

Still Improving.--This is plainly shown in the number of advanced pupils in our schools, which reflects credit on our teachers. Also in the progress we are making in erecting new school buildings and repairing old ones, which reflects credit on the Board of Public Instruction.

Finances.--On June 30, 1899, we carried a cash balance over of \$1,021.50.

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Warrants are not discounted in Calhoun county; they are always worth 100 cents on a dollar.

We have no outstanding indebtedness.

Teachers' Salaries.--Teachers are paid according to grade, and assigned to schools where they can do the best work.

We pay them promptly every month, and demand good work in return.

Examination Laws.--I am still pleased with the Uniform Examination Law.

Under it our teachers have been very progressive in the last few years, nearly all of them have worked up to a First Grade Certificate.

I think the grading clauses of the law are all right, if carried out honestly.

Teachers Needed.--We have some trouble in securing services of First Grade teachers, our own force not being sufficient.

Is the number of teachers throughout the State growing beautifully less, or are the salaries offered too small?

Needs.--We need a high school in this county, and we need extra funds for this purpose.

We need a longer school term, with extra funds to run it.

The five-mill levy gives only sufficient funds to run our school five months. I must say our County Commissioners have always been willing to assess the amount agreed upon by the Board of Public Instruction, which shows they are in hearty sympathy with our school system.

Suggestions.--Remove the five-mill maximum so we can have more and better schools and do better work.

Good citizens are willing to be taxed to educate their children.

I am in favor of some measure to secure a better attendance in our schools.

We have between 200 and 300 pupils of school age who are not enrolled in the schools of the county through the carelessness and neglect of the parents. To reach these children I think it would necessitate the enactment of a compulsory education law.

I am satisfied you will do all you can for the betterment of the public