have efforts to bring Mt. Vernon in failed," Kagy says, he thinks the answer to that was summed up at a recent meeting by a Centralia Chamber of Commerce member who indicated that Centralia is happy with the present petition and wants to go full speed ahead with the election.

At any rate, the public hearing is scheduled for tonight and the election will soon follow. Then it will be up to the voters.

JUNE 10, 1965

## EXPECT DECISION ON AREA JUNIOR COLLEGE AT PUBLIC HEARING TODAY

A Salem committee made another effort this week to get Mt. Vernon and Centralia together on a tri-city junior college district.

It met with no success.

As a result, Robert Hartley, county superintendent of schools, said yesterday he sees "little hope" that the currently-proposed Kaskaskia College district can be expanded to include Mt. Vernon.

A hearing is scheduled for 2 o'clock this afternoon, in Hartley's office in the courthouse, on the petition to create a college district consisting of Marion and Clinton counties and part of Washington county.

It is a continuation of a hearing held last Thursday night, at which Hartley deferred a decision following indications of opposition from portions of Clinton and Washington counties.

Following the developments at that hearing, members of the Salem committee decided conditions were right to make still another effort at bringing Mt. Vernon and Centralia together to discuss an expanded district.

A group of Mt. Vernon citizens met Tuesday night to talk about Salem's suggestion. Afterwards, a spokesman sent word to the effect that Mt. Vernon would talk if Centralia would.

However, a feeler put out to certain members of the Centralia committee indicated that they were desirous, instead, of proceeding with an election on the present petition.

Hartley said yesterday it is "very likely" that he will reach a decision on the petition today.

# FAREWELL CLASS OF 1965

The following is a list of the Graduating Class of 1964-1965, provided that the persons included successfully completed their eight semesters of academic work.

James Michael Aaron	Lewis Edward Chapman	Charles Allen Gunnell	Ernest Kent Lankford
Wilma Jeanene Adams	Johnny Paul Cherry	Michael Ray Guymon	Mary Lee Lawrence
Garry Lee Adcock	Gary Michael Chesney	Jerry Wayne Hall	Linda Kay Lemay
Larry Gaia Adcock	Larry Wayne Clarke	Jullie Lynn Hall	Phyllis Ann Lemay
Janet Colleen Aitken	Sharon LaVon Clayton	Peggy Lee Halstead	William J. Lemons
Linda Eileen Albright	Robert Leroy Connaway	Daie Craig Hamment	Thomas Loyd Little
Carol Ann Alexander	Phyllis Ann Connell	Vicki Lynn Hamner	Joseph C. Lower
Brenda Sue Haie Allen	Clyde Joseph Cooper	Norma Jean Harelson	Larry Melvin Lucas
Darrel Max Aivis	Lonnie Ray Cooper	Wayman Ray Harlan	Terry Lynn McAdoo
Cheryl Ann Anderson	John Lenord Cox	Larry E. Harrison	Larry Gene McCann
Danny Jay Anderson	Glenda Louise Crawford	Jane Alice Hart	Rebecca Elaine McGhee
John Paul Anderson	John Michael Crawford	Judith Lynn Harvey	Anthony Wayne McIlroy
Willie James Anderson	Howard Ray Creed	Melba June Harvill	James Douglas McKay
Frances Diane Andrews	Gary D. Crocker	Henry D. Hast	James Thomas McKee
Marsha Jo Ansley	Jack Emanuel Crouch	Douglas G. Hatchett	James John McKeever
R. Richard Archer	Judith Ann Crowder	Bonita Rae Hayes	Sharon Ann McKittrick
Linda Joyce Armstrong	Larry Paul Cunnings	Donald Ray Hayes	Carolyn Sue McKittrick
Peggy Ariene Arnett	Jane Andrea Cutrell	Linda Fay Hayes	John Rickey McLaughlin
Judith Kay Badgett	Thelma Joyce Dalby	Michael Eugene Hayes	Charles Patrick McManamy
Mary Francine Badgett	Bruce Campbell Dale	Rickie Paul Hayes	Wendell Leon McReynolds
Nancy Carol Baize	Danny J. Dale	James Garnell Hefner	Donna Jean Mahan
Heleen Lorraine Baker	Carolyn F. Dedman	Richard Wayne Hefner	Karen Beth Maline
Patricia E. Bandy	Marilyn Kaye Dedman	Vonna Lea Hess	Michael Lee Marlow
Philip Duane Bean	Janice Carol DeMent	Brenda Joy Hester	Ronald Loyd Marlow
Joe B. Beasley	Donna Lorraine Denning	Carleen Grace Hicks	Tony Lee Marlow
Barbara Backmeyer	Rae Ellen Derry	Jerry Ray Hicks	Cheryl Suzanne Martin
James Orval Benthall	James Russell Dewey	Lonnie Gene Hicks	David Gale Martin
Michael Joe Best	James Cass Dixon II	Paul Edward Hicks	Sheryl Ann Marvel
Janet Lynn Birkhimer	Brenda Sue Donoho	Sue Ann Hicks	James Ronald Massey
Janette Kay Birkner	Laverne Ray Donoho	Sharon S. Hilliard	Michael John Mateer
Constance Louise Blades	Terry Lee Dulany	Mark Edwin Hills	Ramona Kaye Mays
Harold Leo Boldwyn, Jr.	Jeanne Michele Durham	Charlotte Sue Hiron	Ernest Joe Meador
Darlia Elaine Bolerjack	Pamela Kay Easton	Earl William Hogue	Travis Jo Meador
Terry Eugene Bolerjack	Eddie Ray Echols	Cheryl Eileen Hottensen	Deonna Jewel Melton
Mary Alice Bond	Darrel Gene Edmison	Jeanne Ann House	Malvin Lee Miller
Michael Lee Bone	Janet Elizabeth Edmison	James M. Houseworth	John Wayne Minor
Russell Lloyd Bowlin	Benjamin Franklin Edwards	Sondra Lynn Houseworth	Mona Kay Minor
John Michael Boyd	Karen Sue Ellis	Larry Wayne Howard	Larry Gale Moore
Virginia Sharon Bravard	William Dean Elzy	Lyndel Lee Hudgens	Andy Ray Morgan
Judy Sue Brieseacher	Gary Lee England	Judith Ileen Irvin	David Lynn Morgan
Brenda Anna Broadway	Suzanne Lee Fairchild	Joyce Lynn Isaac	Douglas Adams Morgan
Charlotte Lee Broadway	Barbara Lou Farrar	Robert Glenn Jackson	Denise Elizabeth Morlan
Margaret Emma Brodigan	Sharon Ann Ferguson	Ernie Lee Johnson	Mary Jane Moss
Sharon Lynne Brookman	Daie H. Filberth	Randall Dean Jolliff	Donnie Ray Moyer
Donald Brooks	Robert N. Filberth	Carol Ruth Jones	Jeffrey John Muzzarelli
Patricia Lee Bryant	Linda Jo Flanagan	Clinton Douglas Jones	Ellen Marie Neal
Michael E. Buescher	Gary Dean Flota	Gary Wayne Jones	Kay F. Neims
Brenda Joyce Bullard	Dee Ann Ford	Jerry Jones	Carolyn Sue Nordin
Stanley Eugene Bumpus	Richard A. Fortune	John Robert Jones	Susan Olliger
Sherry Ann Burkett	Carolyn Lorene Fralley	Patricia Ann Jones	Randall Craig Olson
Martha Lynn Burnette	Patricia Ann Frazier	Jeralee Jane Joy	Cheryl Lynn Ossig
Harold James Burwell	Terry Homer Gamber	John B. Justice	Donald Gene Overturf
Kay Eloise Caldwell	Roger Werner Garbers	Madline Alice Kelly	Linda Lucille Overturf
Kenneth Neil Campbell	George M. Garrison	Sheila Diane Kennedy	Carolyn June Owens
Linda Kay Campbell	Leslie Paul Garrison	Paul Lester Kern	Dennis Michael Pace
Christine Chambers	Robert Edward Gentry	Gerald Lee King	Linda Carol Page
Robert Carl Chambers	Linda Diane Gibbs	Nancy Jean King	Veronica Lorraine Page
Mary Jane Chambliss	Roger Lee Glasco	Linda Kay Kirk	James Lee Pardee
Fauniel Rae Chancey	Jane Ellen Glassman	William Ray Kirk	Janis Ellen Parker
	John Glen Gorrell	Janet Eilan Kissel	Jerald Dale Parsons
	James Leon Goss	George Neal Kite, Jr.	Nolan N. Payne
	Beverly Ann Green	Michael Lee Roy Knappier	Roy Lee Payne
	Jeanetta Arlerie Greenwood	Richard Cyril Koch	Sharon Lee Payton
	Gary Jan Gregory	Lynn Lois Korris	Melvin Leon Peacock
	Wiley Lewis Grothoff	Aubery Del Ladd	Donna Annette Pemberton

# The Marion

The Home Newspaper of Marion and Williamson County

# Daily Republican

— Only Daily Newspaper Printed in Williamson County

May 8, 1965

## Junior College Application May Be Made Soon

Formal application for approval of a junior college in this area could be forwarded to the Illinois Office of Public Instruction within two weeks—provided relief occurs quickly for a migraine headache.

The headache has disabled Robert Birkhimer, making him unavailable temporarily for the next meeting on the proposal. Date of the meeting in Carbondale Community High School is pending Birkhimer's recovery. He is the junior college consultant of the Office of Public Instruction.

Leslie Stillely, Williamson county school superintendent and chairman of the area steering committee, said that he will obtain a final commitment Monday from the Ewing Unity School District. The latter group has indicated that it would prefer affiliating with the Mt. Vernon junior college area because of proximity to Mt. Vernon.

