

A Modern School System.

WILLIAM K. TATE, SUPERVISOR OF ELEMENTARY RURAL SCHOOLS, SUGGESTS NEW ORGANIZATION OF STATE AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION — POLICY OUTLINED WILL MAKE, HE BELIEVES, FOR STABILITY, GROWTH AND EFFICIENCY.

William K. Tate, State supervisor of elementary rural schools, will outline, in his annual report, a "suggested organization of the State and county departments of education for the better administration and supervision of the rural schools."

"There are two responsibilities resting on every man who occupies an official educational position," says the supervisor. "In the first place, he should try to meet the immediate demands of the hour by working wholeheartedly with the organization and conditions as he finds them. In the second place, he should endeavor from his experience and observations to assist in the formulation of a policy of development which will be more conducive to the stability, growth and efficiency of the public school system. The following outline of organization is respectfully presented for the criticism of the friends of education. The limits of this report will not allow the amplification of the topics."

General Principles.

"A State common school system should be democratic. It should be responsive to the deliberately expressed will of the people."

"Since the administration and supervision of a school system requires certain ability and training, the law should give the people a reliable method of selecting their school officials. They should not be limited in their choice to men who seek positions, but through their authorized agents should be allowed the privilege of seeking the man who will perform the expert duties of his office most efficiently."

"Since the education of a child and the development of a school are processes which require several years of their completion, the school system should possess a stability which would enable its officers to make plans which they may hope to execute."

"The State as a whole should guarantee an educational opportunity to all her children, regardless of the wealth or poverty of the particular county or district in which they live."

The State Board.

"The administration of the State common school system should be vested in a State board of education which should be a continuing body. It should perhaps be composed of the governor, the chairman of the committee on education in the senate, the chairman of the committee on education in the house as ex officio members, and six other members to be selected by the legislature for terms of six years, the terms of two members expiring every second year."

"This method of selecting an administrative board has been adopted for all the educational activities of the State except the common schools, and in all other cases has proved satisfactory."

"It prevents a centralization of authority and provides for a continuing board which may formulate a progressive policy."

The State Superintendent.

"The State superintendent of education should be elected by the State board of education for a term of four years and his salary should be fixed by this board."

"The State superintendent would thus become the executive officer of the State board of education just as the college president is the executive officer of the college board of trustees."

"It would remove the State superintendency of education one step from the contingencies of partisan politics and would give a stability and continuity of administration not possible under our present plan."

"The State board of education could thus deliberately seek for the man best qualified for the office of State superintendent. At present the people are limited in their choice to those who seek the office."

"The State board of education should be authorized to offer a salary to the State superintendent commensurate with the duties and responsibilities of his office as the head of the State common school system. Is there any reason why the State superintendent of education, entrusted with the management of the public schools of the State, should receive only half the salary paid to a college president and less than that paid to some of our city superintendents?"

Assistants.

"In addition to an adequate office force, the State superintendent should have the following assistants:

"A State Inspector of High Schools—This officer has already been supplied in South Carolina and in the other Southern States through the assistance of a friendly outside agency."

Country Schools—This officer has also been made possible in South Carolina and a number of other Southern States through friendly outside agencies. The State must eventually provide for this service.

"A State Supervisor of Negro Schools—If the amount of money spent annually for negro elementary schools in South Carolina is to be spent intelligently and productively, such an officer is necessary. The white people of South Carolina have in their hands the administration and supervision of the negro common schools. We have it in our power to neglect these schools and allow the money spent for their maintenance to be largely wasted, or we may, through proper supervision, make them contribute to better race relations and to increased productive power on the part of three-fifths of our population. We place in the hands of the untrained negro teachers of the State a course of study and text books suited to the longer term white schools and we expect these teachers, many of them ignorant, to adapt this course and these textbooks to the needs of an immature race whose best interests demand instruction in agriculture, manual training, cooking, sewing, hygiene and the essentials of the elementary school."

