

Public School Development In Cleveland Which Has 15,000 School Children

Four Important Topics Face National Educators This Year

These Topics Are Finances, Public Relations, Research, Education For Leisure.

(By B. L. SMITH, Supt. Shelby Schools.)

According to the men who address the National Educator Association at Atlantic City four things are in the limelight or are coming to be; namely: Finances, public relations, research and education for leisure.

Finances.

Mr. John Jay O'Connor, manager finance department, chamber of commerce of the United States, spoke on the subject, "The Cost of Public Education from the Point of View of Business." He pointed out that business men are not enemies of education but that they are unformed on educational matters. He said, "Business men are asking whether or not schools may not be made equally effective at less cost." He pointed out that business thinks of taxes simply in terms of the proportion of the income which it demands. "Desirability must be buttressed by ability to pay." He suggested that relief may be obtained through long term planning of school buildings, standardization of equipment, centralized purchasing, etc. He assured the school men that there are 700 chamber of commerce organizations "eager to help" and they are allies.

On the other hand Mr. John K. Nelson of the N. E. A. research division pointed out that education is of primary importance and contributes to the enhancement of the value of all resources. He indicated that the public schools get only a fraction of the national income—2.63 per cent now. He stated that there has been slight change in the relative per cent in a quarter of a century. He said that for every dollar spent for education we spend twenty-five for automobiles.

Dean Cubberly of Stanford university showed that the per capita income of the United States is the greatest of any nation in the world and that the cost of government is the smallest. He called education "the pooling of opportunity." It is his opinion that taxes are high because the unit of levy is too small. He declared that the state ought to raise the main amount of revenue—about 75 per cent. It is of particular interest to us when he says that "property tax is one hundred years outgrown," that land tax is heavier than that borne by other property, and that invisible wealth is not taxed. In reply to the question, "are we doing all for our children we ought?" he said there is room for much expansion and demand for increased opportunities along the following lines:

- 1.—Equal opportunity in keeping with diverse abilities.
- 2.—Supervision.
- 3.—Rural high schools of quality.
- 4.—Child health.
- 5.—Pre-school health.
- 6.—Vocational education.
- 7.—Extension education.
- 8.—Adult education.

Dr. Ballou of the Washington city schools was of the opinion that all increased cost in education is traceable to the reduced value of the dollar since the pre-war days—a dollar then being equal to \$2.22 to-day. He said that four boards of education to have kept the cost of education down they would have had to possess the authority to maintain the dollar at its pre-war value; to persuade children to remain away from school, rather than enter the public schools; to get along without any new buildings; and to convince the patrons of the public schools that the 1910 model of our educational product was satisfactory to meet the demands of the year 1930.

On the one hand we have the opposition to cost of education, and on the other we have the insistent demand of changing civilization that education do more and more things for the people. In North Carolina this call on the part of the public for larger educational benefits is not to be denied. At the same time we have education unfortunately linked up with an outgrown, unpopular system of financing. People insist upon having good schools for their children. On the other hand they are opposed to taxation. Schools in the concrete are universally popular, but education in the abstract has opposition which arises from the system of financing. Our educational system is in a rather precarious predicament just at this time. Lean crops have raised a clamor on the part of farm owners for reduction of taxation on land. On the other hand dall corporate interests are making a concerted effort to obviate a transfer of taxation to them. They are putting forward men who are regularly retained by them or who are a part of the regular organization. What will happen to the schools? It depends upon what the people let happen. It is not a matter of concern simply to school teachers; it is principally of concern to parents whose children are affected. All friends of childhood ought to know that there is a definite correlation between the amount of money spent and the opportunities afforded. It will be possible to reduce expenditures, but to

do so will be false economy. Childhood will pay the price. All public spirited citizens should think seriously of the consequences of their activities or inactivities in these matters.

Public Relations.

Many city school systems and many state systems are organizing public relation departments. Their purpose is to make favorable contacts with the public—interpreting the work of the schools and eliciting the support of the public. To be sure there will always be necessity for right attitudes and right understanding. Schools will never be much better than what the public appreciates and demands. The appreciation and demands will be determined by the understanding. It will likewise determine the extent of moral and financial support accorded.

North Carolina Leads.

It is doubtful whether any state is doing as well as North Carolina in doing through its public information committee. Never before have the people been given so much information about the schools and what they are doing. It is obliged to do good and result in stronger support for the cause. Always those who have known most about the work have been the staunchest proponents of the schools.

Research.

