

file Perry

A Survey of Loudoun County White Schools
To Indicate the Completed Reorganization
or Consolidation

Early consolidation of schools in Loudoun County took place at Hillsboro where the Salem and Edge Grove schools were closed ~~about 1910~~ and at Round Hill where the Cherry Grove school was closed ~~at about the same time~~ ^{at about the same time} ~~with~~ about 1910. The pupils were taken to school in horse drawn wagons. At about the same time horse drawn vehicles, privately owned and operated, were used at Hamilton and Purcellville to transport high school pupils to Lincoln. Further, at this period plans for closing many of the counties' one-room schools and transportation of pupils to central points in horse drawn vehicles were discussed by school officials.

In the early stages of the use of motor vehicles for pupil transportation the uniform practice of trying to adapt ~~the~~ trucks designed for ordinary hauling purposes did not much improve the conditions prevailing during the use of horse drawn wagons. Comparatively these trucks were unsafe, ~~inadequate~~ insanitary, uncomfortable and expensive because they could carry only a very small load.

and discussing the ~~bad~~ ^{there bad} road conditions in the early stages of consolidation, and talk about consolidation ~~were bad~~

~~It is not surprising, in view of the about conditions that there grew up in Loudoun~~

a very difficult task for the school authorities
 of so large a number of high schools at
 at many points, and the early location
 the early discussion of similar arrangements
 The early experience with transportation
 of 391 pupils.
 Mrs. 12 high schools
 the present superintendent in 1917 there
 So at the beginning of the series of
 at a number of points.
 entirely financed by private
 section of high school buildings, or
 could attend school from home daily
 could remain at home
 at points so located that their children
 facilities for their children in the same facilities
 was really much interested in the same facilities
 many towns in the country and other schools
 London County, the country and other schools
 while in Virginia because there was so
 for high schools to be made available to all
 Scherer from 1909 to 1917, the state made campaign
 to the cause of W. B. Edmondson, ^{Director} Superintendent of
 a direct outcome of the energy and devotion

(3)

to overcome the very natural ~~trend~~
guide ~~in their~~ of local communities in their
own institution. So ~~that~~ the reorganization
of the schools of Loudoun County ~~is~~ although on
a conservative and slowly evolving basis has been
a painful process.

But why close one-room and two-room
schools and haul children to larger schools?
Why close high school departments?

We cannot reason that consolidation is
an economy measure. There may be
isolated cases where money is saved.
It is possible ~~however~~, however, to operate
a county system with less teachers where
small schools are brought in to larger
centers.

It may be of interest to examine
relative conditions that will give us
a picture of what has happened in respect
to ~~the~~ costs of transportation and teachers' salaries
over a term of years.

A Survey of Loudoun County White ~~High~~ Schools.

~~Elementary~~ Schools

4

The consolidation of ~~elementary~~ schools can be justified only on the ground that better facilities can be provided for the school pupils. While it is sometimes claimed that money is saved it has never been conclusively proved except in isolated cases that there is an actual reduction in cost. The chief additional cost is ^{for} transportation. This is partly offset by a reduction in the number of ~~teachers~~ required.

In the year 1928-29 which precedes most of the consolidation of ~~elementary~~ schools in Loudoun County there were a total of 33 one-room ^{teachers} and 34 ^{high school} ~~two-room~~ ^{white} ~~teachers~~ ³⁵ and 58 other elementary teachers, or a total of ~~3276~~ 3276, ~~elementary~~ teachers. The average daily attendance was ~~3276~~ 3276.

In the year 1938-39 the situation was as follows: 8 one-room ^{schools} ~~schools~~, 8 two-room ^{schools} ~~schools, and 33 high school ^{teachers} ~~teachers~~, 55 other elementary teachers, or a total of 112. The average daily attendance was ~~3595~~ 3595. It can be seen that 23 less teachers cared for ~~3276~~ 319 more children daily.~~

Now in 1928-29 the amount spent for transportation was \$6007.44 and in 1938-39 it was \$23,375.90, or an increase of \$17,368.46. (Some of this increase in transportation is directly chargeable to provision for transportation in areas that had ~~not~~ ^{had} ~~not~~ ^{not} been affected by closing a school of legal average attendance.) Using the ¹⁹³⁸⁻³⁹ present average salaries of all white teachers as \$998.62 the 23 teachers less than in 1928-29

being about a morning of 22,959.06 which compares most favorably with the addition of 17,368.45 to transportation costs.

It furthermore the addition of teachers in industrial arts, vocational agriculture, home economics, and the high

commercial subjects has tended to increase the high school teaching force to a figure higher than in 1928-29 and very little of this work has done in

our high schools.

It is not clear that all of the reduction

in number of teachers is due to cancellation of some money.

It is claimed that certain might be brought into some reduction in number of teachers.

It is merely contended that no money expended in the addition of apparatus, textbooks, and in the case of more comprehensive

physical conditions, particularly in the case of more comprehensive

of high schools program.

It is recommended that all one-room and

two-room schools be abandoned and that as far as

practicable be brought together in one school, all

elements of the government be organized into groups, first

building by groups, in some manner pay such thing as

elects to be made. In some instances, and in other

cases a single group should be made.

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It is not claimed that the entire reduction in number of teachers has been made possible by consolidation but surely reduction of teaching force is a direct outcome of consolidation.

The real reason for consolidation of elementary schools of one and two rooms is the positively known and established fact of better opportunities for ~~the~~ the children concerned. For years teachers have sought positions in larger schools and many a one-room school in Loudoun County has been taught by a teacher who could secure no other kind of position. The work has been looked upon as a lonesome difficult task leaving the teacher dissatisfied with her own work. It is generally accepted that a teacher with one or two grades can do more effective work than when there are 5 to 7 grades in her charge. The possibilities of music, art, and much other work that enriches the child's life are much greater ~~than~~ in these larger units. The possibilities of improved physical conditions through the installation of water sanitary systems and furnace heat are important factors in considering the size of the unit. Again janitor service tends to become better as the unit increases in size.

From the point of view of ~~the~~ ^{changing} enrollment from year to year the one and two-room schools have been the base of school administrators in Loudoun County. Although our total ^{county} school population changes very little that in ~~a particular~~ ^{a particular} small school may vary 50 per cent within a few years. The present superintendent, for example, has seen 9 two room schools reduced to one-room schools, some of which were later restored to two-room schools. ^{status} Also he has seen 10 one-room schools closed for lack of legal attendance, and even now we have a one-room school caring for an enrollment of 57 as an example of a problem multiplied many times!

It is believed that conditions prevailing in Loudoun County are favorable to the closing at an early date of the 3 two-room schools and 4 of the 5 one-room schools. The Sunny Ridge School is unfavorably located for consolidation.

Let us examine the case for our high schools. Within the last few years educators and the public have shown indications of being thoroughly aroused to the ~~situation~~ ^{condition} that high schools were being geared to a college preparatory system. Without ~~take~~ regard for the fact that less than one-~~third~~ ^{fourth}