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WEST JEFFERSON, N. C.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1949

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PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

State Officials Make Survey Of Ashe School Needs

Consolidation, Building Program Suggestion Made

Complete Report Of Survey Is Called To The Attention Of The Public

(Editor's note: Because of the interest in the school needs of the county, the complete report for the county, made by State officials after a survey, which includes a long-range program is published here.)

A study of the Ashe county schools was made on May 26-27, 1949. Upon the basis of observation, a study of the map of Ashe county schools and data supplied by the Superintendent of county schools, we wish to make the following recommendations and suggestions.

I. HIGH SCHOOLS

1. Jefferson and West Jefferson — The enrollment and number of teachers in these schools are as follows:

Jefferson — 4 teachers, enrollment 126; West Jefferson — 3 teachers, enrollment 129. Total — 9 teachers, enrollment 255.

After thorough consideration of this situation we recommend that the Jefferson and West Jefferson high schools be consolidated and that a new high school building be constructed on the site already purchased or site to be purchased. This will require, apparently, at least a twelve room building and it should be constructed so that additions can be made as needed. Provision for this new high school would release space in the Jefferson and West Jefferson schools which could be used and which is badly needed for elementary pupils. Certain repairs and renovations are imperative, the chief of which is provision for sanitation. Whatever improvements are made in the present school plants will serve good purposes when the high schools are consolidated and the buildings used by elementary pupils.

2. Virginia Carolina — To be consolidated as a high school.

3. Nathan's Creek — This building should be completed. It has three extra classrooms now. Students from Burnt Hill and Peak Creek should be sent to Nathan's Creek. To be retained as high school.

4. Fleetwood — This school has four high school teachers and an enrollment of 90 pupils. It is recommended that a new building be constructed on an appropriate site. Elkland high school should be consolidated with Fleetwood. This consolidation would give seven high school teachers and 169 high school pupils since Elkland high school has three teachers and 99 high school pupils.

Lansing — To be retained. Two additional rooms should be provided for the present enrollment. If consolidations suggested is carried out, it will be necessary to add several rooms to the present building.

6. Healing Springs — To be retained as union school until further progress has been made in providing adequate buildings elsewhere. Provision should be made for sanitary facilities. Some of the classrooms are too small and should be enlarged.

7. Riverview — This school should be retained. The old part of the building should be replaced and at least four additional classrooms provided. Adequate provision for sanitary facilities should be made.

II. ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

1. The elementary pupils in the following schools should be consolidated with Jefferson school: Orion — 1 teacher with 31 pupils; Buffalo — 2 teachers with 55 pupils; Glendale — 3 teachers with 98 pupils.

2. West Jefferson: Baldwin — 1 teacher with 26 pupils; Duncan — 2 teachers with 54 pupils; Should be consolidated with West Jefferson.

3. Big Ridge — To be retained on account of geographical barriers.

4. In the Lansing District, Staggs Creek school should be consolidated with Warrenville, making a three teacher school.

5. Meadow View, Sugar Grove, Fairview and White Oak should be consolidated and made a four

County Now Confronted With Many School Building Problems



Two of Ashe county's wooden school buildings that need replacing are Fleetwood, left and Elkland, right in addition to being inadequate these two buildings were among those ruled unsafe by the grand jury in a recent inspection. (Staff Photo by Nena Barr.)

teacher unit, the school to be located near Sugar Grove.

6. New Hope and Hurricane schools should be consolidated at Graham.

7. The Helton, Little Helton and Chapel schools could be provided for in other units, particularly Lansing and Virginia Carolina.

8. Riverview — The following schools could be consolidated with Riverview: Trout, Mill Creek, Roaring Fork, Parker, Rye Cove, Jason Valley, Back Creek, Sutherland and Hemlock.

9. Silas Creek and Landmark school pupils should be sent to Healing Springs.

10. Elkland elementary school — The present building and site should be abandoned. Suitable site should be selected and new building of approximately ten rooms constructed. This is a meritorious case.

11. Additional notes with reference to Jefferson and West Jefferson schools are given for consideration by the school committee and the County Board of Education:

Jefferson:

a. Immediate steps should be taken to provide an adequate water supply and indoor toilets for this school. Notice was given two years ago that better sanitary facilities would have to be provided if this school were to maintain accredited rating. The school should not be reopened until better toilet facilities are provided.

b. The building now used for

three primary rooms and shop should be abandoned and additional rooms added to take care of these grades.

c. Rooms should also be provided to take care of the class now housed in the auditorium and remove the necessity of using the high school library as a classroom.

d. If the high school is consolidated with the West Jefferson high school as recommended in item 1 of this report there would then be room in the present plant to take care of the elementary grades mentioned in b and c.

e. The person responsible for repairs to the roof should be required to make good his guarantee and see that the leaks on two sides of the building are stopped.

West Jefferson:

a. Rooms should be provided to take care of the grades housed in the four sub-standard rooms, namely a room in the front of the building about the size of the office, a stage dressing room, the space partitioned from the auditorium and the open auditorium itself.

