SCHOOL REORGANIZATION HOUSE BILL 900.

The Enterprise will carry in the weeks to come House Bill No. 900, or the "School Reorganization" plan. Because of the length of the bill, it will be carried in installments, with the first appearing below:

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as "The School District Reorganization Act of 1949.”

SECTION 2. The General Assembly hereby declares this act is passed for the general improvement of the public schools in the State of Colorado; the equalization of the benefits and burdens of education throughout the various counties and communities of the state; to provide for the reorganizations of the public school districts in the state, and the alteration of the boundaries of established districts and generally to enlarge the areas of school districts in the state in order to provide for the maintenance of a thorough and uniform system of free public schools throughout the state; to provide for high school education of the citizens of the state of school age who are qualified therefor; to make possible a higher degree of uniformity of school tax rate among school districts and to have a wiser use of public funds expended for the support of public schools.
of the public school system of the state. To these ends this Act shall be liberally construed.

SECTION 2. Whenever the following words or terms are used in this act they shall be taken to mean as follows:

“State Board” shall mean the State Board of Education as provided in Section 1. Article IX of the Constitution of Colorado, or such board or body as may hereafter by law succeed to the duties of said State Board of Education.

“Commissioner” shall mean the State Commissioner of Education, who is the State School Officer.

“School District” shall mean school districts of the first, second and third classes, consolidated districts County High School and Union High School Districts.

“New District” shall mean a district formed from all, or parts of two or more districts under the provisions of this Act.

“Proposed Districts” shall mean an area composed of all or parts, of two or more districts. the plan for the reorganization of which shall have been proposed by a county committee or in case the same embraces parts of two or more, counties by the county committees of said counties.

“County Superintendent” shall mean the County Superintendent of Schools.

SECTION 4. Within ninety days after the effective date of this act there shall be appointed in each county a county committee of not less than seven nor more than eleven, provided, however, that in counties having more than forty school districts, the committee may be increased to fifteen, but shall always have an odd number; and providede further one member of the county
committee shall be appointed from each first class school district within the county and one member from one of each two (2) second class school districts.

(2) Within thirty days after the effective date of this Act the Commissioner shall notify in writing each County Superintendent of the provisions of this Act, and shall request the appointment of a county committee as herein provided for. The County Superintendent shall promptly call a meeting of the Presidents of the Board of Education of all school districts and the chairmen of high school districts within the county. The notice of such meeting shall be sent by registered mail and placed in the United States mails at least seven days before the date set or such meeting. In the event the president of any board of education or the chairman of a high school district cannot personally attend said meeting it shall be his duty to designate, in writing, a member of his board or committee as his proxy, who shall have the same rights as said president or chairman if attending personally.

(3) At said meeting the number of members of the county committee shall be established, within the limits herein provided, by a majority elected vote present. The members of the County Committee shall then be selected at said meeting by nomination and ballot. There shall also be elected by the same method an alternate for each member of the committee. Each member of the committee, and alternate shall be a resident of the county in which elected. Due consideration in the selection of members of the committee and alternates shall be given to the interest theretofore shown by such persons in the affairs of the schools in the