
Grady County Historical Society – Schools

School Laws

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SCHOOL BOARD MEETS

There were more than 80 attendees at the monthly meeting of the Grady County Board of Education on Tuesday, March 13th. Most of those attending were unable to get into the board room, which was packed, with people even sitting on the floor. Although a verbal request was made by a member of the audience to adjourn to a larger meeting room, the Board declined.

Several members of the Southern Heritage Defense Organization were on the public portion of the agenda and were allowed 3 to 5 minutes to speak to the Board prior to calling the meeting to order. One of those speaking was Kirk D. Lyons, chief trial counsel of the Souther Legal Resource Center. He said that he was representing ten families who have students in Grady County schools who are concerned about the ban on Confederate symbols at those schools. "As the body charged with the oversight, it is to you that these parents would appeal to reconsider and to look into the policies of the Confederate symbols being banned and to reverse that decision or policy," said Mr. Lyons.

He concluded his remarks by reading from the Cairo High School Handbook the policy of non-discrimination. He continued by saying that the policy banning Confederate symbols makes a mockery of this policy regarding non-discrimination. He said that he believes these students are simply trying to honorably display pride in their heritage and are not doing it to show disrespect to any other student, and they are doing so within the parameters of their rights as Americans and their civil rights as protected by the Civil Rights Act of 1964. He closed by saying that "...in our representation of these families, we seek to assist the school, not to go against the school, in administering its education programs. We understand that the mission of the Grady County schools is to educate, not to operate a free speech forum, but there is a place for Confederate symbols in the Grady County schools."

Cindy Meadows said that her daughter was sent home from school for wearing a Dixie Outfitters shirt with a fishing tackle on it. "There was nothing offensive on it," she said. "We are not offensive, racist, hate people." She added that her daughter was given an unexcused absence and asked the Board to reverse that decision. "They called me to give her an early dismissal... I did not disapprove of the shirt... She is a senior and only goes to school one hour a day for Algebra... She needed to be in class... I refused to give her an early dismissal."

Dorice Hartley said that she wanted her daughter in class learning, not going home to change clothes. When her daughter was sent home she spoke to Mr. Gainous asking what was the reason that suddenly the shirt could not be worn in school. "He sent me to the Superintendent of Schools to find out why, because Mr. Tootle would not see me," she said. She added that the Superintendent indicated the sudden change in policy was due to the changing of the official flag of the State of Georgia.

Kim Harrison spoke on behalf of the Southern Heritage Defense Organization. She pointed out that there was no prior notice of the change in policy. Harrison also pointed out that the shirts in question do not violate the dress code. She said that there are often open violations of the dress code on the Cairo High School campus and that enforcement of the dress code should be consistent. Harrison complained that the schools and the public in general have not taken seriously the running of our schools. "For instance, my son's last PTO meeting of the year is scheduled for the same night as the Board of Education meeting," she said. "How can I be there for my son and be here for my son at the same time." She asked that all of the unexcused absences resulting from these shirts be overturned. Harrison also pointed out to the Board members that the students affected will soon be voters, and hopefully they will be looking at this Board's actions in a favorable light.

"Any of those questions or problems that you have, give them to the Interim Superintendent, and we will be glad to investigate," said Jimmy Douglas, Chairman of the Board of Education.

There is not enough space here to adequately report on the other actions of the Board. We will continue next week with the regular meeting.

NOTE: There will be a special called meeting on March 20th at 7:00 pm to discuss the process to be used for locating a new Superintendent.

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PL

December 19, 1967

MEMO TO RSR, JR.

I am back at office this morning, and note the information Lloyd Connell gave me about County School Superintendent, and I will give it to you, though I haven't yet got the information about WBR and County Commissioners.

PL J. B. Wight was County School Superintendent beginning in 1906 and to February 1, 1910.

PL J. S. Weathers was Superintendent first on February 1, 1910 and ending December 31, 1924.

PL I know it is that WBR dedined to run for a second term as County Commissioner and he was the organizing chairman, of course. So he began with the start of Grady County. And those are the five people I'm going to give you the name of and if you want to know who followed him, could do so, but I don't see any need of hunting that up, and anyway it was a political matter from then on, for the county was organized, the courthouse and jail built, and really paid for, too, for as you know they paid for it with cash, namely, levies over two years.

PL It was a big job in organizing a county, legally and economically, and satisfying many gripes, of course, where people expected more than was possible and I have always heard that the county moved off as smooth, or smoother than any new counties over the state. And anyway they had a very good board with Mitchell, Sasser, Peebles, WBR, and I believe the other was Chxstain, but anyway that's going to come to you with the exact initials.

JB R

1 WBR
 2 Jm. Sasser
 3 Jmy Mitchell
 4 J L Peoples
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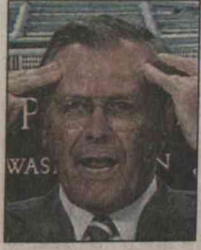
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Victory for Hickerson

Tribunal rules against Grady school board

By Laura Cassels
laura.cassels@gafnews.com

CAIRO — A tribunal of retired educators ruled Tuesday that the Grady County Board of Education did not have “justifiable cause” to fire School Superintendent Michael Hickerson and that his three-year contract is valid.

The contract, approved Sept. 12 and effective Jan. 1, includes a clause requiring the school board to pay Hickerson the balance of his three-year salary if it fires him without due cause. The board fired Hickerson Feb. 27 on a 3-2 vote, and he appealed.

Monday’s hearing was the first step in that appeal.

While the tribunal sided with Hickerson, it issued a rebuke to all parties in the dispute.

“It can only be detrimental to the system as a whole. The result is that parents and faculty take sides. Rumors prevail, and the children and system all suffer. There is enough blame and unethical practices to go around, both for the board and the superintendent. ... None of this is good for the Grady County School System,” wrote tribunal members Paul Chambers, Warren Powell and E. Tarver Averett Jr.

After hearing nine hours of testimony in the Grady County Courthouse Monday, the tribunal concluded the school board failed to prove any of the charges it had cited as due cause for firing Hickerson and voiding his contract.

Hickerson was elated. “Obviously, I’m pleased with the finding,” he said Monday morning. “I wanted this opportunity to have my name and my reputation cleared.”

The non-binding conclusion of the tribunal will be reviewed by the Board of Education before the dispute may proceed further.

Board Chairman Jimmy Douglas said he was not sur-



VICTORY: Tribunal members (from left) E. Tarver Averett Jr., Paul Chambers and Warren Powell go over paperwork with Tom Lehman (at right), attorney for the Grady County Board of Education, and Brad Wilson, attorney for fired Superintendent Mike Hickerson.

prised by the outcome. “I didn’t think they’d listen to board members,” Douglas said, adding, “I don’t know what’s next.”

In a March 7 letter to Hickerson, the school board cited eight reasons for firing him, but it attempted to prove only four in the hearing Monday. The tribunal rejected all four, which involved Hickerson’s contract, personnel problems at Northside Elementary School, loss of key personnel and ServiceMaster maintenance.

The tribunal determined the

contract is binding upon both parties “although the method of passage may be questionable or unethical ...”

In testimony Monday, witnesses conceded that school board member Tyler Maxwell and former board members Mary Henderson and Fred Collins approved the contract in a stealth move that caught board members Billy Bundrick and Jimmy Douglas by surprise. The contract was not listed on the agenda and was not presented to Bundrick, Douglas or school board attorney Tom Lehman un-

til the last minute, passing 3-2.

Regarding Northside Elementary, the tribunal found the school board failed to prove its claim that Hickerson did too little too late to intervene in personnel problems there. The tribunal noted there was contradictory testimony from various school board members and from Hickerson, with some saying he took timely action and some that he did not, leaving insufficient evidence to prove the school board was justified in



(left) E. Tarver Averett Jr., Paul Chambers and Warren Powell go over (right), attorney for the Grady County Board of Education, and Brad Wilson like Hickerson.

Laura Cassels/Tirrus-En

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Please see **BOARD**, page 3A

From Monday's testimony

"If he could have got a zero, I would have gave him zero."

— Jimmy Douglas, school-board chairman, on evaluating Michael Hickerson's performance as superintendent

"I could not find a means to develop a relationship of ... trust, respect and confidence."

— Teresa Harris, new school-board member, on her feelings toward former superintendent Michael Hickerson

"If he was the leader he should have been, he would have said, 'I can't be a party to this'."

— Billy Bundrick, school-board member, on the "surprise motion" to renew Michael Hickerson's contract

"That was not an issue in my campaign."

— Teresa Harris, school board member, on naming Arthur Anderson principal of Washington Middle School

"In order for them to bring Tim Helms back, they had to remove Mr. Hickerson."

— Brad Wilson, attorney for Michael Hickerson

"His comment to me was, 'He's got to go'."

— Todd Gainous, school-board member, on Jimmy Douglas' feelings toward Michael Hickerson

"I did the new contract so he could be in our employ for the next three years and improve our system."

— Tyler Maxwell, school-board member, on renewing Michael Hickerson's contract

"Did you give the other board members a chance to see the contract?"

— Warren Powell, tribunal member, to Tyler Maxwell on the "surprise motion" to renew Michael Hickerson's contract

"I think it's a joke having football coaches running your system."

— Bill Bass, former school board member

"We have academics here who certainly should be qualified, so if you ask me was I concerned when they left, no, not at all."

— Bill Bass, former school board member, on Tim Helms and Ralph Jones leaving the Grady school system

"I went through both of those contracts (old and new)."

— Mary Henderson, former school-board chairman, on renewing Michael Hickerson's contract

"I didn't perceive a level of tension in the office before Mr. Hickerson was terminated."

— Tommy Pharis, assistant superintendent, under questioning about morale in the central office

"I'd love to see them work together. I'm a mom. Let's all play fair."

— Kim Young, parent involved in Grady schools

Continued from page 1A

Board

firing him on that point.

Regarding personnel, the tribunal found insufficient evidence to support the school board's claim that Hickerson caused a loss of personnel and low employee morale. Douglas and Bundrick testified Hickerson did little or nothing to prevent the exodus of "key" Grady County employees such as Tim Helms (principal of Thomasville High School, returning as principal of Cairo High in the fall) and Ralph Jones (principal of Bainbridge High School, former head football coach at Cairo High).

Hickerson and others countered that Helms and Jones left to take jobs not available in Grady County at the time and received \$20,000 raises in their new jobs.

Finally, the tribunal found "Hickerson did not act improperly in instructing an employee to change information in an analysis of information for services provided to the school system," those services being maintenance done by ServiceMaster since shortly after Hickerson was appointed three years ago. After firing Hickerson, the school board voted not to renew the ServiceMaster contract.

In conclusion, the tribunal wrote: "The panel finds there was not justifiable cause to terminate the contract of the superintendent of the Grady County Board of Education."

To contact reporter Laura Cassels, please call (229) 226-2400, ext. 225.

Banter

Randolph
Wind



What a week!

Your newspaper is late today and you can thank former superintendent Michael Hickerson and his attorney F. Bradford Wilson, Jr.

That twosome decided to "lock-up" Tim Helms and me in a witness room during the nine hour duration of the review of Hickerson's firing.

We had been subpoenaed on behalf of Hickerson so we were his witnesses. They never called us to testify and never let us know they weren't going to call on us.

What do you reckon the chances are they never planned to call us in the first place?

It was bad enough to have to miss a production day at work, but to add insult to injury, Hickerson and his attorney objected to me remaining in the courtroom to cover the hearing, so our able proofreader Jim Wyatt had to miss a production day to cover the hearing for me.

What a mess! And for what? The hearing is not binding, regardless of the findings. Had the panel ruled there was sufficient cause for the firing Hickerson could still appeal to a court of law.

Likewise, now that the panel has ruled in favor of Hickerson it's still up to him to appeal to a court of law if he ever hopes to collect any more tax money.

Besides being shafted like we were, Helms and I enjoyed some interesting conversation. I'm confident he will make an outstanding principal for Cairo High.

As far as the review goes, I certainly wished I had had the opportunity to testify.

I have since learned that suddenly, some eight months after I published an article that included comments from Board members Mary Henderson that she had not read the superintendent's new contract prior to voting on it last September, and from Fred Collins who at first said he had never seen it before that infamous Tuesday night, but then said he had read the two and there was "very little difference," now come claims that those statements were not true.

I certainly hope Mrs. Henderson will reflect back on just what she said before she testifies under oath again.

I stand by my report, but apparently months later not only is Henderson changing her story, but so are others.

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EDITORIAL

As I was seeking information to write the article on School Board issues currently before us, I was asked by the person being interviewed what my intentions were. "Are you just trying to stir up trouble?" was the exact question. I was reminded that I am a Christian and my publication is a Christ-centered publication, and as such shouldn't be trying to tear things down.

My response was simple. I believe Grady Countians are intelligent enough to look at facts clearly presented and draw their own conclusions. I believe Grady Countians are beginning to take notice of how elected officials are handling the power and authority of their positions. I believe Grady Countians are getting tired of shrugging their shoulders and believing they are helpless to bring about change. I believe that taxpaying voters are seeing waste and a disregard for the trust placed in elected officials to do the best they can with the dollars they control.

Grady County comes to mind when I read the scripture, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...." (Hosea 4:6) In the past, in general, the residents of Grady County have been content to "let someone else do it." That attitude is changing. Voters and taxpayers are standing up to be counted.

Grady Countians are starting to understand that taking situations at face value without looking into the facts is both ignorant and irresponsible. As Grady Countians, we may not be the best educated, but we are certainly not ignorant nor are we irresponsible.

I would certainly ask the people of Grady County to check the facts for themselves -- don't take the word of another just because you've known him "always." Does that mean no one can be trusted and they all lie? No! The Word says to seek after knowledge more than choice gold (Proverbs 8:10). The Word also says to "[S]tudy to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Timothy 2:15.

We are to be aware of what's going on around us -- in our community. Otherwise, how will we be able to minister to others or make a difference. If we don't know the facts and have only rumors, partial information or misinformation at our disposal, how can we make decisions that would make this a better community?

I believe the people of Grady County are becoming more aware of the part they individually play in the well-being of the community as a whole. The "shoulder shrugging what can I doers" are becoming outnumbered by those seeking facts and opportunities to make a difference.

Wake Up, Grady county. Look at what's going on. However, don't "get on your soapbox" until you know the facts -- remember, there are always two sides to every story.

Alice

What's It Costing Us?

The recent personnel moves made by the School Board are not without cost. Following is an attempt to outline the costs of these changes. Please bear in mind that the figures are approximate. (It appears to be difficult -- or at least very time consuming -- to determine exact salary figures.) There are state supplements paid annually based on the number of students in attendance, and Mr. Broome said those paid recently ranged from \$2,000 to \$4,000.

Cairo High School. Wayne Tootle retired as Principal of Cairo High School with an annual salary of approximately \$81,989. Tim Helms has been retained by the School Board as Principal of Cairo High School at a salary of approximately \$90,000. An increase of \$8,011.

Washington Middle School. Ed Gravenstein's salary as Principal of Washington Middle School last year was \$69,039. The School Board has named Arthur Anderson as Principal for the upcoming school year at a salary of \$71,675. An increase of \$2,636.

Northside Elementary School. Jackie Powell, as Principal of Northside Elementary School this school year, had an approximate salary of \$54,406. Gloria Fuller, the incoming Principal will have a salary of \$54,587. An increase of \$181.

It will cost us an additional \$10,828 to pay the principals of three schools next year.

The individuals who received increased salaries due to these changes were:

Arthur Anderson: \$61,929 at Cairo High School, \$71,675 at Washington Middle School -- an increase of \$9,746.

Ed Gravenstein: \$69,039 at Washington Middle School, \$71,655 as Assistant Superintendent -- an increase of \$2,616.

Gloria Fuller: \$51,574 at Washington Middle School, \$54,587 as Principal of Northside -- an increase of \$3,013.

Jackie Powell: \$54,406 at Northside, \$59,038 as Principal of the Crossroads program -- an increase of \$4,632.

Margie Jordan: \$44,036 at Shiver School, \$54,587 as Principal of Shiver (replacing retiring Charles Giddens) -- an increase of \$10,551.

See Cost, Con

know that's b Cost (from Page 15)
increase of \$10,551.
Bear in mind, that we must also fill the positions that are vacated by Arthur Anderson, Gloria Fuller, and Margie Jordan.

Although the School Board and its attorney, Tom Lehman, don't place much validity in the tribunal recently con-

cluded concerning the termination of School Superintendent Mike Hickerson, that issue is not yet totally dismissed and there is still the possibility that we may have to pay the \$300,000 due on his contract.

The tribunal determined that there was no just cause for termination of Mr. Hickerson based on testimony heard by them.

At last week's School Board meeting, Mr. Lehman simply announced that the tribunal had determined that no further action was contemplated on the part of either party.

However, all indications are that there will be further action will be taken regarding this matter and Grady County may be liable for significant sums of money.

The School Board meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. There may be special called meetings at any time during the month to address issues before the Board. Plan to attend as many of these meetings as possible.

4/13/2022

New school superintendent wraps up tour of county's seven schools

► **MC FEE, from Page A1**

of smiling, happy students over the last two days. Our buildings are aged, but the updates and renovations put together by my predecessors have certainly kept these buildings relevant," the superintendent said.

The superintendent says he has a lot he wants to get done as soon as possible.

"My short-term plans are simple. First, I want to get to know the people of Grady County: the staff, students, parents, and community stake holders. I will be listening to them and their board member representatives to garner the input necessary to establish a solid long-term plan. In the very near future, we must put together a five-year strategic plan and I will lead the charge to make that happen. Lastly, over the next few months, I will be looking closely at our academic programs. We know the targets we must hit, and a big part of my job is making sure our arrows are aligned," Dr. McFee said.

The superintendent told school board members Tuesday night that he would be

contacting them beginning today, April 13, to schedule one-on-one meetings with each of them.

The superintendent withheld recommending the administrative personnel Tuesday night in order for him to have time to meet each of them. McFee did recommend the renewal of contracts for the certified staff Tuesday night and contracts will be going out to those individuals promptly.

