

the co-operation of patrons, I have endeavored to awaken in them a sincere concern for their children's most elevated well-being. I must say with regret that I have not met with the fullness of my expectations along this line. Dissensions among patrons are yet alive, and have been factors in hindering the betterance of the schools; yet, in spite of these hindering agencies, the schools have done very well.

Uniform Examination Law.--I am fully convinced that the educational status of the State is much better than ever before. I attribute this to the Uniform Examination Law. The day the law went into effect there was a revolution in educational affairs in this State. By it, the doors of the school houses were closed to old fogies, who once were permanent, but now a force of well-qualified and earnest teachers have taken their places. There are not enough resident teachers in my county to fill the places. I hope, however, that the day is not far off when there will be a full force of efficient teachers. I favor the Uniform Examination Law because those who would teach are forced to prepare themselves for the profession or quit the field.

Married Women Not Employed.--Our Board passed a resolution not to employ a married lady as teacher of any school in the county, basing such action upon the following:

First. A married lady has domestic duties which occupy much of her time and attention, thus rendering it impracticable for her to give proper attention to her school work.

Second. Such action is intended to encourage the unmarried lady teachers of the county to qualify themselves for the highest positions.

How Our Teachers Are Paid.--The salaries of teachers are not based upon the grade of certificates, but more upon the merits of the teacher.

School warrants are always paid in cash. When the treasury is exhausted (this has occurred but seldom in the past two years), money is borrowed.

Attendance of Pupils.--There has been a noticeable increase in the enrollment of pupils. But it is a lamentable fact that the average attendance is small when compared with the number enrolled. This is largely chargeable to the non-interest of the parents and guardians.

Buildings, Furniture, and Apparatus.--There are some good buildings, and considerable sums have been expended in supplying these with furniture, apparatus, etc., while in some localities there is need of improvement.

Uniformity of Text-Books.--I am opposed to State uniformity of text-books, but favor county uniformity. I think each county should have the right to legislate for itself in this matter.

Opposes A State Grading Committee.--I am, to some extent, opposed to a State Grading Committee; at least, I am opposed to it on the grounds upon which some base their argument, viz.; "That it would keep down fraud." This is true to a great extent, possibly altogether true, but if a fraud is worked by one or more, it is possible that others can do the same. Therefore, I cannot see that we could safely secure ourselves against all possible frauds by such a measure.