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TEN MILLIONS FOR SCHOOL HOUSES

MOVING UP RAPIDLY

More than ten million dollars in bond issues for school buildings in North Carolina, in eighty-seven communities in fifty-five counties since the first of January 1921. Or stating it exactly, \$8,255,000 has already been voted, and \$1,860,000 will be voted upon in Kinston, Reidsville, Goldsboro, and Louisburg within the next few weeks; making a grand total of \$10,115,000. And still to be added are the school bonds of unknown amounts soon to be voted upon in Leaksville-Spray, Battleboro, and Pinetops.

These ten millions of school bonds are voted during the first half of 1921 by people who have been hard hit by the drop in tobacco, cotton, and cotton textile prices. Our cotton and tobacco farmers alone are short one hundred sixty-two million dollars in last season's receipts, and our textile manufacturers are short nobody knows how many millions; and yet most of the communities voting these millions of bonds for school buildings, and most of the millions so voted, are in the cotton and tobacco and cotton-mill counties of the state.

These local school bond issues argue that North Carolina at last believes in earnest in the wisdom of education. We have long said and sung our belief in popular education, nevertheless we were content to remain near the bottom in illiteracy. But at last we have developed money-sense and money-conscience about this fundamental matter of public schools.

It is the most cheering thing in North Carolina in this year of business depression.

The State is Alive

North Carolina is moving up rapidly. We have doubled our investment in public school properties during the last six years. In a single year we doubled our expenditures for public school support. From 12 to 24 millions in properties, and from 6 to 12 millions in annual support tells the story. In March 1921 the General Assembly doubled the total working income of our state schools of technical training and liberal learning; and further, it authorized a bond issue of six million dollars as a loan fund to encourage the consolidation of public schools. Manifestly the local communities of North Carolina are feeling the stimulus of these courageous measures, and they are responding with signal heroism.

For two and a half centuries we have said in North Carolina that we were too poor to educate. We now believe that we are too poor not to educate. Eighty-seven alert communities in fifty-five counties are acting upon this belief.

And when the pocket-nerve responds there is no doubt about the depth of a conviction.

How the Communities Rank

Elsewhere in this issue we are ranking these communities according to school bond issues per inhabitant. It is a proper way of throwing these communities into proper perspective. Communities and commonwealths cannot be properly compared on the basis of bulk totals of any sort.

The school-tax willingness of these communities ranges from three dollars per inhabitant in Gastonia to one hundred eighty-four dollars in Monroe, or so at least in school bond issues since January 1st of the year.

In the bulk total of school bonds voted Greensboro leads all the rest. But this bond issue is only fifty dollars per inhabitant, and thirty smaller communities make a better showing. Among these little communities are Rich Square, Bunn, Creedmoor, Carthage, Hillsboro, and Lakewood. Thirteen of these got under a school bond burden of more than one hundred dollars per inhabitant. Hobbsville and Moncure beat Greensboro three to one!

Kinston is considering a school bond issue of nine hundred thousand dollars; which is ninety-two dollars per inhabitant; but as already noted thirteen small towns have already voted bond issues of more than one hundred dollars per inhabitant—two of them one hundred

and fifty dollars per inhabitant. Smithfield in the heart of the cotton belt voted school bonds amounting to one hundred thirty-two dollars per inhabitant.

Goldsboro is contemplating a bond issue of six hundred thousand dollars, which is fifty-three dollars per inhabitant. Thirty-two cities of the state have already voted bond issues beyond fifty-three dollars per inhabitant. Among these are Morehead City, fifty-nine dollars; Carthage, seventy-eight dollars; Snow Hill, one hundred seven dollars; and Moncure one hundred eighty-four dollars per inhabitant.

Salisbury has recently voted a bond issue of five hundred thousand dollars, which is thirty-six dollars per inhabitant. Forty-nine towns of the state have already voted school bonds beyond thirty-six dollars per inhabitant. When you check over the list of these brave little communities, what Salisbury has done looks fairly small.

As for Louisburg, a bond issue of sixty thousand dollars, or thirty-one dollars per inhabitant, is nothing great. Fifty-three towns of the state have already done better than anything Louisburg proposes to do.

