

Anderson,	Larson, H. A.	McCubrey,	Orr,	Solberg,
Bessette,	Lemm,	McKnight,	Peterson,	Sullivan, G. H.,
Bonniwell,	Lennon,	Millett,	Putzier,	Widell,
Carley,	Lilygren,	Morin,	Rockne,	Zamboni,
Hanson,	Lommen,	Naplin,	Roepeke,	
Johnson,	Lund, C. A.,	Nelson,	Romberg,	
Johnston,	Lund, L. P.,	Nordlin,	Rosenmeier,	
Landby,	MacLean,	Olson,	Schmechel,	

So the bill, as amended, passed and its title was agreed to.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS—CONTINUED.

Mr. Bessette moved that H. F. No. 1020 be withdrawn from the Committee on Reforestation.

Which motion prevailed.

H. F. No. 1020 was withdrawn from the Committee on Reforestation.

SUSPENSION OF RULES.

Mr. Bessette then moved that the rules be suspended and that,

H. F. No. 1020, A bill for an act to amend Section 27 of Laws 1925, Chapter 407, as amended by Laws 1927, Chapter 310, relating to the construction, equipment, and operation of locomotives and other steam engines and boilers in forest areas and to fire prevention devices thereon and to the duties and powers of the commissioner of forestry and fire prevention and other officers in connection therewith.

Be read the second and third time and placed upon its final passage.

Which motion prevailed.

H. F. No. 1020 was read the second time.

H. F. No. 1020, A bill for an act to amend Section 27 of Laws 1925, Chapter 407, as amended by Laws 1927, Chapter 310, relating to the construction, equipment, and operation of locomotives and other steam engines and boilers in forest areas and to fire prevention devices thereon and to the duties and powers of the commissioner of forestry and fire prevention and other officers in connection therewith.

Was read the third time.

The question being taken on the passage of the bill.

And the roll being called, there were yeas 39 and nays none, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Adams,	Hanson,	Lund, L. P.,	Orr,	Stemsrud,
Anderson,	Johnson,	MacKenzie,	Richardson,	Sullivan, G. H.,
Arens,	Johnston,	McCubrey,	Roepeke,	Sullivan, J. D.,
Bessette,	Larson, A. S.,	McKnight,	Rollins,	Thwing,
Blanchard,	Lee,	Mangan,	Rosenmeier,	Traxler,
Bonniwell,	Lemm,	Naplin,	Saggau,	Widell,
Carley,	Lennon,	Nordlin,	Schmechel,	Zamboni,
Child,	Lilygren,	Olson,	Spindler,	

So the bill passed and its title was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE AND OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION.

STATE OF MINNESOTA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
St. Paul, April 23, 1929.

Hon. W. I. Nolan, President of the Senate.

Sir: I am transmitting herewith pursuant to Section 11 of Article

IV of the Constitution of the State of Minnesota a copy of a statement which I have today appended to Senate File 825,

"An Act to appropriate money for State Educational Institutions, including University of Minnesota, University Agricultural Schools and Experiment Stations, Teachers' Colleges, aids to high, graded, semi-graded and rural schools, certain appropriations for experiments and investigations, aid to agricultural agents and for other purposes, prescribing present and future regulations and limitations relative to the expenditure of certain portions thereof, and conferring upon the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota the power of eminent domain in certain cases," which bill, with said statement, I have today signed and deposited in the office of the Secretary of State.

The said bill contains several items of appropriation of money, certain of which items, set forth in said statement, I have disapproved of and objected to.

Pursuant to the constitutional requirement that I state my objections to said items, I submit the following:

This bill carries a total of \$21,417,106, which is \$1,021,364.55 more than the total of the educational bill of 1927, which was \$20,395,741.45. I can find nothing in the general economic trend of the last two years to justify this increase. With tax delinquency growing, with agriculture crying for relief, with the State put to the necessity of financing counties to save them from bankruptcy, I cannot give my approval to any such large increase in the educational budget; especially in view of the fact that no additional sources of revenue have been provided. Every additional dollar must come from increased exactions from the owners of real and personal property. Lower assessed valuations would make a slight increase in the tax rate imperative even if appropriations remained constant. Increased expenditures coupled with a reduced tax base would result in adding burdens which the people should not be required to assume.

1. I regret the necessity of disapproving the appropriation of \$3,300,000 per year for maintenance and special equipment for the University of Minnesota. I feel, however, that the University should be willing to share to some degree with the people whom it serves the leanness of financial circumstances which makes it necessary for them to forego expansion of expenditures at this time.

