

County School Superintendent Puts Lack of School Funds in Voters' Laps

Because the financial situation in Carteret county, in regard to public schools and education, is in the continual status of "insufficient funds for all required improvements," H. L. Joslyn, county superintendent of schools, recently commented at length on the problem.

He pointed out that operation of Carteret county schools last year cost over half a million dollars, that par-

ents loudly shout "I pay my taxes and therefore I am entitled to what I demand" when without other financial support the county could not operate schools, and that the only way to get more money is to raise the school tax or borrow money.

"Parents are prone to demand of the board of education additional facilities, forgetting that the finances for school construction must come from the county commissioners, who in turn must get them from the tax payers of Carteret county," Joslyn remarked.

"Our commissioners have given the county school system during the past four years double the amount raised by school tax. They can do no more unless parents and school patrons are willing to increase their school tax and float a bond issue to take care of immediate and future needs."

"The future of our schools is squarely up to the voter," he continued. "The commissioners and board of education cannot go forward unless the voters provide the necessary financing," the superintendent declared.

The state's obligation is to pay salaries of state-allotted teachers, county superintendent, clerical assistants, per diem for members of the board of education; and to provide a large portion of operating expenses for heat, lights, water,

janitors and supplies, and to replace and operate school buses.

The county must repair and maintain existing buildings, construct additional buildings, purchase new buses (when these wear out the state replaces them), carry insurance on buildings, meet part of the expense of vocational teachers, and add to the state allotment for all operational costs.

\$79,000 Appropriated
To cover this expense for 1949-1950 the county commissioners appropriated \$79,000 for current expense and capital outlay. In addition to this the county included in its budget the required amount to pay interest and retirement on school bonds.

According to the audit report on the State Nine Months School Fund of 1949-1950 recently received, the State of North Carolina spent for current expense in Carteret county the sum of \$424,749.88. The amount of \$10,177.89 was spent for "General Control;" \$364,356.36 for "Instructional Service;" \$19,038.55 for "Operation of Plant;" \$457.50 "Compensation;" and \$30,719.58 for "Auxiliary Agencies."

"The expenditure under the first three headings should be self-explanatory, but a word of explanation for the two latter may be needed," remarked Joslyn. "The item under 'Compensation' was the

result of an accident with one of our colored buses, with serious injury to one of the occupants. The state paid this child's hospital and doctor bills. Under 'Auxiliary Agencies' is classed the cost of operation of buses, library aid, salary of textbook clerk, and health. In addition to the above the state and federal government together pay two-thirds of the vocational teachers' salaries."

Legislative Action
The last legislature appropriated \$25,000,000 and by vote of the people an additional \$25,000,000 was added, making a total of \$50,000,000 available for school house construction to aid counties in their building programs. To this amount the counties have added \$75,000,000 by county or city bond issue for school house construction.

Of the state money Carteret county was allotted \$377,451.93 and this has been allotted to schools found to have the most pressing need. In addition to state funds used for construction, the county added over \$100,000 from funds set up for this purpose over a period of years. There has been paid out to date for school house construction from county and state funds \$334,039.31.

The total estimated valuation of Carteret county schools is \$1,428,150.

The assessed valuation of Carteret county is \$14,562,475. Against this there is a 25-cent school tax, which gives a total of \$36,406.19 for this year if taxes are collected 100 per cent. The ABC revenues, fines and forfeitures, poll tax and dog tax makes up the balance of the school budget of \$80,000. This is 15 and a fraction per cent of last year's cost of operation and does not include the cost of new buildings.

During the past five years in Carteret county there has been an increase of 525 children, in spite of the transfer of 75 children to Onslow county after the loss by fire of the White Oak school building. With the lowering of the teacher load this has required nineteen additional teachers. Each year enrollment has increased and the peak has not been reached. It is estimated that the State of North Carolina will need 5,000 additional teachers during the next ten years.

Carteret county has done what it could toward financing improvements, repairs, and new buildings. The State building fund added to what the county made available has been spread as far as it would reach but that is not enough to cover present building needs. "To cover the barest of needs we should have an additional \$200,000 for building purposes for additions to Newport, Camp Glenn, Beaufort white and colored schools, and needed improvements at Harkers Island," the superintendent revealed.

"A new building for Atlantic and the consolidation of Cedar Island, Sea Level, and Stacy with Atlantic takes care of that district," he continued. A six-room annex to Morehead City white and new building for Morehead City colored takes care of their immediate needs. A two-room metal building cares for the overflow in Beaufort. An additional seven-classroom building with library and home economics department is in process of development for Smyrna. This is as far as we can go until more funds are available. "How are we to care for the rapid growth at our Newport and Camp Glenn schools?" Joslyn asked.

"Biggest Business"
"To me the biggest and most important business in our county is the growing and training our youth to assume the role of Christian citizenship, that they may accept the responsibilities of the religious, industrial, and political business of operating Carteret county and the State of North Carolina wisely," he declared.