Winston-Salem's eight hundred thousand dollars of school bonds is only seventeen dollars per inhabitant. And High Point's six hundred thousand dollars for school buildings is only forty-two dollars per inhabitant. On a per capita basis, forty-four cities have done better than High Point, and only seven school communities make a poorer showing than Winston-Salem.

As for Gastonia—what shall we say about Gastonia? It foots the column in per capita school bonds issued this year for school buildings—Gastonia, the leading cotton textile center of the South, a busy little city that more than doubled its population in the last ten years! It may be that Gastonia has already run into bankruptcy building school buildings. We do not happen to know about that, but her forty thousand dollars of school bonds means only three dollars per inhabitant, and so far no community in the state makes a poorer showing. The program is \$800,000 for roads in Gaston and \$60,000 for school buildings in Gastonia.

The Laggard Counties

No signs of interest in bond issues for better school buildings are so far evidenced in forty-five counties, as follows: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Bladen, Brunswick, Cabarrus, Camden, Caswell, Cherokee, Chowan, Clay, Dare, Halifax, Henderson, Hertford, Hoke, Hyde, Jackson, Jones, Lee, Macon, Martin, McDowell, Mecklenburg, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Perquimans, Person, Polk, Sampson, Scotland, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, Transylvania, Tyrrell, Union, Warren, Washington, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yadkin. Alamance has begun to talk about a school bond issue of \$100,000.

These areas of inability or unwillingness in the main are four; (1) the Tidewater country; except Currituck, Pasquotank, Beaufort, and Carteret; (2) the lower Cape Fear region from Sampson south, Columbus excepted; (3) nine counties of the northwest from Stokes across to Avery; and (4) eight counties in the southwest from McDowell and Polk to Cherokee. There are various other backward counties scattered throughout the state.

Seven counties west of the Ridge from Mitchell to Graham are areas of lively school-building interest.

These forty-five laggard counties will need to get busy in a hurry if they get in on the six millions the state proposes to lend to encourage consolidated schools.

Ten millions of school-building bonds in this year of hard times is a significant indication of the mind of North Carolina. It is the best evidence that we have had in long years that the people of this state are heroic in their belief in popular education. Rich or poor, this state is now bent upon educating all the children of all the people, as Aycock was fond of phrasing it.—E.C.B.

HIGH SCHOOL CONTESTS

On April 11th, 1913, the first annual inter-scholastic track meet of North Carolina was held at the University of North Carolina. Fifty athletes representing a half dozen high schools participated and the trophy cup went to the High Point high school. From this beginning in 1913 state high school athletic contests, conducted under the auspices of the University, have experienced a great increase in variety, scope, and popular interest.

The basic idea behind the first track meet held in 1913 and behind every high school athletic contest conducted since has been that it is the University's function to extend a helpful relationship wherever possible in the state; that the boundaries of service of the University should be co-extensive with the geographical outlines of the state.

Contests Summarized

1913-14.—In the fall of 1913 the High School Athletic Committee, with N. W. Walker as chairman, representing the University of North Carolina, began its work of supervising high school athletic contests, with the finals in the various contests centering at the University, a work which it has continued ever since. This committee supervised the first annual state high school championship contest in football in the fall of 1913. The Raleigh high school won the trophy cup in the first contest. The committee extended its activity to include baseball, and in the spring of 1914 the Sylva high school won the first annual baseball championship contest. The Friendship high school won the inter-scholastic track meet of 1914.

1914-15.—The Raleigh high school again won the football championship in 1914. The Winston-Salem high school won the first annual state championship contest in basketball, in 1915. The Friendship high school won the inter-scholastic track meet for the second time in 1915, and the Sylva high school won the baseball championship for the second time.

1915-16.—These contests moved steadily along in 1915-16 and this year saw the beginning of the inter-scholastic tennis tournament. The Raleigh high school for the third time won the football championship, defeating the Charlotte high school in a close and memorable final game. The Durham high school won the 1916 basketball championship contest. The Friendship high school won the inter-scholastic track meet, and the Wilmington high school won the inter-scholastic tennis tournament. The Clayton high school won the baseball championship.

