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VALUE SCHOOL HOUSES \$185,970

Remarkable Increase in Last 20 Years—\$50.94 Invested for Each Child in County.

The value of North Carolina's school property has increased, during the past 20 years, from three to eighty-four million dollars. And the end of this 20-year period of remarkably rapid increase finds Macon county with school property valued at a total of \$185,970.

This county's 58 white schoolhouses are valued at \$180,430 or an average of \$3,111. The average school property investment per white school child is \$50.94. The investment per white child is greater in 88 of the 100 counties of the state. Madison, Alleghany, Stokes, Beaufort, Mitchell, Franklin, Duplin, Ashe, Yadkin, Surry, and Cherokee in the order named, are the only counties with a smaller investment per white child.

The county's four negro school buildings are valued at \$5,540, or an average of \$1,385. This investment in negro school property, per negro child, is \$41.34. Only 11 other counties have more per child invested in negro schools.

In the white rural systems, Washington county leads in the investment per child, with \$242.38. Cherokee stands at the bottom of the list. The figure for the state's most westerly county is \$21.29.

These facts are shown by figures compiled by the State Department of Public Instruction, and made public through State School Facts, the department's publication.

The current issue, just received here, is devoted to statistical reports and discussion of "Schoolhouses and School Property." It outlines definitely the trend toward more and more schoolhouses up until 1919, just prior to the good roads program in North Carolina; and the tendency since that time to build fewer and fewer school buildings, but better ones—a tendency in which consolidation, both rural and urban, has played a part, it is indicated.

The statistical tables and discussion also show the wide divergency in the amount invested, both per school house and per child, in the cities and in the country. "The average value of the rural schoolhouse" for white children "in 1925-26 was not as great as the average value of the city schoolhouse in 1904-05." In the negro schools "the average value of the rural schoolhouse in 1925-26 was about one-half the value of the average city schoolhouse in 1909-10." "The average value of school property per rural white child is not quite where the per capita city white child value of school property was in 1919-20."

The difference in the values of school property for whites and for negroes is also illustrated by the figures compiled by the department. The average investment, per white child, for the state at large, is \$130.70, as compared with an average of \$34.61 per child of the negro race.

Lee Barnard Enthusiastic

Mr. Lee Barnard came into the Press office Monday morning bubbling over with enthusiasm concerning the attention that his herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle has attracted in this county.

In a down-pour of rain the people came Saturday in large numbers. Even on Sunday those who were riding made it convenient to go by Mr. Barnard's lot. Monday citizens were still going by the scores to see Mr. Barnard's prize lot of Aberdeen-Angus.

Mr. Barnard states that this breed is primarily a beef breed and that he has brought the Aberdeen-Angus to the county as an object lesson. Lee is strongly in favor of making Macon a dairy county, nevertheless, according to Mr. Barnard, there are many sections of the county where it is impracticable to maintain herds of dairy cattle due to the distance from the creamery. Consequently he maintains that beef cattle should be raised in these sections of Macon.

Some of Mr. Barnard's cows will weigh 1,400 pounds.

Repairs at Munday Hotel

Mr. Theodore Munday is making extensive repairs to the Munday Hotel on Main street. Among other things the entire interior of the building, including all rooms, will be repapered. On completion of the repairs Mr. Munday's hotel will present an attractive appearance.

SPECIAL DAIRY DAY AT SWANNANOA

Only once a year, are the dairymen of Western North Carolina privileged to meet for such an up-lifting course of instruction and discussion of their most important source of income. And this is the first time that such a thing has been held at our Test Farm. It is intended to make this an annual pilgrimage for dairymen. No expense or pains have been spared to get the very best talent on the respective branches of the industry.

There is one very queer thing about this meeting, and others like them that are held for the purpose of giving a farmer the full benefit of any new methods or practices. He is always too busy to attend and try to pick up something that will aid him in keeping up with the modern men in other lines of business find time to go and learn something that will bring their methods up-to-date, thereby increasing his profit. Not so with the farmer. He has something of far too much importance on hand—something like slopping the hogs or turning the cow into the pasture or something after that style. The man in some other business acts the goat—uses his head and goes and learns, and then comes home and knows what the work that he does is leading to. In other words, these meetings are put on for the sole purpose of assisting the man that wants to be assisted, to get more for every lick he sweats, and to preclude as far as possible his having to work in the dark, and hence to a very great disadvantage.