The appropriation for maintenance and equipment in 1927 included \$100,000 per year for the State's share of expense of county indigent patients at the University hospital. This bill carries a separate appropriation of \$150,000 per year for this purpose. If, therefore, the \$3,300,000 maintenance and equipment item were reduced by \$100,000 leaving \$3,200,000 per year, the University would be receiving the same support from the State as it did in 1927. However, in 1927, a separate appropriation was made for maintenance of the Agricultural School at Grand Rapids; whereas this is included in the general maintenance appropriation in the present bill. It would seem that \$45,000 per year for maintenance and special equipment for a school which has 42 students is excessive. Surely the State is not justified in appropriating over \$1,000 per student per year for six months' instruction.

It would appear, therefore, that an appropriation of \$3,200,000 per year, plus a reasonable amount for the Grand Rapids school, would

leave the University in as favorable a position as it has been in during the present biennium, and in a much more favorable position than it has been in during previous periods: Whereas in the biennium 1915-17, with the average net 9-months collegiate enrollment of 5,378 and the annual support appropriation \$923,775, the appropriation per student was \$172, in the first year of the present biennium, with a net 9-months collegiate enrollment of 12,552 and a support appropriation of \$3,175,000 (less hospital), the appropriation per 9-months student was \$253. This shows an increase of 50 per cent. in the appropriation per student.

While during a period after the war, there was a sharp increase in enrollment, it is evident that the cycle of materially increasing attendance is over. The total net collegiate enrollment in 1926-27 was 15,953; in 1927-28 it was 15,851. This reduction was experienced notwithstanding an increase from 5137 to 5444 in the summer school. In this connection it should be borne in mind that the increased expenditures necessitated by the summer school are more than covered by the fees collected from summer school students. Dentistry, pharmacy and education showed a decrease of 302. Nurses in hospital service showed an increase of 137, but it should be remembered that these are on the same basis as a nurses similarly enrolled in other hospitals, where they are invariably considered paying for their instruction with their work. The number of Mayo Foundation fellows increased from 283 to 336, an increase of 43; but no part of the cost of their instruction is chargeable to appropriations. If increases in the number of nurses and Mayo fellows, aggregating 180, be deducted as having no bearing on the question of appropriations, it appears that the net collegiate enrollment of 1927-28 shows a reduction of 282 below that of 1926-27, despite an increase of 307 in the summer school.

That support appropriations in the past have been liberal is indicated by the fact that the University has been able to supplement its regular building appropriation of \$560,000 per year by taking large sums for building construction and land purchases from funds available for support. It is not contended that the University lacked authority to do this; but it is evident from its ability to do it that the University was not lacking in the means of support.

II. The other large items of which I have disapproved are two, for \$5,735,917 and \$5,880,629, respectively, for State aid to schools. I believe that this should be held down to \$5,500,000 per year. If the items carried in the present bill should stand the total of all State aid items, including the \$40,000 from the Rural Credits fund added by the present legislature, would be \$12,049,179 for the biennial period. This would be equivalent to an annual levy of 3.1 mills on all the real and personal property in the State.

There has been a constant increase in the sums carried in the educational appropriation bill from session to session for school aid, as will appear from the following table:

Session	State Aid	Equivalent in Mills per year
1915	\$3,750,000	1.25 mills
1917	\$5,147,545	1.57 mills
1919	\$6,461,070	1.83 mills

Equivalent in Mills

Session	State Aid	per year
1921	\$7,236,875	1.79 mills
1923	\$10,011,500	2.53 mills
1925	\$11,472,000	2.93 mills
1927	\$11,435,800	2.9 mills
1929	\$12,049,179	3.1 mills

Assuming that State aid to schools is desirable and necessary, it does not follow that a further increase is either desirable or necessary. Surely there must be a limit somewhere. If not, one cannot contemplate the tax levies of the future without considerable apprehension.

State aid is in its last analysis a device for passing the cost of city and village schools on to the farmer. The name which it is sometimes given, "rural school aid" is a misnomer; for instead of aiding rural schools, school aid takes money out of districts having one-room ungraded schools and turns it over to the city and village districts.

A few random illustrations will show how state school aid operates:

In Chippewa county, taxpayers in ungraded elementary schools, who pay \$76,615 in local school taxes, get \$9,764 State aid. The taxpayers in Montevideo, who pay only \$52,444 in local school taxes, get \$25,632 State aid. While they receive \$9,764 State aid, the taxpayers in ungraded elementary school districts pay on the basis of \$9,332,006 valuation, \$17,062 into the State aid fund.