"I don't want anyone to think I'm planning to get rid of them. I want to meet with them and talk with them about what their feelings are going forward," the superintendent said in reference to the principals and administrative staff.

On Tuesday night's agenda was the resignation of 13 current employees and McFee joked that all of those resignations had been submitted prior to his hiring. He admitted the system was a little late getting contracts issued and he said he was anxious to see what holes needed be filled before schools reopen for the 2022-2023 school year.

"With all these vacancies, this is an opportunity to do some recruiting. We need to ramp up our recruitment efforts so that we can attract some of the best and brightest from some of our area and regional colleges and universities," board Chairman Gerald Goosby said.

Dr. McFee responded that recruiting was not a once-a-year task, but must be an ongoing, year-round effort.

The superintendent thanked the board for putting their trust in him and hiring him to lead the Grady County Schools. He admitted he was nervous during his first board meeting here.

McFee was very complimentary of Broome for his service as interim superintendent and for his many years of service as the system's finance officer.

"I know it's more than Dan, but he has done a phenomenal job and he has spent a tremendous amount of time with me over the last several days," Dr. McFee said.

"I've only been here two days, but already I can tell this is a fabulous community and this is a great school sys-

tem," he said.

The superintendent said he had not had the opportunity to meet extensively with Assistant Superintendent Janet Walden, but he described her as a "brilliant woman" who has extensive knowledge of the curriculum.

And while the superintendent is moving fast to get settled, he reminded the board he would be out of the office next Tuesday and Wednesday to attend the Georgia School Superintendents Association's Spring Bootstrap Conference to be held in Savannah.

"It is an honor to be named the superintendent of schools for Grady County. I have felt nothing but a welcoming spirit since my arrival. I am excited to be a part of this community, but I would be remiss in not thanking Mr. Broome for his leadership over the last six months," Dr. McFee said.

The board is looking to host a reception for the community to meet the new superintendent. Tentative plans are for the event to be held at the new Navy

J.R.O.T.C. complex at Cairo High School and catered by the culinary arts department of the Cairo High School College & Career Academy. No date or time had been set as of presstime Wednesday.



THE FIRST STOP on new Grady County School Superintendent Dr. Eric J. McFee's tour of the county's schools was Cairo High School on Monday morning. Dr. McFee, second from left, is pictured with Finance Officer Dan Broome, left, Administrative Assistant Todd Gainous, and C.H.S. Principal Chris Lokey, right.

4/13/2022

McFee gets down to work this week

Grady County's new school superintendent spent part of the weekend working and on Monday, his first official day on the job, began touring the county's seven schools.

Dr. Eric J. McFee met with the school system's finance officer, Dan Broome, who had served as interim superintendent since last Oc-

tober, on Sunday afternoon and then on Monday and Tuesday Broome accompanied the superintendent on tours of the schools.

"These first two days have been a whirlwind. I have really enjoyed touring the schools. I was able to get to Cairo High School, Eastside Elementary and Whigham Monday. I visited Southside

Elementary, Northside Elementary, and Washington Middle today (Tuesday). I will head out to Shiver Wednesday morning and then at 1 p.m., I will be meeting with our principals and administrative personnel," Dr. McFee said.

"I have been very impressed with our schools, the administration, the

teachers, and all the support staff. Grady County is fortunate to have such loving and caring professionals. Our students have been amazing. It is always a special treat to walk in rooms and see them working and learning, while smiling and having fun. I saw hundreds

➤ See MCFEE, Page A11

McFee making big changes to school leadership

6/1/2022

► **MC FEE**, from Page A1

49 percent and, according to McFee, plans to fully retire in the next year.

"Dr. Larkins is very organized and detail oriented and will make an excellent federal programs director. Mrs. McCurry will be working with Dr. Larkins as we prepare for our major audit next year," the superintendent said.

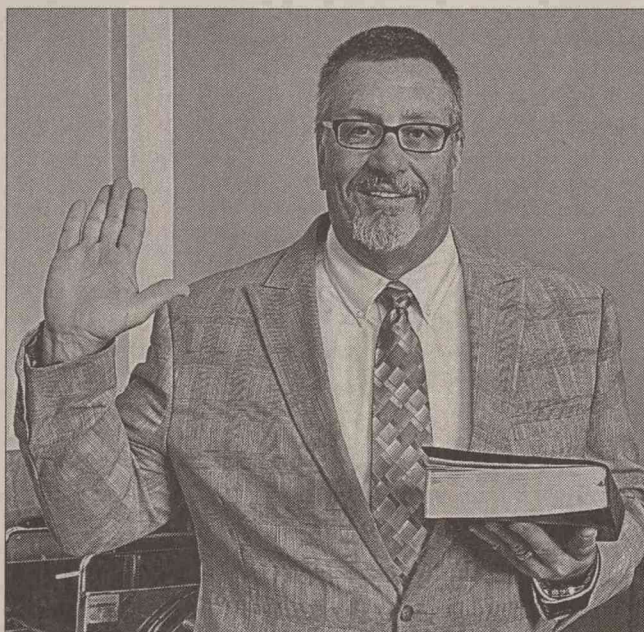
As part of his reorganization of the hierarchy of the local schools, Dr. McFee presented a revised organizational chart for the board's approval and pushed for the elimination of the administrative assistant position, the assistant director of special education, the L4GA coordinator of a reading grant awarded to the district, and the elimination of two Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) coaching positions.

Dr. McFee is transferring Adrienne Cruel from director of transportation to transportation coordinator. Former administrative assistant Todd Gainous was named director of transportation and safety. In this new role, Gainous will be responsible for the management of the district's transportation department as well as the school system police department.

To fill the vacancies created by his plan, the superintendent recommended, and the board approved, the appointment of Dr. William Huff as the new principal of Cairo High School.

Dr. Huff recently resigned his post as assistant principal at Cairo High School to accept another job in another district. The Grady County Board of Education voted 3-0 Tuesday night to rescind the resignations of Huff and James Mills.

The board also approved the superintendent's recommendation to name Tom Fallaw as principal of Washington Middle School and



NEARLY TWO MONTHS into the job, Grady County School Superintendent Dr. Eric McFee was officially sworn into office Tuesday morning, May 31, by Probate Judge Denise Maddox.

Stacy Fallaw as principal of Southside Elementary School. Tom Fallaw is currently an assistant principal at C.H.S. and serves as the system's athletic director. Mrs. Fallaw is currently the assistant principal at Eastside Elementary School.

Northside Elementary School assistant principal Selena Williams has been named that school's new principal.

Rounding out his recommendation, Dr. McFee persuaded the board to name Kiara Jones and Brandon Joiner as assistant principals at Washington Middle School. Jones currently serves as the coordinator of the L4GA reading grant and Joiner is an assistant principal at Southside.

McFee also named Chad Parkerson, an assistant principal at W.M.S. and most recently the head baseball coach for the Syrupmaker baseball team, the new assistant principal and athletic director at C.H.S. Parkerson had recently announced his plans to step aside as coach of the high school's baseball

team.

With all of the personnel changes, McFee says that no one involved in the reorganization will receive less pay and he says the net additional expense to the system is approximately \$61,000.

"We will support some of these positions using alternative funding such as federal and grant money in every case possible. These changes will provide the additional support necessary for our district to place an emphasis on academic alignment and professional development, teacher retention and recruitment, customer service, federal compliance and principal support," Dr. McFee said.

And while the superintendent named the new assistant principals at Washington and one at Cairo High School, he said the newly assigned principals will participate in the decision making for filling the still open vacancies.

The changes will go into effect June 8. However, Dr. McFee said he has asked Lokey, Best, Strickland and

Dr. Larkins to remain in their respective schools for a "little longer" to assist with the transition to the new principals.

The new Grady County school superintendent said that each of the recommendations approved by the board Tuesday night was based on the individuals' leadership experience, ability to support new principals, relationships within the community and the current district needs.

Dr. McFee said he formulated his decision after meeting with school administrators and in consultation with board of education finance officer Dan Broome and assistant superintendent of teaching and learning, Janet Walden.

News of the changes began to leak last week as the superintendent finalized his plan and met with each individual impacted by the changes. "That is the reason people began to talk, but a number of people knew a little bit of the puzzle, but no one knew it all until tonight," Dr. McFee said.

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FRIENDS, 8A

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Grady BOE cites four reasons for firing 'super'

Tribunal oversees nine hours of testimony

By Laura Cassels
laura.cassels@gafnews.com

CAIRO — Three members of the Grady County Board of Education blame former School Superintendent Mike Hickerson for loss of "key personnel" from the school system — including recently recaptured Principal Tim Helms.

But Hickerson, who was fired Feb. 27, says Helms and others left simply for better-paying jobs and that he really was fired for not being an obedient good old boy.

In roughly nine hours of testimony recorded and given under oath Monday, Hickerson and school-board members argued over loss of key personnel and three other issues cited by the school board in firing the superintendent and breaking his three-year contract.

The other three reasons, all refuted by Hickerson, involved the manner in which his new contract was presented and approved, his handling of personnel problems at Northside Elementary School, and his support of the ServiceMaster maintenance contract.

Hickerson called for the hearing in front of an independent, three-man tribunal to appeal his firing and the voiding of his contract, which includes a clause requiring payment of his three-year salary (roughly \$300,000) if he is fired without due cause.

The school board opened the hearing with eight reasons for firing Hickerson but brought no witnesses to substantiate four of the claims, so the tribunal will not consider them when deciding whether there was due cause to void the contract.

The tribunal members are retired educators E. Tarver Averett of Sandersville, Paul Chambers of Rising Fawn and Warren Powell of Bowden. They have up to five days to issue their opinion but may do so as early as today.

The school board's chief

Please see REASONS, page 3A

complaint is that Hickerson failed to prevent the exodus of key school employees such as Tim Helms and Ralph Jones, both former football coaches at Cairo High School.

Helms, who advanced to the post of principal at Shiver Elementary School and then at Washington Middle School, left Grady County two years ago to

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Helms, who advanced to the post of principal at Shiver Elementary School and then at Washington Middle School, left Grady County two years ago to become principal of Thomasville High School. Jones left to become principal of Bainbridge High School.

"Here we were, losing our young school administrators to other school systems," said school board chairman Jimmy Douglas, who blamed Hickerson for those losses.

"I began to wonder why Mr. Hickerson would let these two outstanding leaders slip away from our school system," said school board member Billy Bundrick. "It became evident to me Mr. Hickerson wanted to bring outside folks in."

Hickerson and others testified that Helms and Jones left Grady County because they got positions that weren't

available in Grady at the time and raises of at least \$20,000, salaries Grady would not match.

Helms agreed last month to return as principal of Cairo High School. The school board hired him at \$90,000 on the same day Cairo High principal Wayne Tootle announced his retirement. Two days later, Tootle announced his interest in becoming superintendent.

Hickerson's attorney, F. Brad Wilson of Macon, argued those recent developments are what Douglas and Bundrick wanted all along, but there weren't enough jobs to go around with Hickerson in charge.

"All these pieces of puzzle really seem to come together," Wilson said. "We don't need to play petty politics here. We're

one in December, argued that any board complaints about actions prior to the start of the new contract on Jan. 1 are irrelevant.

The other causes cited by three members of the five-member school board for firing Hickerson follow.

● His handling of personnel problems at Northside Elementary School, led by first-year Principal Jackie Powell. The school board majority claims Hickerson did too little too late while morale among teachers plummeted under Powell's leadership.

Wilson countered the school board presented not a single teacher or parent as a witness to substantiate claims that the school was in "crisis." The only direct testimony was from Assistant Superintendent Tommy Pharis, who said Powell made two controversial changes at

the school — redirecting traffic flow and setting a no-paddling policy for classrooms — that seemed at the heart of the disputes at Northside.

Jimmy Douglas
school board chairman

Douglas and Bundrick

testified up to half the teachers were ready to quit in mid-year because of Powell, though none did. After firing Hickerson, the school board agreed to keep Powell at Northside through the end of this school year and will transfer her to another administrative position next year.

Hickerson said he was working to resolve problems at Northside but was ordered out of the dispute in January when the school board decided to tackle it directly.

● The renewal of his contract. Douglas, Bundrick, and attorney Lehman say school-board member Tyler Maxwell and former members Mary Henderson and Fred Collins renewed Hickerson's contract in September in a rush, without listing it on the meeting agenda

Panel sides with Hickerson in non-binding review of firing

School board does not plan any action on matter

Randolph H. Wind
Editor & Publisher

A three-man panel, selected by former school superintendent Michael Hickerson and his attorney with the consent of the Grady County Board of Education, heard almost nine

hours of testimony Monday and issued their findings and conclusions Tuesday morning.

E. Tarver Averett, Warren Powell and Paul Chambers, all former long-time educators, determined, based on the evidence presented, that "there was no justifiable cause to terminate the contract of the superintendent of the Grady County Board of Education."

However, the three men went

on to say, "the relationship between a superintendent and the school board is so delicate and intimate that without mutual trust and confidence, neither the school board nor the superintendent can perform their function regardless of who is at fault in the dispute."

The major reason the board terminated Hickerson's contract,

(See FINDINGS, Page 5A)



FORMER school superintendent Michael Hickerson confers with his wife Kay during a review of his termination by a three man panel Monday. (Staff Photo)

Nine hours of testimony heard during Monday's review

Jim Wyatt
Staff Writer
Randolph H. Wind
Editor & Publisher

Monday's review of the termination of former school superintendent Michael Hickerson lasted almost nine hours.

E. Tarver Averett, Warren Powell and Paul Chambers, two former school superintendents and a long-time teacher, served as the panel to conduct the review.

Agreeing weeks ago that the review was not binding and was only being conducted as a matter

of "good faith," Board Attorney Tom Lehman limited his case to four of eight points and only called three witnesses, James H. (Jimmy) Douglas, Teresa Harris and Billy Bundrick, the three board members who voted to terminate the superintendent.

On the other hand, Hickerson's attorney F. Bradford Wilson Jr. of Macon, called seven witnesses and the former superintendent to testify.

Board Chairman Douglas testified about a number of incidents that occurred with Hickerson that had led to a loss

of faith and confidence in the superintendent.

Primarily Douglas pointed the finger of blame for the loss of "key administrators" Tim Helms and Ralph Jones to other school systems at Hickerson.

Douglas also testified that Hickerson ignored complaints from the faculty and staff at Northside concerning first-year principal Jacquelyn Powell.

The board chairman indicated that the adoption of the September contract for Hickerson "broke the camel's back" with regard to his trust in

the superintendent.

During cross examination, Wilson quizzed Douglas whether or not Hickerson was his first choice for superintendent, to which he replied "no."

Board member Harris was the second witness called by Lehman and she too testified that after meetings with Hickerson she "did not trust him."

She claimed that Hickerson made decisions, but didn't give her information behind those decisions.

Harris said she received

numerous calls about the situation at Northside and that Hickerson "would not deal with them, would not meet with teachers. He did nothing."

She also was concerned with the loss of staff to other systems.

Under cross examination, Wilson pointed out that the superintendent's dismissal was her first personnel decision since going on the board. He asked if she had read the contract and she replied "yes."

Wilson asked if at her first board meeting did she recom-

(See TESTIMONY, Page 6A)

The Cairo Messenger.

Cairo, Grady County, Georgia, February 9, 1906.

NO. 5.

Methodist Church Acquires New Organ.

Methodist friends say that a new organ for their church that they must have this year and they will appoint an "Organ Committee" for the purpose of calling on the people to assist them in the necessary amount of money to purchase an organ. It is believed that everyone will do as they have done in the past, and come to this cause liberally—the purchase of a pipe organ. In the month of September, the Lord is a cheerful giver, and in the month of February it is certainly for a good cause. We all like good music besides, good music is a help to divine services. Everyone contribute liberally. The church is called upon and everyone assist in this movement to purchase this organ.

Miss Davis Ordained Wednesday Night.

Confirmation services held at the church last Wednesday night were witnessed by a large crowd of our Cairo people. The weather of the inclement season here was not as large a

Beautiful Bouquet Brightly Bestowed.

Miss Haddie Dasvis, who has made Reidsville her home for the past few years has, to the regret of her many friends here, returned to her home, Savannah. Miss Davis is well known all over the county, having been the assistant clerk of the superior court for over two years, during which time she met many people and made many friends throughout the county. Her work while in the clerk's office has made for her a reputation that may be envied by many of our best business men, and has proven beyond contradiction that women, as well as men, are capable of attending to county affairs. To say that Miss Davis will be missed by the people of Reidsville, both young and old, will be only a slight way to express it. While here she was always one of the foremost leaders in our social circles. She possessed that happy trait of being able to entertain a stranger as well as a friend. She was always scattering sunshine and trying to make it pleasant for those with whom she came in contact. In leaving Reidsville Miss Davis leaves many warm friends who regret very much her departure, and wish for her success and happiness wherever she may go.—Tattal [Ga.] Journal.

Miss Davis is now making her home in Cairo and has a position

To the Teachers Of Grady County:

After consulting with the State School Commissioner, who approves the plan, it has been decided to hold a Teachers Institute for one day during each of the months from February to June inclusive, in lieu of the Institute for one week usually held in summer.

The law requires all persons in the county holding license to teach to be present; and this will be enforced. In case of unavoidable absence, a written excuse must be presented to the Board of Education to be elected on March, who will pass on the same.

The first Institute will be held on Saturday Feb. 17th. The white teachers will meet in the Cairo High School building at ten A. M.; the colored teachers at the same hour in their academy building.

A program will be provided and published later. Competent and skilled instructors will be provided for the several Institutes.

All teachers are urged to do what they can to make these Institutes a success. I shall do all in my power to make them pleasant and profitable to every one.

The public are cordially invited to be present at these meetings.

J. B. Wight.

Acting C. S. C., Grady County.