One feature of the Special Dairy day will be a "Cow Culling Contest." There will be a prize offered for the best "CULLER." This will be announced the day of the meeting. It will probably be a purebred bull calf. The county agent would be flattered for Macon county if someone of our folks would go over there and win this prize. It would kind of put us on the map, thereby saying to the rest of Western North Carolina, that the folks of this neck of the woods know their stuff. It would also say a very eloquent thing by way of advertising our business—others would come to recognize the fact that as we know so much about this dairy cattle business we would naturally have good stuff to sell, and this would enhance both our price and our chances of selling.

Ladies as well as men are invited. So the old family car should be filled up and rolled over there. Each one going will take their own dinner, which will be spread on the ground. Dairymen, let's try and see how many of us can go on this trip. Bring the wife along. The plan is for us all to meet in Swannanoa by 9 o'clock, if we cannot meet here and start together. That would be the best thing for us to do. If we had our dairy association in good organization, we would go with a regular battle flag on every car, and have a rousing good time all round. Will you go?

It is earnestly requested that as many of our public men go as can. Such as the county board of commissioners, our bankers and school teachers. These people have an opportunity more than any others to come in contact with more people, and therefore can spread the benefits derived from a dairy meeting better than anyone else. And also we want as many ladies as will, to go. It will be of great benefit to them and a day of recreation as well.

Programs of the meeting may be had from all postmasters in the county, and from the county agent.

Special Dairy Day

10:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m.

MORNING PROGRAM

10:00 a. m., Call to Order—S. C. Clapp, Assistant Director in Charge, Chairman of the Day—John W. Goodman, District Agent.

10:15 a. m., Factors making for Successful Dairying in Western North Carolina—A. C. Kimrey, Dairy Extension Specialist, Raleigh N. C.

10:40 a. m., Dairy Investigations in North Carolina—O. D. Grinnells, Dairy Investigator, Raleigh.

11:05 a. m., Grading up a Dairy Herd—F. R. Farnham, Dairy Extension Specialist.

11:30, Livestock and Dairying Versus Crops Farming—Dr. Clarence Poe, Editor, Progressive Farmer.

RECESS FOR LUNCH

1:30, Cow Culling Contest; Prizes to be announced later—Dr. Grinnells, Mr. Farnham, and Mr. Ruffner, Chairman.

2:00, Demonstration; Milk Houses and Sanitary Handling of Milk—W. L. Cleverger, Dairying Manufacturing Specialist.

2:40, Demonstration; Dairy Judging Contest—John Arey, Chairman; Harry Coulter, L. D. Thrash.

3:30, Demonstration; Judging A Dairy Cow—Prof. R. H. Ruffner.

Each person is expected to bring dinner.

200,000 IN CARE OF RED CROSS

The Chairman of the Local Red Cross Has Received the Following Self Explanatory Letter From National Headquarters of the Red Cross.

In the temporary absence of acting Chairman Fieser, who is now at the scene of the Mississippi river valley flood disaster, I am in charge of Red Cross service at National headquarters, and as part of my duty, wish to give you the following summary of the latest information we have on the appeal to the country for a minimum fund of \$5,000,000 for providing relief to those made homeless by the flood, and on the disaster situation.

The total amount contributed to the Red Cross Flood Relief Fund will probably reach \$3,000,000 by Thursday. The total amount reported at noon today was \$2,670,000. Of this \$1,861,000 comes from our Eastern Area, \$674,000 from the Midwestern Area, and \$135,000 from the Pacific Area. The total includes the \$100,000 contributed by the National organization.

Our Chapters throughout the country have responded splendidly in the emergency. Their quick action has brought back memories of the war period. Some of the Chapters had appealed to their communities for amounts in excess of the quotas given them before they had received our messages announcing their quotas. Many of the Chapters wired that they would exceed their quotas. It is interesting to note that all the Chapters in Florida promptly accepted the quotas given them and informed us that the people of the state would be glad of an opportunity to show their appreciation of the work the Red Cross did following the Florida hurricane.

Henry M. Baker, Director of Red Cross Disaster Relief, who is in charge of all flood relief with complete authority, reports there are approximately 200,000 refugees under Red Cross care, of whom 140,000 are in 42 refugee concentration camps in various points in the seven flooded states. The number may be largely increased before this letter reaches you. I suggest you watch Mr. Baker's reports from Memphis in the newspapers for the latest estimates each day.

As late as this morning Mr. Baker reported there were several thousand still stranded on levees, house tops and other high places. All available boats are being used for rescue work and this morning Mr. Baker requested the U. S. Coast Guard to assign him 100 additional boats to speed up rescues and transportation of supplies. He has also asked for 12 Signal Corps Units, one for General Relief headquarters, the others for strategic points in the flood area, to facilitate communication.

The President has ordered all facilities of the Government to be placed at the disposal of the Red Cross so that Mr. Baker is assured of all assistance he requests.

Mr. Baker's latest report on the situation says:

"Southeastern Arkansas territory is the center of the rescue and relief problem at the moment. The situation is increasingly acute. Levee at South Bend reported to us in immediate danger of breaking in which event large part of southeastern Arkansas will be flooded. Arkansas City flooded, houses floating. McGehee flooded and populace evacuating to Monticello where Red Cross through Chapter there has arranged for their care."

"A report received at one o'clock Wednesday morning states approximately 5400 refugees poured into Monticello and number growing. Lake Village flooded and populace evacuating to Eudora where we are rushing tents, cots and other supplies. Fifteen fast special rescue boats moving up the Arkansas river from Vicksburg to help with emergency. Bad break in levee at Pendleton has added to gravity of situation in southeastern Arkansas. Thirteen hundred refugees at Stuttgart and 1,000 at England."

"In Mississippi the number of refugees pouring into concentration points is rapidly mounting. Leland completely cut off by water with 7,000 persons in the town including 4,000 refugees. Red Cross there mustering all small boats to effect rescues from houses and to evacuate possibly to Cleveland. Making arrangements to get food supplies into the town. Arcola also cut off by the flood waters, with 3,000 people there."

"The reluctance of the people to abandon their homes is pathetic. In face of danger to their lives many rush out at last moment with prized

C. M. T. C. Students To Be Awarded Scholarships

Young men attending the Citizens' Military Training Camps this summer between June 15 and July 14, will be eligible to compete for the 19 scholarships for the school year, 1927-28 at the following named educational institutions, according to Lieut. Fletcher at Asheville, N. C., as announced this week.

Wofford College, Spartanburg, S. C., scholarship, valued at \$60.00.

Gordon Military Institute, Barnesville, Ga., 4 scholarships valued at \$125.00 each.

Riverside Military Academy, Gainesville, Ga., 7 scholarships, valued at \$200.00 each.

Furman University, Greenville, S. C., 1 scholarship, valued at \$75.00.

Tennessee Military Institute, Sweetwater, Tenn., 1 scholarship, valued at \$200.

Georgia Military Academy, College Park, Ga., 1 scholarship, valued at \$200.00.

University of Georgia, Athens, Ga., 1 scholarship, valued at \$50.00.

Centenary College, Shreveport, La., 1 scholarship, valued at \$105.00.

Georgia Military College, Milledgeville, Ga., 2 scholarships, valued at \$200.00 each.

This action on the part of the presidents of these leading educational institutions of the South, indicates their high regard for the value of the training given at the Citizens' Military Training Camps, and their desire to enroll as students, the high class of students who attend these camps.

All who desire to attend these camps are urged to get their applications in as early as possible.

possessions on their backs. These incidents certainly pull at the heart strings of our faithful and weary workers."

At the request Dr. William R. Redden, Red Cross Medical Director for disaster relief, state health officers of Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana will meet at Memphis Thursday morning to plan effective coordination of the health activities of the United States Public Health Service, the Red Cross, the state and local health authorities, in the flooded regions.

The Red Cross General Relief headquarters at Memphis, in compliance with a request of the Governor of Arkansas, has ordered from the Seventh Corps Army headquarters 25,000 typhoid and paratyphoid and 25,000 small pox vaccines, 25,000 cubes sodium hypochloride to be delivered to the Arkansas state health department for use in southeastern part of the state. Also 25,000 cubes of the sodium hypochloride have been ordered for the Memphis headquarters for use where needed.

Today I received a message from Acting Chairman, James L. Fieser, from Vicksburg, outlining the situation at Greenville, Miss. The report reads:

"Visited Greenville, Mississippi, today (Tuesday) which is under water and where refugee problem is increasing as rescue work in surrounding territory continues. Problem of housing and feeding refugees estimated total 9,000 by night is well taken care of by T. R. Buchanan, Assistant Director of Disaster Relief, with assistants Grant, Carr and Beck who are coordinating splendid work of local committee, National Guard, American Legion and others. Morale of refugees excellent, thanks to wonderful courage, initiative, resourcefulness and steadiness of local leaders and population generally. Refugees living in tents on levee. Broadwalks have been erected above water in some streets reminiscent of duckboards of trenches in war days."

