

The new educational law met but little opposition in this county and the School Board and Grading Committees have done all in their power to give it a fair test.

As to suggestions, I think that the law relative to the assessment and collection of the special school tax should be so amended that it can be assessed and collected by sale as other taxes, and the same cognizance taken of it by the state authorities as of other taxes.

I would also suggest that there be a still lower grade of certificate for colored teachers, if possible to have it. Pasco will, as appears now, be unable to have a single colored school taught this year.

In reply to your question as to whether I favor or oppose uniform examinations, I beg leave to state that I favor uniform examinations for the following reasons, viz:

1. Because they bring every teacher in the State in touch with the State educational department.
2. Because teachers through that head become cognizant of the trend of educational matters and know that they are a part of a great educational system.
3. Because education becomes a systemetic business and will be so recognized and upheld by the intelligent public.
4. It drives out incompetent instructors or puts new life and energy into them, for they can no longer drift about in search of lax examination systems.
5. Because uniform examinations have been adopted by the most progressive States and counties of the world, and we must be in line with them.

Respectfully,

ROBT. M. RAY,
County Superintendent.

PUTNAM COUNTY

Putnam county schools are on the upward grade and our teachers are settling down to teaching as a profession. We observed the new law to the letter, and we think it had a tendency to give us better teachers, those mostly who have an interest in school work; hence better tuition. We have gotten our county out of debt, have placed our finances on a sound basis and "pay as we go."

Our school houses, furnishings and school equipments are poor, and we shall turn our attention to bettering them soon.

The new school law operates well, but needs a proviso. In an extreme case of a teacher's inability to continue the term out, and no reserve force to draw upon, some provision should be made for examination of applicant to fill unexpired term.

I favor uniform examinations, because it is the best way to uniformly elevate