Newsy Notes From Golden Rod

The farmers in this section are quite busy breaking their lands with two-horse plows while the weather is good. There are more two-horse plows in utilization now-a-days than ever before. Planters are realizing more fully the necessity of thoroughly breaking and pulverizing their land, as a compulsory prerequisite to planting, and closely associated with other secrets of successful farming. The

Woodland Items

The weather has been fine the past week for out door work and our farmers have put in full time. Nearly all of the farmers in this locality are turning their land with two horse plows this spring. Most of the fields look like a stump orchard which keeps them from doing anything like satisfactory work.

Mr. Wm. Mathis has moved his saw-mill on Mr. Walter Harper's place and will soon be turning out the lumber.

Rev. J. L. Akridge, accompanied by his wife, went up to Union Hill church Saturday to fill his regular appointment at that place.

Several of our citizens went to Cairo Saturday to get some of that precious dirt that they keep in sacks for sale.

Mrs. Johnson Harper, accompanied by her two youngest children, went to Thomasville Saturday to visit her parents.

Messrs. W. M. Prince, J. Harper, H. L. Hughes, I. D. Singletary and Malcom Waldron, accompanied by Miss Annie Garland, went from here Sunday to Pearce church to hear sister Malone.

One of Mr. Dave Golden's children had the misfortune to get burned the latter part of this week.

Mr. I. D. Singletary was attending to business in Cairo Monday.

Mr. Byron Sasser, one of our progressive young farmers, made a business trip to Thomasville Monday.

Mr. A. J. Dickey and wife were visiting relatives in our community Saturday and Sunday.

Misses Maggie and Mattie Fulford and Ethel Vanlandingham visited at the home of Mr. Berry Singletary Saturday evening.

Miss Alice Black spent the day Sunday with Miss Pearl Harper.

A HARROWING TALE.

I would not harrow your feelings, but would have you harrow your fields with the best and latest improved *Reversible and Extensible Disc Harrow*. Thorough preparation of the soil before planting goes a long way towards insuring good crops. No tool will so completely pulverize and disintegrate the clods and turf as an up-to-date disc harrow which cuts, turns and breaks the land at one operation.

There are plenty of old out-of-date disc harrows on the market that you can buy at your own price. I have two of this kind myself that I am anxious to get rid of for less than cost.

The advantages of the *Reversible and Extensible Disc Harrow*, that I am now selling, when compared with the old style disc harrow are so many that it is folly to invest in one of the old style that are neither reversible nor extensible.

The new harrow will do all the work of the old style and in addition you can throw the dirt either in or out. You can lay off your rows for all crops and at same time harrow the land, you can bed up your cotton land, you can throw out four furrows for corn leaving a balk to burst out when planting, the great advantage over the old

Kiwanians Hear Meeting Report

Cairo Kikanians at their luncheon meeting Tuesday heard an interesting report on the annual convention of Kiwanis International at Los Angeles by Kiwanians Bill Cochran and Elzie McLeod, of Thomasville, who attended the convention. The Cairo club had no delegates at this year's gathering.

Harris Jefferson was program chairman and Norwood Clark, the club vice-president, presided. Agnew Smith, was acting secretary.

Several visiting Kiwanians and other guests heard the program.

A number of important matters were acted upon by the Kiwanis directors at their monthly supper meeting at Citizens Cafe Monday night with Edwin Carlisle, club president, presiding, and Harold McGahee as host.

City Council In Meet Mon.

Second Ave. To Be Widened; City On Temporary Set-Up

The mayor and council, in a postponed meeting Monday night, accepted the resignation of city manager, Adron Rosser, allotted \$200 toward the purchase of a lifesaving machine, started negotiations for the widening of a street, and carried on general business as usual.

Charles Beale, president of the community chest, appeared before the council requesting \$200 toward the purchase of a combination resuscitator-inhalator-aspirator. The amount will go with other donations to buy the long needed machine. Aulden Hawthorn, chief of the fire department, instigated the plan for the acceptance of the machine which will be kept at the fire department for necessary use anywhere in the county. Various persons will be given expert training in the operation. Trained persons will be selected from the likely places the machine will be used, such as the fire department, the swimming pool, etc. The Kiwanians

Education Board Names Connell

Muggridge To Teach New Course At High School; Budget Told

The county Board of Education, at their meeting at 9:30 Tuesday morning, accepted the resignation of Wh Muggridge as county School Superintendent, and unanimously elected Mr. Lloyd Connell to fill the position. Mr. Muggridge's resignation will take effect August 31.

Henry Hester presided at the meeting with J. T. Mayfield, W. C. Lane, and R. E. Stringer present. Mr. Connell sat in at the meeting.

Mr. Muggridge is resigning his position to accept a job in the Cairo High School as teacher of Industrial Arts and D. C. T. Coordinator. Mr. Connell's appointment will begin Sept. 1st and run through Dec. 31st, at which his regular four year term will begin.

The board approved the proposed budget which calls for total expenditures of \$546,481.22. Most of this money will come from the state and federal governments. \$79,000 will come in county maintenance and bond tax money. Better than 50,000 is surplus school district bond money which has accrued over a period of several years and is being held in separate bonded district accounts and can be used only to retire bonds and interest as they fall due.

It was found that all of the bonded schools in the county have enough money to meet the bonds and interest payments as they fall due at the end of this fiscal year, with the exception of Live Oak bonded school district. A 3-4 mill levy will be sufficient to retire the one outstanding bond and interest which will fall due Jan. 1st. After this is paid, Live Oak will be bond-free. Last February the county board paid off all county-wide school bonds. Cairo, Elpino, Spence, Union, Wayside and Whigham are the only other districts having bond debts.

The board decided upon a recommendation to county commissioners of a tax levy of 15

AREA NATURAL GAS MEETING SET HERE MONDAY AFTERNOON

Rev. W. C. Jones Passes Here

Beloved Resident Dies Sunday At Age Of 93

Southwest Georgia lost one of her most esteemed citizens when the Rev. Walter Colquitt Jones, 93, a retired minister of the South Georgia Methodist Conference, and a major factor in the development of the tung oil industry in this area, slipped peacefully to eternal rest at his home here at 6 a. m. Sunday.

Mr. Jones had been ill much of the time for several years but it was not until Sunday of last week that a rather pronounced change for the worse became evident. He began sinking Friday and little hope was held for him after that time. His son, Dr. Walter C. Jones, Jr., a prominent Miami (Fla.) surgeon, was at his bedside for some hours before the end came.

Mr. Jones was born near Quitman in Brooks County, on June 26, 1855, one of 14 children of the late Malachi and Sarah Reiser Jones. As a farmer in his early thirties, he answered the call to the ministry and served Methodist pastorates in this county and at Camilla, Waverly Hall, Mount Vernon and Cochran for 14 years before he retired because of his health and located here. He married Miss Mellie Powell, of Cairo, in 1892. A brother, the late W. M. (Billy) Jones, was Ordinary of Thomas County for some years.

He located on a farm just outside the southeastern city limits of Cairo and established a large pecan nursery which he operated in connection with his farm for many years. When the tung oil nut industry was started here, he also operated a tung nursery for some years and made a major contribution to the development of these and other crops for this area. The large and beautiful colonial home of the family there

Many Visitors Are Expected

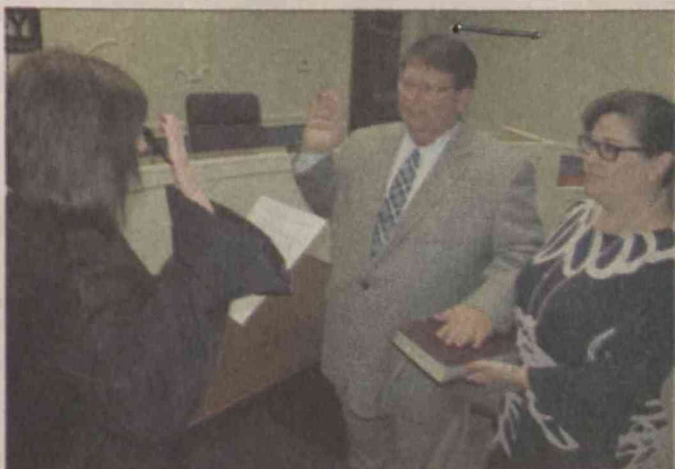
Albany, Tallahassee Officials Will Be In Charge

Some 100 to 125 municipal officials and civic leaders from nearly 50 places in South Alabama, Northwest Florida and Southwest Georgia are expected here Monday afternoon, August 7, for an Albany-Tallahassee meeting to speed action on to make natural gas available in this part of the country.

The meeting will be at the conditioned Citizens Cafe, lunch promptly at 1:30 p. m. Eastern time, and the group remain there for the business session which will follow immediately. The local Chamber of Commerce is arranging the meeting but the program is being handled and will be in charge of Albany Chamber Manager V. Brown, Albany City Manager Quintard Wright and Tallahassee City Manager Malcolm Yancey.

Visitors here for the meeting will include Cliff D. Davenport, manager of the Savannah Chamber of Commerce, former Tallahassee, who plans a similar meeting for the Savannah-Elkton-Jacksonville-Waycross area a little later; City Manager Daniel, of Panama City; and possibly officials of the Atlantic Gas Co. and the Southern Natural Gas Co., the two concerns which have for some time had before the Federal Power Commission applications for permission to lay pipelines across Southern Alabama and Georgia and Northwest Florida from the Louisiana area already served.

Probably the entire group of City of Cairo officials will attend the meeting and be hosts for the luncheon, first planned "Dutch treat" affair. City of Cairo has evidenced interest in the plans for natural gas in the area from the start and



DR. KERMIT GILLIARD was sworn in as the new Grady County School Superintendent Monday by Probate Judge Denise Maddox. Holding the family Bible was Gilliard's wife, Cristie.

Gilliard sworn in as new superintendent

Randolph H. Wind
Editor & Publisher

Dr. Kermit Gilliard today becomes the 15th man in Grady County history to serve as the head of the county's public school system.

The new school superintendent was sworn in by Grady County Probate Judge Denise Maddox Monday morning with his family and friends on hand to witness the occasion.

Dr. Gilliard follows in the footsteps of J.B. Wight, J.S. Weather, J.P. Swann, Walter Eskew, Wh Muggridge, Lloyd Connell, Jack Willis, Cecil C. McDonald, James "Doc" Elliott, Larry Rawlins, Michael Hickerson, Steve Wooten, Dr. Tommy Pharis and Lee

M. Bailey.

The Grady County Board of Education took action in February to name Gilliard the superintendent-elect, and on Tuesday of this week Superintendent Lee M. Bailey's two-year tenure as head of the school system came to a close.

Dr. Gilliard is a product of the Grady County School System and has been employed by the system since 1993.

"We are fortunate to have been able to put in place a strong administrative team with the appointments of Laura Elliott and Kevin Strickland as assistant superintendents and the hiring of Cairo High School

► See GILLIARD, Page A8

CM 7-1-15

Gilliard takes the helm of county's public schools

►GILLIARD, from Page A1

Principal Chris Lokey, Shiver Elementary School Principal Todd Jones, and Whigham Principal Mark Willis joining Southside Principal Janet Walden, Northside Principal Dr. Gloria Fuller, Eastside Principal Shelia Cain and Washington Middle School Principal Tilda Brimm," Dr. Gilliard said.

He added, "We are all busy making plans for the new school term and, before we know it, teachers will be back hard at work and, later this month, students will return to classes. There is much to be done, but I am confident we will have a good school year, and I'm looking for great things from our school system. I pledge to do all that I can to make it the best system for all students, parents and staff."

Gilliard holds degrees from both Valdosta State and Georgia State Universities, and earned his doctorate in education in 2010.

During his career here, he has served as the special education director, principal of Eastside Elementary School, principal of Washington Middle School, interim principal of Cairo High School and assistant school superintendent.

He is the son of Kermit Sr., and Peggy Gilliard of the Spence community.



NEW GRADY COUNTY School Superintendent Dr. Kermit Gilliard, third from left, was joined by his parents, wife and children at Monday's swearing in ceremony. Shown are, l-r, Kermit Gilliard Sr., Owen Gilliard, Dr. Gilliard, Anna Gilliard, Cristie Gilliard, and Peggy Gilliard.

Dr. Gilliard and his family are active in the Church of Christ in Cairo and formerly in Thomasville, where he served as a deacon and Vacation Bible School director for many years.

He has served on the boards of the Thomas/Grady Association for Retarded Citizens, the Georgia Pines Mental Health/Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse and as chairman of the Regional Community Center Board of Directors here in Cairo.

He currently serves on the

Board of Directors of Rain-tree Village Children's Home in Valdosta, a post he has held since 2003.

Since 2008, he has served on the Cairo City Council. Gilliard's term on the city council expires Dec. 31, 2015, and with the school board's blessing, he intends to serve out the remainder of his term.

Gilliard and his wife, Cristie, who serves as the school system's special education director, are parents of Anna, a rising sophomore at Cairo High School, and

Owen, a rising sixth grader at Washington Middle School



Board of Education

- 1905-Aug-21 Sec. 18 ...the grand jury in each new county shall at the first session elect a county board of education ... and that said county BOE shall immediately organize ... Law No. 10 Organization of New Counties
- 1905-Oct-13 J.B. Wight appeared before the Decatur County BOE to request adjustment of school census
- 1905-Nov-30 ...a traveling representative from UGa visited the area to encourage people to levy taxes to support education
- 1905-Dec-22 ... As there was no one to look after our public school interest, I was asked to do this... arrangement has been made... w Thomas and Decatur Co. Schools may be started the 1st of Jan... each community should choose its own teacher... I may be seen at my office in the Walker building ...
- 1906-Jan-05 All the new county officers, with the exception of School Commissioner Wight opened their offices in the new Crawford building in Cairo. Cm
- 1906-Jan-08 Mr. J. B. Wight, representing Grady co. appeared before the Board and at his request the Board authorized the CSC to make contracts with teachers for Grady Co. Schools, which were formerly in this county...
- 1906-Feb-09 After consulting with the State School Commissioner... a Teachers Institute ...will be held... white teachers will meet in the CHS building ...; the colored teachers...in their academy building. J.B. Wight, Acting C.S.C. CM
- 1906-Mar-08 First Term Grady Superior Court. ...convened Monday morning.. Presided over by Judge R.G. Mitchell. The first business of this session was the formation of the grand jury... We (the Grand Jury) have elected the following County School Board: M.L. Ledford, E.A. Maxwell, A.C. Dickey, N.G. Christopher and J.S.E. Wilder. ... CM 3/9/1906
- 1906-Mar-16 County School Board met March 9 ... elected Col. M.L. Ledford Chairman and N.G. Christopher Vice-chairman.
- 1906-Mar-16 met March 13 ... elected J.B. Wight CSC
- 1906-Apr-06 BOE met on Tue in regular session
- 1906-Aug-21 Sec. 1 ...within 30 days .. Lay off the county into school districts, . Lines ..clearly defined by boundaries.. Shall contain an area of not less than 16 sq mi ... shaped as to have the school buildings as near the center as possible, and no territory shall be included whose occupants reside farther than 3 miles from the school-house.
- Sec. 2 ..within 90 days after BOE has laid the county off as required in section 1, the BOE shall ... elect 3 trustees for each district in the county.
- Sec. 5 .. In those districts which levy local taxes for educational purposes, the board of trustees shall make all rules and regulations to govern the schools of the district, and build and equip schoolhouses under the approval of the county BOE.. Law No. 549 Local Tax for Public Schools
- 1906-Sep-14 Public School of Cairo opened Mon. Col. R.C. Bell, Principal acting. Misses Zant, Bailey and Jenkins as assistants. Basmajian, music teacher. 150 pupils enrolled.
- 1906-Nov-09 Cairo School Improvement Club. ... equipment committee asked for a book case, maps and a dictionary...
- 1906-Dec-07 Public School 1907.Teachers are scarce. Several who taught in the county this year have discontinued teaching altogether....
- 1906-Dec-28 Re-districting the County Schools.much confusion ... to locating the rural schools. ... settle the disputes and wrangles by consolidating weak schools, establishing strong school centers...
- 1907-Feb-15 ... within 90 days after the BOE has laid out the county.... Feb 23rd fixed as the day for election.. M.L. Ledford, Chairman BOE; J.B. Wight, CSC
- 1907-Mar-2 School Trustees listed in Minutes
- 1907-Aug-22 The failure on the part of any BOE to perform the duties required by the Act, shall be immediately inquired into by the first grand jury sitting after such neglect of duty... Law No. 266 District Schools, Local Tax and Trustees.
- 1946-Feb-01 duties of the school trustees appointed or elected by the county BOE ... shall be advisory in nature.consolidation. Law No. 634 County Boards of Education
- 1968-Mar-05 Sec. 1 an Act to create a new board of education of Grady County... to provide for education districts; to provide for the election of the members... District 1-Cairo election district; 2- Higdon & Reagan election districts; 3-Spring Hill & Whigham election districts; 4-Spence, Blowing Cave & Lime Sink; 5-Duncanville and Pine Park. Sec. 5 .. The BOE shall appoint ... the superintendent

Cairo Banking Company.¹⁰⁶ Jesse Seaborn Weathers, who had graduated from Emory College in 1904, opened a practice with R. C. Bell over the B. F. Powell store, next to Singletary and Dr. T. J. Arline.¹⁰⁷ Bell, also in real estate with Will Crawford, made a map of the Grady County and was said to have "Bought a horse and buggy to do the spade work." The map, identifying communities, schools, churches, and turpentine stills as well as roads, would be published by the Hudgins Company in Atlanta in 1906.¹⁰⁸ The *Messenger* remarked at the end of December, "No new lawyers have come to town this week. We again brand as false the statement that we have 18."¹⁰⁹

Sorting out the responsibilities of the old and new counties concerned not only lawyers during the fall of 1905. Since the taxes due in the fall of 1905 were owed to the old counties, one pragmatic Grady citizen encouraged everyone to satisfy their road duty by working it out rather than paying a fee. The soon-to-be Grady County would benefit from the labor, whereas any cash would be spent by Decatur and Thomas counties on *their* roads.¹¹⁰

J. Byron Wight appeared before the Decatur County Board of Education to request the adjustment of the school census to divide schools between the old and new counties.¹¹¹ Thirty-two schools transferred to Grady from Thomas County.¹¹² After a presentation at City Hall by a state university professor, a number of interested citizens formed a committee to consider school systems. Members were Dr. Cooke, John L. Poulk, W. B. Roddenbery, R. L. VanLandingham, Dr. W. A. Walker, J. S. Weathers, J. B. Wight, and W. S. Wight. The committee members were to determine how Grady County could establish the recommended eight-month term, seven grades, and a three-year high school.¹¹³

The parent counties determined which bridges and roads were transferred, with Decatur County assigning twenty-six small "Creek and Branch Bridges" to Grady County. Thomas County officials determined that along with its share of the creek and branch bridges, Grady would maintain the two largest wooden bridges over the Ochlockonee River, while Thomas would be responsible for that river's new iron bridge and four smaller wooden ones. The United States Post Office Department wrote area postmasters for clarification of their status. Whigham's postmaster W. M. Quinn, who had fought against the new county, responded with resignation to the letter asking for the location of his office, "Yes it is in Grady I am sorry to say."¹¹⁴

1905; Ledford advertisement, *Cairo Messenger*, Dec 29, 1905.

