

Schools Of Shelby Face Crisis

(Continued From Page One)

an increase of the tax rate, but without avail. An effort was made to lower the cost of maintaining the school by employing inexperienced teachers. The results were very unsatisfactory to all the parties concerned. There seemed to be a universal appeal on the part of the school patrons for experienced teachers.

The Board is now compelled to cut the school term to eight months and reduce all salaries to state schedule, or appeal to you for an additional tax levy of ten cents. We have decided to appeal to you. We would not dare to reduce the school term, (and thus force the authorities to remove Shelby from the list of accredited schools) nor would we dare to reduce teachers' salaries to state schedule, (and thus lose most, if not all, our most experienced and successful teachers) without giving you an opportunity to express your opinion in the matter.

With this brief statement the Board respectfully submits for your careful consideration the following facts:

It is necessary to raise the present tax rate for the Current Expenses of the Public Schools from a Maximum of 30 cents to a maximum of 40 cents for the following reasons:

a. The extension of the limits increased the enrollment fifty per cent, but the property valuation was increased only forty per cent

Valuation	Enrollment
1924-25 \$6,000,000	1820 Before extension
1925-26 8,000,000	2715 After extension

b. In order to meet the requirements of the law governing the consolidation of local tax districts, Shelby was forced to reduce her rate from 38 cents to 30 cents, which was the maximum levy rated by the people in the South Shelby District.

2. A second reason for increasing the tax rate for schools is the fact that the increase in property valuation has not kept pace with the increase in school enrollment. Examine the following tables:

1924-25	1927-28	gain per cent.
a. Prop. val. \$6,000,000	\$10,967,541	67
b. Enrollment 1,820	3,160	74
c. Tax Rate Permitted .38	.30	21 decrease

3. A third reason for increasing the tax rate for the support of schools is the increased cost in the matter of teachers' salaries brought about by the demand of the patrons for teachers with more experience. The Board of Education, ever ready to meet the demands of the patrons of the school along the line of efficiency, has required not less than two years of successful experience of all applicants for positions in the city schools. The law makes a difference of \$33.33 between the salaries of an experienced teacher. Upon an average this means that the Board has been forced to pay at least \$15.00 per month additional salary for about forty teachers an annual cost of \$5,400.00.

4. A fourth reason for increasing the tax levy for the support of schools is the fact that many class rooms are overcrowded. We need more teachers. A comparison with other schools will show Shelby's need along this line:

Annual reports State Department of Education, 1927-28:

City	Enrollment	Teach. White Pupils Per Teach.			
		No.	HS	Elem.	HS
Statesville	2048	16	66	29	24
Salisbury	3327	33	106	21	24
Greenville	1665	17	41	25	29
Hickory	1481	18	40	26	33
Concord	1243	18	53	21	35
Lenoir	1283	10	27	32	31
Newbern	1485	14	43	25	28
Group Avr.	1933	18	52	25	39
Shelby	2633	18	52	32	39

A complete list of all the city schools would reveal the fact that the children of Shelby are not provided with an opportunity in school equal to that of other children of the state.

5. A fifth reason for raising the tax levy is the fact that Shelby is not supporting the Public Schools financially in the same proportion as other towns and cities. This means poor equipment, too many pupils in a class room, and other results that impair the efficiency of the teaching of the children. Examine this table carefully.

City	Total Val.	Total En.	Tax rate Amt. raised	
			Current	per child
Statesville	\$14,873,723	2578	.33	\$19.03
Salisbury	28,000,000	4372	.40	25.62
Burlington	10,392,233	2199	.45	22.50
Greenville	10,437,655	2709	.40	15.41
Hickory	10,000,000	1885	.45 1-2	15.34
New Bern	14,051,943	2775	.30	15.18
Mount Airy	7,052,344	1532	.47	21.63
Hamlet	4,300,000	1783	.70	16.87
Goldsboro	20,462,595	4059	.45	22.72
Concord	14,825,000	2756	.33	17.93
Thomasville	7,476,817	2085	.42	15.15
Lincolnton	5,211,390	1173	.30	13.50
Lenoir	6,622,923	1516	.60	26.17
Group Avr.	11,846,662	2417	.43	19.00
Shelby	10,067,541	3140	.30	9.59

A glance at the above table will prove the statement of a prominent citizen, who said: "The Public Schools of Shelby are undernourished financially."

Can the tax payers of Shelby afford to vote the increase asked for by the Board of Education?

1. Lets compare the tax rate in a few towns and cities

Cities	Tax Rate		Other Purposes	Total Tax Levied
	Current	School		
Statesville	.33	.22	.73	1.33
Salisbury	.40	.15	1.10	1.55
Hickory	.45 1-2	.19 1-2	1.18	1.83
Lincolnton	.30	.18	1.10	1.58
Goldsboro	.45	.27	1.25	1.97
Hamlet	.70	.29	1.35	2.25
Greenville	.40	.23	1.50	2.10
Group Avr.	.43	.29	1.18	1.81
Shelby	.30	.11	.84	1.25

Certainly Shelby citizens can afford to pay 10 cents additional school tax on the present low valuation in order to keep our schools up to standard. Even with the additional levy of 10 cents Shelby will not be doing as much for its children as other towns are doing.

2. If the additional tax is not voted, then the Board of Education will be forced to take the following steps:

a. Reduce the school term to eight months. (Note: This would mean the loss of every one of our best teachers for every city school in the state pays a supplement and our best teachers would naturally go where higher salaries are paid.)

c. Reduce the number of teachers. (Note: This would mean crowded class rooms, poor teaching, and general dissatisfaction in every way.)