Agriculture.

"A State Director of Elementary Agricultural Education—This officer should direct the corn club work of the boys and the school gardening and experimental work. Through him the United States government, Clemson college and the State department of education should work jointly for elementary agricultural education in the common school. It is impossible for any one of these agencies without the third to achieve the best results. In order to reach the boys, the school system is the agency through which the other two must work."

"A State Director of Homemaking Activities for the Girls—In this officer the work of the United States government, Winthrop college and the State department of education must be coordinated. The other two agencies must work through the State and county machinery, the schools and the teachers in order to be effective."

"A State board of examiners consisting of three members—This board should prepare all questions for teachers' examinations and should grade all papers and issue thereon certificates valid for the whole State."

"The secretary of the board should keep a roster of the qualified teachers of the State and should constitute a noncommercial medium through which county superintendents and trustees might secure competent teachers."

"One member of the board should serve as school building inspector for the inspection of school buildings to which the State has contributed."

"The third should act as school auditor and through an annual inspection of the county superintendent's books should insure uniform school accounts throughout the State."

"These officers should be elected by the State board of education."

"This proposed organization would give us a coordination of forces and would prevent waste and duplication of effort."

The County Board.

"The administration of the county school system should be vested in a county board of education consisting of three members, one to be elected by the people every two years for a term of six years. This would give us a continuing board of education deriving its powers directly from the people. The present county board is appointed by the State board of education."

"The county superintendent of education should be elected by the county board of education for a term of four years. His salary should be fixed by the board. There is no city in South Carolina or in the United States in which the city superintendent of schools is elected by popular vote. It will be readily granted that such a method would be highly undesirable. However, there is no reason for electing a county superintendent by popular vote which would not be equally valid when applied to a city superintendent."

"The election by a board chosen by the people would merely give the people a sensible way of finding the best man. At present the choice of the people is limited to those who seek the place. The people of a county should have the privilege of hunting for the best man. In spite of the appeal to democracy which is sometimes raised to justify the present system, our lack of confidence in its merits is reflected in the meager salaries

which we are willing to pay to those whom we have chosen."

FEDERALS HARD PRESSED.

ZAPATA WITH LARGE FORCE ATTACKING FEDERALS NEAR CAPITAL CITY.

Federals Send Urgent Appeal to City for Reinforcements.—Minister of War Blanquet Announces Federal Victories at Mazatlan and Tepic.

Mexico City, Dec. 16.—A battle is raging today near Lake Fochimilgo, between Federals and Zapatista Rebels, three thousand being engaged. The Federals have sent an urgent appeal to Mexico City for reinforcements.

War Minister Blanquet today reported that the Federals have defeated the Rebels attacking Mazatlan. The Rebels have also been repulsed at Tepic.

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County Assistants.

"No county superintendent, however efficient, can adequately supervise the country schools of a large county. He needs the same kind of assistants which the city superintendent now has. He should have:

"A county supervising teacher for country schools. He would visit the untrained teachers in their school rooms, show them how to organize and manage their schools, and how to teach the common school branches. These supervising teachers should have charge of the school improvement organization as it has been carried on in this State."

"A county supervisor of negro schools. As stated above, the negro schools of South Carolina are most of them absolutely without supervision of any kind. We are not even able to check up in any way the enrollments of the schools, although the equitable distribution of the 3-mill tax depends on the correctness of this enrollment. Through the assistance of the Jeanes fund negro supervisors of industrial and agricultural work have been employed by several of the county superintendents. This work should be extended to all the counties."

"A county director of elementary agricultural work. This position will correspond to that of the organizer of the boys' corn clubs. The county superintendents and county demonstration agents will no doubt agree that the boys' work demands all the time of one man. This officer would work under the direction of the county superintendent of education and the State director of elementary agricultural education."