¹⁰⁶ Watson advertisement, *Cairo Messenger*, Dec 29, 1905.

¹⁰⁷ Bell & Weathers advertisement, *Cairo Messenger*, Dec 29, 1905; Russell and Singletary advertisements, *Cairo Messenger*, Jan 20, 1905; Arline advertisement, *Cairo Messenger*, May 19, 1905; Mariwilburn W. Grist and Arthur K. Weathers, "J.S. Weathers Family," in Connell, Roebuck, and Williams, *Gleanings*, 265.

¹⁰⁸ From RRC notes, no source, "1905;" Connell, Roebuck, and Williams, *Gleanings*, 291; Mary T. Whitson, "The Rapid growth of Cairo," *Cairo Messenger*, Dec 14, 1906.

¹⁰⁹ "Personal and business locals," *Cairo Messenger*, Dec 29, 1905.

¹¹⁰ E.F. Dollar, [letter], *Cairo Messenger*, Sep 22, 1905.

¹¹¹ Decatur County, Board of Education, Minutes, Book 1, Oct 13, 1905.

¹¹² "Grady takes 32 from Thomas," *Cairo Messenger*, Dec 22, 1905.

¹¹³ "New school system," *Thomasville Times-Enterprise*, Nov 10, 1905.

¹¹⁴ U.S. Post Office Department, *Reports of Site Locations*, Georgia, Decatur County, Whigham.

**To The People
Of Grady County;**

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For sale by Wight &

owing real estate

It is due you that a statement
be made as to the school status
in Grady county. As there was
no one to look after our public
school interests, I was asked to
do this. The first thing was to de-
termine the number of school
children in Grady county, accord-
ing to the school census of 1903.
After going over the matter fully,
we find that the census stands as
follows for children of school age:

- Decatur county, 6544.
- Thomas county, 6231.
- Grady county, 5143.

The State school fund will be
apportioned in accordance with
the above figures.

The law provides that until the
election of County Board of Edu-
cation, the schools in the new
counties shall be under the con-
trol of the old counties from
which the new were formed. Un-
less there is a special session of
the Grand Jury called for choosing
a Board of Education for Grady
county, we will have no Board of
Education or County School Com-
missioner until about the middle
of March. So to avoid confusion,
this arrangement has been made:

The Thomas County Board of Ed-
ucation has asked me to take
charge of the schools in the part
of the county taken from Thomas
county; and Capt. Bradwell has
requested me to do the same for
that part of the county cut off
from Decatur. We may, there-
fore, begin our schools virtually
under our own control. Schools
may be started the 1st of January,
or any time thereafter as may
suit the convenience of the pat-
rons of any school.

Under the circumstances, it is
preferable that each community
should choose its own teacher.
When contracts are signed for
teaching any school, it should be
deposited with me. I can furnish
blank forms for this purpose.

Beginning with January 1st
1906, I may be seen at my office
in the Walker building, just south
of Mauldin Brother's store. In
the mean time, I shall be glad to
furnish any information possible.

Very respectfully
J. B. WIGHT

**Mayor of Cairo Recommends
"Magno" Liniment.**

Have used Magno Liniment on
a sprained foot and find it an ex-
cellent remedy. Am glad to rec-

**Times Enterprise'
Trade Edition.**

The Thomasville Times-En-
terprise came to the Messenger
office last Sunday in the size of
an eighteen page paper and as
usual it is brimful of good read-
ing. The gentlemen, who are
at the head of this journal de-
serve all the success they are
having for they are working
hard for the upbuilding of South-
west Georgia and Thomas coun-
ty in particular. Success to the
Times-Enterprise and its edi-
tors, Messrs. Hardy & McCart-
ney.

It is a good plan to take a dose of
the Tablets when you have a cold.
They promote a healthy action of
the bowels, liver and kidneys which
is always beneficial when the system
is congested by a cold or attack of
the grip. For sale by Wight &
Browne.

**To Erect
Livery Stables.**

Mr. W. D. Barber, a promi-
nent citizen of Cairo, was in
Pelham a few days ago and
closed a trade with Mr. J. L.
Hand for the purchase of a lot
on Burum Street which runs
south of the Atkinson ginney.
On this lot Mr. Barber will
erect an up-to-date livery stable
and conduct a livery business.
At the time that he was here he
had not fully decided whether
he would build a brick or frame
building but it is practically cer-
tain that he will build of brick.

Mr. Barber also purchased
through the instrumentality of
the Pelham Land Loan & Im-
provement Co. the house and
lot on Tension Street known
as the Tucker Place which was
owned by Mr. D. B. Turner and
will live there.

It is the intention of Mr. Bar-
ber to move his family to Pel-
ham at once and to have his
business under way at as early
a date as is possible.

Mr. Barber and his family
will be welcomed to Pelham.
—Pelham Journal.

Blowing Cave Dots.

**IMPORTANT TO
THE PUBLIC**

We are now closing out
men's and boys clothing, Ladies
and children jackets, men's and
boys odd pants regardless of
cost. Forester Brothers, Cairo,
Ga.

AN EMERGENCY MEDICINE
one-third of the time required by
and similar injuries, there is nothing
so good as Chamberlain's Pain Balm.
It soothes the wound and not only
gives instant relief from pain, but
causes the parts to heal in about
Liver Tablets. For sale by Wight
& Browne.

Removal Notice.

TO THE PUBLIC; On and after
Jan. 1st I will move my store to
the new walker building next to
Mauldin Bros. where I will have
more room and be in a better po-
sition than ever to serve the trade.
T. F. BELCHER.

Did you notice the 5-column
display adv. of Harvard Brand
suits and overcoats in this issue
of the Messenger? For sale in
Cairo by Mr. J. L. Oliver.

Large assortment of Christmas
Perfumes and Toilet Articles at
Grady Pharmacy.

**LOW RATES VIA ATLANTIC COAST LINE ON
ACCOUNT OF CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.**

On Dec. 22, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and Jan.
1st the Atlantic Coast Line will sell from
all stations Christmas Holiday tickets at
the rate of one and one-third fare plus
25c for round trip tickets, minimum rate
50c, to all points east of the Mississippi
and South of the Ohio and Potomac riv-
ers and intermediate points on direct
ticketing routes St. Louis, Mo. inclu-
sive, with final limit returning Jan. 4,
1906. For students, teachers and mem-
bers of faculties of the various institu-
tions of learning tickets will be sold Dec.
17th to the 25th inclusive, with final lim-
it returning Jan. 8, 1906. Tickets at the
above rate will be sold upon presenta-
tion and surrender of certificate signed
by superintendent, principal or president
of the various institutions of learning.

For full information see ticket agent or
address
T. J. Bottoms, T. P. A., Thomasville, Ga.
T. C. White, D. P. A., Savannah, Ga.
W. J. Craig, G. P. A., Wilmington, N. C.

RATES TO NEW ORLEANS

On account of American Association for
Advancement of Science Dec. 29, 1905—
Jan. 4th, 1906, via Atlantic Coast Line.
The Atlantic Coast Line will sell on
Dec. 27th, 28th and 29th from all coupon
stations to New Orleans round trip tick-
ets at the rate of one fare plus 25c with

**Petition
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Georgia, Thoma

To the Superior C
The petition of J
Wight, M. E. Wig
respectfully show

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no books have been presented for examination by the Justices and Notaries of Grady County, Cairo, and the following districts.

We recommend the appointment of the following Notaries Publics and Exofficio Justices of the Peace for the several judicial districts.

Cairo, J. E. Hurst; Whigham, T. J. Mills, Pine Park, J. C. Moore; Calvary, E. A. Maxwell; Reavans, John T. Allen; Spence, B. H. Pope; Blowing Cave, J. S. Mills; Spring Hill, B. A. Connel; Lime Sink, D. W. Kelly; Duncanville, S. M. Beach.

We further find that the Ordinary has in his possession new docket books for the Justices of the Peace and Notaries of the County and we beg to call the attention of the Justices and Notaries to this fact, and ask that they call on the Ordinary for their new books, and that they transcribe all cases that are to be or have been tried since the organization of Grady County on to the new docket, and turn over to the Ordinary of Grady County.

We have elected the following County School Board: M. L. Ledford, E. A. Maxwell, A. C. Dickey, N. G. Christopher and J. S. E. Wilder.

We recommend to the Ordinary that he make the tax for selling domestic wine two thousand (\$2,000) dollars per annum.

We recommend that the funds due Grady County by the State for the hire of the convicts be applied on the school fund.

We recommend to the Ordinary that he look after the County's poor and needy and that he relieve their necessities as far as possible by granting small pensions to worthy applicants.

We recommend that the Ordinary at his own expense...

...legislative... Board of County Commissioners for Grady County, composed of five members to be elected by the people.

We extend our thanks to His Honor Judge Mitchell and the Solicitor General for their kind and prompt attention to our petition.

We request that these general presentments be published in the official organ of the County.

W. B. ROSENBERG, Foreman; J. W. Booth, L. B. Powell, D. S. Swinson, E. A. Connel, A. C. Sellers, J. B. Ingram, A. B. Vickers, E. M. Bradman, J. C. Moore, T. B. Andrews, Z. P. Lock, E. L. Broom, H. E. Collins, T. M. Chastain, T. O. Dugger, T. M. Whigham, W. E. Goff, with W. S. Wright, Albert Powell and J. P. Cook.

The foregoing appointments are ordered as recommended and that the General Presentments be filed and become of record March 8, 1906.

R. G. MITCHELL, Judge Superior Court, Southern Circuit.

Bozonia, Peter, Sam, Green, etc. etc.

[Faded and mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

The Right Man

For The Place.

The Thomasville Times-Enterprise, the Bambridge Search Light, and other South Georgia papers are mentioning Lieut. Col. T. N. Hopkins, of Thomasville, for the position of Adjutant General. Our next governor, whoever he may be, would do well to give this appointment to the Colonel. He is one of the few members of the Georgia National Guard who has had real military experience. He ran away from home when a boy and fought in the war between the states. He also served in the Spanish-American war, and has been for many years in the state troops. Colonel Tom is the mustard.

Afflicted With Rheumatism.
"I was and am yet afflicted with rheumatism," says Mr. J. C. Bayne, editor of the Herald, Addington, Indian Territory, "but thanks to Chamberlain's Pain Balm an able one more to attend to business. It is the best of liniments." It troubles with rheumatism give Pain Balm a trial and you are certain to be more than pleased with the prompt relief which it affords. One application relieves the pain. For sale by Wight & Browne, Cairo, Ga.

C. E. Clayton and B. H. Eaton, two popular young men of Waycross, Ga., were in the city this week in the case of State vs. W. I. and Henry Elliston.

Program Teachers Institute.

To be held at Cairo High School Building March 17th at 10 A. M.

How to teach Arithmetic.—Prof. J. M. Stovall.

Written Work—Why? How? When?—Prof. J. B. Lockhart.

The Teacher an Example.—Miss Nellie Denton.

The Dull Pupil.—What to Do with Him.—Miss Eunice Stowers to be followed by general discussion.

All teachers are required to be present. The public are cordially invited.

J. B. Wight, Acting C. S. C.

Do Not Neglect a Bad Cold.
Never allow a cold to take its course. Too often at this season of the year its course is toward pneumonia. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will promptly cure your cold and counteract any tendency in this direction. There is nothing better for acute throat and lung troubles. For sale by Wight & Browne, Cairo, Ga.

We will swap you a mule that will suit you for the one you have that doesn't, if you will see us.
J. D. Holman.

WHITE PRIMARY ORDERED.

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Dem. Ex. Com. of Grady county, and in pursuant to the action of the Democratic Executive Committee in meeting held on Feb. 27th, a white primary election is hereby ordered to be held on Friday, April 13th next, for nomination of county officers and one representative for Grady county. The rules and regulations for conducting and participating in said primary will appear in the next issue of the county papers.

W. A. Walker, Chairman Democratic Executive Committee Grady County.

Planting Time will soon be here and W. B. Roddenbery.

County School

Institute Meets.

The Grady County Sunday School Institute convened Tuesday evening at the Methodist church at 7:30, presided over by Rev. H. C. Jones, State Conference Sunday School Secretary. The opening sermon was delivered by Rev. H. C. Jones in his usual manner with ease and force.

Among preachers in attendance were Rev. J. M. Outler, Thomasville; Rev. D. M. Merritt, Spring Hill Circuit; Rev. H. P. Stubbs, Whigham and Climax Circuit.

Among the delegates were, Mrs. Nicholson, Miss Manor, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Jeter, Climax, Ga., Mr. J. E. Comb, Whigham.

Despite the inclement weather the Institute was a grand success.

It will not cost you a cent to try Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets, and they are excellent for stomach troubles and constipation. Get a free sample at Wight & Browne's, Cairo, Ga.

Elpino Dots.

Mrs. N. P. Cole spent Monday night with her father, Mr. J. P. Anderson.

Mr. John Bentley went to see his lady love Sunday. Go it John.

Mr. Berry Wilder of Oak Grove was riding in this vicinity Sunday evening.

Misses Alice Ingram and Emma Carter was accompanied to church Sunday by two young men from Eureka. Wonder what that means.

Rev. Joe Akridge filled his regular appointment at Union Hill Sunday.

Messrs Montoc, and Walter Christie from Senteniel settlement visited Mr. Byran and Kedar Merrette Saturday night.

Byron Downs spent Saturday night at Mr. George Elkins.

Mr. Jim Sasser made a business trip to Cairo Monday.

Rev. Mr. Greenfield filled his regular appointment at Concord Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Vera Shiver spent Monday night at Mr. Johnnie Williams.

Mr. Walter Christie of Senteniel settlement give a certain girl in this vicinity a short call Sunday evening.

Mr. J. R. Anderson of Nashville, Ga., spent Friday night with Mr. J. Bentley and family.

Miss Pearl Elkins spent Tuesday night with Mrs. Joe Joiner.

Among those who attended Sunday School the fourth Sunday were Misses Rosa Merrett, Maggie Elkin and Mamie Kent. Messrs Bryan Merrett and Willie Sellers.

Miss Mamie Lee Bentley spent Friday night with Mrs. Jessie Owens.

Mr. Jack Leavins took his girl to church Sunday evening.

Quite a number of young people attended the sing at Mr. Godwins Sunday evening.

First Term Grady

Superior Court.

Grady county's first superior court convened Monday morning promptly at 10 o'clock, presided over by Judge R. G. Mitchell. The first business of this session was the formation of the grand jury with W. B. Roddenbery as foreman. Then Judge R. G. Mitchell in his easy and eloquent manner gave the charge to that august body, touching upon the most important affairs of the county such as gambling and illicit sale of liquor, pistol carrying. After the charge to the grand jury, the traverse jury and bailiffs of the court was sworn in. The court settled down to business. During the week the following cases were disposed of:

The State vs three colored boys, plead guilty to larceny, sentenced to pay a fine of \$80 or six months on the gang each.

The State vs Garfield Williams misdemeanor, fined \$200 or 12 months on the gang.

Mark Butler two cases, fined \$200 or 12 months on the gang.

Nat Singletary charged with a misdemeanor offense, was fined \$200 or 10 months on the gang.

The case of Newton Thirkeld, charged with murder, was postponed until next regular term, of court upon a legal showing made to the court.

The grand jury worked hard for four days, and during that time 32 true bills were returned at 4:25 Thursday evening.

The Bailiff announced that the grand jury was ready to adjourn, and at 4:30 that body began to file into the court room and made their general presentations. Then Judge Mitchell, after thanking them discharged that august body for the term.

As no arrest was made on the new indictments, court adjourned for the term.

Go to Wight Hardware Co. for all kind of Picture Frames

ANOUNCEMENTS.

I hereby announce myself a candidate, for re-election as Clerk of the Superior Court of Grady County, subject to the action of the White Primary to be held April 13th, 1906.

I take this method to again assure the people of my sincere appreciation, and thank them for their uniform kindness to me in the past, and if again elected shall earnestly endeavor to give them a satisfactory administration of the office.
WILLIAM P. CRAWFORD.

For Sheriff.

I hereby respectfully announce myself as a candidate for re-election to the office of Sheriff of Grady county, subject to the action of the white primary, to be held on April 13th, 1906.
D. W. TYUS.

For Treasurer.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for re-election to the office of Treasurer of Grady county, subject to the action of the white primary to be held April 13th 1906.

I take this method to again assure the people of my sincere appreciation and thank them for their uniform kindness to me in the past, and if again elected shall endeavor to give them a satisfactory administration of the office.
M. C. McMANEUS

For County Surveyor

I hereby respectfully announce myself as a candidate for re-election

A HARROWING TALE.

I would not harrow your feelings, but would have you harrow your fields with the best and latest improved *Reversible and Extensible Disc Harrow*. Thorough preparation of the soil before planting goes a long ways towards insuring good crops. No tool will so completely pulverize and disintegrate the clods and turn an up-to-date disc harrow which cuts, turns and breaks the land at one operation.

