

will have run unpaid from two to three months. Very few of these warrants are discounted, and then at from two to five per cent.

The school levy of this county was unwisely cut by our County Commissioners this year, which necessitated a reduction in our appropriations. This, of course, lessens to some extent the terms of our schools and reduces the salaries of our teachers. It is an unfortunate act of our County Commissioners and one without excuse. Our people are willing to pay any reasonable amount of taxes for school purposes.

I think for some counties, and this is one of them, that the five-mill limit should be removed. The general condition of our schools not only indicates a need of more funds, but absolutely demands them, if we are to continue improvements.

As a whole our teachers seem to be as progressive as the meagerness of their salaries will permit, yet some of their difficulties in better preparing themselves for their work might be almost, if not entirely, overcome by self application.

One of the greatest needs of our teachers is supplied in our Summer Training Schools. They are almost imperative in our section, offering opportunities to our teachers, which should be used and can not be had other wise. Teachers of low grade should be required to attend them.

Very few of our people seem to appreciate fully the importance of keeping their children in school even when they are not employed at home. Our attendance is never as large as it should be, and I have decided that a good form of compulsory education would be highly beneficial. The State and county furnishes free tuition and should provide free text books and then, if necessary, it should force its citizens to use these opportunities.

This month closes my connection as an officer for the past eight years with Florida's great system of education. My administration, as a whole, has been pleasant, and before retiring from office I desire to thank my friend, Hon. W. N. Sheats, for the continued kindness and counsel extended to me at all times. I also tender thanks to the faithful teachers and the School Board of the county for their cheerful co-operation with me in the work, and last, but not least, to the good people of Wakulla county, who have manifested appreciation of my work.

Yours truly,
S. M. REVELL,
County Superintendent.

WALTON COUNTY

Generally stated we have no great difficulty in securing teachers for schools.

There has been in our teaching force, as a whole, improvement, both in scholastic attainments and in methods. This is due to several causes, notable:

1. To the system of Uniform Teachers' Examinations provided by the Law of 1893.
2. To the State Normal School, located in this county, which has done, and in doing, increasingly valuable work in the way of enabling intending teachers, to meet the requirements of that law.