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COST PER PUPIL SHOWS DECREASE

Franklin Township School Funds Well Spent—Cost Per Pupil Decreases While Qualifications of Teachers Increase.

As was shown in last week's Press there has been a remarkable growth in the enrollment and attendance in the Franklin school. This growth has, of course, been most marked in the high school on account of a number of factors, the most important of which is the opening of the high school to a greater number of students. This is not the only cause of this growth however for the slow but steady growth of the town has caused larger enrollment in the elementary school, which growth has in turn increased the number of students entering the high school every year.

While the enrollments in both departments of the school have grown with leaps and bounds, that of the high school having increased 450 per cent in the last seven years, it is found to be a fact that the net cost of instruction per student per year has not increased but on the contrary has shown a fairly regular decrease during the same period. The figures should be interesting to any one who is interested in the expenditure of public funds and who has some curiosity regarding the final disposition of taxes collected.

In 1920-21 this school in all of its departments spent \$34.33 per child for instruction. This does not include anything except teaching service, as will none of these figures.

In 1921-22 there was spent for the work of instruction a total of \$40.83 per child per year.

In 1922-23 this school made an expenditure of \$37.30 per child for teaching while in the year 1923-24 the cost of instruction was \$29.20.

In the following year the total cost of instructing each child in the system was \$27.60 while in the year of 1925-26 the cost was \$28.06.

Last year the net cost of teaching each child for the entire term of nine months was \$27.10 or \$3.01 per month. This is the lowest cost of instruction per child ever incurred by this school.

In this connection it might be well to explain that on any scale of measurement of school efficiency that an expenditure of not less than \$50 per year per child is considered necessary to produce results expected of a thoroughly efficient school system. In no case has this amount ever been available and based on this scale this school would rate a little better than 50 per cent of what it ought to be.

At the same time we find that in each successive year the faculties of this school have taught more students than they did the year before and with one or two exceptions have done this at a less cost per student per year. As an illustration of how this works out in dollars and cents we find that if this school had spent as much per student for teaching last year as it did in 1921-22 that it would have cost the tax payers of this county and district practically \$10,000 more than it did cost. In the years used we find that there was an enrollment of 411 in the entire system in 1921-22 while last year showed an enrollment of 628.

Using these same years as basis for further comparison we find that in 1921-22 twelve teachers handled 411 students or an average of 34 per teacher while in 1926-27 16 teachers handled 628 students or an average of 39 per teacher.

In these same years it is found that the average training of teachers has risen. In 1921-22 we find the average rating of the high school faculty to be 720. This figure is secured by giving 100 points for every year of high school and college work. A graduate of a standard high school would therefore have a rating of 400. A graduate of a two year normal would have a rating of 600 while a college graduate would have a rating of 800. On this basis the faculty of 1921-22 has an average of three years and two months of college work.

On this same basis the faculty of 1926-27 had an average of three years, four and a half months of college work or an increase of two and a half months of college work or an increase of two and a half months of training over the other. This is not such an increase as to write home about but it is an increase and is not a lowering of standards.

(Continued on page two)

TOWN BOARD WILL SUBMIT TO VOTERS \$80,000 BOND ISSUE

This Amount Decided As Necessary for Water Supply and Sewers—Engineers Recommend Cartoogechaye Creek As Source of Water Supply.

The Board of Aldermen of Franklin, at a called meeting on Saturday night, after careful consideration and much discussion, decided to submit to the voters of the town the proposal to issue \$80,000 in bonds for the purposes of providing an adequate water supply for the town, and of eliminating cesspools in the town limits, by means of laying sewerage so as to make sewers accessible to all living within the town.

The town attorney was authorized to draw up the papers calling an election on the matter. Two questions will be submitted—the issuance of bonds for not more than \$68,000 for a water system; and of bonds of not more than \$12,000 to complete the sewer system.

Members of the Board, at Saturday night's meeting, pointed out that it quite possibly would not prove necessary to issue all these bonds; the amounts decided upon are the maximum that will be necessary, it is estimated.