There are plenty of old out-of-date disc harrows on the market that you can buy at your own price. I have two of this kind myself that I am anxious to get rid of for less than cost.

The advantages of the Reversible and Extensible Disc Harrow, that I am now selling, when compared with the old style disc harrow are so many that it is folly to invest in one of the old style that are neither reversible nor extensible.

The new harrow will do all the work of the old style and in addition you can throw the dirt either in or out. You can lay off your rows for all crops and at same time harrow the land, you can bed up your cotton land, you can throw out four furrows for corn leaving a ball to burst out when planting—the great advantage over the old way being the harrowing that your land gets while laying off rows. To get best results the land of course be first broken with two horse plows broadcast.

The extensible feature of this harrow converts it into a cultivator; by extending the gangs you can straddle the row of cotton, corn or cane and cultivate both sides of the row at one trip, throwing the dirt either to or from the row as preferred. I can refer you to successful farmers in Grady county who cultivated their entire corn crop in 1905 with this implement.

Investigate this harrowing question well before spending your money. A word to the wise is sufficient.

Yours for good farming,

W. B. RODDENBERY,

CAIRO, GA.
For U. S. Mail Boxes, call on Wight Hardware Co.

The Bell House.

ARRIVALS

W. D. Clifford, A. Tegners, W. J. Pippins, A. A. Gore, C. P. Burk, M. A. Burk, C. G. Frye, C. H. Blackshear, Jno. Mansor, R. R. Terrell, Dr. W. M. McCord, A. S. Powell, T. H. Swicord, A. H. Harrell, Albert Holman, J. P. Womack, S. N. Gamel, A. C. Hollingsworth, T. A. Bird, W. M. Dalton, A. T. Harrison, Carl Clark, R. C. Johnson, B. L. Griner.

Mr. W. R. Wynn announces in this issue of the Messenger for re-election to the office of Tax Receiver of Grady county.

Be sure to read the change of advertisement of J. L. Oliver & Son which appears in another column.

Mr. F. B. Walsh who has been quite sick for several days, wants glad to learn, is improving.

Distributor.

Scatters the Gunns instead of putting in small Streams. Balanced Load make - Light Running No Cogs and Chains to get out of the Large Hoop. Shows any quality. No waste a round Stumps and Rails. Simplest and Strongest Distributor on the market. Awarded Diplomas Everywhere Exhibited. Have your dealer write:

J. C. Covington, Patent Owner, Clio, S. C.

OF DISTRIBUTING, ARRIVE, J. D. WOOD & CO., SAVANNAH, GA.

Spring Hill-District.

Georgia, Grady County. To The Hon. P. H. Herring, Ordinary of said county. The petition of W. H. Williams et al citizens of said county respectfully shows:

First. That it will be of great public convenience and utility to lay out and establish a Militia District with boundary lines as hereinafter designated to be known as Spring Hill District No. 1.

Second. That said Territory hereinafter designated contains more than one hundred male citizens over 21 years old residents of said territory, liable to military duty, and otherwise meets the requirements of the law, which entitles it to be established into a district, as aforesaid. Wherefore petitioners pray that you appoint three Commissioners to lay out and define the lines of the said District and report their action to you at once that said District may be established without delay.

W. H. Williams, J. D. Maxwell, Cuy Harrell.

At Chambers, Ordinary's Office Grady County, Ga., Jan. 9th, 1906. Upon reading and considering the petition it is ordered that W. H. Williams, J. D. Maxwell and Cuy Harrell be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners to lay out the Militia District, to be known as Spring Hill District No. 1, and define the lines of the same and report the same to me on the 17th day of Jan. 1906.

P. H. Herring Ordinary, Georgia, Grady County. To the Hon. P. H. Herring, Ordinary of said county.

We, the undersigned Commissioners, appointed by your Honor to lay out Militia Districts to be known as Spring Hill District No. 1. G. M. of Grady County, beg leave to submit our report which we respectfully ask be established as a district, the following is the boundary, commencing at a point on Big Tired creek where said creek crosses the District line between the 16th and 19th land Districts said point on the south line of lot No. 5, thence up said creek to the middle prong of said creek known as Buss Creek, thence up Buss creek to a point where it crosses the original land line between lots No. 166 and 193, in the 16th District of said county, thence west along said original land line to the western boundary of Grady county, thence

make the beginning that you do, among the sisterhood of counties.

In the first place, you have selected a name for your county which, in the annals of the State, will always, in my judgment, shine forth as one of the brightest names that Georgia ever furnished to its people. I think Henry W. Grady, the young Georgian, after whom this county was named, was certainly one of the most illustrious young men that America ever produced. I do not confine it to the south, but to America. For his age, I do not believe that there was ever a brighter intellect, truer, more patriotic or braver heart than Henry W. Grady carried in his bosom. Then, so far as the name is concerned, you have no reason to be ashamed of the name selected, but you have every reason to be proud of it.

Then, too, gentlemen you have a climate, perhaps as good climate as there is in the State, and, some times I almost feel that it is the best climate in the world; that is the way I feel to-day. While your soil is not so fertile as some other sections, it yields so readily and abundantly to fertilization and with its healthfulness and other advantages makes it far more desirable, for these reasons you should be proud.

And then, not least, but perhaps the best of all, you have citizenship here of which you should be proud. You have a citizenship consisting of honest, intelligent and thriving citizens, planted here many years ago, old pioneers, of whose names you should be proud, and also of the blood that runs in the veins of their sons, sons of men and women of sterling character and virtue who first settled this country; and the new comers a great many of them among you are men of character and worth and men ready to lend a helping hand in building up the community and making it a great and famous county in the State. For all of these things, gentlemen, I congratulate you; and I think your beginning an auspicious one, and you certainly have the best wishes of this court for future prosperity and happiness.

Just received our first car of stock and we will be glad to have you call and see them at Barber's stable.

J. D. Holman.

Teachers Examination.

There will be a special examination for license to teach, held at my office on Saturday, March the 24th. Those expecting to take this examination are requested to report at - as early an hour as possible on the above date.

J. B. Wight, C-S-C.

Do Not Neglect a Bad Cold. Never allow a cold to take its course. Too often at this season of the year its course is toward pneumonia - Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will promptly cure your cold and counteract any tendency in this direction. There is nothing better for acute throat and lung troubles. For sale by Hight & Browne, Cairo, Ga.

We will swap you a mule that will suit you for the one you have that doesn't, if you will see us. J. D. Holman.

HOUSE FOR RENT.

10-room dwelling just west of the Methodist church in the center of town. For price and terms see Casper Walker, or C. F. Walker.

The County School Board met last Friday the 9th and organized by electing Col. M. L. Ledford as Chairman and N. G. Christopher as Vice Chairman. The Board consist of the following gentlemen: M. L. Ledford, B. A. Maxwell, A. C. Dickey, N. G. Christopher and J. B. E. Wilder. After hearing report of acting School Commissioner, J. B. Wight, Board adjourned to meet Tuesday, the 13th. On Tuesday the 13th the County School Board convened and elected J. B. Wight County School Commissioner. As there were no other business Board adjourned.

SPECIAL LOW RATES.

Via Atlantic Coast Line on account of Wheeler Memorial Day, Atlanta, March 27th, and Second Annual Reunion of the Blue and and Gray, March 28, 29, 1906.

Tickets will be sold on March 25th and 26th for this occasion to Atlanta at the rate of one first class fare plus 25c round

on the stock market and keep thoroughly posted as to what to buy, and can buy as cheap as anybody can on any market, and feel that we know the value of a horse or mule, having been in this business for a number of years.

We can make it to your interest to see us when in need of anything in our line, and can successfully compete with Thomasville, Bainbridge or any other market in this section as we buy direct for our general office at Ozark, Ala., together with the several branch offices located at Headland, Ala., Clayton, Ala., Donalsonville, Ga., and Cairo, Ga., and shall endeavor at all times to merit the patronage of the trading public.

My brother Albert is now and will be in charge of the business and it will be his pleasure as well as mine to get acquainted with every youngster in Grady and adjoining Counties and to know you in a social way, and to do business with as many of you as possible.

Our motto will be "A fair and square deal" on a legitimate business basis.

We thank you in advance for a liberal share of your patronage in the future, and wishing you one and all a prosperous and happy year, I am

Very truly, J. D. HOLMAN.

LOW RATES.

Via Atlantic Coast Line, On account of American Bowling Congress, Louisville, Ky, March 17, 27, 1906.

Rates: One first class fare plus 50c for the round trip, on the certificate plan, viz, persons paying full tariff fare going to this occasion and who hold certificates of the standard form, properly executed and stamped by the agents at the starting points, will be sold tickets for the return journey under the rules and regulations hereinafter set forth at rate of 50c. The routes traveled in going to place of meeting.

Rules and Regulations - Agents will issue certificates on any date between March 14th and 27th, 1906 inclusive, attaching passengers that same will be honored for return tickets at the above rate, only when same have been properly signed

shall bear interest at the rate of 10 percent per annum, from the date of issue, interest payable semi-annually on the first day of January and July of each year, beginning with the first day of Jan. 1907. Said bonds to be sold at not less than par; Said bonds to be used for the purpose of procuring ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars, which sum is to be used as follows: Seven thousand (\$7,000.00) dollars, to be used for the completion, improving and maintenance of the system of electric lights and water works of said town, and three thousand (\$3,000.00) dollars to be used in erecting and furnishing a town hall for said town. Said hall to be used as a council chamber and by the officers of said town, and for the storing of equipment and apparatus for fire protection and other lawful uses of said town.

The principal of said debt shall be paid as follows: One bond of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars to be paid on the first day of January, 1912. One bond of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars to be paid on the first day of January, 1913. One bond of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars to be paid on the first day of January, 1914. One bond of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars to be paid on the first day of January, 1915. One bond of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars to be paid on the first day of January, 1916. One bond of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars to be paid on the first day of January, 1917. One bond of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars to be paid on the first day of January, 1918. One bond of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars to be paid on the first day of January, 1919. One bond of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars to be paid on the first day of January, 1920. One bond of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars to be paid on the first day of January, 1921. One bond of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars to be paid on the first day of January, 1922.

These voting for bonds shall have printed or written on their ballots "Bonds" and those voting against bonds shall have printed or written on their ballots "Against Bonds".

Section 2. Be it further ordained by authority aforesaid that notice of said election be given the qualified voters of said town of Cairo by notice signed and published as prescribed by law. Said notice appears in another column in the Messenger.

Section 3. Be it further ordained by authority aforesaid that if the issue of bonds is voted by the requisite two-thirds of the qualified voters of said town, then and before the proposed debt is incurred, an ordinance shall be passed providing for the issues and sale thereof, and making provision at the same time for the assessment and collection of an annual tax, sufficient in amount to pay the principal and interest of said debt within thirty years from the date of incurring said indebtedness and at the time and in the amounts as herein before provided for.

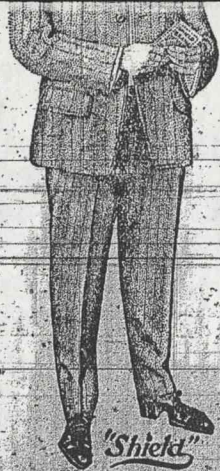
Section 4. Be it further ordained by authority aforesaid that all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed.

Section 5. Be it further ordained by authority aforesaid that the following resolution was read and passed at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen of said town held on the 24th day of February 1906, Approved R. L. V. Sandingham, Mayor, John S. Poulk, Clerk and Treasurer.

By motion the following resolution was read and passed:

Resolved that for the purpose of being represented in the League of Georgia Municipalities, composed of the Mayor and city officials of the state, and to be in a position where we can obtain prompt information on all subjects relating to municipal affairs, free of cost, except an annual dues, a voucher for \$2.00 cover dues to said

and 195 in the in the 16th Dis-
trict formerly Decatur county,
thence East to the original line
between Decatur and Thomas
County, thence North to the
North west corner of lot No. 181
in the 17th District, originally
Thomas County, thence East
along the original line to the west
prong of Barnetts Creek, thence
down said creek to a point on the
North line of lot N. 225 in the
17th District, formerly Thomas
County, thence East along said
land line to the Eastern boundry
of Grady county, being the mid-
dle prong of Barnetts creek,
thence down said creek to the in-
tersection of the middle and west-
ern prong of Barnetts creek,
thence up the western prong of
Barnetts creek to a point where
said creek crosses the original
land line between lots 809 and 801 in
17th District of formerly Thoma-



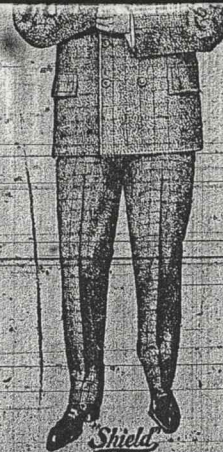
WELL OF WELL
CLOTHING
MEN'S, YOUTHS AND BOYS SUITS

The most economical to buy because
they are better made and fit more perfect-
ly than other suits sold at Popular Prices.

NONE GENUINE WITHOUT THE LABEL ON THE COLLAR

FOR SALE BY

POULK BROTHERS.
BAIRO, GEORGIA



Apr 6

BoE met a Tue w reg. session

Sep 14

Public Sch of Cairo opened Ma.
Col RC Bell, Prin. acting

Musses Zant, Bailey & Jenkins as assis
-Basmajian, music teacher
150 pupils enrolled

aks..

all drains on your purse
course of time, diminish
ncier, and can keep the
our purse always full.
pay more because you

will keep thy purse full

ie dollar of the "Man

THERS,

Advertisers of Facts, Cairo, Ga.



Millinery.

SEASONS,

s time has far surpassed
refore, requiring us to

ved many of the new things puts our
now as the beginning of the season.
ction.

Respectfully.

Jun 22, 1906
We have prepared every convenience for you to put aside some money. Come, talk to us and open an account. Today is a good time.

In our Savings Department we pay interest compounded quarterly. We pay you the interest at the end of each quarter or place it to your credit to draw more interest.

Grady County Teachers Institute.

The last of the monthly institute for the year was held by our Grady County teachers at the college last Saturday.

Rev. Parker and Prof. Searcy were visiting participants.

Miss Elia Butler delivered the opening address. "What I have learned during the term" was her theme. In the handling of it she showed herself not only a fluent speaker, but a progressive teacher.

Prof. Duggar followed Miss Butler in a practical and entertaining talk. He has learned that "as the teacher is, so is the school." He has come to realize more than ever before the magnitude of the teacher's work, the responsibility of his calling.

Prof. Cannon, in discussing this and other subjects, showed himself a regular twelve-inch siege gun. In his inimitable "corn field" style with which he entertained and instructed us, none other could. In matter of discipline he is opposed to "capital punishment" except as a last resort, and even then in moderation. He never deserts his gun except when the dear loving mothers charge his battery.

Prof. Cooke discussed the advantages and disadvantages of Sunday patronage.

The Institute petitioned the County School Board to invest a limited amount of money in a teachers' library to serve as a nucleus for a more elaborate library to be gradually built up.

By unanimous vote the teachers extended hearty thanks to Prof. J. B. Wight, the efficient County School Commissioner, for his faithful services, his zeal, and devotion to duty, his helpful support and sympathy for the individual teacher, and his consecration to the cause of education in general and Grady County particular, etc., not in just these words; their feelings were too sincere to be expressed in words. Never was a compliment more gracefully accepted, nor more worthily bestowed.

If the various school officials and the parents of Grady county children follow where Prof. J. B. Wight leads, we will not lag in the march of educational progress, nor be long in ranking with Georgia's foremost counties.

Notice to Voters.

All persons who are qualified voters in Grady county and who desire to participate in the pri-

Quarterly Conference

The second quarterly conference of the ensuing year for the Cairo Station will be held Friday evening, 8 o'clock, at the Methodist church. The presiding elder, Rev. Ed F. Cook, will hold the conference. Every official member is urged to be present, and all members of the church are earnestly requested to attend. Business of great importance to every member will come up for transaction.

The public is cordially invited to the service, and we would like to have a large attendance.

The presiding elder will preach Sunday at the evening service, and possibly also in the morning.

J. C. Parker, P. C.

UNKNOWN FRIENDS.

There are many people who have used Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy with splendid results, but who are unknown because they have hesitated about giving a testimonial of their experience for publication. These people, however, are none the less friends of this remedy. They have done much toward making it a household word by their personal recommendations to friends and neighbors. It is a good medicine to have in the home and is widely known for the cures of diarrhoea and all forms of bowel trouble. For sale by Wight & Browne, Cairo Ga.

C. S. Haddon of Bainbridge is in the "ring" this week "every foot up." This Mr. Haddon knows a thing or two. His first investment in Cairo was a good many dollars at the Messenger office for circulars announcing his business. He didn't kick on the "ring" worth a cent. He didn't get his job done in Bainbridge nor send it to Thomasville. Watch the crowds and see if it pays.

Annual Examination of Teachers.

The annual examination for license to teach in the public schools of the state will be held on Friday and Saturday June 29th and 30th. All applicants in Grady county are requested to report at my office at an early an-hour as possible on Friday June 29th.

J. B. Wight
C. S. C. Grady County

SMITH'S SURE KIDNEY CURE.

The only guaranteed kidney remedy. Buy it—try it—it costs you nothing if it fails. Price 50 cents. Wight & Browne.

Mr. W. T. Odom requests the Messenger to ask all Confederate Veterans in Grady County to come into the Messenger office and register their names and company and regiment in which they served during the war. Veterans are therefore cordially invited to respond as soon as possible.

Did you ride the "goat?"

Order coal through W. H. Searcy.

Read the Mill End Sale page advertisement in this issue.

Miss Ethel Peeler of Milltown is visiting her Aunt, Mrs. J. C. Parker.

Mr. Lee Lewis is again in Cairo, assisting his father in doing the "shaving act."

Mr. A. Goldstein of Pelham was the guest of his nephew, Mr. A. Poller the first of this week.

Col. J. Q. Smith left Thursday morning for Forsyth, Ga. He will be absent for some time.

Mr. H. W. Lawson, of Dothan, Ala., who succeeds Mr. L. B. Powell as depot agent here, has arrived in the city and taken charge.

Misses Annie and Kitty Wheeler, who have been in Cairo as guests of Mr. and Mrs. V. H. Harris, left for their home in Brinson last Monday.

T. R. McEachin, our Mac, is again in Cairo. He is at work on the new hardware store, so watch this building being built "right now."

Col. J. D. Hoffman's new stables will soon be completed, when the Col. will move in with a full line of horses, mules, buggies, harness, etc.

GO-FLY keeps flies off Horses and Cattle. Sold by Wight Bros. Co. and D. G. McNair & Co., Whigham, Ga.

"Buy and Put." What? Read Mr. L. A. Free's ad and find out.

C. S. Haddon got his big gun off Wednesday, and it certainly was a large one.

It is getting to be the "old, old story." The small boys of Cairo went over to Whigham Wednesday and defeated the Baseball team of that place by a score of 7 to 5.

Coal is cheaper than wood and makes a much better fire. Order from W. H. Searcy.

Mrs. W. A. Peterson and children are spending a short while in Cairo, with relatives and friends and the Messenger wishes for them a pleasant stay in our little city.

Where GO-FLY goes flies will not go. Use it on your Horses and Cattle. Sold by Wight Bros. Co., D. G. McNair & Co., Whigham, Ga.

Did you notice that nobby ad of J. L. Oliver & Son? Read their new advertisement and secure some of the bargains they are offering.

That crowd of 18 hungry men who parted their fare in the middle at the "Bath House" Wednesday evening was a fine body of I. O. O. F's.

An exchange puts it thus: "A man doing business without advertising is like a man winking at a girl in the dark—he knows

CAIRO BANKING CO.,

Cairo, Georgia.

Walter Davis, President.

O. T. Davis, Cashier.

Capital, \$35,000.00.

Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$12,500.00.

We have prepared every convenience for you to put aside some money. Come to us and open an account. Today is a good time.

In our Savings Department we pay interest compounded quarterly. We pay the interest at the end of each quarter or place it to your credit to draw more rest.

Citizens Bank Made State Depository.

Appointment Secured by Vice-President F. M. Brannon.

The Citizens' Bank of Cairo has been appointed a state depository by Governor Terrell.

F. M. Brannon one of the most successful and prominent young business factors in the state, and president and cashier of the bank, secured the appointment after a consultation with the governor. Mr. Brannon's success in securing the appointment is regarded as a victory by the people of this city and maintains the governor's confidence in him. The vice president of the bank is a native of South Carolina and has been a resident of Georgia for the past fourteen years, half of which he has been located in our city.

The Citizens Bank is one of the most successful in the state. The appointment as a state depository is regarded as a great compliment to the place and the efforts of Mr. Brannon.

Jones==Massey

Last Sunday afternoon a large crowd witnessed the marriage of Mr. James A. Massey to Miss Della Jones at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. B. C. Keaton about four miles south of Cairo.

Miss Jones is one of Camilla's finest damself. She is the daughter of Mr. R. K. Jones, a prominent naval stores man of Mitchell county. Mr. Massey is one of Cairo's leading barbers, and is the senior member of the firm of Massey Bros.

The happy couple were remembered with many beautiful presents.

The Messenger joins their many friends in wishing for them a long, happy and prosperous future.

We are in for the TRADE, have the PRICES and the GOODS. - J. D. Holman.

Services At Greenwood

There will be preaching at Greenwood Sunday afternoon by Rev. J. C. Parker. A song service conducted by Mr. J. A. Hudson will begin at 3 o'clock. Everybody is cordially invited to attend, and take part in the singing, and to hear the word of God.

Cairo High School was opened last Monday with the largest attendance ever known in the history of the school for fall terms. It has been determined to continue the same rate of tuition as has been charged heretofore during the pay term. All parties owing tuition bills of last term will please call on K. Powell, Treasurer, and settle promptly.

For CASH or CREDIT, SELL or SWAP—MULES and HORSES. J. D. Holman.

SPOONS TABLE SPOONS.

TEA SPOONS. I am now displaying in my show window 600 spoons which I am closing out. When these are sold there will be no more. \$1.00 spoons at 72c per set. 50c spoons at 36c per set. 30c spoons at 18c per set. Come while they last.

C. F. SANDERS, Jeweler, Cairo, Ga.

761 Bales Cotton Been Received.

The above number of bales of cotton have been received at the warehouse of Messrs. Baggett & Lewis in Cairo.

Mrs. Will Buckhalt and daughter, Willie Mae, of Thomasville, and Miss Elsie Dekle of Ochlockonee, returned home Tuesday.

We want you to see our next bunch of MULES; they will please you if you want a good one. J. D. Holman.

Educational Rally at College Building.

Perhaps no gathering ever held in Grady county was fraught with so much interest as the great meeting held at the college auditorium Thursday.

We regret not being able to wait for a complete report, for this issue of the Messenger, but we promise it next week.

Other meetings in the recent past have dealt with making county, making officers, making court houses; but the present occasion is one of a broader and deeper signification; one that touches the very vitals of our citizenship; one that commands the profound consideration of every individual in Grady county.

Upon this great question of education rests our future destiny. What shall it be? The answer depends upon us, and must be given now. Shall we assume the responsibilities of the four as becomes the true manhood of a noble people?

An auspicious moment is upon us, and we dare not fail to embrace the golden opportunity now. A new county, new conditions, new officials, a new spirit, a new epoch, and a new law, all urge us to action.

We most heartily commend the timely efforts of County School Commissioner Wight in the wise steps he is taking; and we assure him that, in the Messenger he has a trusty second, who will be with him when he mounts the parapets to wave the banner of victory.

We must have better schools and have them now. The children of today will be the men of tomorrow, and they cannot await the coming of tomorrow for the needs of today.

Let us take the advantage of every law and every opportunity at our command and make the most of it. Surely the earnest eloquence and lofty ideals of the Rev. R. L. Christie, Judge Covington and Mrs. Walter B. Hill, the distinguished visitors who honor us with their presence and their efforts will inspire us with noble purpose, and nerve us for deeds of valor.

Don't miss the big land sale at Gordon Heights tomorrow. If you do you will wish you had been there.

That crowd who went ghost hunting Wednesday night have not reported their success.

This is F

We have 500 pieces Fancy Glassware which within the next few weeks, so if you are not a your name on our list and get some of the Glass

The Novel Grand Jury Presentm

To the Hon. Robt. G. Mitchell, Judge of the Superior Court Southern Circuit.

We, the grand jury, drawn and empanelled for the Sept. term of the Superior Court of Grady County, beg to make the following general presentments.

We have, through our efficient committee examined the books of the county officers and of the justice of the peace and the notaries publicks and all appear to be neatly and correctly kept. However, we observed from the Tax Digest that many property owners had failed to give in their property at its true valuation, and we recommend that a special committee be appointed by the proper authority to make a thorough examination of the tax returns and make their report in detail to the next grand jury for their consideration and action. Here we beg to call the attention of this committee to the fact that no turpentine or timber lands taxes have been returned.

We further recommend that our Tax Receiver be more rigid in demanding that returns be made at nearer the fair value of property and that he decline to accept returns as provided by law, when said returns are tendered at too low a valuation. We further recommend that the special committee for the inspection of the Tax Digest be paid \$2.00 per day each, for the number of days actually engaged in making this investigation and preparing report for the consideration of the next grand jury.

The committee to do this work as appointed by the grand jury are, namely: J. F. Forester, Jos. Swicord and W. I. Belcher. The roads and bridges have been reported by the committee to be in fairly good condition.

We recommend that the officers of the county look closely to the carrying out of law. We recommend the bill of \$26. By Mr. Joseph quest held at July 19th 1906. We note from cord that Mary has been stricken per list of this Judge of the said county and that same be re list in accordance allowances as to ments. We recom Jurors and Bail suing year be day except the their own team per day. We desire es Judge P. H. I manner in which the affairs of long as the aut in him. Each bears the face and good judge. We heartily selection by Ju Col. M. D. Lec Attorney and mend Col. Led uable legal a council to the proper conduct affairs of the C. We extend Honor, T. A. Judge, for his manner in disp We also ten his Honor, Ju courtesies sho especially than as for his valu dered our bod We recom general prese lished in the J. B. Butler, forema A. L. Wamble Joseph Swicord B. H. Laing W. A. Powell

50 Beautiful City Lots wil

The Cairo Mess

VOL. 3.

CAIRO, GRADY COUNTY, GEORGIA, DECEMBER

CAIRO BANKING CO.,

Cairo, Georgia.

Walter Davis, President.

O. T. Davis, Cashier.

Capital, \$35,000.00.

Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$12,500.00.

We have prepared every convenience for you to put aside some money. Come, talk to us and open an account. Today is a good time.

In our Savings Department we pay interest compounded quarterly. We pay you the interest at the end of each quarter or place it to your credit to draw more interest.

"No Man Liveth To Himself."

Cain's subtle question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" was heard in our recent contest for county bonds. Selfishness makes man more brutish than a beast, and transforms him into a leach upon society. No matter whether a man's relation to a community be in a family, tribal, or political compact, he holds much in common with it. His property, life and happiness are sheltered by its protecting care, and honor claims for it his loyal devotion. When his individual opinion antagonizes the interest of the majority, he should surrender his personal convictions. While we lost the bond election, the vote registered the will of the majority, and when another election is called those who honestly opposed the measure should gracefully support the position of the majority, especially, since they have nothing to lose. True, \$60,000.00 would accumulate a pile of interest in 30 years, even at 4 per cent. But, had the County Commissioners \$60,000.00 on hand, and could lend it at 3 per cent, and turn and borrow it back at 4 per cent, thereby making the handsome sum of \$72,000.00, what goose would kick? Now let the fellow who has the cash to pay his heavy assessment just so lend it to some

Re-districting The County Schools.

There seems to be much confusion in various localities in regard to locating the rural schools. Why not the County School Board take the situation by the horns and settle the disputes and wrangles by consolidating weak schools, establishing strong school centers which would authorize good teachers and better salaries? If this thing is left to the caprices of a few growlers in each locality, conditions will grow worse instead of better. The board has the authority; has it the backbone equal to the occasion? The substantial good thus accomplished would overbalance the "cussin" which would surely follow.

No Coal, No Lights.

Owing to shortage of coal, and the inability of the railroads to deliver freight, the electric light plant is forced to shut off at midnight until a supply of coal can be obtained.

Notice to Pensioners.

Cairo, Ga., Dec. 28th, 1906. Blank vouchers for pensioners to be paid for year 1907 are in my office. These are to be signed before Ordinary during the month of January. All pensioners in Grady County will please take due notice and govern themselves ac-

Don't do it yet.

Don't write it 1907.

Have you paid your taxes?

This is good weather for fires and overcoats.

Mr. Lee Lewis was a visitor to Cairo last Wednesday.

Dr. A. B. Cooke and wife visited in Pine Park, Tuesday.

The weather has been on its best behavior this Christmas.

We hope that each and every one enjoyed Christmas.

Mr. Spencer Barber was among Sunday's visitors to Cairo.

Mr. W. H. Searcy was an out-of-town visitor Christmas. So we hear.

The Messenger wishes its many friends and patrons a Happy New Year.

Yez, you betz wez hav a big time this Chrimaz. Our jug of whisky didn't make gooze fire.

Prof. W. H. Searcy ate his Christmas turkey with his family in Cairo.

Miss Mazie Basmajian is visiting relatives and friends in Atlanta during the holidays.

Just our luck. The hole in our stocking was too large and Santa Claus went through.

Dr. W. M. Searcy and wife spent Christmas in Sylvester with Mrs. Searcy's parents.

Mr. Carl Clark is spending his Christmas holidays at Hartford, Ala., with home-folks.

Mr. T. W. Wood and family spent Christmas in Camilla with Mr. Wood's parents.

Mr. Frank Powell, who has been attending school in Barnesville, Ga., is at home for the holidays.

Miss Nannie Kitchings is spending the Christmas holidays with relatives at her home in Barnesville, Ga.

Mr. E. A. White, one of our good farmer friends treated himself to a nice surrey Saturday that Santa Claus had left at J. D. Holman's.

Miss Caroline Jenkins left last Saturday morning to visit her home

Advertising Pays The Advertiser

It is a source of pleasure to the Messenger to hear the expressions of satisfaction from those who have been subscribers of this paper and we for them continued progress all through the incoming of 1907. It is, of course, our ambition to help, and this paper can be the means of helping the purchasing public in pointing out the best bargains in merchandise. Those houses who give advertisers have been doing is a great source of pride to be a helper to both advertiser and purchaser, and to elicit a continuance of the support of our business men. We have so liberally used the columns of the Messenger in the language of "old Rip Winkle" "may you all live and prosper."

The Messenger can and will help you. Will you help the Messenger?

Another Christmas has passed and gone, and the old year is struggling in the throes of Ere another issue of the Messenger its requiem will be sung. How sad to think of the moments, the lost opportunity, the sore disappointments, the tears, entombed in its iron sepulchres! But it must not linger. We have reached the hill top. The decent is over and the momentum increased. We close our eyes upon the past, and peer into the night of the unknown future; but hope nerves us with energy for the coming year. Here's wishing a Happy Year to one and all.

A Shooting Sc

A negro Christmas row in the W. B. Roddenberry factory town on Christmas day in the carving of one pret

Dec 28, 1906

1

1

5?

stained by their
is Annie.

Asian, Miss Smith
light treated the
ms of good music,
try much enjoyed

o'clock an abund-
ite dainties which
refully prepared.
n courses, and was
joyed by all who

is a charming en-
d the occasion is
e remembered.

ent were: Misses
Asian, Nannie C.
ra Mauldin, Kath-
Erie Smith Bessie
rs. J. S. Weathers.
; R. C. Bell and B.

another car of the
debaker Wagons at
Hardware Co.

t an up-to-date Suit
t a price that will
ome to see us.
er Bros., Cairo Ga.

ros. have something to
people of Cairo and
in today's Messenger.
ey say in their change
all "business" men,
ant to let the people
they have to sell they
in such plain language
ing man, fool though
not err therein." Be-
l their ad. and go and
ey will treat you right,
everything in the har-
m plow gear to double
ess. J. D. Holman.

nobody would offer a
e finest baby boy in
y. We believe that
be easily won by the
ant son of Mr. and Mrs.
n of Cairo, Ga.

z Mallette, Thomas-
car load of finest
shipped to Georgia,

bery Hardware Com-
just received a car
aker wagons.

Col. was in Cairo again
Col. Timmons knows
g when he sees it, hence
Cairo. That's alright,
hope you were successful
bunch of mules and
hand now and for sale
ash or credit.
J. D. Holman.

adapted to children as it is pleasant to
take and contains nothing injurious. Mr.
E. A. Humphreys, a well known resident
and clerk in the store of Mr. E. Lock,
of Alice, Cape Colony, South Africa,
says: "I have used Chamberlain's Cough
Remedy to ward off croup and colds in
my family. I found it to be very satis-
factory and it gives me pleasure to recom-
mend it." For sale by Wight &
Browne, Cairo, Ga.

The material is now being placed
on the ground with which to build
that new City Hall, and the work
will begin soon.

No Opium In Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

There is not the least danger in giving
Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to small
children as it contains no opium or harm-
ful drug. It has an established reputa-
tion of more than thirty years as the
most successful remedy in use for colds,
croup and whooping cough. It always
cures and is pleasant to take. Children
like it. Sold by Wight & Browne.

I wish to buy a second hand engine
and boiler from 20 to 30 horse power,
with or without saw mill. Write what
you have to offer to

LOCK BOX 76,
Thomasville, Ga.

The Epworth League Social.

On Monday evening of last week
the Epworth League was enter-
tained most delightfully at the
home of Mr. and Mrs. W. C.
Jones. Although most of the young
people had either graduated or
"quituated" from school, they
were requested to answer questions
in geography, history, spelling,
zoology and botony. The pupils
who proved to be the most stud-
ious were presented with a basket
of lovely white crysanthemums
and ferns. As none of the "school
children" carried their lunches,
Mr. and Mrs. Jones served them
with delicious hot chocolate and
wafers.

The young folks have Mr. and
Mrs. Jones to thank most heartily
for a very pleasant evening. We
hope our successful third vice-
president will provide another
such evening for us.

for all good causes, but they also
enjoy some fun. We invite all
who are young or feel young to
join us.

A Leager.

Georgia, Grady county
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned
has applied to the Ordinary of said county for
leave to sell land belonging to the estate of
Mittle Dickey for the purpose of distribution
and maintenance of minor heirs. Said applica-
tion will be heard at the regular term of the
Court of Ordinary of said county to be held on
the first Monday in January, 1907. This 4th
day of December, 1906. D. G. Dickey,
Adm'r. estate of Mittle Dickey.

ing in the jail at Valdosta. The double
trap was sprung at 10:30 and the necks
of both men were broken.

The negro stuck unwaveringly to his
off-repeated declaration that Milton and
Jesse Rawlings were guilty of the murder
of Willie and Carrie Carter.

His statement was an emphatic reiter-
ation of what he had asserted on the
witness stand—the testimony on the
strength of which J. G. Rawlings and
two of his sons had been sentenced to
death and a third son sentenced to the
penitentiary for life.

As Moore completed his brief state-
ment, Rawlings hissed between his
clintched teeth, "It's a lie."

Rawlings just before stepping upon
the trap, made an elegant plea for his
condemned boys. He declared, as he
had repeatedly declared before they were
innocent.

After the noose had been placed around
Moore's neck, the negro knelt and offer-
ed a fervent prayer for mercy for Raw-
lings and the latter's condemned sons.
He stated confidently that he had made
his peace with God, and had no fear for
the future.

Public School 1907

It is important for the best interests of
our schools that they start fannary 1st or
as soon thereafter as possible. Teachers
are scarce. Several who taught in the
county this year have discontinued
teaching altogether. It will be well for
the trustees of the several schools to
look out for a teacher at once for next
year, else they may find difficulty in se-
curing one at all. In order to assist in
filling all places acceptably, I have been
on the lookout for teachers, and have
now on file in my office application from
a number of teachers. If those wanting
teachers will call at my office they can
examine these applications and make a
selection to suit themselves. Those
schools that have already secured teach-
ers will confer a favor by notifying me
of the fact at once.

J. B. Wight, C. S. C.

Georgia, Grady County.
By virtue of an order of the Court of Ord-
inary of said county, will be sold at public out-
cry, on the first Tuesday in January, 1907, at
the court house in said county, between the
legal hours of sale, the following real estate
situate in Grady county, and part of lot of
land No. 50 in the 10th District of Grady coun-
ty, to-wit: One-half acre more or less,
bounded as follows: Bounded on East
and North by Celvary road, South by property
of H. A. Sanders and West by property of
Darsey, said lot having dwelling house there-
on. Also all the household goods of said
Mary Ann Ball, consisting of beds, chairs and
cook stove and other household goods. Terms
cash. Dec. 6th, 1906.

T. J. MILLS,
Adm'r of Mary Ann Ball, deceased.

FOR SALE AT AUCTION.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 1906.

We will sell at auction on Decem-
ber 8th the following:

One bay horse about 8 years
old.
One iron gray horse 6 years old.
One rubber tired buggy (Hob-
derson high grade).
One open buggy.

B. E. & J. T. LEE,
Cairo, Ga.

on of this year by mar-
 arly, in a statement
 sident Charles S. Bar-
 armiers' National Co-
 l Educational Union.
 t of President Barrett

n for a number of
 ctice among Southern
 er through ignorance
 ss, to sacrifice larger
 rtions of the financial
 air cotton to which the
 the staple entitled

the staple upon the
 oment it left the gin-
 ess of the range of
 ave been paid in what-
 s ruling at that par-
 without reference to
 laws of supply and de-
 the custom is and has
 r for depressing the
 it congested the sta-
 ated to drive prices
 take an expert statis-
 tate the loss to the
 ner from this source
 l war alone."

N FOR CHARTER.

GRADY COUNTY.
 Phil Cook, Secretary of
 nta, Georgia:
 ned, whose names, signed
 em, and residences, are
 l, bring this our petition.
 n an Act of the General
 he State of Georgia, ap-
 iber 20, 1893, and Acts
 hereof, and respectfully

desire to form a corpora-
 tion of carrying on the
 nking.
 ge and style of the pro-
 sion shall be The Farmers
 : Bank.
 tion and principal place of
 be in the City of Cairo,
 ty, and State of Georgia.
 unt of capital stock is Thir-
 \$30,000.00) Dollars, divi-
 Hundred shares of One
 0.00) Dollars each.

poses and nature of the
 he proposed corporation
 f a bank, with continuous
 a term of thirty (30) years,
 of renewal for a like term.
 sued. To have and to use
 l, and at pleasure to alter
 appoint such officers and
 business of the corporation
 ribe their duties, fix their
 and remove them at pleas-
 such by-laws as may be
 proper for the management
 and regulation of its af-
 l, purchase, dispose of and
 al and personal property
 ecessary for its use and busi-
 nent bills, notes, or other
 bt; to receive and pay-out
 r without interest; to re-
 d deposit money or bullion
 s, or stocks or bonds or
 i; to buy or sell foreign or
 nge, or other negotiable
 money upon personal se-
 rpledges of bonds, stocks
 ecurity; to take and re-
 y mortgage, or otherwise,
 al or personal; and gen-

tary of State.
 I, Phillip Cook, Secretary of State of
 the State of Georgia, do hereby certify,
 that the three (3) pages of type-written
 matter hereto attached, contain a true
 and correct copy of the application of the
 Incorporators of "The Farmers & Mer-
 chant's Bank," of Cairo, for charter, as
 the original of the same appears of file in
 this office.
 In testimony whereof, I hereunto set
 my hand and affixed the Seal of my Office,
 at the Capitol, in the City of Atlanta, this
 12th day of October in the year of our
 Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and
 Ten of the Independence of the United
 States of America, the One Hundred and
 Thirty-fifth.
 PHILIP COOK,
 Secretary of State.

Tax Levy County Purposes.

GEORGIA—GRADY COUNTY.
 Notice is hereby given that the fol-
 lowing tax levy for county purposes
 for the year 1910 was made and collec-
 tion ordered to be made accordingly on
 Sept. 20, 1910, viz:

Seventy cents on each Hundred Dol-
 lars worth of property returned for
 taxation, which is sub-divided as fol-
 lows: (1) Fifteen cents to pay legal in-
 debtedness of the county due or to be-
 come due during the year or past due;
 (2) twenty cents to build or repair
 court houses or jails, bridges or ferries,
 or other public improvements accord-
 ing to the contract; (3) ten cents to
 pay sheriffs', jailers' or other officers'
 fees that they may be legally entitled
 to out of the county; (4) two cents to
 pay expenses of the county for bailiffs
 at court, non-resident witnesses in crimi-
 nal cases, fuel, servant hire and the
 like; (5) ten cents to pay jurors a per
 diem compensation; (6) six cents to pay
 expenses incurred in supporting the
 poor of the county; (7) seven cents to
 pay any other lawful charge against
 the county.

Also in compliance with the recom-
 mendation of the grand jury at Sep-
 tember Term Superior court, 1910, of
 said county, the following special levy
 was made and ordered collected, to-
 wit: Thirty cents on each One Hun-
 dred Dollars returned for taxation for
 the purpose of maintaining and work-
 ing Grady county's quota of convicts
 on the public roads of Grady county.

Upon report of County School Com-
 missioner of agreement between him
 and the authorities in the several school
 districts, the following levels for local
 school purposes have been made for
 the ensuing year and the tax collector
 ordered to make collection accordingly:

Woodland School District	3 1-2 mills
Fine Union	4 mills
Golden Rod	4 mills
Greenwood	3 1-2 mills
Elpino	2 1-2 mills
Walker	4 mills
Cairo	5 mills
Whigham	2 1-2 mills
Sunnyside	3 mills
Providence	2 mills
Calvary	4 1-2 mills
Bald Spring	5 1-2 mills
Pleasant Hill	3 1-2 mills
Pleasant Valley	3 mills

THOMAS WIGHT,
 J. W. SASSER,
 L. L. BARWICK,
 ALBERT POWELL,
 HENRY MITCHELL,
 J. S. PEEBLES,
 County Commissioners
 M. L. LEDFORD, Clerk

Correspondents Wanted

We want a correspondent in every
 settlement in Grady county.
 We will furnish paper, stamps,
 etc., to those who will furnish us
 the news from their section. Let
 us have the news from your section.

Registration Books Open.

The registration books for the
 city of Cairo will be opened October



DESIGNED BY
**Truest
 Worth**

Real true worth or
 value doesn't always
 come wrapped "large"
 to be sold at indiscrim-
 inate prices.

¶ Folk usually know
 that higher priced goods
 are really worth twice
 the price of an inferior
 article. ¶ This fact
 can easily be verified;
 and more especially in
 the expenditure of good
 money for advertising
 space in newspapers.

¶ The Progress has
 set a fair price on its
 advertising space and
 does not cut under this
 price, neither does it
 "overcharge" anyone.

The services of the best printers are
 employed, and for those who de-
 sire the services of an advertising
 expert, we have one.

ADVERTISED AT LAST

THERE was a merchant in our
 town
 Who was so wondrous wise
 He saw his business running down,
 Yet would not advertise.

PELHAM & HAVANA R. R. CO.
 Time Table No. 3
 Effective Saturday, October 1st, 1910, 12:00 A. M.

Between CAIRO AND CALVARY	
South Bound	North Bound
1st Class Rate	2nd Class Rate
Passenger Mails	STATIONS
6 3 6	3 4 6

The Cairo Messenger.

VOL. 3.

CAIRO, GRADY COUNTY, GEORGIA, DECEMBER 28, 1906.

CAIRO BANKING CO.,

Cairo, Georgia.

Walter Davis, President. O. T. Davis, Cashier.

Capital, \$35,000.00.

Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$12,500.00.

We have prepared every convenience for you to put aside some money. Come, talk to us and open an account. Today is a good time.

In our Savings Department we pay interest compounded quarterly. We pay the interest at the end of each quarter or place it to your credit to draw more interest.

"No Man Liveth To Himself."

Cain's subtle question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" was heard in our recent contest for county bonds. Selfishness makes man more brutish than a beast, and transforms him into a leach upon society. No matter whether a man's relation to a community be in a family, tribal, or political compact, he holds much in common with it. His property, life and happiness are sheltered by its protecting care, and honor claims for it his loyal devotion. When his individual opinion antagonizes the interest of the majority, he should surrender his personal convictions. While we lost the bond election, the vote registered the will of the majority, and when another election is called those who honestly opposed the measure should gracefully support the position of the majority, especially, since they have nothing to lose. True, \$60,000.00 would accumulate a pile of interest in 30 years, even at 4 per cent. But, had the County Commissioners \$60,000.00 on hand, and could lend it at 8 per cent. and turn and borrow it back at 4 per cent, thereby making the handsome sum of \$72,000.00, what goose would kick? Now let the fellow who has the cash to pay his heavy assessment just go lend it to some struggling farmer or to the Messenger, and the interest on it will pay his taxes, and he will be out nothing. Don't let him act like the fat dog which lay on the hay and barked, at the hungry ox.

Can any man claiming fellowship as a good citizen consistently fight this measure any further? He has heard from his neighbors; but, "Lord who is my neighbor?"

If this tax has to be collected at one fell swoop, it will fall like mildew upon our county! It will force real estate on the market and depreciate values, drive off

Re-districting The County Schools.

There seems to be much confusion in various localities in regard to locating the rural schools. Why not the County School Board take the situation by the horns and settle the disputes and wrangles by consolidating weak schools, establishing strong school centers which would authorize good teachers and better salaries? If this thing is left to the caprices of a few growlers in each locality, conditions will grow worse instead of better. The board has the authority; has it the backbone equal to the occasion? The substantial good thus accomplished would overbalance the "cussin'" which would surely follow.

No Coal, No Lights.

Owing to shortage of coal, and the inability of the railroads to deliver freight, the electric light plant is forced to shut off at midnight until a supply of coal can be obtained.

Notice to Pensioners.

Cairo, Ga., Dec. 28th, 1906.
Blank vouchers for pensioners to be paid for year 1907 are in my office. These are to be signed before Ordinary during the month of January. All pensioners in Grady County will please take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.
Pay day for Grady County Feb. 6th, 1907.
P. H. Herring, Ordinary.

BAPTIST CHURCH—Rev. Robert H. Harris, D.D., Pastor. Preaching every Sunday, at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Prayer Meeting, every Wednesday, at 7 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday, at 3 p. m. W. B. Roddenberry, Supt. A cordial invitation to all services.

Mr. U. A. Clifford has gone to Lakeland, Fla., to visit relatives. "Bubber" is an industrious, hard working young man and we wish for him a pleasant visit in the "land of flowers."

Don't do it yet.
Don't write it 1907.

Have you paid your taxes?
This is good weather for fires and overcoats.

Mr. Lee Lewis was a visitor to Cairo last Wednesday.

Dr. A. B. Cooke and wife visited in Pine Park, Tuesday.

The weather has been on its best behavior this Christmas.

We hope that each and every one enjoyed Christmas.

Mr. Spencer Barber was among Sunday's visitors to Cairo.

Mr. W. H. Searcy was an out-of-town visitor Christmas. So, we hear.

The Messenger wishes its many friends and patrons a Happy New Year.

Yez, you betz wez hav a big time this Chrimaz. Our jug of whisky didn't make gooze fire.

Prof. W. H. Searcy ate his Christmas turkey with his family in Cairo.

Miss Mazie Basmajian is visiting relatives and friends in Atlanta during the holidays.

Just our luck. The hole in our stocking was too large and Santa Claus went through.

Dr. W. M. Searcy and wife spent Christmas in Sylvester with Mrs. Searcy's parents.

Mr. Carl Clark is spending his Christmas holidays at Hartford, Ala., with home-folks.

Mr. T. W. Wood and family spent Christmas in Camilla with Mr. Wood's parents.

Mr. Frank Powell, who has been attending school in Barnesville, Ga., is at home for the holidays.

Miss Nannie Kitchings is spending the Christmas holidays with relatives at her home in Barnesville, Ga.

Mr. E. A. White, one of our good farmer friends treated himself to a nice surrey Saturday that Santa Claus had left at J. D. Holman's.

Miss Caroline Jenkins left last Saturday morning to visit her home in Eatonton, Ga., where she will spend the Christmas holidays.

Mr. George Massey who has a very lucrative position in Brooklyn, N. Y., is a guest of relatives in Cairo.

Dr. Warnell tells us that he found a very useful if not ornamental package on the Christmas night and he is anxious that the owner shall have the package.

Mr. Irwin Parrish of Montgomery, Ala., is visiting home-folks in Cairo this week. Irwin is looking just like a "man" who is prospering. And this is just what he is doing.

Mr. Albert Roddenberry who has

Advertising Pays The Advertiser

It is a source of pleasure to the Messenger to hear the many expressions of satisfaction with the Christmas trade coming from those who have been patrons of this paper and we hope for them continued prosperity all through the incoming year of 1907. It is, of course, our ambition to help, and when this paper can be the means of helping the purchasing public in pointing out the business houses who want their trade. Those houses who give such bargains in merchandise as our advertisers have been doing, it is a great source of pride to us to be a helper to both advertiser and purchaser, and we solicit a continuance of the support of our business men who have so liberally used the columns of the Messenger, and in the language of "old Rip Van Winkle" "may you all live long and prosper."

The Messenger can and will help you. Will you help the Messenger?

Another Christmas has come and gone, and the old year is struggling in the throes of death. Ere another issue of the Messenger its requiem will be sung. How sad to think of the wasted moments, the lost opportunities, the sore disappointments, the bitter tears, entombed in its yawning sepulchre! But memory must not linger. We have reached the hill top. The descent is steep, and the momentum increases our giddy speed. We close our eyes upon the past, and peer eagerly into the night of the unknown future; but hope nerves us with energy for the coming fray, and here's wishing a Happy New Year to one and all.

A Shooting Scrap.

A negro Christmas row out at the W. B. Roddenberry farm near town on Christmas day resulted in the carving of one pretty seriously and the shooting of the other fatally. The negro who did the shooting was found "not guilty." The evidence was all in his favor.

No Opium in Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

There is not the least danger in giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to small children as it contains no opium or harmful drugs. It has an established reputation of more than thirty years as the most successful remedy in use for colds, cough and whooping cough. It always gives relief and is pleasant to take. Children like it. Sold by Wright & Brown.

If you don't believe there's something doing in Cairo, just come and see how busy our advertisers are during these coming holidays. Printer's ink and bargains always draws the crowd.

If you want an ad to date, write

Ragan-Lewis.

Mr. W. G. Lewis of Cairo and Mrs. Ragan, relict of General Ragan, of the Ragan District, some nine miles south of Cairo, were happily married on Wednesday afternoon at the home of the latter. Mr. Lewis is one of Grady County's foremost citizens, and Mrs. Ragan is one of the best women in the world. The Messenger extends congratulations, and wishes for them many years of conjugal bliss.

Judge S. A. Roddenberry of Thomasville came over last Wednesday evening to visit his mother. The Judge has many warm friends in Cairo and Grady county and they are always glad to have him with them.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
Rates via Atlantic Coast Line at very low rates. Tickets on sale Dec. 20th to 25th—30th to 31st also Jan. 1st, 1907. Limit: Jan. 7, 1907. T. C. White, Gen. Pass. Agt. W. J. Craig, P. T. M. Wilmington, N. C. E. M. North, D. P. A., Savannah, Ga.

New lot ladies collars due to arrive at J. L. Poulk's.

An Iowa judge has issued an injunction restraining a young man from courting a girl. Some day some judge will get mad and issue an injunction restraining women from having any but boy babies, and then there will be an uprising, after which this injunction business will be established on a new basis.

Go to B. F. Fowells for your shoes.
Select from our line of Rugs John L. Poulk.

"Happy Thought"

Humorous! Humorous!

Whigham

Friday, January

DR. GEORGE WATSON

The Southern Oracle

Undoubtedly the finest Oracle today.—Sam P. Jones.
"Biggs is one of the cleanest nautical on the platform"—Billings.
"Those who remember Dr. J. American Girl" will be delighted that this time will be "Happy T. Dr. Briggs guarantees you. If you love to laugh you are

CAIRO BANKING CO.,

Cairo, Georgia.
Established 1900.

Walter Davis, President. O. T. Davis, Cashier.
Capital, \$35,000.00.
Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$15,000.00.
Capital and Surplus \$50,000.00.

In our Savings Department we pay interest compounded quarterly.

Easy Money.

MONEY is always ready to earn you more money when given the opportunity. Deposit it with us and give it an opportunity to earn you 4 per cent compounded.

BANK OF WHIGHAM,
Whigham, Georgia.

Notice of Election of School Teachers.

The following is a part of the school law as passed by the last Legislature:

"That within ninety days after the Board of Education has laid out the county as required in section 1, the said Board of Education shall order the citizens of the several school districts to hold an election for the purpose of electing three trustees for each district in the county. Said election shall be held at a time and place, and in a manner prescribed by the County Board of Education. The said trustees shall be intelligent citizens of good moral character who are known to be earnest supporters of public education, and they shall serve one for three years, one for two years, and one for one year, as the County Board of Education may determine. The notice of their election shall be filed by the election managers with the County School Commissioner, who shall submit the same to the County Board of Education for their approval."