If the consolidation recommended in item 1 is carried out there would be sufficient space in the present building for elementary grades.

b. The toilets in the basement are not satisfactory.

c. The school needs a gymnasium. The present frame structure built by interested citizens is not satisfactory for physical education.

tion.

It is difficult to say precisely what renovations, additions and new buildings should be provided, but whatever is done should be done in keeping with a county-wide plan set up by the County Board of Education. A definite policy should be determined and plans developed in keeping with this policy. The adoption of a well-defined, long-time plan for the Ashe county schools will be helpful from every standpoint.

It is generally recognized that the problems of education in its various phases as a problem of our best money wisely expended. The money made available by the Legislature and the school funds made possible by the election on June 4 will make funds

available to meet a part of the needs of Ashe county with respect to school plants. The available money, however, will not meet the needs of the county. It is suggested that the people of Ashe county be given an opportunity to vote on the question of additional funds which will have to be provided if adequate educational opportunities are to be made possible for the boys and girls of Ashe county.

Signed:
J. HENRY HIGSMITH,
Director, Division of Instructional Service.
A. R. COMBS, Assistant Director, Division of Instructional Service.
JOHN L. CAMERON, Advisor, Health and Physical Education.

Jasper Sanders Gets Service Pin

Local Man Has Been With Kraft Foods Plant For Past 20 Years

Jasper C. Sanders of the West Jefferson plant of the Kraft Foods Company, has received a service pin and a citation from John H. Kraft, president, for 20 years of service with the company.

The gold pin bears a star for each five years of service with Kraft. Several thousand Kraft employees have been presented with the service pins since the recognition program was established in 1945.

The citation from Mr. Kraft commended Jasper C. Sanders for his long and faithful service with the company.

"There is a great deal of satisfaction in the knowledge that many of our employees have records of more than ten years of service with Kraft," he said. "Any company numbers among its greatest assets its good reputation, its high quality products and the devotion of its employees to producing that quality and helping maintain its good reputation. Our company owes much of its national and international fame to the loyalty and pride of its employees in the work they are doing."

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT CRANBERRY CHURCH

Announcement was made this week of a memorial service to be held at the Cranberry church,

Education.
JOHN C. NOE, Advisor
Safety Education.

Plan Military Rites For Roger F. Miller, Sun.

Mash Cemetery Will Be Scene Of Final Burial For Ashe County Man

A military funeral for Roger Fields Miller of Glendale Spgs., who was killed in action in Germany on February 17, 1948, will be held at the Mash cemetery near Glendale Springs, on Sunday, July 17, at 3:00 p. m.

Rev. Herbert Caldwell and the Ashe Post of the American Legion will conduct the final rites. Survivors include the mother, Mrs. Mary Miller; four brothers, Wesley, Douglas, Robert and Gaiher Miller; and two sisters, Mrs. Virginia Dare Ray and Beulah Miller.

TWO CASES TRIED IN MAYOR'S COURT MON.

Two cases were tried by Mayor Carl Graybeal in court Monday morning when Wiley Dewitt Stansberry, Apple Grove, was fined \$100.00 and costs on a charge of drunken driving. A report of this conviction was filed with North Carolina State Highway Commission.

Olen King, Fleetwood, received a fine of \$25.00 and costs on a charge of driving without license and was fined \$50.00 and costs, and suspended sentence of one year for possession of whiskey.

Sunday, July 17 with Elders S. G. Caudill and Maxford Cook conducting the service.

Everyone is invited to attend this service, which will begin at 11:00 a. m. and also to bring a picnic dinner. Mrs. Beate Crutcher stated.

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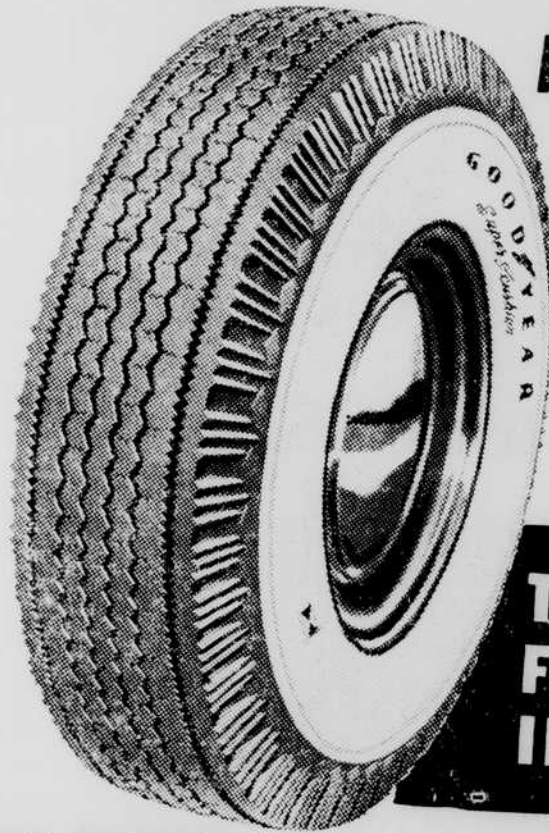
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