Confronted with the fact that the town had a water shortage in the summer of 1926, a serious shortage during the summer just passed, and the probability of an even more serious water situation next summer—with serious fire hazard a practical certainty—the Board of Aldermen recently employed Mees and Mees, Charlotte engineers, to make a careful survey of the various means by which the town might secure an adequate water supply. The engineers were instructed to investigate the various possible sources, estimate the original and maintenance cost in each case, and make recommendations.

That report, recently submitted, has been made public.

The engineers' recommendations are:

"That Cartoogechaye Creek be utilized as a source of water supply for the Town of Franklin.

"That a filtration plant with a daily capacity of 500,000 gallons be constructed on either the Hauser or Trotter sites on the Georgia road.

"That, for the present, connection be made to the distribution system at the end of the 6" main opposite the Standard Filling Station on the Georgia road."

The estimated maximum cost is \$68,000.

About the time the engineers' report was made on the water situation, John E. Floyd, district sanitary inspector for the State Board of Health, appeared before the Board of Aldermen to present another situation—that with reference to sewage disposal in the town. A serious sanitary situation exists, he told the board, on account of open sewers and cesspools within in the town limits. Citizens to whom sewers were not accessible are using cesspools—long prohibited by the State law.

Under provisions of the law, he explained, the individual property owners must replace the cesspools with septic tanks, or connect with the town's sewer system. He recommended that the sewer system be extended to take care of all families living inside the town. Such action probably would save money in the first place, he explained; and, in the second, the expenditures for septic tanks certainly would ultimately be wasted, since it is only a question of time until such streets as Harrison avenue—whose residents now are using cesspools—will be given sewerage.

The cost of replacing the cesspools with septic tanks has been estimated at \$18,000. To place sewerage within the reach of all, it is estimated, would cost the town not over \$12,000.

These two situations—an inadequate water supply and the necessity for some different provision for sewage disposal—coming before the body almost simultaneously, it was decided to submit the two questions to the people in the form of a bond issue. The proposal, if carried out, would take care of these two needs of the town for many years, members said. The water situation, and the route by which the engineers came to their conclusion as to the best source of water supply, is outlined in detail in the report.

It reads, in part, as follows:

This investigation took into consideration all practicable sources of

water supply for the Town of Franklin, as follows:

"Improvement of present wells.

"Drilling of additional wells.

"Gravity supply from Wayah creek.

"Gravity supply from Tremont creek.

"Lake Emory—filtered supply.

"Cartoogechaye creek—filtered supply.

"By careful elimination hereinafter cited, the scope of this investigation was narrowed down to the two more desirable sources of supply as to which, of course, first cost, eventual investment and production costs inclusive of operating cost, and fixed charges, and sanitary considerations were investigated in detail."

Turning, then, to the general aspects of the engineering problem presented, it is pointed out that "Franklin is located in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains and is the gateway to the Nantahala National Forest.

"The estimated present population is 1,200. The existing water supply is obtained from two wells, one 450 feet in depth, the other 750 feet deep. An analysis made by us indicates the quality of the present water supply to be surprisingly good. The quantity which may be derived from these wells, however, is limited and the town has already exceeded their capacity."

"Past experience indicates that the present wells will not deliver more than the approximate 140,000 gallons per 24 hours they are now yielding, and at certain seasons peak requirements must be met out of storage to such an extent as to seriously affect pressure at points in the distribution system. The present normal supply, therefore, equals the present demand without safety factor and without capacity to meet peak demands, a condition which approaches dangerous shortage and also precludes any appreciable extension of service. It is quite doubtful whether Franklin can endure another summer season without severe shortage, and serious consequences might follow. In addition to considerations of health there exists a certainty that fire hazard will become alarming and the fire insurance situation in Franklin may become embarrassing."

"The fact that the present supply is 'pumped direct from wells into the distribution system without sterilization' is a condition of which the engineers 'can hardly approve.'