1916-17.—The Charlotte high school in the fall of 1916 won the football championship. Winston-Salem won the state high school basketball championship in 1917. Oak Ridge won the doubles of the tennis tournament and Wilmington high school won the singles. Friendship high school again won the trophy cup in the track meet, and the Cherryville high school won the baseball championship.

1917-18.—The Charlotte high school in the fall of 1917 for the second time won the trophy cup in football. The Durham high school, in 1918, evened matters up with Winston-Salem by carrying off the trophy cup in basketball. The Asheville high school won the tennis tournament. Friendship high school repeated her past performance of carrying away the trophy cup in the track meet, and the Winston-Salem high school won the baseball championship.

1918-19.—Due to the war conditions and the influenza epidemic, no football contest was conducted in 1918. In the spring of 1919 Winston-Salem carried the rubber away from Durham by winning the basketball championship. The Wilson high school won the tennis tournament. Friendship for the sixth time won the track meet, and Red Oak carried away the baseball trophy cup.

1919-20.—The Chapel Hill high school won the football championship in 1919. The Wilmington high school won the basketball championship in 1920. The Wilson high school for the second time carried away the honors in the tennis tournament. Friendship high school continued her success in the track meet, and the Greensboro high school won the baseball trophy cup.

1920-21.—The Chapel Hill high school for the second time won the football championship in 1920, defeating the Monroe high school in a final game marked by the great playing of both teams. Chapel Hill high school won the basketball championship in 1921, defeating the Charlotte high school in a very close and exciting final game. Oak Ridge won the doubles and Raeford high school won the singles of the tennis tournament. Chapel Hill continued her athletic successes by winning the track meet. Red Oak high school won the baseball championship.

Value of Contests

What these contests have meant to the students, to the schools, and to the communities for the last nine years can hardly be estimated. The physical development of the athletes has been greatly aided. Alertness of mind and quickness of decision have been called into play on the part of contestants and

COUNTRY HOME CONVENIENCES

LETTER SERIES No. 58

LIMITATIONS OF FARM ELECTRIC PLANTS

We have received many inquiries on the subject of the selection of the proper size electric plant to be purchased for fulfilling a variety of requirements to be found around the house and barn of the farm home. This discussion is intended as a guide for those of our readers who have this matter under consideration.

It is a well-known fact that power plants are built to supply any demand of power. It is almost equally well recognized that the average size farm electric plant will only furnish from two to three and a half horsepower. Why should there be this limitation? It is solely a matter of economy, as can be seen from an analysis of the situation.

A Typical Case

Suppose we take a typical case. A farmer wants an electric plant to furnish lights for his house, two or three out-buildings and a barn. Also he will expect his plant to supply power for operating a water system for house and barn, running a washing machine, churn, cream separator, grindstone, and for heating an iron and possibly to run other small electrical devices requiring a small amount of power. A two to three and a half horsepower plant would fill the bill if this were all, but in addition there is an ensilage

cutter and a wood saw to drive, the ensilage cutter taking fifteen horsepower and the saw five horsepower, or a total of about seventeen horsepower required in plant capacity, provided everything is not operated at once.

A Matter of Economy

In order that a power plant shall deliver the most power for the least money it is necessary that it run at very nearly full load all the time. Now if one should get a seventeen horsepower plant for the case cited above, then it would operate practically all the time in supplying a load of around two horsepower and only very seldom would it be called on to drive the saw and ensilage cutter and thus be loaded up to capacity. Fifteen horsepower would therefore remain idle most of the time although paid for in the original investment which cost many times as much as a plant would when large enough to furnish the average needs. The farm electric manufacturers have taken this matter into consideration in designing the small plants and this fact accounts for their limited capacity when recommended for home use.

We would suggest that a separate engine or if available a tractor be used for all heavy power work and that the plant purchased for the home be only large enough to supply the daily needs for power.—W. C. W.

all the other benefits of organized athletics have accompanied. The attendance and scholastic records of many boys in the high schools have improved by reason of the fact that a student must attend school and pass his work before he can represent his school. High school athletics have been conducted on a high plane, and the contests for the trophy cups have been attended with a fine spirit of sportsmanship on all sides. High school students in various

schools have come to mingle with each other and to know each other. They have visited the University for the finals and have come to know the University. The interest of communities in the schools has been greatly stimulated. School spirit and tradition and loyalty have been built up in a great many Carolina high schools.—E. R. Rankin, Assistant Director, University Extension Division, in U. N. C. Extension Leaflets, Vol. 4, No. 9, May 1921.