A great deal is being said about the benefits of research. It is just in its beginning. A few school sys-

tems are making small contributions to it, but in the main it is being financed from the meager personal earnings of the teaching profession. According to the superintendent of Washington schools, Dr. Ballou, two business organizations spend forty times as much for research as is spent by all school agencies combined. Undoubtedly we shall see expansion in this field and with specific fact and truth, we should do our job better.

Education For Leisure.

One of the main features of the superintendents' department meeting was the featuring of education for the use of leisure. It was particularly manifest in the assembling of a national high school orchestra of 318 pieces from all over the United States and in the staging of a most elaborate pageant of time in which 2800 children and their teachers participated and an orchestra of 150 pieces and a chorus of 500 voices furnished music.

It is obvious that as hours of labor are shortened and the hours of leisure are lengthened that the schools must give training to childhood to prevent their being led away by the lures of sloth, greed and vice but rather that initiative, imagination, and independence shall meet youth in the garden of growth and there teach them to play and sing and create, giving them culture and worth. Thus shall childhood find avocations for the enrichment of life. This consciousness of accomplishment shall fill both the minds and hearts with those things which satisfy. Men shall find happiness, they will be more useful in their vocations, and they shall know that "more abundant life."



W. A. RIDENHOUR
Chairman of the board, Resilience, Kings Mountain, Connected with the Bonnie Mill and other interests. Appointed June, 1924, to fill vacancy created by the death of Mr. W. L. Plonk.

Do you say "But my will is weak and wavering!" Train your will, then, till it becomes steady and strong, and you will be surprised to find how soon the act of willing develops the power of willing.—W. J. Dawson.

Almost any kind of a teacher can teach the bright child, but it takes real skill and art to get it across to the dull one.

Patterson Has One Of The Best County Schools

Enrollment More than Doubles 1927-28. Eight Teacher Are Employed.

We do not have the largest school in the county, but we have one of the best. Patterson Springs school has made noted progress during the last three years. We have grown from a four teacher school to an eight teacher school having an enrollment of 250 pupils as compared with a little more than half that number in the 1927-28 term.

Our buses bring 200 children to Patterson Springs daily, covering a radius of five miles.

A few years ago, the modern brick building which is crowded now, was considered too large. It will not accommodate the children comfortably, which we now have on roll. In fact, every class room is crowded and we are forced to use part of the auditorium as a class room.

During this year Patterson Springs has included athletics in its curriculum. We have two basketball courts, two baseball diamonds, and a net used by the grammar grades in volley ball and tennis. We hope to be able next year to compete with some of the county's larger schools for honors in athletics.

However, we are not neglecting the finer arts. We, for the first time, entered a contestant in the Selma Webb recitation contest this year. Next year we hope to have a contestant for the Hoey medal. As a part of our school commencement, this year, we are to have a recitation and oratorical contest. The medals are to be given by the Lowery brother company and the faculty. A large number of students are already at work preparing for this contest, which we hope will remote interests in these arts.

Our equipment is not what we wish it were, but we have sand tables for the primary grades, and some reference books and maps for the higher grades.

We are making plans for a school library next year. This will require the cooperation of all the patrons to help put these plans across.

Our stage is very well equipped at present. We have an expensive set of velveteen curtains together with two sets of hand painted stage scenes, and drop curtains. We also have a good piano.

Our school entered whole-heartedly in Governor Gardner's "live-at-home" program. The primary grades made individual and group posters, and hot beds in which we are growing tomato and pepper plants. The grammar grades were busy, while many of the high school pupils took individual projects in "home gardening," etc.

We are pleased with the program made during the past few years, but we mean to use it only as an incentive to do bigger things in the near future. We are working for a standard high school, school library, more equipment and an all round A-1 school.

The faculty includes: Mr. M. R. Biggers principal; Mr. Jap Ledbetter, high school; Mrs. Winifred Dorsey, sixth and seventh; Miss Verle Randall, fourth and fifth; Miss Gussie Ray Beam, third; Mrs. Lowery Austell, second; Mrs. Clyde Mayne, first; Miss, Mary Suttle, music.

Playmakers Appear In Charlotte Soon

Famous Carolina Dramatic Organization Plays In Charlotte Friday.

Piedmont North Carolina has its opportunity Friday to see what North Carolina is giving to the dramatic art.

Translated into more literal phrasing, the Carolina Playmakers, nationally famed dramatic organization of the University of North Carolina, are to bring their spring repertoire to Charlotte for presentation. The performance will be the first in Charlotte since 1928.

