

Board makes the school levy, as long as the constitutional five-mill maximum remains, for the County Commissioners will allow the five mills in my county. If said maximum was removed, then the levy, for the best interests of the schools, should be placed in the hands of the County School Board.

I am satisfied that the popular vote in my county would be in favor of removing said maximum.

The schools in my county cannot be, or become, what the interests of the children require with a five-mill levy on our assessed value of property, and our number of schools.

We have a few sub-district schools. There is no complaint, I believe, on the part of any, in reference to paying the sub-district levy. We would have many more such schools, but for the fact that within such radii, the value of the property is too small to be of much benefit.

If any one should be at all sceptical as to whether we need more school money, I am sure that such one would be entirely convinced that we do, if he could be present at one of our regular County School Board meetings, and observe the many petitions, earnest pleadings, etc., which come to the Board for just a little money to aid in the erection, repairing and furnishing school houses. If it is the State's duty to educate the youth, I do not hesitate to say that legislation is much needed, and he who denies the same, simply shows himself unimformed, or untrue.

The character and qualifications of our teachers are all that we could expect, under the conditions, which of necessity, control them--short terms, small salaries.

The salaries of teachers in my county are based upon qualification--while this is right, we hold it also acts as a stimulus to the teacher to better qualify.

We are not favorable to State Grading Committees, but the special examination clause in the law should be repealed.

A compulsory educational law is necessary, with penalty, by fine, of more than the child is worth at home, before there will be the attendance in the schools that could be, ought to be, and is due the child, and the State.

If the policy of the present administration is carried forward, there can be an advance over the past, since the fund is untrammelled by debt, but the interest goes into new hands entirely--Superintendents and members of the School Board, and what will result, of course, remains to be seen.

Respectfully,

A. W. MIZELL,
County Supt.

TAYLOR COUNTY

My Dear Sir--I have the pleasure to submit to you this general report of the condition and progress of the public schools of Taylor county during the last two years.

Cost of New Buildings.--About \$1,000.00 was used in building seven new houses and for repairs.