

the "lock-step" of the grade system, may move on as an individual, by reciting more and studying less during the school hours.

The other Grammar Schools of the city may be conducted on the same plan when adequate buildings, with suitable study halls have been provided.

Rural Schools.--Under the former Superintendent there were forty-five rural schools of one teacher each. The present Superintendent has planned to reduce these to fifteen three-teacher graded schools, has located them, and has induced the Board to establish three. Others will be built and equipped as rapidly as funds will permit.

The concentration of these schools is accomplished by means of wagonettes, specially constructed for this purpose by the Board of Public Instruction. They are of such capacity as to carry twelve, fourteen, sixteen, eighteen or twenty pupils each. Twenty of these comfortable and commodious wagonettes are now running at an average cost of \$20.00 each per month.

The running of these conveyances enables us to close twenty of the one-teacher schools, the current cost of which previously had not been less than \$35.00 per month, each.

This system therefore produces a current saving of \$300.00 per month. Take from this the increase of salary for six assistants in the central schools at \$30.00 per month and we still have a net saving of \$120.00 per month, which will build annually about eight wagonettes, at the price we pay to E. W. Vail & Co., of Jacksonville.

Of the twenty wagonettes now running, thirteen carry children to the three rural graded schools, three to the city schools, and four to single-teacher rural schools, where the concentration has just been initiated.

Financially, therefore, concentration in Duval County is a success.

1. Labor of the teacher is so well organized as to increase the average recitation period from ten to thirty minutes.
2. The effort of the teacher is more effective by means of more adequate equipment at less expense to the school fund.
3. Development of the art of teaching is more feasible to the Superintendent.
4. The health of the pupils is conserved with or without the saving of shoe leather.
5. The country maiden may continue her education without molestation by vagabond tramps.
6. The youth continues school longer because he finds a chance to be taught something and is satisfied to remain on the farm.
7. Truancy is absolutely eliminated and attendance greatly increased, especially in rainy weather and flat country.
8. Many children that never could get to any school before are now accommodated.