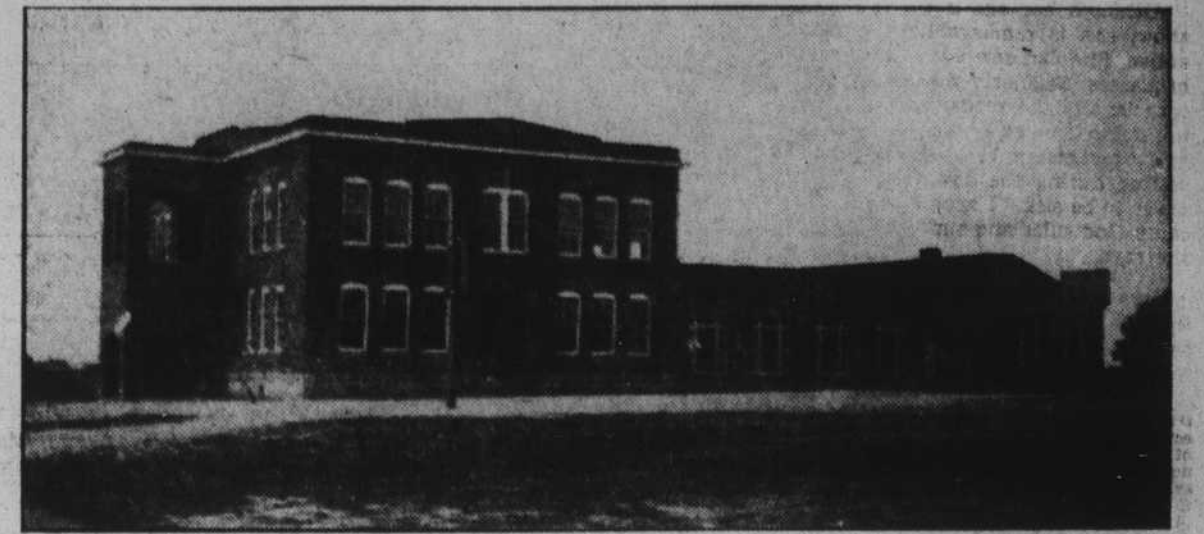
Just returned from a triumphal tour of the north, where in each city the players were greeted with unrestrained praise, the fourteen members of the organization bring to Charlotte the three plays, all of them having to do with the Playmakers' native state, that were so well received in the north.

"The No. Count Boy," a negro comedy from the pen of Paul Green, heads the list. Then there is Loretto Bailey's "Black Water," a tragedy of mill people, and "Maggie's Man," a comedy of the Carolina hills, by Gertrude Coffin.

The playmakers appear Friday evening at the Central high school auditorium in Charlotte.

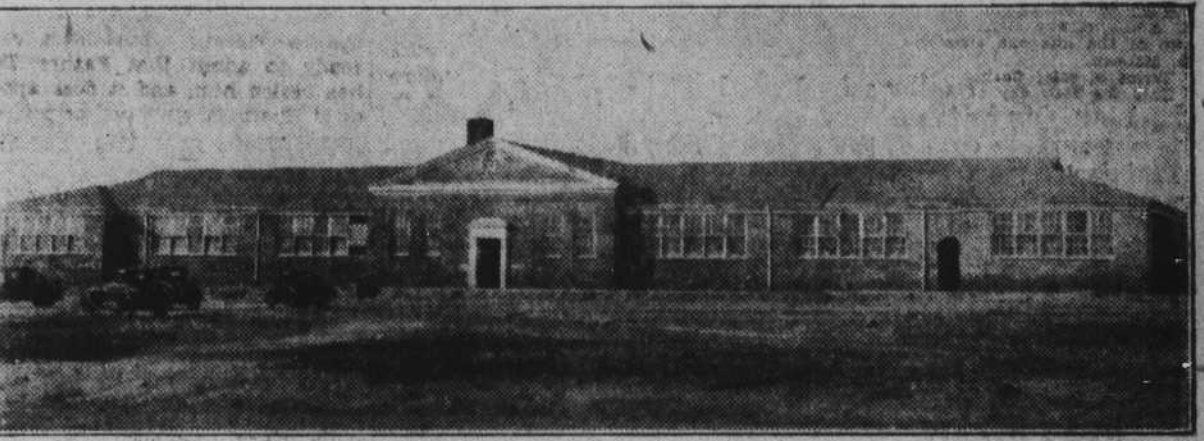
Progress is desirable, but advancement without public understanding of your destination is often official suicide.

