

A Good School Board.--In my efforts for the improvement of the school system of the county, I have had the hearty co-operation and assistance of an intelligent and public spirited School Board, who have cheerfully seconded all of my suggestions, without which I could have accomplished but little, and I am glad to say that their efforts seem to have been appreciated, as they have all been re-elected.

Plans for the Future.--I shall try to establish libraries in all country schools, as essential factors in building them up and stimulating interest in education.

I shall also try to organize a County Teachers' Association.

Needed Amendments to the Laws.--

1. Either make Supervisors more efficient or abolish the office.
2. Establish a State Grading Committee to grade all papers. There can be no uniformity in the grades of certificates under existing circumstances, as the standard of excellence is different in each county, and changes in the same county with every change in the membership of the Grading Committee.

J. H. GIRARDEAU,
County Superintendent.

LAFAYETTE COUNTY

In reporting the condition of school affairs in this county, I beg leave to state that school work is progressing nicely. The schools are in better condition this year than they have ever been. More interest is manifested every year by patrons, children, and teachers, and a constant demand is made for longer terms and better school facilities. These, however, under the present law, allowing the County Commissioners to fix the number of mills to be levied for school purposes, can not be granted; under the circumstances our School Board is doing all it can.

New Buildings.--During the last two years there have been four new frame school buildings constructed, the titles for the land on which said buildings were constructed are on file in this office. The buildings were furnished with a reasonable amount of modern apparatus with other improvements.

State Uniform Examination Law.--The teachers and people heartily endorse the Uniform Examination law for many reasons. The present system of grading committees is preferable to a State Grading Committee.

Uniform Text Books.--We have a uniform series of text books adopted in this county, which as a general rule are used with much success in all public schools.

County Institutes.--During the past two years County Institutes have been held, but I am sorry to say that they were not as well attended as they should have been. Great interest was manifested by those who attended and much good was done.

Teachers' Summer Schools.--We hope to have this year another Summer School for the benefit of our teachers, for we fully recognize the benefits of those