It would not be very burdensome to the tax payers of Shelby. An increase of 10 cents would mean an increase of less than a dollar annually to about one half of the tax payers, and less than five dollars to seventy five per cent. Below is a table showing the distribution.

805	\$1.00	to	\$999.00	16	to	\$1.00
323	1,000.00	to	1,999.00	1.00	to	2.00
325	2,000.00	to	4,999.00	2.00	to	5.00
192	5,000.00	to	9,999.00	5.00	to	10.00
33	10,000.00	to	24,999.00	10.00	to	25.00
31	25,000.00	to	49,000.00	25.00	to	50.00
7	50,000.00	to	100,000.00	50.00	to	100.00

The Board of Education has not been extravagant in financing the schools as the following table will show.

Annual Cost Per Pupil, 1926-27, Instructional Service. (Copied from State Schools Facts published by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction).

School	Per Pupil Cost
Goldsboro	\$45.08
Salisbury	43.61
Gastonia	40.83
New Bern	37.69
Concord	35.71
Group Average	40.29
Shelby	37.29

School	Per Pupil Cost
Hickory	48.58
Greenville	45.00
Reidsville	33.29
Burlington	40.43
Statesville	33.35
Group Average	33.41
Shelby	37.89
Average	42.53
State City Schools	42.53

Finally: The Board of Education is only asking for approximately the same rate that obtained before extension.

Respectfully,
B. H. KENDALL, Chairman
J. S. MCKNIGHT, Secretary
R. T. LeGRANDE
D. W. ROYSTER
J. R. McCLURD

Achievement Day Program In Clubs

Mrs. McKimmon To Lecture At South Shelby Monday Afternoon, The Program.

Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon, assistant director of state extension work will deliver a lecture in the South Shelby school auditorium, Monday afternoon, November 12, at 1:30 o'clock.

The morning session will be devoted to home demonstration work with the clubs. Afternoon session will be given to the lecture of Mrs. McKimmon, to which the general public is invited.

All home-makers will be greatly interested in and captivated by this lecture, for Mrs. McKimmon is the state expert on "Home-Making," both from a practical and practical standpoint.

The program for the day follows: 10:00 a. m.—Meeting called to order by home demonstration agent, Mrs. Irma P. Wallace; invocation, Dr. H. N. McDiarmid; welcome address, Mrs. Selma Webb; response, Miss Violet Goterth; songs, reports from clubs; demonstration, vegetable salads; exhibits of prepared foods, Lunch 12 o'clock.

Beginning at 1:30 p. m. Music introduced by Mrs. McKimmon. Mrs. R. L. Durham, Home Making, Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon.

Violet Goterth, Pica County Council.

Irma P. Wallace, Home Agent.

Even though you get in the public eye you may be just a little squit. Look at the grapefruit.

Corvallis "Ore." Gazette-Times. In Texas there is a campaign for municipal ownership of electric power-plants. We offer the campaign slogan: "Own your own ohm."—Life.

Football's Prize Pessimist

"Gloomy Gil" DOBIE

VETERAN COACH WHO SEES NO RAY OF SUNSHINE AT CORNELL THIS YEAR BUT HE'S SELLING OPTIMISM

IF YOU HAVE TEARS TO SHED DON'T LET 'EM SPLASH ON TH' SIDEWALK, GIL!

DRIVING BOWL

NOTED FOR HAVIN' AN ANNUAL MAIL OF WOE IT'S FUNNY SOMEONE HASN'T INVENTED A "TEAR BASKET" FOR DOBIE.

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EVEN BEFORE TH' SEASON OPENED GIL SAID HIS TEAM THIS YEAR WAS TH' WORST HED EVER COACHED

By QUIN HALL.

LONG before the football season opened at Cornell University Coach Gil Dobie registered in with his annual wail of football woe.

Of all the pessimistic football coaches—and there are plenty who never see any silver lining to their football cloud, especially before the season opens—Gil Dobie is probably the most consistent. Long ago this became apparent and consequently he was tagged "Gloomy Gil," a nickname which has clung to him and will doubtless stick until he passes out of the picture.

Last year Cornell checked in with three wins out of eight games—which isn't a record tending to chase any gloom away from the veteran handler of gridiron warriors. It couldn't be said that last year's team, despite its showing, was not ably coached. While individual ability was sadly lacking there was plenty of team harmony and unified effort and that is always an indication of good coaching. The result of Dobie's coaching was especially noticeable in the game with Princeton and the scoreless tie with Columbia and it was also apparent even in the games against Dartmouth and Pennsylvania.

Dobie has plenty of material at hand but the fact that many of the candidates for the team are studying engineering and cannot get on the field until after five o'clock tends to make Gil's task a thorny one.

of being a great football player.

But Dobie, noted as the famous Gloom, would naturally feel out of place looking at things through rose-colored spectacles, so it is easy to take his early prophecies with a grain of salt. Cornell may yet surprise the gloom dispense.

Dobie, an old timer in the football business, has had a colorful career and, if for no other reason, he should be noted in the history of the game for his persistency in gloomy prophecy at the start of each new season.

In his playing days he was a rather so-so quarterback and his first big coaching assignment came when he went to the University of Washington. While there he built up a reputation as a builder of football teams which never met defeat. Under his tutoring Washington won every game played for the nine years he did the coaching. He was coach of the Navy team for a while, following his work at Washington, and has been on the job at Cornell for several years.

Never optimistic about the future of any team he tutors, Dobie may yet pull a coup and come through with a winning team. Given the material Gil will tutor it into a string of victories.

But, even if that, Dobie with his tear ducts closed would not be Dobie.

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