Grover Has Nine Class Rooms



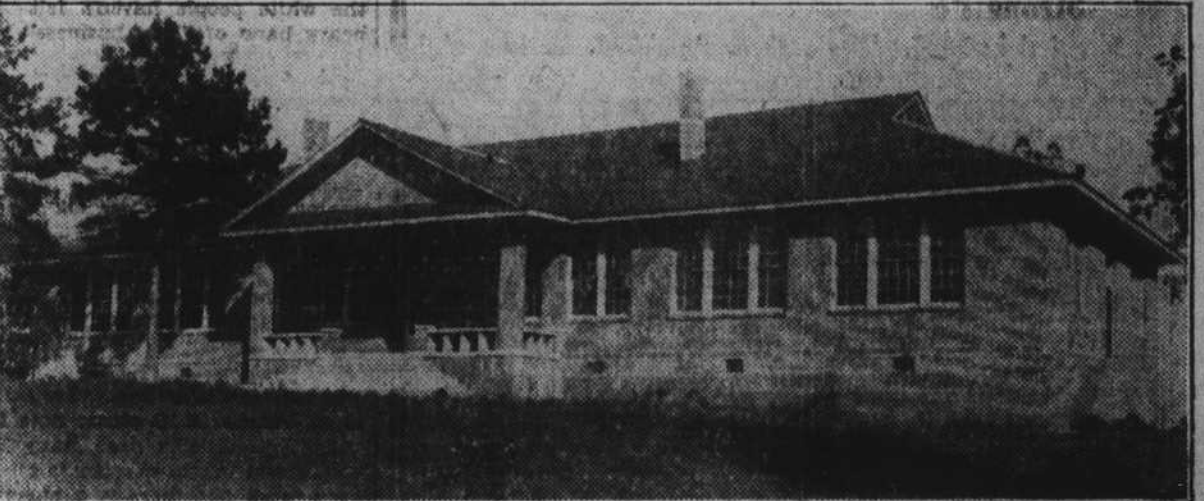
The Grover school was built in 1915 at a cost of \$5,000.00. Remodeled and added to in 1928 at a cost of \$10,000.00, it now has nine classrooms and an auditorium with water, lights, and steam heat. B. F. Bird is principal of the school which has a total of three high school and five elementary teachers.

No. 8 Township, One Of County's Largest



The No. 8 Township school building erected in 1928 at a cost of \$48,000 including site and equipment, is one of the largest and most modern units in the county. It contains seventeen classrooms and auditorium. It has water, lights, and steam heat. The site covers ten acres. J. L. Dennis heads the faculty of five high school and eleven elementary teachers.

M. R. Biggers Heads Patterson Springs



The Patterson Spring school was built in 1924 at a cost of \$20,000.00. It has five classrooms and an auditorium. M. R. Biggers heads the faculty of two high school and five elementary teachers.

County's Only Institution Of Higher Learning Is Junior College At Boiling Springs

Expanded Into a Junior College Two Years Ago. Many Courses Of Study Offered.

Boiling Springs college has the distinction of being located in a territory that has more Baptists to the square mile than any other section in the state. The high school, founded more than twenty years before the establishment of the college through the prayers and sacrifice of the Baptist people of the Kings Mountain, Sandy Run and Gaston county associations, served a useful purpose in setting a high standard of scholarship for the rural state high schools that were soon to spring up over these three counties. At the time it was founded there were not more than two or three standard high schools in Cleveland county.

The advantages of the literary societies, the social activities and the religious training that the boys and girls received induced numbers to attend the high school long after many had been established by the state. For a long time it has been a member of the Association of Secondary schools and colleges.

Expanded to Junior College. Two years ago to meet the growing needs of the high school graduates of this territory, the school was expanded into a junior college.

Through the efforts of the Baptist state convention, the trustees and loyal friends of the school, a campaign was successfully conducted to raise funds to pay off bonded indebtedness and provide for buildings and permanent endowment.

The results of the first two years the college has been operating have indeed been gratifying. Notwithstanding the fact that the school had to run as a college two years before it could be standardized, the enrollment has steadily increased until there is more than twice as

many as are necessary for standardizing.

Fine Equipment.

The material equipment of the college has been added too considerably. A commodious gymnasium containing one of the best basketball playing floors in this section has been erected. The class rooms have been equipped with new and up-to-date desks for both teachers and pupils. The library has been greatly enlarged both by the collection of new books and by removing it to a larger, better ventilated and better lighted room. Adequate equipment has been installed in the chemistry and biology laboratories. As soon as funds become available from the centennial campaign other much needed buildings and equipment will be added.

