

compulsory educational law. The school population of this county is about ten thousand, the enrollment in the schools is about seven thousand, and the average daily attendance is about seventy per cent. of the enrollment. Thus you see only about forty-nine per cent. of the children are actually attending school, and the education of the masses, the very object of the public school law, is in large measure defeated. Hence the necessity for such a law as will compel the indifferent parents to send their children to school.

Industrial Training.--True education contemplates the harmonious development of the intellectual, the moral and the physical powers. It is my opinion that, hitherto, we have given too much attention to the intellectual side of our education at the expense of the moral and physical--especially the physical. I believe the initiative in industrial education should at once be taken in our educational economy. The intelligent introduction of industrial training in our public schools will begin the preparation of the life work of a large class of the rising generation, and will have a tendency to dignify labor in the estimation of the negro population in whose eyes in many instances labor is looked upon not only as undignified but dishonorable.

W. M. HALLOWAY,

Supt. Pub. Inst.

BAKER COUNTY

Dear Sir:--In reply to your request of November 25th, I beg leave to submit the following brief summary of school operations in Baker county for the two years ending June 30, 1900:

Buildings.--Our buildings are not what they should be owing to lack of funds. Yet I am pleased to report a decided improvement, we have built ten buildings at a cost of \$635.47 to the county; which amount was supplemented by patrons sufficient to warrant the structure of fairly good, comfortable buildings. All work on buildings has been done by contract to lowest bidder.

Finances.--There was a deficit of \$408.80 two years ago, and my last report shows a deficit of \$372.64. If the taxes on A. V. & W. Ry. had been collected, we would have been clear of debt, but for some cause or other they were not and have not yet been.

Our warrants are paid at par--when we have no money in the treasury we borrow, the Board paying the discount, which gives much better satisfaction than for the teachers to trade them off at a sacrifice.

Teachers.--We do not have resident teachers sufficient to supply our demands with each having almost steady employment; and we find it difficult to secure teachers at a time when we need them, consequently our schools are run irregularly, and some children are deprived of school advantages by reason of schools being run at a time when it does not suit patrons convenience. If we had sufficient funds to warrant us paying better salaries, we could operate our schools with better success.

There is a decided improvement in qualification and character of our teachers, which is due chiefly to the uniform examination law. I am pleased to report an increased interest in education in this county among both patrons and teachers.