

- 2d. In having our schools supplied with adopted series of books, thereby being able to classify and grade.
- 3d. In having better houses built. We have had five new school buildings erected in the last two years--larger, better lighted, and more convenient in every way than former ones, and owned by the Board of Public Instruction.

Sub-districts.--4th. We have three sub-districts in the county, the levy in which will extend the term somewhat in those districts. And last, but not least, in having a State Superintendent who is engineering matters in the right way, willing and always ready to give counsel and advice in educational matters when called on.

Pleased with the Growth.--I am pleased with the progressive growth of education in my own county in the last few years, and in saying this I am confident I voice the sentiment of a large majority of the people of my county. I have had my share of difficulties in accomplishing what little I have done.

Books Found in Use.--On my first visits to the schools of my county four years ago I found Readers by nearly every author known or unknown to fame, Arithmetics ditto, Geographies and Grammars the same, Spellers of all kinds--from a few leaves to a whole book--Blue-Backs standing out in bold relief.

The people seemed to be perfectly satisfied, and would, perhaps, visit the school on its closing day to hear their children belch forth words of four or five syllables from the great Blue-Back Speller.

Opposition to Change.--The order went forth that the Blue-Back must be laid aside and pupils be supplied with the adopted series of books. When the order became known a wail was heard. "Fisher will bankrupt us," some would say, "in having us to buy new books." Others would say, "It's all Sheats' fault."

Books Given the Poor.--School work has changed since then. Pupils generally are supplied with the necessary text-books. Those too poor to buy are supplied free by the School Board.

The people are pleased with the new order of things, knowing that it works better for the educational interests of their children.

Suggestions.--What we need most now is legislation to enable us to raise funds sufficient to run our schools eight months.

Our children will never be able to get a common school education in four or five months in the year. I could mention other legislation needed, but as there will probably be suggestions from reports of other County Superintendents touching on matters of this kind, I will leave it with them.

Very respectfully,

P. F. FISHER,  
County Superintendent Calhoun County.

#### CITRUS COUNTY

Supt. W. N. Sheats, Tallahassee, Florida:

Dear Sir--In obedience to the request for a report and brief review of the