Courses of Study.

The courses offered are comparable with those given the first two years in our best colleges and universities. There are eight separate and distinct departments: English, mathematics, history, foreign language, science, Bible, education and vocal and instrumental music. Each of these is headed by professor with an A. M. degree or its equivalent. The teachers in each department have specialized in the particular field which they are teaching and are well qualified for the work.

Christian Influence.

It is the purpose of those in charge as well as those who support us that a Christian atmosphere pervade the campus. The proximity of the church to the school grounds makes it possible for the students to take an active part in all the services of the church. A forward step was taken this year by the organization of a Baptist student union, which coordinate all of the religious activities of the students. An effort has been made to enlist the student body into active participation and support of all of the Chris-

tian organizations fostered by this union.

Athletics Emphasized.

The football and basketball teams have had an unusually successful season. They were defeated by only one junior college in football and won 18 basketball games out of the 20 that were played. In addition to fostering intercollegiate games in football, basketball and baseball, the school provides physical training and other athletic sports for the entire student body.

The greatest need at this time is a permanent endowment. Several of the friends of the institution have already caught a vision of the opportunity for service through gifts to this fund, and we feel confident that in the near future, others will be inspired to add to this so that ample funds may be provided to meet the growing needs.

Young people of this and adjoining counties are offered an opportunity to secure excellent college training in their own institution at Boiling Springs at a moderate cost.

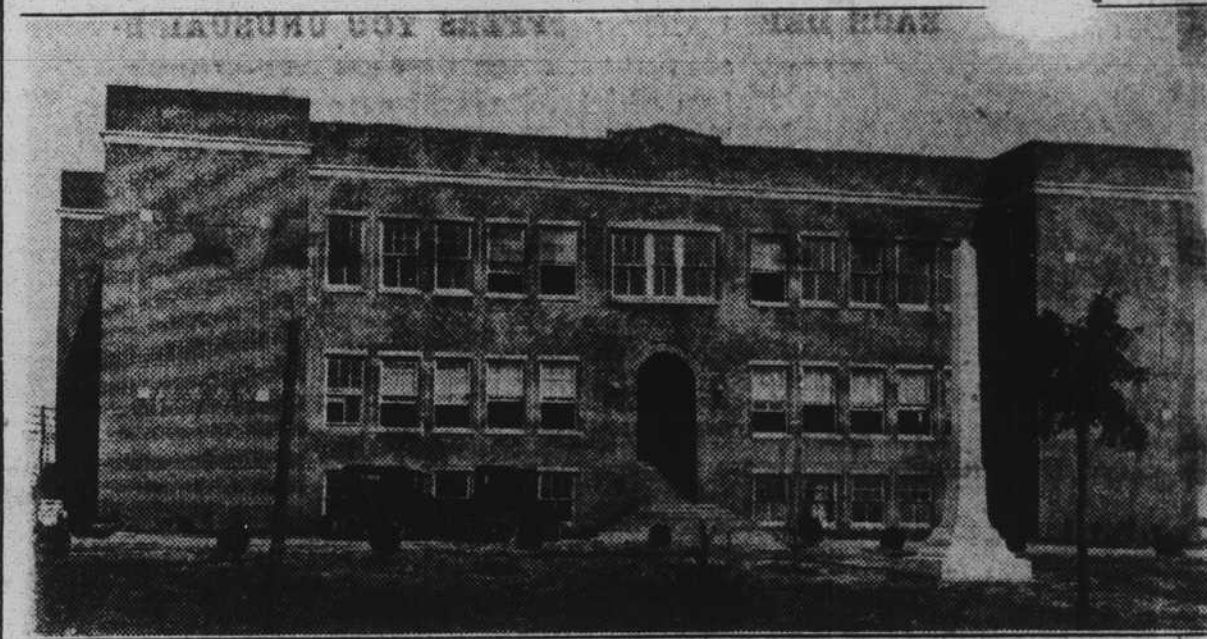
Former Banker At Gaffney Is Charged With Embezzlement

Gaffney, S. C.—Mayor V. H. Lipscomb has been instructed by the city council to swear out a warrant for T. D. Daniel, former chairman of the Cherokee county sinking fund commission and cashier of the defunct American State bank, on a charge of embezzling \$3,000 of city funds of Gaffney sinking funds.