"A county director of the girls' canning club and home arts. The desirability of this officer has already been proved in South Carolina. In order for her to do her best work she must be directly related to the county school system which possesses the authority and continuity to her work. She would coordinate the county work of the United States government and Winthrop college directed toward practical homemaking."

District Trustees.

"The district board of trustees should also be a continuing body composed of three members, one of whom should be chosen each year for a term of three years. This board of trustees should be the local advisory committee of the county superintendent and county board of education."

"They should hold an annual meeting of the school patrons and voters of the district at which a report should be made of the receipts and expenditures of the year. They should also present their recommendations and financial budget for the new year. The last item of business at the annual school meeting should be the election of the trustees. If a district fails to avail itself of the privilege of electing a trustee, the county board of education should fill the vacancy."

"The money for the support of the schools should come from three sources—the State, the county, and the district. At present there are glaring disparities in the per capita of school revenue in the various districts of the State arising from the unequal distribution of wealth, the unequal race distribution, and especially from the presence or absence in the district of railroads, power plants, or other public utilities."

Three Source Support.

"In my opinion it is highly desirable that we have a State appropriation or a State tax sufficient to guarantee a school term of three months in every school district."

"There should be in each county a county tax sufficient to provide for three more months."

"There should be a special district tax sufficient to provide for the school building and incidental expenses and secure the additional school term desired by the district. Part of the State appropriation should be used to encourage the local district to help itself by voting a special tax."

"At present one of the most glaring disparities in district revenues arises from the fact that a school district has the right to impose a special tax on public utilities situated within its

HUERTA LOAN REJECTED.

OFFER TO PLEDGE PRIVATE FORTUNE DECLINED BY FRENCH BANKERS.

Mexican Dictator, Hard Pressed for Funds Appeals in Vain to French Financiers Who Are Advised by Government to Advance no Money.

Paris, Dec. 17.—The offer of Gen. Huerta, the Mexican dictator to pledge his private fortune and the fortunes of the members of his cabinet as security for a loan to Mexico was rejected by a French group of financiers today.

It is understood the French government advised the group to take this action because of the attitude of President Wilson towards Gen. Huerta.

ROOT WON'T RUN.

Wouldn't Take Republican Nomination if Offered.

Washington, Dec. 16.—During the currency debate in the senate today Senator Root, replying to Democratic criticism, announced that he had no presidential aspirations, and would not take the Republican nomination if it were offered to him. Senator Root renewed his declarations of Saturday that the administration currency bill did not provide proper safeguards over an over-expansion of money.

Throughout the afternoon the fight raged again around this phase of the bill. Democratic senators insisting that the measure carefully guarded against any danger of inflation or consequent panic. Administration forces defeated another attempt to amend the bill when they laid on the table an amendment by Senator Hitchcock, proposing to increase the federal reserve board from seven to nine members. The motion carried 35 to 32.

RAILROAD PRESIDENT DEAD.

J. W. Thomas of Nashville Victim of Pneumonia.

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 17.—J. W. Thomas, president and general manager of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis railroad, died early this morning of pneumonia.

TEDDY IN BRAZIL.

Theodore Roosevelt and Party Arrive Aboard Paraguayan Gunboat.

Columbia, Brazil, Dec. 16.—Theodore Roosevelt and his party arrived here today from Porto Murtino aboard a Paraguayan gunboat. He leaves shortly for the interior on a hunting expedition. A large crowd greeted the party on its arrival.

There are many districts in South Carolina in which the railroad pays half of the total school tax. It is comparatively easy for such a district to maintain a school, while an adjoining district which the railroad does not touch is placed at a great disadvantage.

"For this reason many school districts in the State have been gerrymandered so as to take in the greatest possible railroad mileage. A district which is blessed with a large railroad mileage running through a swamp where nobody can live has sometimes considered itself exceptionally blessed. A minute's thought will convince one that a railroad, a power plant, a telephone line, a telephone line, or any other form of public utility should not be considered an object of exclusive taxation by the school district through which it passes. On the other hand, it should be an asset of the entire territory which it serves and from which it obtains its revenues."

