

Public School Enrollment In N. C. Increased 12.9 Per Cent Over Period Of Five Years

Increase Was Greatest Among City Administrative Units

Public school enrollment increased from 864,154 in 1948-49 to 968,068 in 1953-54, an increase of 103,914, or 12.9 per cent, according to a comparison of the official statistical records of these years as prepared by the monthly magazine "State School Facts."

County and City

Enrollment of children in the 74 (72 in 1948-49) city administrative units, the five-year comparison shows, increased much greater than in the 100 county administrative units. Enrollment in the 72 city units in 1948-49 totaled 241,882, whereas in 1953-54 these units plus the two new city units (St. Pauls and Maxton) enrolled 289,644 pupils. The increase for these units, including the 3,523 pupils enrolled in Maxton and St. Pauls, totaled 47,762, or a percentage increase of 19.7 for the five-year period.

Increase in total school enrollment in the 100 county units (including Maxton and St. Pauls in such totals for 1948-49 and excluding such units in 1953-54) totaled 56,350, or an increase of 9.0 per cent for the five-year period.

White and Negro

Increase in public school enrollment during this period under consideration was greater in schools for white pupils than in those for Negroes, 13.4 per cent in the case of the former and 8.9 per cent for the latter. In the city limits the racial comparisons as to increased enrollments for this period are 21.7 per cent in the case of white pupils and 15.7 per cent in the case of Negroes. Among the 100 county units there was a 10.3 per cent increase in white enrollment and a 6.0 per cent increase in Negro pupils enrolled.

Elementary and Secondary

Enrollment in the public high schools of the State increased from 170,151 in 1948-49 to 206,467 in 1953-54, an increase of 36,316 or 21.3 per cent.

Enrollment in elementary schools, grades 1-8, increased during this same period from 694,003 to 761,599—67,596 or 9.7 per cent.

Greatest percentage increase in these areas was made by the Negro high schools which increased in enrollment from 40,465 to 53,646, or

32.6 per cent, during this five-year period. Enrollment in public high schools for white students increased 17.8 per cent, from 129,686 to 152,821. In other words, there were 23,135 more white boys and girls attending public high schools in 1953-54 than in 1948-49, and correspondingly 13,181 more Negro boys and girls attending public high schools.

In the elementary schools there were 12.2 per cent more white children in 1953-54 than in 1948-49, but only 4.6 per cent more Negroes. In other words, whereas the white elementary schools enrolled 57,530 more pupils in 1953-54 than in 1948-49, the Negro schools of the same grades enrolled only 10,065 more.

Further analysis shows that among the high schools the five-year increase was greatest in the county units—19.2 per cent for white boys and girls and 40.3 per cent for Negroes—whereas in the city units, these increases were 15.0 per cent and 22.1 per cent respectively.

Increase in enrollment in the elementary schools, when compared as to units, was greatest in city units—24.0 per cent in the case of white schools and -4.0 per cent for Negroes, whereas in county units corresponding increases for the races were 8.1 per cent and 9 per cent.

Still further analysis of increases in school enrollment shows that among schools for whites the greatest increase during the five-year period occurred in the first grade, 26.4 per cent. City units experienced a 50.0 per cent increase, whereas there was an 18.6 per cent first grade increase in county units.

Among Negro schools the greatest increase occurred in the 12th grade, 44.0 per cent. For this grade the increase in Negro enrollment was 57.5 per cent in county units and 27.5 per cent in city units.

Hog Cholera Near Record Low In 1954

Hog cholera, the only current disease which will regularly wipe out about 97 per cent of the animals in unprotected herds, was at or near a record low for the twentieth century, according to a year-end report from the American Veterinary Medical Association.

One of the chief sources of the disease has been the virulent virus, used with antiserum in vaccinating. Another source has been infected pork scraps often fed in garbage.

However, the advent of modified vaccines, about three years ago, re-

sulted in a decrease of 69 per cent in the amount of virulent virus being used, compared to 1951.