Stillely said that the same situation exists at Sesser and that the northern boundary of the local area may exclude those two communities. The line then would extend west to include Du Quoin, thence south to encompass Murphysboro and Carbondale, plus all of Williamson County.

Stillely voiced the hope that Birkhimer's recovery will permit the Carbondale meeting early next week and that all preliminaries will be completed to the point where the area limits and application for approval can be taken to Springfield the following week.

—Wednesday, May 26, 1965

## Williamson Rejects 9-County Jr. College

Williamson County will decline too far removed from our county to become part of a nine-county area supporting a junior college on the Rend Lake Conservancy District between Mt. Vernon and Benton, County School Superintendent Leslie Stillely declared today.

"Basically," Stillely stated, "junior colleges were designed to become 'commuter colleges' calculated to draw students from a 30-mile radius. It is 43 miles from Marion to Mt. Vernon and, for potential students living in southern sectors of the county it would mean commuting from 50 to 60 miles each school day.

"I feel that the location there is

too far removed from our county to become part of a nine-county area supporting a junior college on the Rend Lake Conservancy District between Mt. Vernon and Benton, County School Superintendent Leslie Stillely declared today.

"I would rather go it alone than to join in the proposal from the Conservancy District."

The superintendent pointed out that pending legislature provides that junior colleges can be authorized for areas with 30,000 population and an assessed valuation of \$100,000,000.

He predicted that this area will go over the minimum assessed valuation mark next year.

The original proposal on the nine-county junior college area was made by Frank Helminger, planning committee chairman for the Conservancy District, who said a meeting will be called within 30 days if the proposition is supported widely enough.

Ogle Ellis, Jefferson County school superintendent, indicated that he favors the project.

In addition to Jefferson County, other county school superintendents asked for reactions include Frank Hamilton, Jackson, Marion, Perry, Washington, Wayne and Williamson Counties.



May 14, 1965

# Administration Master Plan for Junior College Development Unveiled

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Administration bills to set up a statewide master plan for public junior colleges were introduced Thursday in the Illinois House.

Gov. Otto Kerner announced a general agreement on the program last month following conferences with Democratic and Republican legislative leaders and the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

The plan carries these major provisions:

—A nine-member board would be created to administer the system.

—The state would pay 50 per cent of operating costs, with the balance coming from local districts.

—The state and federal governments would furnish 75 per cent of building costs, the remainder coming from local funds.

Kerner has recommended that tuition in schools newly formed under the master plan be limited to one-fourth of the cost of education, and that existing junior colleges charge no more than one-third.

Schools would not be compelled to charge tuition.

Also introduced was a bill lowering membership of the Board of Higher Education from 15 to 13.

The University of Illinois, Southern Illinois University, Teachers College Board and the new junior college board each would have a member. The other would be public members.

At present, the two universities and the teachers college board have two members apiece.

Another new bill would change the name of the Teachers College Board to the Governors of the State Colleges and Universities. The board has jurisdiction over the universities at Normal, Macomb, DeKalb and Charleston.

The big items in Kerner's two-year budget were submitted in the House. They are \$661.3 million for the Public Aid Department and \$292.8 million for the Mental Health Department.

The Benton Evening News, Benton Illinois  
Friday, May 21, 1965

## Junior College Proposals Still Coming Out in Southern Illinois

Junior college developments continued to come quick and fast this week as promoters of various districts push their pet proposals.

Among the latest reports are these:

1. Drawing of a map of a proposed four-county district involving Franklin, Jackson, Williamson and Perry counties is expected to be ready this weekend.

2. Still another proposal for a junior college district involving Franklin has been tossed into the hopper.

3. Mt. Vernon and Centralia junior college districts are still at loggerheads on division of property.

Leslie Stille, Williamson County school superintendent, said yesterday that the map of the proposed four county district probably will include all of Williamson County, most of Franklin County, the Du Quoin area of Perry County and the Carbondale-Murphysboro area of Jackson County.

In Franklin County the proposed district would exclude the northern part of the county, which includes the Ewing, Whittington-Sesser, area. People in that area have told the four-county supporters that if they joined any junior college district they would prefer the closer Mt. Vernon district.

After the preliminary map is drawn, Stille said, it will be presented to all school officials in the affected area for consideration.

The new proposal for a junior college district would affect Franklin, Perry, Jefferson and Hamilton counties.

School officials in those counties will be sent letters inviting them to attend a meeting which would discuss setting up those

four counties as a nucleus for a district which would establish a junior college on the shores of Rend Lake.

Centralia educators gave a cool reception to a proposal that the Mt. Vernon and Centralia junior college districts combine into a large area district. Centralia discarded the proposal and indicated it would proceed "with all haste" towards forming a larger Kaskaskia Junior College District, which includes part of Jefferson County, which the Mt. Vernon district regards as its own.

Proponents of the larger district suggested that the college site should be "on interstate 57, anywhere between Benton and Salem."

May 13, 1965

## Study Mt. Vernon Junior College Expansion Plan

Representatives of five counties, including Franklin, met in Mt. Vernon last night and agreed to pursue studies of a proposal to expand Mt. Vernon Junior College into a regional institution.

Included in those attending the meeting were representatives from Salem in Marion County, in which is located Centralia Junior College.

Residents of the Salem area said a college combining existing Centralia and Mt. Vernon junior college districts might be preferable to Centralia's plan for a Kaskaskia regional junior college.

John Kagy of Salem told the meeting the Kaskaskia plan, which includes Marion and Clinton counties, "is in the hands of politicians and we are not happy with it."

The proposed Kaskaskia district also takes in part of the Jefferson County area which the Mt. Vernon college plan includes.

The Kaskaskia and Mt. Vernon proposals are two of three proposed regional junior college districts which are currently being discussed.

In addition to the Jefferson County proposal, Franklin County is also sought in a four county district which also includes Perry, Williamson and Jackson counties.

Counties represented at the Mt. Vernon meeting were Franklin, Jefferson, Marion, Hamilton and Wayne.

# HERRIN DAILY

# SPOKESMAN

MAY 20, 1965

## Junior College Plans Develop

A tentative map of a proposed junior college district should be ready by this week-end. Leslie Stille, Williamson county superintendent of schools, said today. The area reportedly will include all of Williamson county, all of Franklin county except a small area along the north boundary, the Du Quoin area of Perry county and the Carbondale-Murphysboro area of Jackson county.

Stille, recently elected chairman of the junior college steering committee, said that he has been in contact with school officials in all of the areas. He said that each area is to send him a map of their territory, based on their opinion as to where the district boundary should be drawn.

Stille indicated that the western boundary will probably be identical with the Du Quoin high school district in Perry county and will then include Elkhart, Carbondale, Murphysboro and perhaps Grand Tower. The east-

ern boundary will be the Williamson and Franklin county lines and the south boundary will follow the Williamson and Jackson county lines. The northern boundary will cut across Franklin county, just below Ewing and Sesser and then follow the Du Quoin high school boundary in Perry.

After receiving the legal description of the territory from the school officials, Stille explained, he will draw a preliminary map. The map will then be presented to all of the officials involved for their consideration and a meeting may be held as early as next Tuesday to adopt the boundaries as official.

Stille did not say where the meeting next week will be held.

May 27, 1965

## Rend Lake Site Offered for Junior College

BENTON, Ill. (UPI) — The Rend Lake Conservancy District board of trustees has asked county school superintendents and principals in nine Southern Illinois counties for their reaction to a Rend Lake location as a compromise site for a regional junior college.

Frank Feltmeier, planning committee chairman for the district, said school officials in Franklin, Hamilton, Jackson, Jefferson, Marion, Perry, Washington, Wayne and Williamson counties have been asked for their reaction.

June 9, 1965

## Master Plan's Junior College Phase Approved

SPRINGFIELD (UPI) — The House Education Committee approved Tuesday night the junior college phase of the Master Plan for higher education.

The bill was an amended version of the original measure. The amendment made many technical changes and several "semi-substantive changes."

The House and Senate education committees held a joint session to hear testimony on the legislation. The Senate committee was scheduled to vote on the measure today.

Lyman A. Glenn, Springfield, associate director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, listed changes to:

—Provide for the continued existence of junior colleges not aided by the common school fund.

—Provide that the state shall not reimburse junior colleges for courses receiving 50 per cent federal funds.

—Ease the burden on class I and class II junior colleges during the transition under the Master Plan.

—Allow the market value of the land on which a college is located to be included in the 25 per cent share of capital construction to be paid by the college. The state will pay the other 75 per cent.

—Provide that all annexations and disconnections to and from a junior college district be subject to review by the junior college board.

Dr. Richard G. Browne, Normal, the executive director of the Board of Higher Education, asked for approval of the amended bill.

"We'd like to get this show on the road," Browne told the joint session.

Class I junior colleges will receive \$11.50 per pupil hour in state aid and class II colleges will receive \$7.50 under the bill. The amendment failed 8-9.

Benton Evening News  
Benton, Illinois  
Thursday, May 27, 1965

## 'Not Interested' in Rend Lake School—Stilley

"Not interested" was the reaction Wednesday of Williamson County School Superintendent Leslie Stilley to a proposal for a regional junior college in the Rend Lake Area.

Stilley, who first proposed a junior college in the Marion-Herrin area and later was one of the promoters of a four county district of Williamson, Franklin, Jackson and Perry counties, said "I would rather go it alone than to join in the proposal from the (Rend Lake) Conservancy District."

After a meeting in Mt. Vernon this week, which gave strong support to a large junior college district to build a school in the Rend Lake area, letters outlining the proposal were sent to school officials in nine counties.