"In view of the fact that the capacity of the present supply has been reached," says the report, "and that indications point to a rapid growth in population due to an ample power supply and other valid reasons, it appears imperative that immediate steps be taken to improve the water supply of the town."

The report then turns to a discussion of well supply, and says:

"Generally speaking the disadvantages of well supply are as follows:

"1. It is generally conceded to be more or less of a gamble as to the depth a well must be drilled to obtain water, if obtained at all, in sufficient quantity to warrant use of the well.

"2. The quantity of water available in most localities is limited.

"3. The methods of pumping water from wells is relatively inefficient.

"4. The water is likely to be hard or high dissolved minerals and gases.

"5. Works for obtaining well water are subject to comparatively rapid depreciation.

"6. More or less speculation is involved in predicting such factors as the yield per well and its ultimate capacity and life.

"In view of the above reasons, sound engineering principles dictate that a growing municipality pursue the much wiser course in adopting a surface water supply rather than an underground supply."

"Franklin is the only town of note in the western portion of the state that is now deriving its water supply from wells, it having been, in general, conceded to be an unsatisfactory source of supply for towns in this area."

The report then takes up the four other possible sources of supply—gravity supply from Wayah Creek; gravity supply from Tremont Creek; filtered supply from Lake Emory;

ANOTHER STORE FOR FRANKLIN

Local Men Organize Farmers Supply Company—Located in Munday Building—Will Open For Business Latter Part of Week.

As another indication of Franklin's prosperity and the general increase in fall business The Farmers Supply company has been organized by local men and will open for business the latter part of this week in the Munday building recently vacated by the Farmers Federation. This company will do both a wholesale and retail business, according to the announcement made Monday, in feed stuffs, groceries, fertilizers and general supplies, with particular reference to the needs of the farmers of Macon county. The new store will be under the management of Henry W. West assisted by J. W. Hastings, the latter having been connected with the Farmers Federation for the past year. Before opening for business the building will be thoroughly renovated and painted on the inside. Early Monday morning Henry was busy with the broom and was making plans to care for the large business which he anticipates.

and filtered supply from Cartoogechaye Creek.

"The headwaters of Wayah Creek," says the report, "offer the most practicable water supply for Franklin," but the report eliminates this source from consideration on account of the estimated initial cost—\$45,000 for an impounding dam and intake; \$155,000 for a 12-inch pipe line or the approximate 10 miles' distance; and \$15,000 miscellaneous cost—total \$215,000.

Tremont Creek is eliminated since the supply would "be inadequate for the Town of Franklin." It would be necessary, in case of this source, says the report, to go upstream—to get sufficient elevation—to a point where there is a drainage area of only three-fourths of a square mile.

"Undoubtedly, the initial cost of installing works for obtaining water from Lake Emory would be lower than that for any other practicable source of supply, says the report. The cost is estimated at \$56,000 at one site, and \$61,500 were another site used.

Two difficulties, however, stand in the way with reference to Lake Emory, according to the report: The fact that "the elevation of Lake Emory is 22 feet lower than the proposed intake on Cartoogechaye Creek," thus increasing the cost of pumping—an estimated increase of \$240 a year for 250,000 gallons a day, and of \$480 per year at 500,000 gallons a day; and sanitary considerations.

Referring to the "sanitary character of the stream," the report points out about the Lake Emory source of supply that "the drainage area is inter-state, a condition which, under present circumstances, places it beyond the control of the Town of Franklin. There is considerable habitation upon the area including the Town of Highlands and several small villages located along the Tallulah Falls Railway. Again there is the likelihood that trouble might be experienced with micro-organisms due to impoundment in Lake Emory. This might impart disagreeable tastes and odors to the water supply."

None of the objections to the various other possible sources applies to Cartoogechaye Creek, the report states. The area above the proposed intake is approximately 55-7 square miles, and this source will provide an "ample supply for Franklin for years to come."

"It is proposed to construct a small diversion dam at the old County bridge located about 100 yards below the present highway bridge. The raw water pump would be located adjacent to this dam with remote control provided so as to be from the filter plant."