A report of an audit made by Geo. G. Scott and company, certified public accountants of Charlotte filed in the clerk of court's office here, says the former chairman checked from this fund to his personal account \$1,000 April 5, 1928; \$900, December 3, 1929, and \$1,100 February 10, of this year, which was three days before, the American State closed.

No record of the transactions was kept in the papers of the sinking fund commission, the report states, and the information regarding the alleged misappropriations was secured from the bank's books.

The Lattimore High School



This building was erected in 1922. The total cost including site equipment and later modification was \$35,000.00. There are 17 class rooms and an auditorium provided with team heat, water and lights. Lawton Blanton is principal. Included in the faculty are seven high school teachers and eleven elementary teachers.

Lattimore School's Phenomenal Growth; Excels In Many Ways

Now Has Twenty Teachers. Year By Year School There Has Shown Steady Gain.

The Lattimore school is situated on a peninsular of rolling fields which spread out from the foot-hills of the Blue Ridge mountains ten miles away. Nature has given the school one of the most picturesque settings ever lavished upon a school. With one sweep of the eyes, you can behold a view stretching from lordly mountain tops almost to the plains.

We have great fields for the study of Geology, Ecology, Geography and Commerce.

August 28th, 1923, for the first time, the Lattimore school opened its session in the building shown in this issue. This session opened with six teachers, two high school teachers and four elementary teachers, with 66 high school pupils and 122 elementary pupils. The school opened as a non-standard high school, but by the end of the session the State gave us an accredited high school class B.

Year by year the school has grown in pupils; teachers and departments. Today we have a high grade Agricultural Department which is doing a wonderful amount of good in training future farmers. Of the 28 who have graduated in agriculture, 22 have chosen farming as their calling. Walter Davis, one of our agricultural students, is State President of the Young Tar Heel Farmers.

Moreover, we have one of the best Music departments in the country. We took high rank in the State Musical Contest held at Greensboro last year.

We have an A-1 Home Economic department in which the girls are getting valuable training.

Our College Preparatory department has done well. In the tests given by the State, our school has had a median equal to the State median. Of the 55 graduates who have taken college training 51 have made good.

The Lattimore school has grown

till we now have twenty teachers, 7 high school teachers, and 13 elementary teachers, with 205 high school pupils and 600 elementary pupils.

The State High school inspector visited us just three days ago and graded us a Standard High school class A-1.

So it is easy to see that the Lattimore school has had a phenomenal success.

The fact that North Carolina superintendents hauled children cheaper than any other state in the nation hardly bears out the theory that there is extravagance in this department—especially when it is found that more children were hauled last year at less cost than the year before.

The high schools make many mistakes, but attributing all the passive and active sins of the college student to high school training is a classic example of the old game of passing the buck.

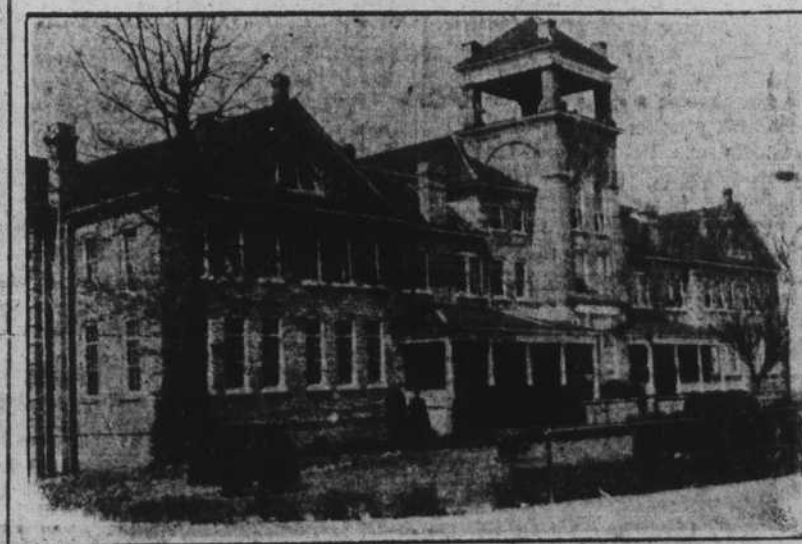


HEADS COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM.

J. Horace Grigg, head of the schools of Cleveland county.

The best school is the one which gives the child the most for the money invested.

Boiling Springs Junior College



This is the main building of the Boiling Springs Junior College, an accredited institution. This school is one of the secondary institutions supported by the Baptists.