Stilley's is the first negative reaction publicized. In addition to Williamson, Franklin and Jefferson counties, the letters went to Hamilton, Jackson, Marion, Perry, Washington and Wayne counties.

The Rend Lake site had been called a logical one because of easy access along interstate routes 57 and 64. It was pointed out that a location near the intersection at Ina would be equidistant between Marion and Salem, and between Benton and Mt. Vernon.

However, Stilley said "I feel that the location there is too far removed from our county and students."

## Two-Thirds of Benton Graduates Plan College, Technical Training

The class of 1965 of the Benton Consolidated High School promises to be very much in evidence in the classrooms across the nation this fall, with 120 of 182 graduates, or 67 percent, going on to some form of higher education. These students reflect the diversity of the graduating class by attending 38 different institutions in 11 states and one foreign country.

Seventy-five students, or 41 percent of the class, plan to attend either two-year or four-year academic institutions. Southern Illinois University draws the lion's share of this group, 33 students, while nine graduates plan to enter Mt. Vernon Junior College and eight will attend the University of Illinois. The remainder of the group will be spread across the country, with students attending schools in Illinois, Arizona, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Minnesota, Colorado, Missouri, Texas, and Reims, France.

In addition to those students attending colleges and universities, 45 graduates will enter vocational or business schools this summer and fall. Fifteen of these students will enroll in the Vocational Training Institute in Carbondale, while eight others will attend business schools, such as Sanford Brown Lockyears, and Patricia Stevens. Seven graduates will attend industrial schools, another seven will go to beauty school while others will attend nursing school, barber college, or, for two boys, a course in highway engineering at the University of Illinois.

Of the remaining 33 percent of the class, twelve boys and one girl will be entering the armed forces in the near future. Six of this group plan to join the Navy, while four boys have enlisted in the Marines and two boys and the lone girl in the Air Force.

An additional 34 students plan to enter the working force. Many of these already have jobs waiting for them in the area, and a few have expressed a wish to move to Chicago or California to work.

Eleven girls plan to be married soon after high school while a very small fraction of the class reported that they are as yet undecided about future plans.

Benton Evening News, Benton Illinois  
Thursday, June 10, 1965

## State Senate Committee Approves Bill to Spur Junior Colleges

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Legislation designed to encourage creation of comprehensive junior colleges has won unanimous endorsement of the Illinois Senate Education Committee.

The bill was sent to the floor of the Senate Wednesday after the Republican majority amended it to provide for the state to bear half the cost of a student's education.

Under the amendment, class one and class two junior colleges would receive \$11.50 state aid for each semester hour for each student.

Class two junior colleges are existing schools, usually under control of a board which also runs grade and high schools. Class one schools are institutions created in separate districts and have their own governing boards.

Dr. Lyman Glenn, executive director of the state Board of Higher Education, supported the original bill, which provided students in class two institutions would receive only \$7.60 a semester hour in state aid.

Glenn contended that to equalize payments would discourage class two junior colleges from becoming class one institutions.

Sen. David Davis, R-Bloomington, who favored putting all colleges on the same aid level, said: "I don't think you can get a starving man from the gutter by refusing him food."

The committee also approved an amendment permitting local boards to charge students as much as one-third of the educational cost. Another change would permit a junior college board to charge costs of a non-resident student to his resident board.

Monday, June 14, 1965

## Meeting Here Wednesday on Junior College

Area school administrators have been invited to attend a meeting in Benton Wednesday to discuss a possible junior college site on Rend Lake.

The invitations were issued by the Rend Lake Board of Trustees, according to Howard Mendenhall, manager of the district.

All interested persons are invited to attend the meeting, which will be held at the Benton Public Library at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting is one of several which are being held throughout Southern Illinois to establish districts for the burgeoning junior college network in Southern Illinois.

Two weeks ago at a meeting in Mt. Vernon, Frank Feltmeier, head of the planning committee of the Rend Lake Board, proposed that a site on Rend Lake near Interstate 57 and near the intersection of Interstate 64 and 57, would be an ideal site for a large junior college district serving nine or so counties.

He pointed out that the site would be almost halfway between Benton and Mt. Vernon, as well as halfway between Salem and Marion, four of the cities which have expressed strong interest in such a district.

Tuesday, June 22, 1965

## Approve Junior College Bill

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — A statewide master plan for public junior colleges won unanimous passage today in the Illinois House and advanced to the Senate.

One of the controversial features centers on the amount of state aid to two different types of junior colleges.

As passed, the bill provides state payments of \$11.50 per student for each semester hour in new class 1 schools. These are schools which would consist of separate districts, have their own governing boards and meet prescribed conditions on area and other factors.

Payments of \$7.50 would go to Class 2 schools which are existing units under a board which also supervises grade and high schools.

A separate bill pending before the Senate recommends that both classes be given \$11.50 per student in state aid.

May 13, 1965

THE DAILY AMERICAN, WEST FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS

## TIME GROWING SHORT TO ACT ON JR. COLLEGE

Sponsors of a move at Mt. Vernon to establish a multi-county junior college district indicated at a meeting at Mt. Vernon Wednesday night that "time is growing short" if action is to be taken.

Pointed out was that a hearing is scheduled early in June for a proposed three-county — Marion, Clinton and Washington counties — district and that it is expected an election will be called.

Also mentioned was that several other junior college movements have gotten underway, including the four-county Franklin, Williamson, Jackson and Perry county proposal and a six-county proposal along the southwestern border of the state for which a survey is already being made by Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

One of the proposals of the Mt. Vernon group is to create a junior college district possibly embracing all or parts of Clinton, Washington, Marion, Wayne, Jefferson, Hamilton, Franklin and Perry counties. If the three-county proposal centered around the present Centralia junior college is approved by the voters, that would cut three counties from the proposal.

### Long-Time Proposal

A long-standing proposal has been to create a junior college district around the triumvirate of three major cities: Salem, Centralia and Mt. Vernon but no agreement has ever been reached. One of the specific issues apparently is site location. Centralia and Mt. Vernon both presently have junior college districts coinciding with high school districts but seek to expand the territory to qualify as a comprehensive junior college under legislation expected to be passed by the state legislature setting up a junior college system in the state to ease burgeoning enrollment at four-year colleges and universities.

John Kagy of Salem suggested at the Wednesday night meeting that perhaps the Clinton, Washington and Marion county group could still get together with Jefferson and other counties in establishing a junior college district and indicated that an agreement could possibly be reached for establishing the site in the northwest corner of Jefferson county.

## Mt. Vernon Group Says Developments Forcing Action; Are Perturbed At Page

Representatives of the Mt. Vernon group argued in turn that they originally proposed to serve the area presently served by the Mt. Vernon junior college and a location in the northwest corner of Jefferson county would pose a commencing problem for students from Wayne, Hamilton and Franklin counties.

### Perturbed at Page

The Mt. Vernon group apparently is also perturbed by the recent action of Illinois Superintendent of Schools Ray Page in approving the proposal for the three-county (Marion, Clinton and Washington) group and alleged that Page had told them no action would be taken on the Centralia proposal until surveys had been completed for the several proposed junior college districts in the area.

J. Lester Buford, retired well-known Mt. Vernon educator, said that logically a survey of all of Southern Illinois should have been made to establish the need for junior colleges; the best possible combinations of assessed valuations and potential student enrollments and their sites determined.

Buford indicated that he thought it was "now too late" for an overall study with a hearing already scheduled on the three-county proposal and other proposals underway.

It was stressed at the meeting that the timetable of events that have already occurred plus those about to occur places a time limit for action on the Mt. Vernon proposal and it was indicated that action on establishing boundaries of a proposed district would be attempted in the near future.

Representatives of various school districts in the proposed area were asked to appoint representatives to two committees, a lay committee and an advisory committee, so that more specific action and programs could be formulated on the proposal. Representatives from the Sesser area in Franklin county named delegates to the committees.

Mt. Vernon representatives claimed at the meeting that they were not specifically interested in a Mt. Vernon location for a junior college but rather for a location where it would do the best job for educational purposes in the district established. It was also stressed that the junior college district should be large enough in assessed valuation and potential student enrollment to establish an adequate junior college.

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1965

## PROPOSE ANOTHER JR. COLLEGE UNIT INVOLVING COUNTY

A proposal for another junior college district that would include Franklin county was revealed Wednesday night at a meeting of the City Plan Commission here with local school officials and members of the Frankfort Community unit district school board.

Roy Patton said he attended a meeting Tuesday night at which it was proposed that Franklin, Perry, Jefferson and Hamilton counties, as a nucleus, form a junior college district with the junior college site to be on the shores of the proposed Rend Lake.

Patton said letters are being sent out to school administrators in the four-county area in an attempt to set up a meeting of school men and other interested parties at which the proposal would be further discussed.

## NO AGREEMENT MADE REGARDING JUNIOR COLLEGE

SALEM, Ill. (UPI)—No agreement was reached Wednesday night in talks exploring the creation of an expanded junior college area that would include the proposed Kaskaskia Junior College area and territory served by Mount Vernon Community College.

The Kaskaskia area is almost ready for an election in a territory that would include all of Marion and Clinton counties and parts of Jefferson and Washington.

A spokesman for the Mount Vernon group said it apparently will have to go ahead with its own plans since no agreement has been reached with the Kaskaskia group.

# Prepare Map Of Jr. College Of 4 Districts

A tentative map of a proposed four-county junior college district involving Franklin, Williamson, Jackson and Perry counties is expected to be ready by this weekend or early next week, according to Leslie Stilley, Williamson county superintendent of schools and chairman of a four-county junior college steering committee.