The following table will furnish a few additional examples:

	Local School Levy	State Aid	Rural Contri- bution to State Aid Fund
Cottonwood County—			
Ungraded Schools	\$54,473	\$ 7,821	\$31,035
Windom	34,944	16,014	
Big Stone County—			
Ungraded Schools	\$47,962	\$ 8,340	\$16,176
Ortonville	29,992	10,288	
Goodhue County—			
Ungraded Schools	\$94,618	\$14,298	\$44,256
Cannon Falls	23,000	12,276	
Houston County—			
Ungraded Schools	\$67,287	\$10,812	\$17,739
Spring Grove	13,056	11,032	
Sherburne County—			
Ungraded Schools	\$32,967	\$ 6,696	\$10,622
Elk River	19,993	15,195	
Douglas County—			
Ungraded Schools	\$69,704	\$13,940	\$22,461
Alexandria	48,052	23,936	
Clay County—			
Ungraded Schools	\$ 85,576	\$17,448	\$27,573
Moorhead	101,320	17,795	

	Local School Levy	State Aid	Rural Contri- bution to State Aid Fund
Stearns County—			
Ungraded Schools	\$163,926	\$24,084	\$56,593
Sauk Centre	37,004	17,090	
Traverse County—			
Ungraded Schools	\$51,443	\$ 6,515	\$18,789
Wheaton	19,004	10,921	
Kandiyohi County—			
Ungraded Schools	\$84,499	\$15,464	\$38,288
Willmar	59,784	25,469	
Nicollet County—			
Ungraded Schools	\$45,458	\$ 7,766	\$21,265
St. Peter	45,052	14,460	

There has been much said about "farm relief" during the past few years. It would seem idle to continue talking about it if the present proposal to still further add to the burdens of the farmer through the device of making him pay an even larger part of the cost of maintaining town schools should prevail. Farmers can be relieved by taking burdens off, not by adding to them.

It has been said that the sums provided in this bill, or larger sums, are needed "to pay the aid in full." Attention is called to the fact that under a law passed in 1927, any amount that the legislature chooses to appropriate pays the aid in full, because it is provided that the amount granted shall be paid pro rata, and that "the pro rata amounts so received shall be accepted as payment in full of all obligations of the state."

There is no evidence that the population of the state has increased to any appreciable extent since 1915. Nevertheless state aid demands have almost trebled. It would seem that no matter how much the state appropriates for one biennium, there are increased requests for the next. The only way to stop the increase is to stop it. That is what I urge the legislature to do. I do not want to share the responsibility of further increases, so long as our system of taxation places those increases on agriculture.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE CHRISTIANSON,
Governor.

Whereas, S. F. No. 825, a bill for "An Act to appropriate money for State Educational Institutions, including University of Minnesota, University Agricultural Schools and Experiment Stations, teachers' colleges, aids to high, graded, semi-graded and rural schools, certain appropriations for experiments and investigations, aid to agricultural agents and for other purposes, prescribing present and future regulations and limitations relative to the expenditure of certain portions thereof, and conferring upon the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota the power of eminent domain in certain cases," has passed the Senate and the House of Representatives, and has been presented to me as Governor, and

Whereas, the said bill contains several items of appropriations of money,

I, Theodore Christianson, Governor of the State of Minnesota, disapprove of and object to the following items of appropriation in said bill contained:

1. Item in Section 2:

"1. For maintenance and special equipment \$3,300,000.00," together with the provisos thereto attached.

2. Item in Section 7:

"1. For aid to high, graded, semi-graded, consolidated, industrial and rural schools, to be distributed as provided by law, available for the year ending June 30, 1929, 5,735,917.00."

3. Item in Section 7:

"2. For aid to high, graded, semi-graded, consolidated, industrial and rural schools to be distributed as provided by law, available for the year ending June 30, 1930, 5,880,829.00," together with the proviso applicable to the said items in Section 7.

I am approving the other portion of said bill and every other item thereof, and am appending this statement to said bill at the time of signing it, and am transmitting a copy of said statement to the State Senate.

THEODORE CHRISTIANSON,
Governor of the State of Minnesota.

Dated, April 23, 1929.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS—CONTINUED.

Mr. Rockne moved that the veto message of His Excellency, the Governor, together with the statement, be printed in the Journal and be laid on the table.

Which motion prevailed.

Which veto message and statement were laid on the table.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES—CONTINUED.

Mr. Rockne, from the Committee on Finance, to which was referred:

H. F. No. 1322, A bill for an act to appropriate money for the conservation and development of the State's Natural Resources; for the establishment, maintenance, improvement and enlargement of certain state fish hatcheries, and for land for the same; for maintenance and improvement of State Soldier's Home; for the maintenance of Minnesota Department, G. A. R., for expense of burial of soldiers and sailors; for maintenance, improvement and repairs, Minnesota State Agricultural Society; for county and district agricultural societies; for aid to agricultural agents; for various stock breeders, dairymen's horticultural and poultry associations and societies, farmers' institutes; for public parks and additions thereto and for the establishment of new public parks; for sheriff's per diem and mileage in certain cases; for wolf bounties; for drainage and highway assessments upon state lands; for vessel tonnage tax; for fees public land collections; for aid to Minnesota Tourist Bureau; for maintenance Sibley House; for maintenance of various semi-state activities; for maintenance of various state departments and for other purposes.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows: