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LOUDOUN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AMONG LEADING SCHOOLS OF STATE

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Division Superintendent of Schools

Loudoun County has an area of 520 square miles and enrolls about 7 white and 2 colored school pupils for each square mile. The sparsity of the population of either race is one of the most difficult of the county's school problems.

The system of schools as now established in Loudoun has not been organized after a comprehensive study of the needs of the entire unit of area but each school has just grown as the need of the individual community has seemed to arise. High schools have been located at almost every point in the county where the residents asked for one and offered to pay a part of the cost of the building.

Loudoun now has 9 four-year accredited high schools, Aldie, Ashburn, Leesburg, Lincoln, Lovettsville, Lucketts, Round Hill, Unison-Bloomfield, and Waterford. Hills-

boro offers two years of high school work and Middleburg one year. Purcellville elementary school has 7 teachers, Hamilton 4, Bluemont and Lincoln each 3, Pleasant Valley, Arlington and North Fork each 2 and all other white schools, 34 in all, are one-teacher schools. The largest school is Leesburg with 13 teachers and a total enrollment of 385. Lincoln has the largest high school department with 7 teachers and 123 pupils.

Leesburg colored school has 3 teachers and offers a part of the first year high school course.

Middleburg and Purcellville each have 2 teachers and all other colored schools, 21 in all, are one-teacher schools.

All of the white schools have a term of 9 months and all of the colored schools have a term of 8 months. This is very considerable increase over the term of a few years ago particularly for the smaller schools.

The county is now the unit of school administration. The management of the county school system comes into authority in this wise. The people elect a general assembly, the general assembly selects a judge of the circuit court, the judge of the circuit court appoints three members of a school trustee electoral board, the school trustee electoral board elect members of the county school board, the county school board elects the division superintendent, and likewise the clerk of the school board and teachers on the recommendation of the superintendent.

Supervision of the work of the teachers is done by the superintendent, principals, and a rural supervisor who has charge of one and two-room white schools only.

The business affairs are handled by the school board, assisted by the superintendent.

The clerk keeps minutes and other records of the board, issues warrants in payment of all accounts, and serves as office assistant to the superintendent.

Our county has a total of 53 different school buildings for white children. These range in size from 12 class rooms and auditorium to 1 class room. There are 24 buildings in use for colored schools. The present estimated value of this property is \$436,000 and furniture and equipment has an estimated value of \$39,000. Of these 53 buildings for white children 13 are heated by furnaces and 20 by an improved type of stove. Only 26 are correctly lighted according to modern standards.

There still exists quite a contrast between the best and worst building in use for white children. The worst condition would naturally be found in a one-room school community and a poor condition would frequently be allowed to continue on account of the doubt as to the wisdom of continuing the one-room school for any considerable period of time.

Loudoun had last year 34 high school teachers, 101 elementary white teachers, and 28 colored teachers. The teaching load for each white teacher averages low, being 16 pupils per teacher in the high school and 30 pupils

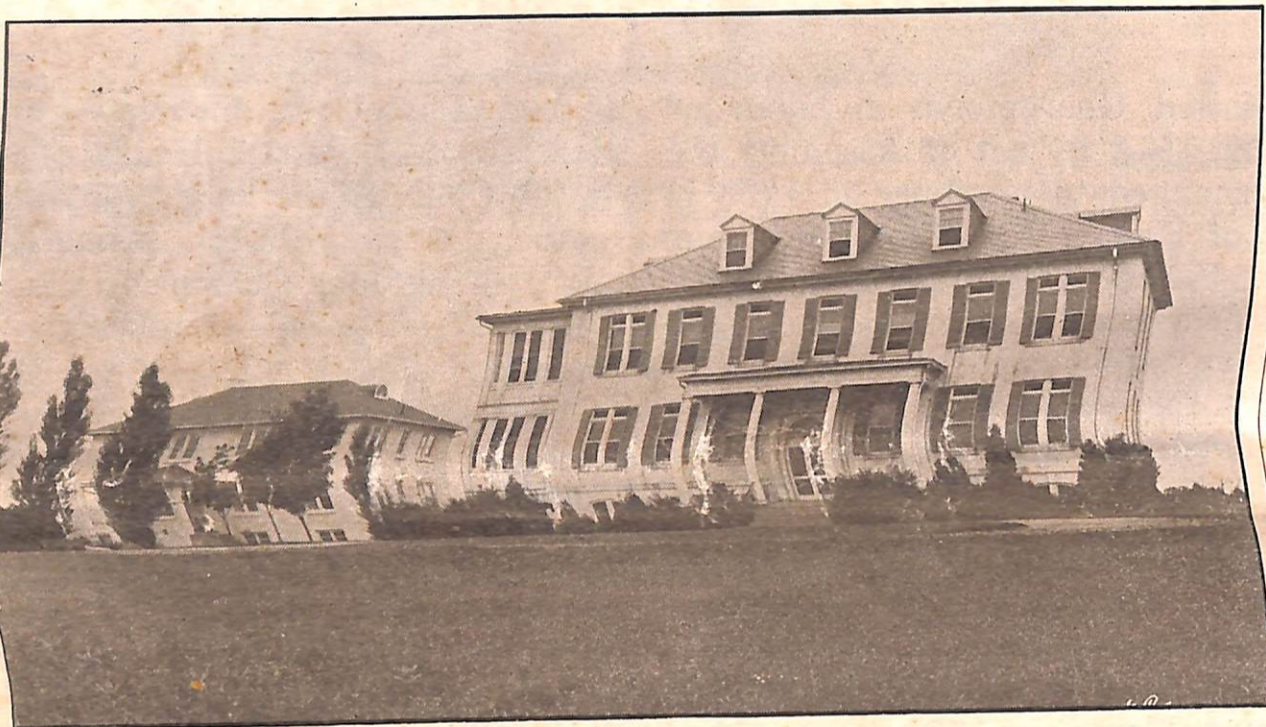
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THE DAIRY FARM A LEADING INDUSTRY IN LOUDOUN COUNTY

BY J. R. LINTNER
County Agent since 1920

It is always interesting and instructive to trace the origin and development of an agricultural enterprise. It is usually found that a few men of vision and enterprise blaze a trail while in quest of individual advantages. A "Satisfied" countryside would theoretically be one that is prosperous, one enjoying a high standard of living as a whole. As a matter of fact a satisfied condition can be, and often has been, simply one of stagnation. On the other hand dissatisfaction with business or environment, means some one or more of the leading spirits will "Start Something," in which the whole countryside may presently share. Such has marked the early development and subsequent progress of dairying in Loudoun county. Loudoun is not an old dairy section, indeed the beginning is well within the memory of some of our older dairymen of today.

AN EXAMPLE OF THE PUBLIC SPIRIT OF LOUDOUN



THE LOUDOUN HOSPITAL AND NURSES' HOME

It is interesting to note that early in the development progress the necessity for organization was felt, and that in this organizational development, again just a few leading spirits led the way. We are told that Edward J. Smith of Lincoln was the first actual fluid milk shipper on the Washington market from Loudoun county, more than three decades ago. We wonder how his product at that time would "Stack-up" with the product of his son, Wm. T. Smith in 1929? Let us suppose for comparison that the son was satisfied to dairy as his father had done.

Conclude that milk produced under 1890 conditions would now be difficult to sell for any purpose, certainly impossible for fluid consumption. The march of dairy progress during the past thirty years has probably shown greater improvement than during the two hundred years preceding that period, but let us not overlook the fact that in this development, the consuming public has benefitted to a greater extent than has the dairyman. Washington residents now use Loudoun county milk produced practically under the supervision of the Public Health Department of the city. For the benefit of those who use Loudoun county milk, or should use it "For Health's Sake," we will say that if clean milk is as yet a possibility, our Loudoun product is clean. It is also rich in its cream content, and as a whole carries that attractive color and flavor peculiar to the Guernsey breed which dominates the milk supply from this county.

As to Our Physical Dairy Equipment

The barn of today is a bovine palace as compared to the dingy, smelly barns of thirty years ago. Light, ventilation, dust and fly control, are carried out in accordance with modern dairy science. Concrete floors are everywhere, and they must be kept clean. The dairy house is now a sanitary laboratory. Steam must penetrate every seam and surface of all utensils in handling milk. There is no may-be-so about this, as the bacteria test at the market is a sure test of how the sterilizing is done back on the farm. As the milk is drawn it is at once cooled over modern cooling machinery to 50 or below. Many plants can freeze the milk in the cooling process. This ensures good flavor and keeping qualities, and explains why milk produced on a modern dairy farm is so much more palatable than that produced from old bossy without any equipment, and the farm child gives up milk as part of the daily diet.

As to the Cows Themselves

It is well within the realm of reason that they may be in the process of becoming "Dirt Conscious," if not conscious of health. They are tuberculin tested annually at least. Parts of the body near the udders are kept closely clipped to prevent lodgment of foreign matter. At each milking time, every udder is washed, and dried with an individual towel, and towels are washed daily. In addition the herd is regularly inspected by an authorized Veteri-

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LOUDOUN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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per teacher in the elementary grades. Of the total number of 163 teachers, 23 had had no experience prior to beginning their work last year and 27 others had had less than three years of experience.

The salaries of the teachers last year ran as follows:

9 high school principals received from \$165 to \$270 per month.

25 high school teachers received from \$100 to \$125 per month.

6 elementary school principals received from \$105 to \$130 per month.

95 elementary school teachers received from \$65 to \$115 per month.

28 colored school teachers received from \$50 to \$75 per month.

The average white teacher's salary was \$915 and colored \$472.

Our school teachers have a live education association which meets three times each year. Their interest is devoted to their own improvement and advancement to a limited extent, but is unselfishly directed toward the goal of greater achievements for the benefit of the children being taught.

The high schools have an athletic association which promotes a championship series each spring in baseball, basket ball, tennis and track.

The schools likewise take an active interest in public speaking and literary contests which are managed by a committee appointed by the superintendent.

A very important auxiliary to the school itself is the Community or Junior League and Parent-Teachers' Association. Nearly every school has one of these organizations and they accomplish many lasting benefits for the school and community.

Every effort is being made to meet the needs of the children of our county in the preparation which they are making for life but the schools still are mindful of the fact that to children school is life. The job before the school authorities is so vast and of such universal appeal that it calls for the help of all good citizens.