"In practice the present condition works disastrously both for the general public and for the public utilities. The more abundant revenue and the better school facilities which are made possible for the towns on the railroad have a tendency to attract the people from the surrounding farms and consequently to decrease farm productivity and the earning power of the railroad which pays the taxes."

"The only solution which occurs to me is to segregate the property belonging to the railroads, power plants, telephone lines, telephone lines, and other public utilities and to levy on all this property a State tax which will provide for the expenses of the State government, including the State school taxes already mentioned. These forms of property should then be exempt from local taxes. This, however, is a phase of the whole tax question which now demands the best thought of our people."

The School.

"While it will be many, many years before the one teacher school becomes a thing of the past in South Carolina, the inevitable tendency in the more progressive communities will be in the direction of a school employing at least three teachers. Such a school affords a better classification of the pupils, stronger social incentives to good school work, and an opportunity to introduce special work in agriculture, homemak-

GLASS ATTACKS ROOT.

SAYS NEW YORK SENATOR IS SOUNDING A FALSE ALARM.

Replying to Charges, He Declares That Currency Bill Now in Congress is Far From Hodgepodge of Errors as Claimed by Root.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 16.—Representative Carter Glass, chairman of the house committee on banking and currency, in an address here tonight warmly defended the administration's currency bill against the "greenbackism" and "fiat money" charge launched by Senator Root in the senate on Saturday and retaliated with a sharp attack on Senator Root.

"On the floor of the United States senate last Saturday, said Mr. Glass, 'Senator Root of New York characterized the measure as 'greenbackism run mad,' and unacquainted with the subject which he undertook to discuss, he described it as proposing a return to the reserve issues of 1896."

"I take it that the duty of a senator to preserve the public from national harm is more than overbalanced by his moral obligation never to sound a false alarm and never to permit himself to be deflected from the path of strict truth to gain a point of vantage. And yet he did sound a false alarm and sounded it upon information which he himself admits he secured second hand from another senator."

"When to one's reputation is added his renown as a great lawyer and his fame as an international statesman, and the subject involved relates to the tender fabric of national credit, when such a man trifles with a subject of this moment he is guilty not only of grave indiscretion, but of downright treason to his country."

"All that I have said of Frank A. Vanderlip," said Mr. Glass, summing up a sharp reply to the statements made by the New York banker, "may be accentuated and applied to Mr. Root. God alone knows how men who understand the currency bill so little as to charge it with greenbackism have ever gained control of banks with a capital of \$25,000,000 or have ever attained to a seat in the United States senate."

KING MENELIK DEAD AGAIN.

Latest Report He Passed Away Last Friday.

London, Dec. 17.—A dispatch from Jibuti, Africa, says that Emperor Menelik of Abyssinia, died last Friday.

King Menelik, who was born in 1844, has been reported dead on several occasions. Special dispatches from Addis Abeba last February announced his death and the succession of Prince Didi Jeassu, one of his grandsons.

MRS. PANKHURST FREE AGAIN.

Refuses to Eat and Is Released from Holloway Jail.

London, Dec. 17.—Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the suffragette leader who was re-arrested Saturday was again released from Holloway jail today. She refused to take nourishment, and was in a state of collapse.

term of two months and a winter term of six months with a fall and spring vacation. When the school itself is not in session the teacher will still live in the community and will have charge of the boys' and girls' agricultural and club work."

"The school will be a community centre. In its auditorium the community meetings of fathers, mothers and young people will be held. Its library will expand into the community library. The school will utilize the knowledge and experience of the whole district in its daily work."

"In many cases a teacher's home will be built at the school house and his garden and the school experiment plot will serve as the central agency for the dissemination of agricultural knowledge throughout the community."

"Though the universal attainment of these ideals must be placed indefinitely in the future, there are now many schools in South Carolina which are steadily approaching them."