"It is proposed to pump treated water from the filter plant through an eight-inch pipe line to the distribution system the point of connection being the end of the six-inch line opposite the Standard Filling Station on the Georgia road. A parallel line may be laid at some future date when the demand justifies expenditure for additional carrying capacity."

The report quotes a letter from the State Board of Health recommending the Cartoogechaye source rather than Lake Emory, for sanitary reasons; and the engineers conclude with the following conclusions:

ROTARY CLUB IS ORGANIZED HERE

Club Has Seventeen Charter Members—Officers Elected—Meetings to Be Held Wednesday of Each Week.

Mr. Ernest L. Withers, a member of the Rotary Club of Waynesville, came to Franklin Tuesday of this week and assisted in the organization of the Rotary Club of Franklin. Mr. Withers stated that it is seldom that a town no larger than Franklin, can qualify in all ways for a Rotary Club. He was particularly complimentary concerning the citizenship of Franklin and predicted that the town would reap much benefit from the new organization.

All but two of the seventeen charter members met at the office of Jones and Jones. After adopting by laws the club elected the following named officers: Sam L. Franks, president; D. D. Rice, vice-president; S. A. Harris, secretary-treasurer; G. A. Jones, W. T. Moore, E. S. Hunnicutt and A. R. Higdon were elected on the Board of Governors.

The club decided to hold its weekly meetings at the Scott Griffin hotel from 12 to 1 each Wednesday. On receipt of the charter sometime in November the formal installation will take place, at which time many prominent members from other towns will be present.

The names of the charter members are as follows: S. L. Franks, D. D. Rice, S. A. Harris, W. T. Moore, Alf Higdon, J. C. Ledbetter, J. S. Conley, G. A. Jones, R. S. Jones, J. E. Lancaster, E. S. Hunnicutt, Dr. W. A. Rogers, Dr. Furman Angel, Dr. W. E. Furr, J. S. Porter, H. S. Sloan, J. L. Farmer.

GIBSON INSTALLS WATER SYSTEM

Mr. Walter Gibson, who lives at Iotla, has installed a Delco light water system at his home. He is also having plumbing placed for a completely equipped bath room and other modern conveniences. Mr. Gibson has city power and uses his well as a source of water supply. The system he has installed requires no tank, the water coming directly from the well to the faucets. Compared to the benefits of the system the cost is small, it is stated.

Sometime ago Mr. George Slagle who lives near town had a similar system installed at his home.

Potato Law Suit

George Carpenter, justice of the peace, Saturday gave Weimar Love a judgment against the Macon County Farmers Federation for the amount the federation formerly had offered Love for 2,839 pounds of Irish potatoes sold through the marketing bureau of the federation.

After selling the potatoes, the federation offered Love a check in payment, at the rate of 36 cents a bushel. He refused the check, and sued for recovery at the rate of \$1 per bushel.

Love claimed that he understood that he had sold the potatoes to the federation for \$1 per bushel. The federation, on the other hand, offered evidence to show that the marketing bureau of the organization had simply sold the potatoes for Love and other farmers, that the consignment reached its destination in bad condition, that all of the co-operative shippers received 36 cents per bushel, and that all other shippers had accepted this amount.

Because the federation's offer to Love of 36 cents per bushel was made by check, rather than in legal tender, the costs of the case were assessed against the federation.

A. W. Horn represented the federation, R. D. Sisk, the plaintiff, Love.

FIRST SNOW

Early Wednesday morning, according to reports reaching Franklin, snow fell on the near-by mountains.

"1. That either Lake Emory or Cartoogechaye Creek offers a practicable source of water supply sufficient for all requirements of the Town of Franklin for years to come.

"2. That for sanitary reasons Cartoogechaye Creek is to be favored over Lake Emory.

"3. That an intake may be located on Cartoogechaye Creek at the old County bridge on the Johnston property.

"4. That a 500,000 G. P. D. (gallon per day) filter plant may be located on a suitable site.