Stilley said he had been in contact with school officials in all of the area involved and that officials have been asked to send him a map of their respective territories based on their opinion as to where the district boundaries should be drawn.

After the legal description of the territories are received, Stilley said, a preliminary district map will be prepared. The tentative map will then be presented to all of the officials involved for consideration. A meeting of the four-county steering committee is expected to be called sometime next week.

It was agreed at the last meeting of the four-county group that the next meeting would be held, on call by Stilley, in Carbondale.

The tentative four-county map is expected to include all of Williamson county, most of Franklin county except a small area along the northern boundary, the Du Quoin or eastern section of Perry county and the Carbondale-Murphysboro area of Jackson county, it was said. Fringe areas of the district would be included at their own decision, according to earlier discussions.

## Salem Plan

At an earlier meeting this week, another junior college district proposal that could include part or all of Franklin county was discussed at a meeting at Salem.

A hearing is proposed on a proposed Kaskaskia Area Junior College District on June 3 at Centralia township high school. Boundaries of that district cover all of Marion and Clinton counties, the northern part of Washington county and a small section of Jefferson county that is in the Centralia junior college and township high school district.

Mt. Vernon again rejected joining the Kaskaskia proposal, it was said, on the basis that any district to which it would agree must also include, at least portions of, Wayne, Hamilton and Franklin counties which are served by the present Mt. Vernon junior college.

A delegation from Centralia took the position of establishing the Kaskaskia district on the basis of the territory approved by the state superintendent of public instruction (this is the area on which a hearing is slated June 3) and then giving Mt. Vernon and other interested areas a chance to join by petition or referendum, before trustees are elected, if necessary, to give them a voice in site selection and other matters left to the district board.

# HOUSE GROUP OKAYS JUNIOR COLLEGE PLAN

## Several Changes Made In Original Proposal; Land Value Counts In Local Share of Cost

SPRINGFIELD (UPI) — The House Education Committee approved Tuesday night the junior college phase of the Master Plan for higher education.

The bill was an amended version of the original measure. The amendment made many technical changes and several semi-substantive changes.

The House and Senate education committees held a joint session to hear testimony on the legislation. The Senate committee was scheduled to vote on the measure today.

Lynn A. Glenn, Springfield associate director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, listed changes to:

- Provide for the continued existence of junior colleges not added by the common school fund.

- Provide that the state shall not reimburse junior colleges for courses receiving 50 per cent federal funds.

- Ease the burden on class I and class II junior colleges during the transition under the Master Plan.

### Allow For Land

- Allow the market value of the land on which a college is located to be included in the 25 per cent share of capital construction to be paid by the college. The state will pay the other 75 per cent.

- Provide that all annexations and disconnections to and from a junior college district be subject to review by the junior college board.

Dr. Richard G. Browne, Normal, the executive director of the Board of Higher Education, asked for approval of the amended bill.

"We'd like to get this show on the road," Browne told the joint sessions.

Class I junior colleges will receive \$11.50 per pupil hour in state aid and class II colleges will receive \$7.50 under the bill.

Rep. Charles W. Chabagn, (R-Champaign) chairman of the School Problems Commission, offered an amendment to provide for a rate of \$11.50 for both classes.

The amendment failed, 8-9.

# 9 COUNTY REND LAKE JR. COLLEGE IS SUGGESTED

MOUNT VERNON, Ill. (UPI) — Jefferson County School Supt. Ote Ellis revealed today that the board of trustees of the Rend Lake Conservancy District has proposed that a junior college serving as many as nine counties be constructed on the shores of Rend Lake between Benton and Mount Vernon.

Ellis, who said he was completely in favor of the proposal, said the trustees have sent letters to school officials in the area and that a meeting to make formal plans probably would be held within 30 days.

# REND LAKE BOARD ASKS REACTION ON JR. COLLEGE PLAN

The Rend Lake Conservancy district board of trustees has asked county school superintendents and principals in nine Southern Illinois counties for their reaction to a Rend Lake location as a compromise site for a regional junior college.

Frank Feltmeier, planning committee chairman for the district, said school officials in Franklin, Hamilton, Jackson, Jefferson, Marion, Perry, Washington, Wayne and Williamson counties have been asked for their reaction.

June 15, 1965

# PICK CHAMBER COMMITTEE ON JR. COLLEGE

## Board Discusses Various Proposals on Creating District; Need Dues Money Soon

A committee to work with educators as representatives of the West Frankfort community in the consideration of various proposals for the formation of a junior college district was appointed by Chamber of Commerce President Oren A. Drew at a meeting of chamber directors Monday night.

Members of the chamber committee named after discussion of several school proposals under consideration, are Rennie Odum, Robert Brown and Roy Patton. The chamber had previously endorsed and assisted in preliminary planning for a four-county district that would embrace Franklin, Williamson, Jackson and Perry counties.

Most recent proposal is the creation of a multi-county district with the college to be located on a site near Ina offered by the Rend Lake Association. The Rend Lake plan will be discussed at a meeting at Benton Wednesday night. Attending the meeting with the chamber committee will be Euel Johnson, chamber executive secretary.

Johnson told the chamber directors that petitions for the four-county district have been prepared but that circulation of the petitions has been delayed pending discussion on the Rend Lake district proposal. Geographic center of the four-county district would be in the Royalton-Hurst-Bush area.

### Other Proposals

Earlier plans had included a Mt. Vernon proposal for the creation of a district that would include part of Franklin county and a Marion proposal that would also "take a slice" of Franklin county.

Patton, a member of the Rend Lake Conservancy District board, told the chamber meeting that it appeared that four or five counties would be interested in the Rend Lake plan. He said he would favor a plan that would locate the school in or near West Frankfort but that none of the plans under consideration had included such a proposal. The Rend Lake board is not interested in any town, he said.

Raymond Simmons said such a school should be at a location that would best serve the area and that it was his opinion that "it should be in West Frankfort."

Drew questioned the wisdom of the location. Since the lake is being developed primarily for recreation, he said he felt that the junior college should be located else-

where. He pointed out that buildings at Crab Orchard Lake are being closed at night because of "student difficulties."

Johnson said boards of education in the proposed four-county district had agreed to go along with the plan and pay their proportionate share of the cost of a required survey. County school superintendents had agreed that there would be no controversy over location of the school in the area, he said.

### Long Rivalry

Johnson pointed out rivalries between Centralia and Mt. Vernon over the junior college question had existed for as long as seven years. Both cities are currently promoting separate districts.

Odum reminded the chamber directors that the creation of a junior college district is promoted, "not with a view to furthering our own business welfare, but for the welfare of the students."

"If we have decided on the four-county plan, let's not go wandering all over," he said. "Let's stay with the plan." He pointed out that there are four growth centers in the area. He envisioned the ultimate creation of a four-county complex embracing the area of the proposed junior college district but admitted that he was "probably fifty years ahead of myself."

Drew told of a request by Mt. Vernon, Ind. chamber representatives for a joint meeting with West Frankfort leaders to discuss the advisability of attempting to secure the extension of Indiana Highway 141 to link Evansville and Mt. Vernon, Ind. with Illinois Highway 149 and West Frankfort. The meeting will be set up within the near future, the directors were told.

### Interchange Lighting

Drew also discussed with the chamber directors a letter he had received from Vernon T. Kupel of Carbondale, district engineer for the Illinois Division of Highways, in which Kupel advised that the state has no plans for the illumination of the Interstate 57 interchange at the west city limits.

Traffic studies indicate that the West Frankfort or Benton interchanges "will not qualify" for lighting before 1968 or 1969, Kupel told Drew.

Drew said the chamber "will keep prodding" in an effort to get approval for the lighting of the West Frankfort interchange. City officials will be asked to also take the matter up with state officials.

Drew reported that the chamber executive board has approved plans for a city directory to be published by the Polk Directory Company. No cost to the chamber is involved, he said.

Victor Penrod and John Vincent, co-chairmen of the membership

Details of a proposal for a junior college district based on a location at the Rend Lake were explained Tuesday night at a meeting here by members of the Rend Lake Conservancy District board to representatives of several civic groups.

Charles Covington, Mt. Vernon, a member of the Rend Lake board, told the group that a prime requirement before any further steps can be taken by the board is that Franklin and Jefferson counties, the two counties represented in the conservancy district, must be satisfied with the Rend Lake junior college proposal and indicate such satisfaction and a desire for further investigation and development of the proposal.

Covington explained that, once such interest and support was shown in the two counties, the conservancy district board would then "feel authorized" to conduct a further investigation of pertinent factors and to contact other adjacent counties and areas on the possibility that they join in the Rend Lake junior college district.

Covington said the Rend Lake board would like an expression of interest in the Rend Lake college proposal from West Frankfort at a meeting of representatives from the two counties scheduled for the night of July 19 at the city library in Benton. Covington said the conservancy district board would like a decision from the two counties at that time as to what they want to do on the lake college proposal.

### Groups Represented

Represented at the meeting here Tuesday night, held in the city courtroom at the city hall, were the Chamber of Commerce, City Plan Commission, Frankfort Community unit school district board, the Industrial Council board and the city library board.

Stressed at the meeting was that the Rend Lake board is not trying to take the place of educators in presenting the Rend Lake college proposal but was offering it merely as a "compromise" to other proposals on which no definite agreements had been reached.

Covington and Frank Feltmeier, Mt. Vernon, also a conservancy district board member, and Howard Mendenhall, Benton manager of the conservancy district, reviewed the overall Rend Lake program and the junior college proposal, which had been presented at a joint two-county meeting June 16 at Benton.

Feltmeier said the Rend Lake proposal is not in competition with a four-county junior college proposal but rather it is believed that the Rend Lake proposal adds

to the four-county proposal providing a site, additional property valuation and additional protection to be served.