"The schools of Carteret county and the State of North Carolina are making progress but more help is needed to keep up with our growth," the superintendent continued. "The county commissioners and board of education must be obedient to the voters' wishes. A few cents in increased taxes may bring rich benefits to all," Joslyn concluded.



Nov. 5—Miss Annie L. Morton of Beaufort spent Monday afternoon with Mrs. W. C. Williams.

Miss Patricia Morton, student at Louisburg college, spent last weekend with her mother and family.

Mrs. Joel Davis visited her mother, Mrs. J. J. Davis, last Sunday afternoon at Smyrna.

Mrs. Vincent Earl Beeton and young son have returned from the Morehead City hospital. Mrs. Willis, mother of Mrs. Beeton, of North River, spent last week here.

Mrs. Ashby B. Morton was in New Bern Monday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Ball and son, Billie, have returned from a trip to California.

Miss Lena Ball has been visiting relatives at Bridgeton.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle Taylor were in New Bern Tuesday evening to see Thomas Lee Taylor and Mrs. Taylor. Mr. Taylor had just returned from the hospital.

Mrs. Harry Davis, Mrs. Emma Oglesby, Mrs. W. C. Williams, Mrs. Roy Mason, Mrs. A. N. Bell, Mrs. Carlyle Taylor, Mrs. Carlton Taylor, Mrs. Cicero W. Taylor, Mrs. Earl Creech, Mrs. Journey Conner, Mrs. W. Kuch Williams, Miss Eleanor Taylor, Mrs. Gordon Beeton and Mrs. Luke Turner motored to Riverdale Wednesday afternoon as guests of the Riverdale Woman's Society of Christian Service in celebration of the tenth anniversary of the society.

Mrs. Joel Davis spent this weekend with her daughter, Mary Elizabeth, a student at Louisburg college.

Mrs. George W. Ball and Mrs. Charlie Bell spent Thursday in New Bern.

Thomas Taylor returned Wednesday from the Morehead City hos-

pital where he had a tonsillectomy Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Frank Taylor and children who have been visiting in West Virginia, have returned home.

Mrs. Xenophon Mason and son, Charles, returned Tuesday from visiting Mr. Mason in Alabama.

Mrs. Ashby B. Morton and Mrs. Carl H. Morton were in Beaufort Friday.

Mrs. Will Conner has returned from visiting her son at LaGrange.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Taylor of Bachelor spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Ashby B. Morton.

Mr. and Mrs. Austin P. Adams, jr., of Statesville announce the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Ann, Wednesday, Oct. 25, at the Statesville hospital. Mrs. Adams was the former Miss Alieen Phoir of Statesville. Mr. Adams is the son of Mrs. Lottie N. Adams.

Mrs. A. N. Bell, Mrs. Gordon Beeton and daughter, Mrs. Luke Turner and son were in Beaufort Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Burney L. Witherington, Misses Beverly Witherington and Camille Williams, and Terry Witherington of Vanceboro spent Saturday with Mrs. W. C. Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. Edsel Bell and sons, Mrs. W. Kuch Williams and son were in Beaufort Saturday afternoon.

S/Sgt. Harlis Ernest and Philip Taylor left Friday for Alabama. Mrs. Ernest's parents will return with them.

The Young People's Organization will meet Tuesday evening, November 7, at the church. John W. Ives, jr., president, will preside over the meeting.

Mrs. John Hardison and daughter of near New Bern were visiting here last week.

Tiny quantities of penicillin remaining in milk after cows are treated for mastitis are upsetting the fermentation process in some cheese factories.

Cadet Lawrence Completes Basic Pilot Training

Among the young men recently completing the basic phase of Air Force pilot training at Perrin Air Force base, Sherman, Tex., was Aviation Cadet Thurman Lawrence, jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Lawrence, Beaufort RFD.

The announcement of his graduation from basic pilot training was made today by Major General Robert W. Harper, Commanding General Air Training command, whose headquarters are at Scott Air Force base, Ill.

Lawrence attended Morehead City Technical institute for one year after graduating from Smyrna high school in 1943. His previous service before beginning his flying training in April 1950, consists of two years in the Navy.

Cadet Lawrence followed a vigorous training program during the basic phase of his pilot training. During the seven-month period he

received approximately 130 hours of dual and solo time in the North American T-6 "Texan". This 130 hours consisted of diversified flying training, such as instrument flying, formation night flying basic air work, acrobatics and cross country. In addition to the flying training, Cadet Lawrence spent about half of his day in the study of academic subjects related to aviation.

Now with seven months training behind him, Lawrence will take advanced flying training at Reese Air Force base, Lubbock, Tex., where he will fly a B-25 "Mitchell" bomber, the same type aircraft that was used on the Doolittle raid on Tokyo.

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