

**PUBLIC SCHOOL PROPERTY IN STATE IS VALUED AT HALF BILLION DOLLARS**

Property used for elementary and secondary schools in North Carolina has increased in value to approximately half a billion dollars today as compared with a 133 million dollars ten years ago. At the turn of the century only \$1,695,250 was invested in such property. Likewise, at the turn of the century there were 7,000 schoolhouses in use, a figure that increased to 8,409 in 1914-15, but which has continuously decreased until now (1954-55) there are 3,190.

This increasing trend in property value combined with the decreasing trend in the number of schoolhouses in use has resulted in higher average schoolhouse values. At the beginning of the century, with most schools conducted in log and small frame buildings, the average schoolhouse value was only \$237. The average value of the 3,190 schoolhouses in use in 1954-55 was \$150,486.

Average value of school property in relation to children enrolled and in accordance with the number of classrooms likewise has increased over the years. In 1899-1900 the average sum of \$4.14 per child en-

rolled was invested in public school property. In 1954-55 this per pupil investment had increased to \$480.02, nearly 120 times greater. Classroom value on an average increased from \$3,033 in 1924-25 (not available for prior years) to \$14,042 in 1954-55.

The number of schoolhouses used by white children has remained almost static during the past ten years, thus indicating that consolidation is almost or nearly complete and that new buildings erected now replace old buildings and care for increased school population.

In the case of schoolhouses for Negroes, it is noted that the trend is still definitely downward—there were 2,442 in 1919-20, which number has decreased over the years to 1201 in 1954-55. These buildings and equipment were valued at \$98,963,164, an average of \$82,401.

The 1,989 schoolhouses used by white children were valued at \$381,088,651 in 1954-55, an average value of \$191,598. Average value per classrooms of these buildings was \$15,165 that year. Average value per classroom for Negro students the same year was \$10,925,

a figure larger than that for the white race in 1950-51.

According to a survey the Chowan County unit had two school houses in 1954-55. The value was placed at \$344,823. The number of class rooms was 19, while the value per class room was \$18,149 and the value per pupil \$621.30.

Negro schools in the county unit at the same time was one, with a value of \$183,100. There were 12 class rooms, with a value of \$15,258 per class room and a value per pupil of \$458.90.

In the Edenton unit there were two school houses in 1954-55. The value was placed at \$742,000. There were 46 class rooms, with a class room value of \$16,130. The value per pupil was \$716.22.

There were three colored school houses, valued at \$440,750, with 34 class rooms. The value per class room was \$12,963 and the per pupil value \$402.14.

**ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED**

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Heber Small announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Libby Leona Small, to Donald Richard Matthews, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Matthews of Hertford. The wedding is scheduled to take place Thursday, November 22.



**ALL THAI-ED UP IN TRAINING**—Fighting efficiency of the U.S. Marine Corps is passed along by an American leatherneck to a Thailand Marine at the Royal Thai Naval Base in Sattahip, Thailand. Training program is part of a bilateral Thai-U.S. military program called "Operation Teamwork." The program climaxed with an amphibious "invasion" of Had Chao Samrah Beach by Marines of the two nations.

**GARDEN TIME**  
ROBERT SCHMIDT  
N.C. STATE COLLEGE



With the coming of the fall season, we begin to think of lawns and lawn grasses for both temporary winter lawns and for permanent ones. In most of North Carolina the fall months are the best time of the year to build permanent lawns because the young grasses have a chance to become well established before next summer's heat and dry weather. If you are interested in building a new lawn this fall ask your county agent for John Harris' Extension Circular on "Carolina Lawns".

In our mountain areas a good lawn can be established easily and maintained by using Kentucky bluegrass or Merion bluegrass. In Piedmont and eastern North Carolina it is much more difficult to maintain a good lawn because of the long hot summers. There are a number of good grasses available for these areas including the blue-grasses, the strains of Zoysia grass, Centipede, Tall Fescue and Bermuda. The bluegrasses and Tall Fescue will remain green during the winter.