Franklin, Williamson, Jackson and Perry counties, the four counties involved in the four-county college proposal, are included in the proposed Rend Lake college district, along with Jefferson, Hamilton, Marion and Wayne counties.

### Not In Education Business

Covington stressed that the conservancy district board is not in the education business. "We will provide a site and help in other ways," he said, "but action is to you." This was in reference to the request for an expression of interest in the proposal from Franklin and Jefferson counties before any further action is taken.

The speakers described a proposed junior college site on a peninsula on the lake located slightly northwest of the Whittington interchange on Interstate Highway 57 and just north of Route 183, that will cross the lake in an east-west direction.

It was suggested that it was probable that a site for the junior college, with a suggested minimum of 150 acres and a recommended 300-acre parcel, could be obtained on the peninsula through cooperation of the conservancy district board, the State of Illinois and the Army Corps of Engineers. Covington said there was definite commitment that the site could be obtained but he believed it highly probable to be a possibility.

The peninsula, about a half mile wide and on high ground with water on three sides, includes about 1,800 acres. Present plan call for acquisition of the peninsula land by the Army Corps of Engineers, who will then transfer control over to the state.

### Travel Routes

Also discussed were the value

Interstate Highways 57 and 64 at Route 183 providing travel routes to the proposed college site for commuting students. There would be no resident students at the junior college.

Covington said that several communities, including McLeansboro, Fairfield and Du Quoin, had expressed interest in the Rend Lake college proposal but that no attempt had been made to contact those areas until the conservancy district board gets the "go ahead" from Franklin and Jefferson counties.

In response to a question, Covington said supporters and officials of an already existing junior college at Mt. Vernon had assured him the Mt. Vernon junior college would be closed if the Rend Lake college became a reality. Feltmeier said leaders of the Mt. Vernon junior college had already submitted a letter of intent committal in support of the Rend Lake college proposal.

# Rend Lake Board Makes A Bid For Junior College Site

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1965

Friday, May 28, 1965

## Discuss Area Jr. College Expansion

CARLYLE — The possibility of eventually expanding the proposed Kaskaskia Area Junior College district into portions of Bond and Fayette Counties was discussed by five county school superintendents yesterday.

Discussing the possible enlargement were Dean DeLay, Bond County; James Staff, Fayette; Kenneth Frieman, Washington; Norbert Moorleghen, Clinton; and Robert I. Hartley, Marion.

Hartley said DeLay and Staff were "quite interested" in working to get part or all of their counties into the district. They made no definite commitments, however, until they have a chance to discuss the proposal with school officials and community leaders.

Another meeting of the five superintendents is expected early next week prior to the public hearing on the proposed Kaskaskia Area Junior College.

The public hearing, which would precede a referendum on the district, is slated for next Thursday at the high school cafeteria in Centralia.

Hartley said discussion so far indicates the best route to permit Bond and Fayette Counties to join the district would be to have them annex when and if the district as described in the present petition is approved by voters.

Included in the present proposal are all of Clinton and Marion Counties; the northern part of Washington County, and a small portion of Jefferson County.

If Bond and Fayette residents favor joining the district they could annex their territory by two means, Hartley said.

They could have a special election at which approval by a majority of those voting would authorize the annexation. Annexation could also be accomplished by petition, which would require signatures of two-thirds of the voters in the area seeking annexation.

## Public Hearing On Jr. College Set Thursday

Citizens will get an opportunity to speak for and against the proposed Kaskaskia Area Junior College district at a public hearing here Thursday evening.

The hearing will begin at 8 p.m. in the Centralia Township High School Cafeteria.

Robert I. Hartley, Marion County schools superintendent, said he recommends that persons who expect to speak at the public hearing have their statements prepared so written copies can be turned in.

Everyone giving testimony will be sworn in and everything said will be recorded. Hartley also said that statements which have information and facts to support opinions will carry more weight in the hearing than unsupported opinions.

After the hearing, Hartley will have to make an administrative decision as to whether a referendum will be held on establishment of an area junior college district.

N. J. Moorleghen, Clinton County schools superintendent, and Kenneth Frieman, Washington County superintendent, of schools, will assist Hartley in conducting the hearing.

If an election is set, law requires that the election be at least 40 days after the public hearing.

The public hearing is on a petition calling for establishment of an area junior college district including all of the small portions of Jefferson County lying within district 200 and the Salem Community High School district.

If the junior college district is approved by voters in a referendum, there is a possibility that portions of Fayette and Bond Counties may choose to annex to the district. Educators from those counties are studying the proposal and attempting to learn if residents would favor becoming a part of the proposed Kaskaskia district.

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1965

## Hearing Offers 3 Moves on College

A decision on whether a referendum will be held on establishing the proposed Kaskaskia Area Junior College district may not be made immediately after tonight's public hearing on the junior college petition.

The hearing will be at 8 p.m. at the Centralia Township High School Cafeteria.

Robert Hartley, Marion County superintendent of schools, has three choices at the conclusion of tonight's hearing.

1. He can continue the hearing to another date for more testimony.

2. He can decide to call for a referendum.

3. He can conclude the hearing but delay a decision until he has had time to study testimony.

Citizens will have an opportunity to speak for and against the proposed district tonight. The district outlined in the petition includes all of Clinton and Marion Counties, the north half of Washington County and a small portion of Jefferson County.

A dinner meeting at 6 p.m. today at the Langenfeld Hotel will allow school officials to further discuss possible expansion of the proposed district to include all or part of Fayette and Bond Counties.

N. J. Moorleghen, Clinton County schools superintendent, has repeatedly said he favors a larger district than the one proposed in the current petition.

Oleg Ellis, Jefferson County schools superintendent, today sent a letter to Hartley, saying he would not be able to attend tonight's hearing because of commencement exercises.

Ellis said he is hopeful the group will broaden the junior college proposal to include both the Centralia and Mt. Vernon junior college districts.

Ellis added, however, that he wishes the proposed Kaskaskia Area College success if it is decided tonight to continue with the present proposed district.

# Delay Referendum Action After Jr. College Hearing

By Charlie Bundy

The proposal for a Kaskaskia Area Junior College got a two-hour airing last night during a public hearing, but widely divergent views left it unclear what steps would be taken next.

Robert Hartley, Marion County school superintendent, decided to continue the hearing next Thursday at 2 p.m. in his office at the Marion County Courthouse, Salem.

The hearing was on a petition which calls for establishment of an area junior college district including Marion and Clinton Counties, the north half of Washington County and a small part of Jefferson County.

Hartley eventually will have to decide whether to call a referendum on the district.

Testimony last night was split between those who were against calling for a vote on a district as presently proposed and those who favored scheduling a referendum without further delay.

Hartley said he will receive further testimony next Thursday. Meanwhile he will review comments made and recorded last night.

About 160 persons attended the hearing in Centralia Township High School Cafeteria.

N. J. Moorleggen, Clinton County superintendent of schools, led opposition to the referendum. Moorleggen, who feels that district is too small, said he favors circulation of a new petition that would include more territory.

This probably would include portions of Bond and Fayette Counties, which have lately indicated an interest. It had been proposed that a referendum be held on the current proposal and Fayette and Bond County sections be allowed to annex to the district later.

However, Moorleggen said there was no assurance that these areas would be successful in annexing to the Kaskaskia district. He said the proposed area is not large enough to provide the type of programs needed for students in his area.

He cited the need for a college with a comprehensive vocational and technical program.

Hartley said all legal requirements for establishment of an area junior college district have been met in the present petition.

"There is no guarantee that by meeting these we would have a number one college," Hartley said. "But there is also no guarantee that we would have a number one college if we had an enrollment 10 times as large as proposed." Hartley said the type of program set up after approval of a district would determine the rating the college would get.

Minimum legal requirements call for at least 30,000 population and assessed valuation of \$75 million. The proposed Kaskaskia District has a population

of 74,000 and assessed valuation of \$240,000.

Advocates of a larger district spoke of broadening the tax base.

Dr. Eugene McClintock, superintendent of Centralia Township High School and Junior College, said talk of enlarging the tax base left the implication the school would receive much more money for operations without having to provide additional facilities.

He said adding another \$200 million assessed valuation would not necessarily provide more money per student because there would be many more students to serve.

Gene Volton, Salem, read a letter signed by 15 persons in Salem which called for the hear-

ing to be continued for further study. It said the decision was reached since there is information that counties other than Washington, Clinton and Marion are interested.

Harold Pennock Jr., Centralia, spoke in favor of the present petition which has been approved by Ray Page, state superintendent of public instruction.

"This is the third petition submitted," he said. "The other two which were denied included more territory than the present petition." He said the population in the district is 2½ times the required minimum and the assessed valuation is about 3½ times the state requirement.

Further delay means more procrastination and more areas saying they want in or out of the district, Pennock said.

"It is time to get on with the business at hand and provide education for these young people."

Mrs. Thelma Bailey, Salem, who helped form the present proposal, also said it was a mistake to delay any longer.

"We tried many times to go a larger district but were unable to get in it the people we wanted," she said.

"The state superintendent's office advised not to try to get too large a district," she said, adding that they were told other areas could petition in later. Mrs. Bailey said she believes the majority of Salem residents want the district.



# Officials from Five Counties Weigh Expansion of District

A discussion meeting of about 30 school officials and community leaders from five counties at the Langenfeld Hotel yesterday turned out to be a warm-up session for last night's public hearing on a proposed area junior college.

The counties of Bond, Fayette, Washington, Clinton, and Marion were represented.

The meeting was called primarily to hear reports from Fayette and Bond Counties on whether there was interest in the proposed Kaskaskia Area Junior College District.