"The school term and the vacations will be arranged to meet the community necessities. The minimum term will be eight months. The teacher will be employed for the year and will be given a vacation of six weeks. In sections where it is necessary for the children to work on the farm the school will have a summer

efficiency.

TO ENFORCE SERVICE LAW.

INVESTIGATION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION SHOWS MANY VIOLATIONS.

Railroads Must Conform to Present Hours of Service or Must Submit to New Regulations—Many Worked Continuously for Over Twenty Hours.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Apparently as a forerunner of new demands from the Interstate Commerce Commission that the railroads of America prove their efficiency of management or submit to new regulations, the Commission today issued a report showing that the roads have violated the Hours of Service law for trainmen in 261,332 instances during one year. That is 261,332 members of train crews had been forced by traffic delays which the report declares were wholly preventable to work more than the legal limit of 16 hours continuously. Great pains are taken to set forth the argument of the Commission that since these violations of the statute were avoidable, the public will expect them to cease.

The investigation leading up to this summary has been under the direction of Commissioner McChord. It has gone into the record of every delay of any train in the country, so far as shown on the books, and has brought vigorously to the attention of many railroad officials the failure of their companies to report some of these delays. One of the points emphasized is that the accidents leading to the working of the trainmen from 16 to 65 hours continuously have as a rule occurred early enough in the period of the run to allow the sending of relief crews. This has heretofore been denied by the roads. Another discovery is that while some lines have violated the law in a wholesale manner, others in the same territory and with similar traffic have avoided more than a slight percentage of delays.

The four worst offenders, as shown by the report, are the Baltimore and Ohio, the Illinois Central, the Pennsylvania lines west of Pittsburgh, and the New York Central. On the Baltimore and Ohio, 5,253 men were kept continuously at work on trains from 16 to 17 hours; 5,973 men from 17 to 18 hours, 3,500 men from 18 to 19 hours, 2,000 men from 19 to 20 hours; 1,300 men from 20 to 21 hours, and 15 from 45 to 55 hours in this measured year.

Causes for the delays range from derailments in the instances of 88,317 men, to collisions in the case of 9,910, with landslides and floods credited with 17,985, and coupler and drawbar defects, 33,360. Miscellaneous car defects account for 17,753 of these violations of the law, and congestion of traffic 13,812.

Not only have the trainmen been compelled to stay on duty past the 16 hour limit, but the Commission declares that railroad telegraphers and train dispatchers have in 31,199 cases been worked past the legal maximum of hours. The totals would be higher but for the fact that roads having less than 25 violations per year are excused from reporting.

Commissioner McChord, after showing that the degree to which each road has lived up to the Hours of Service Law, has had no apparent relation with anything except its own policy, points out that the inquiry has already brought good results. The past six months have seen a remarkable decrease in the number of violations of the statute, in spite of a certain percentage of traffic delays. He concludes that the companies have only to realize the situation and they will remove the last factors leading to the law breaking. These roads have paid to the government during the year, in fines on this score alone, \$156,000.

The Hours of Service Act was signed March 4th, 1907, but was not finally upheld by the Supreme Court to its enforcement until May, 1911, when it was decided that the railroads must report all violations. Today's report is the first showing of a full fiscal year's work, since the facts as to overwork were made available.

BIG PARCELS POST BUSINESS.

Two Hundred and Fifteen Tons a Day in Chicago.

Chicago, Dec. 17.—The parcels post business originating in Chicago this month averages two hundred and fifteen tons daily and the stamp sales during the last ten days at the Chicago office have been over a million dollars.

MISSIONARIES IN PERIL.

Revolt in China Threatens Lives of Foreigners.

Hongkong, China, Dec. 16.—Many foreign missionaries are in peril from a revolt in Southeastern China.

British officials were notified today that hundreds of natives have armed themselves and, led by agitators preaching "Death to Foreigners" are burning isolated villages.