

have been retained, spellers, grammars, arithmetics, algebras, geographies and readers have been changed. A course of supplementary reading has also been recommended. The suggestions of the Text-book Committee, appointed by the Superintendents' Convention, have been followed in making these changes.

Schools Visited.--The schools have all been visited and inspected by the Superintendent. Everything of importance pertaining to each school, character of instruction, discipline, etc., is carefully noted in a book kept for the purpose.

Suggestions.--

1. The sub-district law needs to be amended.
2. The general revenue law should be so amended as to secure more prompt collections. To secure the collection of poll tax from the negro, the man who employs him, should be made responsible for his poll tax.
3. Plans and specifications should be prepared by the State for convenient and comfortable school buildings. It is painfully evident that in many instances, buildings better arranged and better adapted to the needs of schools, could have been built for the same expenditure of time and money.

In concluding this report it is a pleasure to state that our citizens generally pay their taxes for schools cheerfully, that our school officers are zealous and faithful, and our teachers capable, painstaking and diligent in school work.

CHAS. S. YOUNG,
County Superintendent.

CLAY COUNTY

In accordance with request, I herewith send you a report of the condition of the public schools of Clay county.

Grading of Schools.--The schools of this county have continued to advance. The work in the schools is being carried on more generally by the improved methods of teaching, yet I find it very difficult to grade the schools in the rural districts, as in such schools there are girls and boys whose school life will close with the term, making it necessary for such pupils to confine themselves to some particular study. It is almost impossible to grade schools and keep them graded where the attendance is as above stated, yet we have succeeded in being able to classify many of our schools into well graded country schools.

The condition of the schools is good. The conduct and character of same is progressive, the principal cause of which is the progressive spirit manifested by the teachers of the county. I cannot speak too highly of the teachers of Clay county for their zealous efforts to place their individual schools first in character and progress.

County High School.--Under the present management the course of study is practical and sufficiently comprehensive to fit those completing it for the active duties of life. Pupils completing this course are prepared to enter the junior classes of our best colleges. The work during the past session has