James Staff, Fayette County school superintendent, and Dean Delay, Bond County superintendent, reported interest in their counties.

Kenneth Frieman and Robert I. Hartley, schools superintendents from Washington and Marion Counties, indicated they were in favor of calling a vote

on the proposed Kaskaskia district and allowing Bond and Fayette Counties to annex later if they wished.

N. J. Moorleghen, Clinton County superintendent, said he could not support the current proposal. He favored including portions of Bond and Fayette Counties in the district before it is brought to a vote.

Staff said he believes at least four of the five unit districts in Fayette County would be interested if the college could be located near enough to Fayette County towns to be practical.

He cited the Ramsey school district as a fringe area and said he doubted if there would be interest there. However, Vandalia, St. Elmo, Brownstown and LaGrove (Farina-St. Peter) districts have expressed some interest, he said.

If the college were to be built as far north as Sandoval, he said, Fayette County officials would have a good selling point if the proposal were brought to a vote.

"We could arouse a lot of interest then," he said.

Delay said school officials in Mulberry Grove and Greenville districts of Bond County would be interested if the college would be located northwest of the Centralia area.

The comments by Staff and Delay and later comments from representatives of other areas indicated that a location in the Shattuc area might eventually be proposed if Bond and Fayette Counties are included.

Determination of a site would be the task of trustees elected if an area college district is formed.

Verle Besant, president of the Kaskaskia Foundation — prime promoter of the proposed district — said it was the consensus of many local persons who have worked on the proposal that most Centralians would work to support a location northwest of Centralia if Bond and Fayette Counties were included.

He said a location should be considered that would not be detrimental to communities of Washington County, and that a location south of Rte. 50 would be desirable.

Frieman said all persons to whom he has talked in his county are satisfied to vote on the district as presently proposed. This includes all of Marion and Clinton Counties, the north half of Washington County and a small part of Jefferson County. Frieman said he would have no objections to later expansion.

Hartley said a legal adviser in the office of the state superintendent of public instruction has said the best way to form the district would be to vote on the area now proposed and allow other areas to petition in later.

Gene Yelton, Salem, said several persons he has contacted in Salem have indicated they would like to see the Mt. Vernon area included.

Charles F. Miller, superintendent of Wesclin Community Unit, said the definite size of the district should be determined before other steps are taken.

June 2, 1965

# 13 Counties Discuss Area Junior College

Expressions from 13 Southern Illinois counties concerning location of a junior college in this area were scheduled to be aired at a meeting today in Metropolis, according to Leslie Stilley, Williamson County superintendent of schools.

Stilley, still an advocate of a junior college in the Marion area because of easier access in all directions, said that further discussion of the local situation will have to await reaction to a proposal two weeks ago that a junior college be located in the Rend Lake area.

While Stilley declined to support the move, he termed it a temporary roadblock until all of the nine county school superintendents had determined stands on the Rend Lake proposition.

It is reported that Franklin County, considered to have been backing the plan for a school at Marion, may support the Rend Lake idea because of the county's proximity to the proposed location.

Franklin, together with Williamson and parts of Perry, Union and Jackson counties, were included in an area termed amply able to support a junior college by Stilley from population and assessed tax valuation standpoints.

With the exception of Franklin County, responses to the Rend Lake proposal are not available.

June 5, 1965

# No Decision On Jr. College

No decision concerning the proposed location of a Junior College in the Rend Lake area was reached at a meeting of educators from 13 counties in Southern Illinois at Metropolis Thursday.

Only two school superintendents of the nine counties selected to support the Rend Lake plan were represented at the Metropolis meeting, according to Leslie Stilley, Williamson County school superintendent.

Willis Gholsen, Hamilton County school superintendent, reported that his letter from the Rend Lake promoters did not ask for a reply and that he had submitted one.

Stilley said that he made no comment on the proposal.

June 9, 1965

# Committee Oks Junior College Master Plan

SPRINGFIELD (UP) — The House Education Committee approved Tuesday night the junior college phase of the Master Plan for higher education.

The bill was an amended version of the original measure. The amendment made many technical changes and several "semi-substantive changes."

The House and Senate education committees held a joint session to hear testimony on the legislation. The Senate committee was scheduled to vote on the measure today.

Lyman A. Glenn, Springfield, associate director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, listed changes to:

—Provide for the continued existence of junior colleges not aided by the common school fund.

—Provide that the state shall not reimburse junior colleges for courses receiving 50 per cent federal funds.

—Ease the burden on class I and class II junior colleges during the transition under the Master Plan.

—Allow the market value of the land on which a college is located to be included in the 25 per cent share of capital construction to be paid by the college. The state will pay the other 75 per cent.

—Provide that all annexations and disconnections to and from a junior college district be subject to review by the junior college board.

Dr. Richard G. Browne, Normal, the executive director of the Board of Higher Education, asked for approval of the amended bill.

"We'd like to get this show on the road," Browne told the joint session.

Class I junior colleges will receive \$11.50 per pupil hour in state aid and class II colleges will receive \$7.50 under the bill.

Rep. Charles W. Clabaugh, Belleville, chairman of the School Problems Commission, offered an amendment to provide for a rate of \$11.50 for both classes.

The amendment failed, 8-9.

June 11, 1965

# Kaskaskia Junior College Election Set

SALEM, Ill. (UP) — Petitions were approved at a hearing Thursday for an election to create a Kaskaskia regional junior college amid some criticism that the territory included in the petitions was too small.

Marion County School Supt. Robert I. Hartley approved the petitions and said an election would be held but he did not set an election date. He said there would be a delay of at least 45 days before an election.

The approved petitions include all of Marion and Clinton counties, the portion of Washington County north of U.S. 460 and a small part of the northwest section of Jefferson County.

Clinton County School Supt. Norbert Moorleghon said he could not support the petitions because the territory is too small. His feelings were echoed by a spokesman for Salem in Marion County.

District proponents favor the inclusion of parts of Bond and Fayette counties but differ on whether they should be included in the territory before the election or annexed to the district after the election.

June 10, 1965

### In The Armchair

# Area Jr. College In Voters' Hands

Whether there finally shall be a Kaskaskia Area Junior College district, as outlined in the current proposal, now is up to the residents of this area.

This is, as it should be, the ultimate decision on the size and shape of the district rests with the voters, who must pay the freight for the badly needed higher education of our young people.

Robert I. Hartley, superintendent of Marion County schools, made a wise decision Thursday when he approved the petitions calling for a referendum but delayed setting a date for the vote.

The petitions, as some would have you believe, were not the result of a hasty, overnight bid by self-interested persons seeking some sort of advantage.

They were the result of long hours of study, discussion, and compromise. They have been approved and recommended for passage by Ray Page, state superintendent of public instruction.

Quite logically, the next step had to be approval by Hartley with a ruling that a referendum be held.

It is to be hoped that the time lapse between Thursday's decision and the actual calling of the referendum will serve as a cooling-off period during which all elements who favor a sound, effective junior college can get together for a meeting of minds.

To have thrown out the petitions, as some proposed, would have set back the efforts to es-

tablish an area college to a far greater degree than they would have you believe.

It would have meant starting all over again, more procrastination, more debate and more bruised feelings. It is very doubtful, in Centralia at least, that support could have been built up to the extent that it is to this point.

There could be meetings, debates, speeches and bargaining for another five years and you would not have unanimity over such questions as how large the district ultimately should be, how far students will be willing to commute and how much the public is ready to accept.

If those who insist the district will not be acceptable without Mt. Vernon are sincere, they can use the interim between now and the calling of the referendum to lay plans for annexation of that area immediately after the vote and before a site is determined.

Similarly, those who prefer expansion northward will have the same opportunity. But there must be a start somewhere and while there is no need for haste to the extent that educational quality suffers, neither is there any point in dilly-dallying around for two or three years of meetings at which the same speeches are repeated over and over again.

Changes in the Kaskaskia effort is politically inspired and grossly untrue. There are those who would have you believe that sinister politicians are manipulating the entire move.

If any sort of political pressure has been involved at all it was only to get action on the petitions at the state level so the people could decide. And this was done openly and above board.

Centralia Township High School and Junior College District 200 already has a fully accredited junior college. The district's young people are assured of the availability of a junior college program.

But the area college concept, which is becoming the official policy of the state, has been enthusiastically accepted by educators and citizens within the district. That, not politics, is the motivation.

It is time to put aside provincialism and intercity accusations. It is time to educate the voters of the area on the issue at stake. And by next fall we hope the citizens can make their decision.

Thursday, June 10, 1965

## Senate Committee Backs Junior College Measure

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Legislation designed to encourage creation of comprehensive junior colleges has won unanimous endorsement of the Illinois Senate Education Committee.

The bill was sent to the floor of the Senate Wednesday after the Republican majority amended it to provide for the state to bear half the cost of a student's education.

Under the amendment, class one and class two junior colleges would receive \$11.50 state aid for each semester hour for each student.

Class two junior colleges are existing schools, usually under control of a board which also runs grade and high schools. Class one schools are institutions created in separate districts and have their own governing boards.

Dr. Lyman Glenny, executive director of the state Board of Higher Education, supported the original bill, which provided students in class two institutions would receive only \$7.60 a semester hour in state aid.

Glenny contended that to equalize payments would discourage class two junior col-

leges from becoming class one institutions.

Sen. David Davis, R-Bloomington, who favored putting all colleges on the same aid level, said: "I don't think you can get a starving man from the gutter by refusing him food."

The committee also approved an amendment permitting local boards to charge students as much as one-third of the educational cost. Another change would permit a junior college board to charge costs of a non-resident student to his resident board.

