

# More State Aid Recommended For Public Junior Colleges

GRIN AND BEAR IT

By RICHARD M. MOREHEAD  
Austin Bureau of The News  
AUSTIN, Texas — Greater state support for 33 public junior colleges was recommended Wednesday to the Governor's Committee for Education Beyond the High School.

Dr. Ben Jones, president of Navarro Junior College, said a subcommittee he heads is recommending that the state pay all instructional costs at the junior colleges, including vocational and technical courses as well as academic. Present state aid of about \$8,250,000 annually is restricted primarily to assisting students taking academic courses which could be transferred to degree-granting institutions.

Dr. Jones had no estimate of how much it would cost to carry out the liberalized state aid program, but others attending a press briefing expressed belief it would be considerably higher than the state's present share of junior college cost. The local colleges now are financed about equally by state aid, local property taxes and student fees.

Another recommendation by the subcommittee was for tax equalization in local support for junior colleges which receive state aid. Dr. Jones said details of carrying out this program are yet to be worked out.

The subcommittee also recommended approximately the same standards used by the State Board of Education in approving creation

of public junior colleges, and generally followed proposals proposed by the Texas Research League.

H. B. Zachry of San Antonio, chairman of the main committee, declined to specify its action on the subcommittee recommendations, other than to say it had been adopted in part and revised in part.

The chairman remained reticent to discuss the committee's sessions, which have been closed to the press most of the time.

But questions elicited from Zachry these indications:

1. The committee's main recommendation to the Legislature for adoption in 1965 will be to establish a state-wide coordinating committee for all higher education, but keeping all local governing boards.

2. Besides strengthening the junior college system, including additional state funds, greater expenditure will be proposed for senior colleges also. Chairman Zachry commended the recent recommendations of the Texas Commission on Higher Education. It is asking for \$87,800,000 more state spending on senior colleges from 1965 to 1967 than the current biennium, for a total \$240,300,000 budget. About one third of the increase would be to raise faculty salaries, the remainder to care for increased student load.

3. The committee will recommend a "stair-step" improvement program covering 10 to 15 years, rather than a single "crash pro-

gram" to be accomplished all at once.

Zachry said the committee will provide the Legislature with estimates of how much each step would cost. And the chairman expressed willingness to advise also on revenue sources for the extra money it will take.

Gov. John Connally attended part of the press conference, which again included requests to Zachry that the committee's sessions be open.

The governor, invited to comment, smiled and said: "I came as a spectator."

Chairman Zachry reiterated a strong belief that the committee can deliberate best in private, until its recommendations are ready. But he told reporters that some on the committee disagree with him on this point. Zachry announced plans to take the proposals before various interested groups for discussion, before final recommendations are drawn.



"You're a banker? . . . W pressing one

# Sudden Closing of Marlin Bank Fails to Disturb

By THOMAS E. TURNER  
Central Texas Bureau of The News

MARLIN, Texas — The sudden closing of Marlin's First National Bank was causing little noticeable concern in Marlin Wednesday, but it could have some significant long-range effect on national banking rules.

Joseph W. Barr, board chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., said he is becoming concerned about "outsiders" who have a secure control of banks solely for the purpose of "raiding" them.

Joseph W. Barr, Indiana conference secretary, said he was also concerned because of the sudden closing of a bank.

Chronicle as saying that Steiner and San Felippo, both former Houston residents, had moved from there within the past 10 days.)

An FDIC examiner said that Steiner, who had been chairman of the bank board, was not re-elected at a January stockholders meeting and had resigned as a director about 10 days ago.

IN TALKING with reporters at the closed bank Wednesday, Barr declared, "I'm becoming concerned, because banks have been raped. It seems to me there is an alarming increase in the trend toward control of some banks solely by people who intend to raid them. I'm also concerned because of the sudden closing of a bank."

Com Will Ask