Parkway Section To Re-open Next April

April 15, 1955, is the date set by the National Park Service for the reopening of a high-altitude section of the Blue Ridge Parkway between U. S. 70 near Asheville, and Craven Gap in the Craggy Mountains. This section was closed in November because of the hazards of snow and ice likely to occur at high altitudes. Throughout the winter, other sections of the Parkway in North Carolina are open to traffic whenever the weather is mild enough to permit safe driving on this vacation highway which crosses the mountains at an average altitude of more than 3,000 feet.

PLASTIC NAVY BEING BUILT FOR ARMY ASSAULT TROOPS

For Belvoir, Va.—The Army is building a plastic navy.

Now being built for the Army Corps of Engineers are plastic, wide-beam, 16-foot "assault boats" which weigh less than 300 pounds.

The boats are strong enough to carry 15 men with full packs, yet light enough to be carried readily by hand.

The new "assault boat"—if successful in forthcoming service tests—may lead to adoption of fiber glass plastics for construction of many small landing craft.

Prominent Methodists In Edenton Friday



A. G. JEFFERSON



W. JASPER SMITH



BISHOP PAUL N. GARBER



SUPT. C. FREEMAN HEATH

With over 350 Methodist laymen expected to attend a stewardship rally of the Elizabeth City District in the Masonic Temple Friday night, many prominent Methodist leaders will be included in the group, four of whom are pictured above. At top, left, is A. G. Jefferson, lay leader of the Virginia Methodist Conference, who will be the principal speaker; right, W. Jasper Smith of Bethel, Conference lay leader; lower, left, Bishop Paul N. Garber and, right, the Rev. C. Freeman Heath, superintendent of the Elizabeth City District.

New High In 1954 Broiler Production

Commercial broiler production in North Carolina totaled 56,827,000 birds in 1954. According to the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service, this is 12 per cent more than the 1953 production of 50,738,000 birds. This is the eighth consecutive year in which broiler production has increased and production in 1954 set a new record. Gross income from commercial

broilers in 1954 amounted to \$38,068,000, or 2 per cent less than gross income of \$38,698,000 in 1953. The decrease in gross income in 1954 was due entirely to lower average prices during most of the year. Growers received an average of 23.1 cents for broilers sold in 1954 compared with 26.3 cents in 1953.

A man hath need of tough ears to hear himself rreely judged. —Michel de Montaigne.

God's plans, like lilies pure and white unfold. We must not tear the close-shut leaves apart. Time will reveal the calyxes of gold. —May Riley Smith.

The spiritual sense of life and its grand pursuits is of itself a bliss, health-giving and joy inspiring. —Mary Baker Eddy.



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Week Day Shows Continuous From 3:30
Saturday Continuous From 1:30
Sunday, 2:15, 4:15 and 8:45

Thursday and Friday, February 10-11—
Jane Powell and Debbie Reynolds in "ATHENA"

Saturday, February 12—
Johnny Weissmuller in "TARZAN AND THE APE MAN"
Also 5 Cartoons
Late Show 11:15
"MISS BODY BEAUTIFUL"
—Also—
Stooges Comedy
ADULTS ONLY
Regular Admission

Sim., Mon., and Tues., February 13-14-15—
Judy Garland and James Mason in "A STAR IS BORN"
CinemaScope With Stereophonic Sound
NO ADVANCE IN PRICES
Sunday Shows, 2:00-4:30-8:45
Monday and Tuesday Shows 3:30—Features 3:40-6:20 and 9:00 P. M.

Wednesday, February 16—
Joan Leslie in "JUBILEE TRAIL"

Coming...
February 17-18-19-20—
Premiere Showing "BATTLE CRY"
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CinemaScope With Stereophonic Sound

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Friday and Saturday, February 11-12—
Richard Conte in "HIGHWAY DRAGNET"

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