# AREA JR. COLLEGE REFERENDUM DECREE

## Ballot Date To Be Set After Wait

By Charlie Bundy

A referendum will be held on the proposal to establish a Kaskaskia Area Junior College district including all of Clinton and Marion Counties, the northern half of Washington County and a small portion of Jefferson County.

Date for the election has not been set, and apparently will not be set for several weeks.

Robert L. Hartley, Marion County school superintendent, at the conclusion of yesterday's public hearing at the courthouse in Salem, said the petition will be granted and a referendum called.

Since the school code provides that such an election cannot be held until 40 days after the hearing, Hartley said, he has no intention of setting a date at this time. The school code does not provide a deadline for scheduling the vote, he said.

The election date probably will be determined after 40 days or more have elapsed, Hartley said.

"If we wait 40 days, we'll know better when the election should be," he said.

"It is quite evident the people who drew the petition want an election. I think that is the only answer."

"I would do this for any group in the county that has brought a petition, met all the legal requirements, and asked for an election."

About 30 persons, mostly school officials from the proposed college area, attended

Speaking in favor of the petition were Verle Besant, president of the Kaskaskia Foundation, the group which worked to outline plans for the district; Glendon Hodson and Glenn Champ, members of the Centralia Township High School and Junior College Board; and E. H. Jonas, Centralia attorney.

Opposition was expressed by John Kagy, a Salem attorney and member of the Salem Community High School Board.

Norbert J. Moolieghen, Clinton County school superintendent, presented a list of points which he felt should be given consideration before a decision was made.

"I recognize the position in which you (Hartley) find yourself," said Moolieghen, "and whatever decision you make I hope that it will eventually lead to the establishment of an institution that will serve the needs of all the people of the area to the maximum possible."

"In the beginning," Kagy said, "I had high hopes for the Kaskaskia Foundation. Unfortunately, it never realized its potential as an area planning and promotional body. If it exists today as more than a name, it represents Centralia interests."

Kagy said he does not believe a true area junior college district can be created in this part of Illinois without the full cooperation of Centralia, Mt. Vernon and other communities.

Local self-interest must be subordinated to the needs of the area as a whole, he said. He also charged that political influence was brought to bear upon

Ray Page, state superintendent of public instruction, to insure his favorable reaction to the petition.

"We have been told there is need for haste (in establishing the district) (and that) the initial district must be small so that it will be saleable," Kagy

said he believed the converse of these statements are true.

Besant said the petition was not drawn without a great deal of thought. "The lines (of the district) were drawn by utilizing information gained from the opinions of many people," he said.

"The petition was drawn with one thought in mind — a sincere desire to include all areas which might have enough interest in higher education that they would help pass a referendum."

Besant urged that Hartley allow enough time when setting the election for a decision by the state legislature on the Master Plan for Higher Education and the dissemination of information concerning it.

Champ said the boundaries of the proposed district were not set by men on the committee, but by answers these men got.

"I wonder if we would get cooperation for expanding the district now when we didn't get it before?" Champ asked.

"We have gone far enough that it is necessary to let the people decide," he said.

Hodson said an election should be scheduled far enough in the future to give time to inform voters.

Jonas said questions have arisen as to whether the proposed area is large enough. The inclusion of Fayette and Bond Counties has been discussed, he said, but school superintendents from those counties have said they felt it inadvisable at this time to include those counties.

"We have to conclude, then, that there is no alternative at this time but to proceed and have an election," Jonas said.

Gene Yolton, Salem, said he knows news media publicized yesterday's meeting well and he wondered where were the persons who will be voting on the district and paying taxes. He spoke of a need to arouse interest, but said he was not sure how to do it.

Ogle Ellis, Jefferson County school superintendent, said he was not at the meeting to oppose the proposal but to pledge full cooperation toward establishment of a comprehensive district of which his county may become a part.

June 15, 1965

## Statement Made In Opposition To Jr. College Petition

(Following is the text of a statement by John M. Kagy, made Thursday at the public hearing concerning the proposed junior college district.)

My name is John M. Kagy. I reside in Tonti township in Marion county, approximately five miles north of Salem.

I am a member of the board of education of Salem Community High School. I am vitally interested in the education of the youth of this community and of this area. My father before me had similar interests. He and others planned and organized Salem Community High School District #600. They had the vision and determination required to extend the boundaries of that district to include sufficient territory so that we, in Salem, now have a debt-free district with a physical plant second to none in this part of the state, built upon a tax base great enough to support it without burdensome taxation.

There is a lesson in that story for us here today.

I have long been interested in the area junior college movement, and active in it since its inception. In the beginning I had high hopes for the Kaskaskia Foundation. Unfortunately, it never realized its potential as an area planning and promotional body. If it exists today, as more than a name, it represents Centralia interests.

It is my belief that we, in this part of Illinois, should not, and in fact cannot, create a true area junior college district without the full cooperation of Centralia and Mt. Vernon and other communities in the area. To create an area college, we must subordinate local self-interest, civic pride, community consciousness and other factors long engrained in us by our respective Chambers of Commerce to the needs of the area as a whole -- to the welfare of the students to be served.

Our efforts to promote such area cooperation are well known. Our failures to date are also known. The Mt. Vernon group is willing to meet, to talk, to explore possibilities, to seek areas of compromise. The proponents of this petition meet them with: "We're happy with what we have. You're welcome to join us, but if you come, come on our terms and take us as we are . . ."

The petition to which we speak today is the third petition filed by the Centralia group. I was one of the signers of the first of those petitions. At that time I sincerely believed that that petition represented an honest effort to carve out a true area college district. The petition was scarcely filed before my disillusionment commenced. At the first hint of opposition, not from within but from the outside, the committee hastily revised, re-executed and refiled petitions, not once but twice, and then brought all the political influence at their command to bear upon the state superintendent of public instruction, the official charged by law to make a study and recommendation concerning that petition, to insure his favorable reaction.

Since the approval of the petition in Springfield, all questions of location of the college or of distribution of the seats on the governing board of the college have been turned aside or fallen on ears that would not hear. We have been told that there is need for haste, that the district must be established now. We have been told that the initial district must be small so that it will be saleable. Establish the district, then adjoining areas will petition in.

I submit that the converse of these statements are true. We should not be in a hurry to establish this area junior college district. We have an opportunity to create a new area junior college district -- this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. We should not set our sights at or be satisfied with anything less than the best possible district. We have no reason to assume that any substantial areas adjoining the district will petition in after the district is organized and take us as we are, on our terms and without representation. We are dealing with the education of the youth in this area, we are determining their future and the future of this part of Illinois. I believe the people are sick unto death of the concept of saleability as it has come from the great advertising centers. I have great confidence in the masses of the people in this democracy of ours -- given the whole truth and firm leadership they will move to the right decision irrespective of personal cost; left to themselves, they will flounder.

For these reasons, speaking for myself alone, I cannot support the present petition and respectfully request that it be denied.



By Sherm Dozier

THE COOPERATION of Salem, Centralia and Mt. Vernon remains the best possible basis for an area junior college.

And the people of this area would be foolish to settle for anything less than that, so long as there is any hope at all that the three cities can get together.

Robert Hartley, county superintendent of schools, did about the only thing he could do when he granted the petition for an election to establish a college district comprising Marion and Clinton counties and part of Washington county.

The petition represented the only concrete plan that Hartley had before him. The only thing wrong with it is that it is not the best possible plan.

Efforts have been made to get Mt. Vernon and Centralia together. These have been unsuccessful. But the election is still a long way off and a lot of things could happen between now and then.

There are people in Mt. Vernon and Centralia, as well as in Salem, who favor a tri-city college. It is up to them to try again -- to try to overcome the inertia, or stubbornness, of others in Mt. Vernon and Centralia who have so far blocked the merger.

We have -- as was said at the public hearing -- a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to create an outstanding junior college district.

Let's don't kick it away.

July 1, 1965

A MOVEMENT is now under way to the north of us to form a junior college district of the counties of Montgomery, Shelby, Christian and Fayette.

And to the south, there has been discussion of a district built around Jefferson and Franklin counties.

These other two prospective districts are of concern locally because it has been hoped that either Jefferson or Fayette could be brought into the proposed Kaskaskia district at some future date.

At the recent public hearing, at which the petition for the Kaskaskia district was approved for submission to the voters, one of the proponents of the petition argued against the objection that the presently-proposed district is not big enough to support the kind of college that we need and want. He argued that the territory could always be enlarged AFTER the election.

Unfortunately, though, there may not be any additional territory left after the election, date for which hasn't been set as yet, but which probably won't be until fall. The junior college fever is running high throughout the state and all areas are now beginning to scramble to get into some kind of district.

It's too bad that a more determined effort wasn't made to get either Jefferson or Fayette county into the Kaskaskia district before the district was established, rather than to hope that it might be done afterwards.

June 13, 1965

# ELECTION PENDING ON AREA JUNIOR COLLEGE

There will be an election the date to be announced later on the question of organizing an area junior college district composed of Marion and Clinton counties and part of Washington county.

This was the decision Thursday of Robert Hartley, Marion county superintendent of schools, following a public hearing on the petition for such a district.

But there were statements made at the hearing indicating that the proposition will not have smooth sailing.

Opposition seems to boil down to the idea that the district doesn't have enough area, or not the right area.

There has been talk of the need for getting Bond and Fayette counties into the district. And certain Salem citizens believe that Mt. Vernon and Jefferson County ought to be included.

The election could have been held next month, but Hartley said he thought it would be unwise to schedule it that early. He said people living within the proposed district should have plenty of time to become informed about the question.

There were indications the vote might come in September or October.

The most pronounced opposition to the petition was contained in a prepared statement read by John W. Kagy, Salem attorney and a member of the SCHS board of education. The text of this statement appears in an accompanying article.

Norbert J. Moorleghen, Clinton county superintendent of schools, also spoke in opposition to the proposed district.

In the first place, he said, the district is too small to support the kind of college needed.

He said that this is not the appropriate time to vote on the question, that there should be a delay until after the Legislature acts on pending legislation regarding area junior colleges.

Moorleghen also questioned the legality of the petition in that no meeting of the county superintendents of the counties involved had been called by the state superintendent before he approved the petition.

Moorleghen cited the possibility of inequity in representation on the college board of trustees. He indicated he was especially concerned that Clinton and Washington counties would not be adequately represented.

He also mentioned "the implication of unwise school construction." Once the buildings are erected, he said, the possibility of expanding the district will be limited.

Speaking in favor of the petition were Verle Besant, chairman of the Centralia Chamber of Commerce education committee; L. H. Jonas, a member of that committee; Glendon Hodson, secretary of the board of education of the Centralia High School district, which operates the present Centralia Junior College; and Glenn Champ, principal of Central City School.

Main emphasis, Hodson said, should be given to the educational welfare of the youth of the area. Among other advantages of the proposed college, he said, would be a saving of from \$2,000 to \$2,500 a year over the cost of sending a student away to a university.

Jonas and Besant said careful thought and a lot of work had gone into drawing up the proposed district. All those who expressed an interest in being in the district were included and those who expressed no interest or who were opposed were left out they indicated.

As to the assertion that the proposed district is not large enough, Jonas said the present Centralia Junior College is operating on taxes derived from a \$50,000,000 valuation; the proposed district has an assessed valuation of \$240,000,000.

Jonas said the committee had considered including Bond and Fayette counties in the district, but the county superintendents in both had said it would be inadvisable to do so at this time. Later on, he said, there will be an opportunity for them to annex if they desire.

Besant said the boundaries of the district had been drawn "with one thought in mind: a sincere desire to include all those areas which might have enough interest in education that would make it possible to pass a referendum."

Besant urged that Hartley grant the petition and schedule the election, allowing ample

time for the public to become fully informed on the question and also for the Legislature to complete its work on bills affecting junior colleges. He said he was not present to oppose the petition. Rather, he said, he wanted to pledge full cooperation with any area which proposes a comprehensive college of which we (Jefferson county) could become a part.

## Renew Junior College Parley Tomorrow

The hearing on the proposed Kaskaskia Area Junior College District will be continued tomorrow at 2 p.m. in the office of Robert F. Hartley, Marion County school superintendent, at the Marion County Courthouse.

The hearing is a preliminary to a decision by Hartley on whether a referendum will be held on establishment of the proposed district.

At a hearing session in Centralia last Thursday night, opinions were divided. Some urged an election without further delay, and others favored postponement until more territory could be added and other details of the district clarified.

Hartley called for a continuance last week after it became apparent agreement would not be reached on several points.

# Jr. College Master Plan To House with Compromise

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Three bills to establish a statewide master plan for junior colleges were placed before the Illinois House today after gaining Senate passage.

The Senate also voted Thurs-

day to repeal the state curfew law on youngsters under 18, expand educational television and prevent so-called carpetbagger candidates from seeking office in Illinois.

The junior college bills carried a compromise which Sen. David Davis, R-Bloomington, said was agreed to by Gov. Otto Kerner.

Under this agreement, class one and class two junior colleges would receive \$11.50 in state aid for each semester hour per student for one year.

After that, class two schools would fall back to \$9.50 if they could not qualify for the class one category.

Class two colleges are existing schools in districts which also have grade and high schools.

Class one schools would be institutions newly formed under the master plan with separate districts and their own governing boards.

Another provision of the Senate bills would allow junior colleges to charge tuition up to one-third of the total cost of education.

By a 33-10 vote, the Senate approved a bill by Sen. Evers Laughlin, R-Freeport, to wipe out the 1963 law setting curfew hours at midnight on Friday and Saturday and 11 p.m. the other days for teen-agers.

The educational TV plan appropriates \$3 million for the first phase of an estimated \$10 million statewide program.

The bill earmarks \$1 million to set up a transmitter in Springfield and the remainder for operating existing stations at Carbondale, Champaign-Urbana and Chicago.

The Senate voted 32-18 in passing a bill by Sen. Dennis Collins, R-DeKalb, requiring the candidates for the U.S. Senate and House live in Illinois two years before the election.

All the approved bills were sent to the House.

Another measure by Collins to give Northern Illinois University at DeKalb a separate governing board failed to pass and was postponed. Northern is under the State Teachers College Board.

# Jr. College Master Plan Step Away from Clearing Assembly

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — The Illinois Senate approved Saturday the key bill in a master plan for public junior colleges, leaving the legislation a step away from clearing the Assembly.

House concurrence in Senate amendments, expected Monday, will send the bill to Gov. Otto Kerner, who is supporting it.

The key bill sets up a junior college board and establishes

own districts and governing boards. Class 2 colleges are existing schools which also have grade and high school systems in their districts.

Sen. David Davis, R-Bloomington, termed the legislation "the most comprehensive and progressive development of higher education that has ever taken place in this state."

Davis is Senate Education chairman.

the formula for paying state aid.

As agreed to by Kerner, Class 1 and Class 2 junior colleges would get state aid of \$11.50 per pupil for each semester hour the first year.

After that, Class 2 schools would fall back to \$9.50 if they failed to qualify for Class 1 rating.

Class 1 institutions would be newly formed units with their

The Senate set the stage for a conference committee on congressional reapportionment by passing an amended House bill carrying the Republican version of how districts should be formed.

When the Democratic controlled House rejects the amended bill, a conference committee can be set up to seek a compromise.

The Senate also returned to the House a culturally deprived education program minus \$27 million in state funds. Republican senators said federal financing will be available.

Another bill authorizing use of newly developed voting systems won Senate approval and went back to the House for acceptance of amendments. Only electric voting machines and paper ballots now may be used in Illinois.

Before adjourning until noon today, the Senate passed 35-1 a bill by Sen. Dennis Collins, R-DeKalb, to give Northern Illinois University its own governing board.

Earlier in the week, Collins had to postpone the bill when it obtained only 20 of the necessary 30 votes.

Northern now is under a State Teachers College Board with the universities at Macomb, Normal and Charleston.

Officials of the Teachers College Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education have opposed the bill. The House has not considered it.

June 22, 1965

## Legislation Still Pending But Stilley Optimistic on Jr. College

SPRINGFIELD (UPI) — The major package of bills to implement the master plan for higher education sailed through the Democratic House today without a dissenting vote.

The package included provision for a statewide system of junior colleges.

Included in the appropriations were \$2,916,740 to junior college districts, and \$2,677,700 to Southern Illinois University.

Turnover in closing sessions of the Illinois legislature has created an echoing turbulence around the issue of a Junior College in Williamson County.

Primarily proposed legislation on

the establishment of Junior Colleges has bogged down repeatedly in both House and Senate committees this despite bipartisan vocal acclaim when the issue was initiated.

Gov. Otto Kerner, high state educators and wheel horses of both political parties were among the first to verbally recognize the need for more Junior Colleges and gave school officials throughout the state the impression that the enactment would be railroaded thru both branches to cope with the increasing shortage of higher educational facilities.

Now, the situation is summed up with the threat that this bill plus any others not reported out of committee by Friday, will die in committee.

Terms of the original bill have been distorted in previous committee hearings to the point that the last visible effort had small resemblance to the original draft.

Leslie Stilley, Williamson County Superintendent of Schools, remains optimistic about location of a Junior College in this county, despite the proposal to locate such an institution at Rend Lake.

"There has been no great response to the Rend Lake proposition," Stilley said this morning, "but Franklin County school officials are reluctant to take any steps until that proposal is abandoned."

Proximity to the tentative Rend Lake Junior College location would tend to pull that county away from the original group favoring a Williamson County site.

Stilley pointed out that parts of Perry and Jackson Counties probably will support the Williamson County project and there is a chance that the eastern section of Union County might go along with the plan.

Meanwhile, school officials in all five of the named counties are watching developments at Springfield in the hopes that the bill will be reported out of committee prior to the Friday deadline.

## Junior College Proposals Are Many

July 27, 1965

Activity on locating a junior college in the area is flaring up in several directions as a result of near abandonment of the proposal to locate one at Rend Lake.

Leslie Stilley, Williamson County superintendent of school, said this week further action will be taken on a four-county district and Stilley has been steadfast in his contention that the school should be located on Route 13 near the Route 57 intersection because of easy highway access to a site in that proximity.

Stilley's proposal embraced Williamson, Franklin, Jackson and Perry Counties.

The West Frankfort Chamber of Commerce board of directors endorsed locating a junior college in the same area, without mentioning the location.

Backers in that community, however, contend that it should be built either in the Zeigler or Johnston City area because of economic conditions in both communities.

Representatives from Franklin and Jefferson Counties agreed Monday night to propose a six-county junior college district including their home counties.

The educators and laymen set a target date of Oct. 1 for the circulation of petitions and the holding of public hearings.

The proposed district would include Hamilton, Perry, Wayne and Williamson counties, an area with a tax base estimated to be at least three times the required \$75 million assessed valuation for such a district.

Another meeting was scheduled for West Frankfort Aug. 9 to include representatives from all six counties.

Although the district must be established before a junior college site is selected, much attention has focused on a proposal by the Rend Lake Conservancy District to locate the proposed area junior college on an 1,800-acre plot on Rend Lake.

Monday night's meeting was chaired by Dr. Curtis Parkers, Mount Vernon, named co-chairman a week ago at Benton.