

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RICHMOND

the highest office expense and supervision expense since this division has been organized, totals about \$13,000. This includes all salaries, travel, blue prints and incidentals. I might say that about \$4000 in addition to this is paid by the General Education Board, which represents no expense whatever to the taxpayers of this State, so that in round numbers all the actual expense to the State of maintaining the Division of School Buildings for the year 1925 was \$13,000. Architects commissions on the estimated value of construction for the year 1925 would aggregate at 5% approximately \$48,575.

\$97,500 1 1/2%

In addition to this there are certain items of saving represented which have been effected by the Division of School Buildings, as, for instance, on the question of floor oils. There are about 20,000 gallons of floor oil purchased each year under State contract at a net cost of about 17 1/2¢ per gallon, which is approximately 22 1/2¢ under the average price paid for floor oils prior to this State contract, or which represents a saving of about \$4,500.

If we are to add to the above saving the approximate saving effected by using the single story type of construction as contrasted with the multiple story type of construction, as explained above, there will of course be a saving of several times this amount. The enclosed bulletin, dated January 1926 explains the activities in brief of this division.

Relative your question regarding the practicability of planning a building at Lincoln to fit the present foundation and also to be adaptable for erection on the other site under consideration, I wish to advise that it would be quite possible to do this. I would advise against this procedure, however. I explained to the chairman of your board when he and others were in the office a few days ago that upon request we would of course be glad to go ahead with the plans detailed for the Lincoln site, and in view of the circumstances I felt we could give them precedence over some other work, but in order to save time and expense I doubted the wisdom of going ahead with the plans until a definite decision had been reached as to the location of the building. To plan a building to fit the foundation at Lincoln would not give you I think all that you would get for practically the same money if the building were located on a plot of ground clear of any old foundation. For instance, as I explained to your chairman, if the plot of ground were level at Purcellville we would recommend placing the toilets on the main floor rather than in the basement. Also we would recommend a little better proportioned auditorium than would be possible in an effort to adapt it to the old foundation at Lincoln. If it is the expressed wish of you and your board that we go ahead and prepare plans for Lincoln, we will of course do so, and I think you could plan on getting them in approximately two weeks after such request had been filed. In order to economize, however, which we are anxious to do in all cases, I think it would be wise to wait until a definite decision had been reached, and if Lincoln is the definitely located site, it would be a matter of not more than two weeks before you would have the finished plans and specifications. On the other hand if some other site is the definitely decided site, it would still be not more than two weeks until you could have the finished plans for a specific location.