Zoysia, Centipede and Bermuda should be planted in late spring, not in the fall. Roots are commonly used to start all three of these

grasses; however, seeds are available for Centipede and Bermuda.

I should like to say a few words about winter lawns. Most established lawns in the eastern portion of this state are of Bermuda grass, crabgrass, Dallas grass, bluegrass or a mixture of these and others. All except bluegrass will turn brown at the first hard frost. We are blessed with mild winters over most of the state, and it is very desirable to keep our lawns green the year around.

This is possible by sowing Italian ryegrass in the established sod during late September or early October. If your permanent sod is heavy it may require five pounds of ryegrass seed per 1,000 square feet of lawn. If the sod is not heavy, two to three pounds per 1,000 square feet should be sufficient. Italian ryegrass is an annual and will die out next June. By

that time the permanent grasses should take over again. Since bluegrass remains fairly green in winter, it is not recommended that ryegrass be planted in a good bluegrass lawn. The spring growth of ryegrass is often very heavy and may kill out the bluegrass. In order to give a good dark green color to the ryegrass, it should be fertilized before planting. About two pounds of an 8-8-8 or other good garden fertilizer per 100 square feet of lawn should give good results.

**STATIONED IN GERMANY**

Specialist Third Class Elbert R. Bunch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elbert R. Bunch of Tyner, is a member of the 3d Armored Division in Germany.

Specialist Bunch, a senior message center clerk in Headquarters and Service Company of the division's 2d Armored Engineer Battalion, entered the Army in July, 1955, and arrived overseas last June.

A member of Alpha Kappa Psi fraternity, he was graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1955.

**If You Smoke you need OLAG**

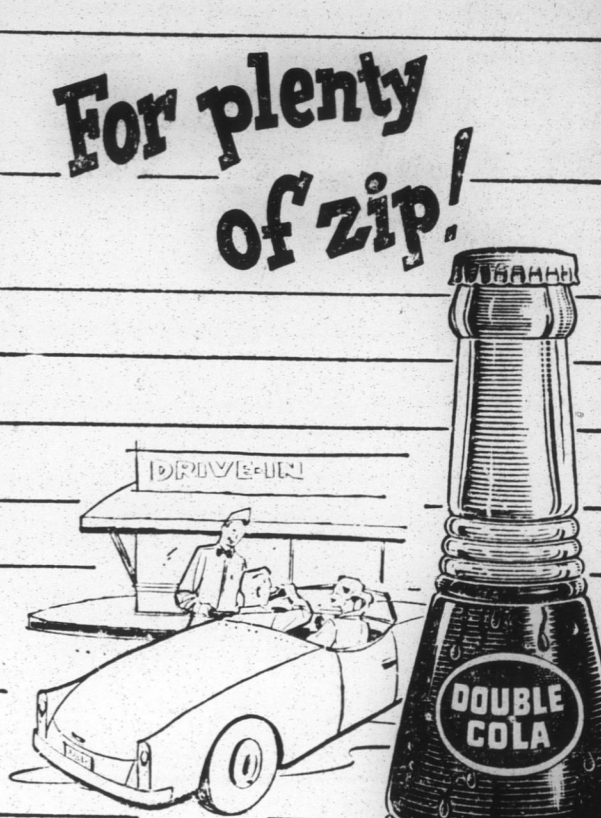


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**NOTICE!**  
**To Chowan County TAXPAYERS**


The Tax Books for the year 1956 are now in my hands for the collection of taxes. We urge you to pay your taxes now and thus avoid the penalty which will begin on February 1.

A PENALTY OF 1% WILL BE ADDED ON 1956 TAXES NOT PAID BEFORE FEBRUARY 2. ANOTHER 1% WILL BE ADDED MARCH 2 AND AN ADDITIONAL 1/2 OF 1% WILL BE ADDED FOR EACH ADDITIONAL MONTH TAXES ARE UNPAID.

**J. A. BUNCH**  
SHERIFF OF CHOWAN COUNTY

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