TEN MILLIONS FOR SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Communities Ranked According to School Bonds per Inhabitant; 87 communities, in 55 counties; \$8,255,000 voted since Jan. 1, 1921; \$1,860,000 pending; total \$10,115,000; three towns not reporting—Leaksville-Spray, Battleboro, Pinetops.

Based (1) on Report of the State School Superintendent, May 28, 1921, and (2) on the 1920 Census of Population.

Department of Rural Social Science, University of North Carolina.

Rank	Community	Per Cap.	Total Bonds	Rank	Community	Per Cap.	Total Bonds
1	Moncure	\$184	\$25,000	38	Cooleemee	\$50	\$100,000
2	Hobbsville	150	30,000	39	Greensboro	50	1,000,000
3	Mars Hill	137	50,000	40	Cary	47	30,000
4	Smithfield	132	250,000	41	Elizabeth City	45	400,000
5	Four Oaks	129	75,000	42	Whiteville	45	75,000
6	Scotts	125	25,000	43	Carrboro	44	50,000
7	Belwood	125	50,000	44	Mt. Holly	43	50,000
8	Colerain	116	25,000	45	High Point	42	600,000
9	Middlesex	108	75,000	46	Siler City	40	50,000
10	Snow Hill	107	75,000	47	Lenoir	40	150,000
11	Farmville	107	190,000	48	Canton	39	100,000
12	Woodville	105	40,000	49	Woodland	38	15,000
13	Stem	102	25,000	50	Salisbury	36	500,000
14	Fairmont	100	100,000	51	Spruce Pine	35	25,000
15	Bald Creek	100	10,000	52	Oxford	35	125,000
16	Kinston*	92	900,000	53	Greenville	35	200,000
17	Lakewood	90	36,000	54	Louisburg*	31	60,000
18	Hillsboro	85	100,000	55	Calypso	30	12,000
19	Carthage	78	75,000	56	Lexington	29	150,000
20	Ramseur	74	75,000	57	Fayetteville	28	250,000
21	Troutmans	73	25,000	58	Wilson	28	300,000
22	Granite Falls	68	75,000	59	Morganton	26	75,000
23	Weaverville	66	40,000	60	Hamlet	26	100,000
24	Creedmoor	64	25,000	61	Duke	25	25,000
25	Moyock	63	25,000	62	Forest City	22	50,000
26	Selma	62	100,000	63	Cherryville	21	40,000
27	Spring Hope	61	75,000	64	Wake Forest	21	30,000
28	Stovall	60	25,000	65	Spencer	21	50,000
29	Catawba	60	15,000	66	Kernersville	21	25,000
30	Lincolnton	59	200,000	67	Henderson	20	75,000
31	Morehead City	59	175,000	68	Waynesville	20	40,000
32	Bryson City	57	50,000	69	Winston-Salem	17	800,000
33	Wadesboro	57	150,000	70	Pantego	15	5,000
34	Reidsville*	56	300,000	71	Fuquay Springs	14	7,500
35	Rich Square	53	25,000	72	Mt. Pleasant	13	10,000
36	Goldsboro*	53	600,000	73	Milwaukee	10	2,000
37	Biscoe	53	40,000	74	New Bern	8	100,000
38	Welcome	50	30,000	75	Fork Township	7	25,000
39	Potocasi	50	10,000	76	Gastonia	3	40,000
40	Bunn	50	7,500				

*Vote pending in Kinston, Reidsville, Goldsboro, and Louisburg. Not listed for lack of population figures: Cheowah Graded School Dist., Graham Co., \$25,000; Emma, Buncombe Co., \$50,000; Sharon, Iredell Co., \$20,000; Small, Beaufort Co., \$5,000; Victory, Gaston Co., \$50,000. Not listed for lack of information about total bond issues proposed: Leaksville-Spray, Rockingham Co.; Pinetops, Edgecombe Co.; and Battleboro, Nash-Edgecombe Counties.