Mr. Fieser and Secretary Herbert Hoover, a member of our Central Committee and a member of the special Committee of President Coolidge's Cabinet appointed to co-operate with the Red Cross in the present relief operations, are proceeding down the Mississippi river and are reviewing the disaster situation from Memphis, Tennessee, to New Orleans in order that we may be prepared to meet all possible new emergencies created by the crest of the flood as it moves toward the Gulf of Mexico.

We do not yet know the full extent of the task in which we are now engaged. As the flood crest creeps down the river, new levee breaks may at any hour flood additional countryside and drive thousands more people from their homes. It will be ten days or two weeks before the crest comes to the Gulf of Mexico.

In this long continued crisis, I know we may count on your local devotion to Red Cross service. Sincerely yours, GEORGE E. SCOTT, Central Committee.

TELEPHONE COS. OF W. N. C. MERGE

Exchanges at Franklin, Sylva, Bryson City and Clayton, Ga. Affect Merger—Operate Under Name of Western Carolina Co.—Many Improvements to be Made.

A merger of the independent telephone companies in Franklin, Sylva, Bryson City, and Clayton, Ga., into a single concern, with its home office at Franklin, was announced here Saturday by D. G. Stewart, manager of the local company, the Western Carolina Telephone Company.

The new business will operate under the name of Western Carolina Telephone Company, and will start business with a subscribed capital stock of \$100,000, of which \$65,000 has been paid in. The first figure represents an increase in the company's capital stock of \$75,000, according to the announcement.

The concerns at Sylva, Bryson City, and Clayton have been purchased, and the new concern will take charge of the system in those towns on or about June 1, it was stated.

The companies absorbed by the Western Carolina Telephone Company are the Rabun County Telephone and Electric Co., Clayton, Ga., the Bryson City Telephone Co., Bryson City, and the Sylva Telephone Co., Sylva.

The new concern within the next year will spend approximately \$20,000 in equipment, re-building, repairs, extensions, and betterments, it was stated Saturday.

Actual construction, it was said, will begin as soon as the material can be assembled and the engineers can complete plans and blue-prints. Construction work will be under the supervision of Mr. Stewart, who has been chosen general manager of the new concern.

The new company is headed, the announcement said, by W. B. McGuire, of Franklin, president. Other officers chosen are: Addison Maupin, of Atlanta, secretary and treasurer, and Morgan B. Spier and H. L. Jones, both of Charlotte, Dr. J. H. Smathers, of Waynesville, and D. E. Murray, of Sylva, directors. Mr. Maupin, now retired, formerly was secretary and treasurer of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, and Messrs Spier and Jones are now connected with that company.

Other officers will be elected at the first regular meeting of the board of directors, Mr. Stewart stated.

Amendments to the charter of the Western Carolina Telephone Company were adopted Saturday by the concern, to provide for increase in the capital stock and other changes in connection with the merger, and application for amendment of the charter has been forwarded to the Secretary of State at Raleigh, it was stated.

The merger resulted, Mr. Stewart said, from a realization "of the possibilities of better telephone service in the field, yet undeveloped, in the western counties of North Carolina and the extreme North Georgia" and the belief that the combination would result in a lowering of overhead expenses.

The Western Carolina Telephone Company was formed here October 1, 1924, and Mr. Stewart has been in charge of the concern since that time as manager. He came to Franklin after a number of years' experience with the Southern Bell System.

P. T. A. Meeting

The Franklin Parent-Teacher Association will conclude a year's successful work with its final meeting of the school year, to be held next Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

An interesting program for the meeting is being planned, it is stated, and, at the conclusion of the meeting, refreshments will be served in the home economics room of the school. The meeting will be held at the school building.

The association, during the past year, has emphasized improvement and increase in the size of the school library, and considerable progress along this line is reported by officials of the organization.

Drug Store Changes Name

T. W. Angel Jr., has changed the name of his drug store from the Franklin Pharmacy to Angel's Drug Store. The sign on the window bearing the latter name is undoubtedly the most artistic in town.