In accordance with the provisions of the above, the Board of Education of Grady county has fixed on Saturday, February 23d, as the day for said election. On said day the citizens of each school district are requested to meet at the school house in their respective districts, between the hours of one and three o'clock in the afternoon, and elect, by ballot, three trustees. Returns of said election are to be made to the County School Commissioner within one week after the election by some person or persons authorized by the meeting, to make such returns.

Notice is further given that by action of the County Board of Education, no one living in one school district is allowed to patronize a school in another district unless given permission to do so by said Board of Education.

Maps of the county showing the boundaries of the school districts may be seen in the offices of the County School Commissioner and the Ordinarv.

M. L. LEDFORD, Chairman Board of Education.
J. B. WIGHT, County School Commissioner.

Mission Study Class. At The Baptist Church Sunday.

On Wednesday evening, Feb 6th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Jones, a Mission Study Class was organized with Mr. Jones as leader and Mrs. Jones as secretary. The Text Book for immediate study is the Christian Conquest of India. About fourteen members have en-

Dr. Harris has a treat in reserve for his people. He has secured a promise from Rev. K. H. Basmajian, the Armenian preacher and sweet singer, to occupy his pulpit, next Sunday morning and night. Those who hear him are certain to enjoy both the ser-

The Baptist Meeting. Now Won't You

The meeting of ministers at the Baptist church this week, has been well attended, every day, at all sessions, and the night congregations have been, uniformly very large. The proceedings have been very interesting and instructive, to all who have attended the double daily sessions, the time being occupied mainly by discussions of religious subjects of great and varied importance.

The speakers have been the Rev. Messrs. White, Bealer, Parker, Stephens, Basmajian, Jackson, Baxter, Hall, Christopher, Sellers, Kinchens and Jester, all of whom made good impressions.

The Rev. Messrs. Bealer, of Thomasville, M. S. Stephens, Evangelist of the Mercer Association, J. T. Baxter, of Atlanta, and J. R. Jester, Secretary of the Georgia Baptist Education Commission, in the order named, have done the week-night preaching. There have been no preaching services in the day. Dr. R. H. Harris preached Sunday morning and Rev. Idus E. McKellar, Sunday night.

The music rendered by the composite choir, has been of a very high order and several solos by Rev. Mr. Basmajian were greatly enjoyed.

Hartsfield-Braswell.

On Sunday, the 3rd inst., Miss Latisha Hartsfield and Mr. D. R. Braswell were married at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Hartsfield, Rev. M. M. Kinchen performing the ceremony in his usual happy style. A large company of relatives and friends witnessed the ceremony. The Messenger extends congratulations to the contracting parties.

Worley-Kinchen.

Miss Eda Worley and Mr. W. T. Kinchen were married on Jan. 27th, at the home of the bride's parents in Grady county, Rev. M. M. Kinchen officiating. May their lives on the matrimonial sea prove smooth sailing is the wish of the Messenger.

Choice line Pickels both sweet and sour at Welch & Atkinson.

Mr. Albert Holman is in the markets buying mules and horse this week.

Attention, Members

Of Cairo Lodge No. 299 F. & A. Masons.—Brethren:

Big work on hand next fourth Friday night, to begin at seven sharp.

All hands needed, visitors expected. Take due notice thereof and govern yourself accordingly.

Fraternally,
The Secretary,
Cairo, Ga. Feb. 12, 1907.

Listen At This!

Secretary Clark of the Georgia Engineering Co., was a great visitor to Thomasville. This is the concern that has the contract to pave Thomasville's streets with vitrified brick. He says that all arrangements have been made to commence shipment of material, and that the brick will begin to arrive within the next few days. He says that his company will complete the job within contract time, that is, May the first.—Times-Enterprise.

Save agents commissions and order your Monuments, Tombstones and Iron Fencing from Thomasville Marble Co. R. A. Weldon, D. B. Price.

Cairo Lodge No. 840, I. O. O. F. meetings—1st. and 3rd. Friday nights, at 7 o'clock of each month. All members are urged to be present.

Forcie Clifford, Sec'y.
J. H. Connell, N. G.

Mr. T. J. Bottoms, Traveling Passenger Agent of the A. C. L., was in our little city last Saturday, shaking hands with his many friends. We did not learn anything of his trip into Grady, but we'll bet a pint of jewsharps that he has got something good up his sleeve. Mr. Bottoms is not one of the best but is the best railroad man in this section of Georgia, and the people of Cairo are always glad to have him among them.

Phone 81 when you want fresh Groceries.

Mr. R. A. Weldon of Thomasville was visiting in Cairo last Saturday. Mr. Weldon has scores of friends in Grady and we are always glad to welcome him in Cairo. He has a large and lucrative business in his Marble Yard industry and in connection with this line of business he sells the best iron fence ever offered for sale in this part of the state. Therefore if it is a fence you need just tell him your troubles and he will treat alright if you buy of him. Mr. Weldon tells us that his business has grown to such dimensions that he found it necessary to fix himself to meet the demand of his trade, and to this end he has recently associated with him Mr. D. B. Price formerly of Quitman, Ga., and we predict for them even greater success in the future than they ever dreamed of.

For Rheumatic Sufferers. The quick relief from pain afforded by

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Content of Act/Resolution

LOCAL AND SPECIAL ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA 1968

LOCAL AND SPECIAL ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA 1968

1968 Vol. 2 – Page: 2120

Sequential Number: 037

Short Title: GRADY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION – REFERENDUM.

Law Number: No. 662

Origin: (House Bill No. 1385).

Full Title: An Act to create a new board of **education** of Grady County; to provide for the membership of said board; to provide for **education** districts; to provide for the election of the members of said board; to provide for the compensation of members of said board; to provide for the filling of vacancies; to provide for the election of a chairman of said board; to provide that said board shall appoint a county school superintendent to serve at the pleasure of the board; to provide for the compensation of said superintendent; to provide for all matters relative to the foregoing; to provide for a referendum; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Georgia:

- Section 1. (a) There is hereby created a new board of **education** of Grady County which shall be composed of one member from each of five **education** districts provided for in subsection (b) of this section. Each member shall be a resident of the **education** district he represents but shall be elected by the voters of the entire county. All members of the board of **education** shall be registered electors entitled to vote for members of the General Assembly of Georgia and shall have resided in Grady County for at least one year immediately preceding the date of their election and in the **education** district which they represent at least six months immediately preceding the date of their election.
[Sidenote: Created, members, districts.]
- (b) For the purpose of electing members of said board of **education** of Grady County, the county is hereby divided into five **education** districts as follows:

Education district 1 shall consist of the Cairo election district.

Education district 2 shall consist of the Higdon and Reagan election districts.

Education district 3 shall consist of the Spring Hill and Whigham election districts.

Education district 4 shall consist of the Spence, Blowing Cave and Lime Sink election districts.

Education district 5 shall consist of the Duncanville and Pine Park election districts.

Section 2. At the general election held in November, 1968, the five members of the board of **education** of Grady County shall be elected for terms as hereinafter provided. The three members elected from **education** districts 1, 2 and 3 shall be elected for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. The two members elected from **education** districts 4 and 5 shall be elected for initial terms of two years and until their successors are elected and qualified. All members elected at said general election held in November, 1968, shall take office on January 1, 1969. Thereafter, all members shall be elected at the general election immediately preceding the expiration of their terms for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and shall take office on the first day of January immediately following their election.

[Sidenote: Terms.]

- Section 3. (a) In the event a vacancy occurs on the board for any reason other than the expiration of the term of office, the remaining members of said board shall elect a person who shall be a resident of the district in which the vacancy occurs, to serve for the unexpired term. In the event a member moves his residence from the district he represents, a vacancy shall exist from such district and shall be filled in the same manner as other vacancies are filled.

[Sidenote: Vacancies, chairman, compensation.]

- (b) At its first meeting each year, the members of the board shall elect, by a majority vote, one of their number to serve as chairman for that year and until the election of a chairman in the subsequent year. A member shall be eligible to succeed himself as a member of the board and also as chairman of the board.

- (c) Each member of the board shall receive the amount of \$50.00 for each meeting of the board actually attended by such member, not to exceed two (2) meetings during any single calendar month.

Section 4. The board of **education** of Grady County existing on the effective date of this Act shall continue in existence through December 31, 1968, but the terms of all members of such board shall expire at that time and such board shall stand abolished. The board created herein shall be the successor to such abolished board and shall be subject to all provisions of law relative to county boards of **education** except those provisions of law which are in conflict with the provisions of this Act.

[Sidenote: Present board abolished.]

- Section 5. (a) The board of **education** created herein shall appoint, by a majority vote of its

members, the county school superintendent who shall serve at the pleasure of the board. The first superintendent appointed by said board shall be appointed at the first meeting of the board held after the members of the board take office. The county school superintendent holding office on the effective date of this Act shall continue to serve until his successor is appointed by the board as provided herein. No election for county school superintendent by the people shall be held in 1968.

[Sidenote: Superintendent.]

- (b) The county school superintendent appointed by the board shall receive such compensation as the board shall provide by a majority vote of its members. The compensation of the superintendent shall be fixed at the first meeting of the board held after the members take office, and the amount of such compensation shall be duly recorded in the minutes of the board. The county school superintendent appointed by the board shall be subject to all provisions of law relative to county school superintendents except those provisions of law which are in conflict with the provisions of this Act.

Section 6. Not less than 30 nor more than 60 days after the date of the approval of this Act by the Governor, or after it otherwise becomes law, it shall be the duty of the

Page: 2123

ordinary of **Grady** County to issue the call for an election for the purpose of submitting this Act to the voters of **Grady** County for approval or rejection. The ordinary shall set the date of such election for a day not less than 15 nor more than 30 days after the date of the issuance of the call. The ordinary shall cause the date and purpose of the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the date thereof, in the official organ of **Grady** County. The ballot shall have written or printed thereon the words:

"For approval of the Act creating a new Board of **Education** of **Grady** County.

[Sidenote: Referendum.]

"Against approval of the Act creating a new Board of **Education** of **Grady** County."

All persons desiring to vote in favor of the Act shall vote for approval, and those persons desiring to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote against approval. If more than one-half of the votes cast on such question are for approval of the Act, it shall become of full force and effect, otherwise it shall be void and of no force and effect. The expense of such election shall be borne by **Grady** County. It shall be the duty of the ordinary to hold and conduct such election. He shall hold such election under the same laws and rules and regulations as govern special elections, except as otherwise provided herein. It shall be the duty of the ordinary to canvass the returns and declare and certify the result of the election. It shall be his further duty to certify the result thereof to the Secretary of State.

Section 7. In the event this Act is approved by the voters of **Grady** County at the referendum election provided for in section 6, then this Act shall become effective on the first day of the month following the month during which said referendum election was held.

[Sidenote: Effective date.]

Section 8. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

Notice of Intention to Introduce Local Legislation.

Notice is hereby given that there will be introduced at the January, 1968 Session of the General Assembly of Georgia, a bill to provide for the election of school board members; to fix compensation for members of the board of **education**; to provide for staggered terms of members of board of **education**; to provide that the county school superintendent shall be appointed by the board; and for other purposes.

This 19th day of December, 1967.

Burton M. Wamble

/s/ Burton M. Wamble Representative District 90.

Georgia, Fulton County.

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority, duly authorized to administer oaths, Burton M. Wamble who, on oath, deposes and says that he is Representative from the 90th District, and that the attached copy of notice of intention to introduce local legislation was published in The Cairo Messenger which is the official organ of **Grady County**, on the following dates: January 5, 12, 19, 1968.

/s/ Burton M. Wamble Representative, 90th District

Sworn to and subscribed before me

this 29th day of January, 1968.

/s/ Pamela A. McIntyre
Notary Public, Georgia, State at Large.
My Commission expires Jan. 9, 1971.
(Seal).

Approval Date: Approved March 5, 1968.

Judge W. H. Duckworth
Georgia State Supreme Court
State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia

May 20, 1968

Dear "Duck":

Enjoyed my phone visit with you a short time ago when I called you to check on my memory about we forming the Community Recreation Association and building the Southside School gymnasium or basketball shell. What you and I talked about was vividly in my mind, but I wanted to be sure and I knew you could verify details.

No doubt you remember some angles of it, like I do some, and it was quite an accomplishment then when money was nearly non-existent.

I wrote my Cairo High School Narrative, and I enclose herewith a copy. People had been insisting that I write it for some time, and particularly they wanted to get in the paper that week for we had a school referendum coming up and they wanted people to be informed about what Cairo Schools were, and it wasn't supposed that they "just happened" to be good.

I didn't proof read it myself, nor did the Messenger proof read it, for we were right up to the deadline and there are 8 or 10 little errors in it that don't mean too much. They did mix up one paragraph completely but it wasn't particularly important for it was giving the date when we went from 11th to 12th grade.

You will find it's written in my conversational way of talking, but I didn't intend for it to be a finished work of any kind, in fact, I couldn't make it so if I had tried. And I certainly didn't want a ghost writer.

We had an unusual school referendum. Our representative, Burton Womble, passed a bill for a referendum to decide two things: If we should change from the County School Superintendent being elected by county-wide vote to his being elected by a 5-member Board of Education that would be elected by county-wide vote. Then the second thing was if we would change to electing the 5 County Board Members to county-wide vote or continue by grand jury appointment. And it was all in just one vote and the ones against the referendum secured an injunction from Judge Robert Calpepper to throw out the part for changing the way to elect the County Superintendent. It didn't take a lawyer to see there was no choice, and Burton not being a lawyer himself followed some advice that proved not good. I was one that was against the referendum because under the circumstances I thought we should continue to elect the County School Superintendent. I wanted to change the way of electing the Board of Education for I had gotten tired

#2 Judge W. H. Duckworth - 5/20/68

of the job of informing grand jurymen every March about school matters. I would have as many as six or eight grand jurymen sent to me every March to ask me what the actual school situation was. However, I didn't want to change to electing by county-wide vote when Cairo District 12,500 people had one member and Bechtou and Pine Park with about 900 had one member.

But believe me, the people wanted to elect the Board of Education, as I did, and they wanted to do it now, whereas I wanted to do it about two years later with a different kind of Legislative Act to vote on.

Since you are interested in anything about Cairo, I believe I'll put one of my letters that I mailed out along with the map, etc. there will never anything come up on this to involve you, or I wouldn't send it. But believing you are interested in Cairo and always will be, and when you read the school narrative you will wonder why I stressed some certain things in it. So throw these in the wastebasket when you have read the parts you want to.

So I tell them that the ones against the referendum won the first half, but lost the second half. But as far as I'm concerned, it's all right as it now is, though I did oppose the second half also, but there was no way of stopping the great momentum of wanting to get from under the grand jury appointment. We had finally gotten a good Board of Education by informing the grand jurymen of what the situation was and the high class type of men we needed on it, and that is one reason our schools are as good as they are. I think we can yet keep a good Board by school-minded people taking an interest in the elections.

I expect you will remember about the two school fires, and many other things this narrative gives.

I know you didn't ask for this rambling letter, but as I am sending you the narrative, I wanted to give you what was tied in with it and why they insisted I write it that week.

I hope that Willabelle is getting along well, and that both of you are enjoying good health.

Sincerely yours,

JER:A

Aug 21 1906

Content of Act/Resolution

ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA. 1906.

PART I—PUBLIC LAWS.

TITLE VI. EDUCATION.

1906 Vol. 1 — Page: 61

Sequential Number: 047

Short Title: LOCAL TAX FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Law Number: No. 549.

Full Title: An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to provide for the creation and operation of local tax district schools, and for the levying and collection of local tax by districts or counties for educational purposes, for the laying off of counties in school districts, and for other purposes," approved August 23, 1905, so as to provide for amending the caption, to provide a proper enforcement of the bill and for the laying off of counties into districts of reasonable size, for the election of district trustees, whether local tax is levied and collected or not, to provide a correct method of assessing and collecting the taxes in local districts, and for other purposes.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Georgia, and it is hereby enacted by authority of the same, That the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the creation and operation of local tax district schools, and for the levying and collection of local tax by counties for educational purposes, for the laying off of counties in school districts, and for other purposes," approved August 23, 1905, be, and the same is, hereby amended as follows: Amend the caption by inserting at the end of the second line, between

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the words "local tax by" and "counties" the words "districts or." Amend section 1 of said bill by striking out the whole sentence beginning with the words "By concurrent" in the eighth line, and ending with the word "election" in the twelfth line. Amend section 1 further by inserting in line fifteen, after the words "as possible" and before the word "provided," the following, "and no territory shall be included whose occupants reside farther than three miles from the schoolhouse without the written petition of two-thirds of the qualified voters therein." And the same section shall also be amended by adding at the end of the section the following: "The failure of any county board of education to comply with the requirements of this section within six months after the passage of this bill shall operate to annul their commissions, and the vacancies thus created shall be filled as the law now requires such vacancies to be filled.

[Sidenote: District schools]

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That the number of section 2 of said Act shall be changed so as to read "Section 3," and amended by inserting after the word "education," in line twenty-five, the following, "and he shall receive a commission of two and one-half per cent. for collecting the same."

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That said Act shall be also amended by enacting the following as section 2: "Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That **within ninety days after the board of education has laid the county off as required in section 1, the said board of education shall order the citizens of the several school districts to hold an election for the purpose of electing three trustees for each district in the county.** Said election shall be held at a time and place and in a manner prescribed by the county **board of education.** The said **trustees** shall be intelligent citizens of good moral character, who are known to be earnest supporters of public education; and they shall serve, one for three years, one for two years, and one for one year, as the county **board of education** may determine. The notice of their election shall be filed by the election managers with the county school commissioner, who shall submit the same to the county **board of education** for their approval. After the said local board of **trustees** has been approved and properly commissioned by the county **board of education**, it shall meet immediately and organize by electing one of its members president, and one secretary and treasurer. If the county **board of education** should consider any member or members thus selected unqualified for the work, they shall refuse to confirm the election of such member or members, and require the citizens of the district, at a time and place, and in a

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manner prescribed by the county **board of education** to elect others. At the expiration of the term of office of the members thus elected, the citizens of the district shall meet at a time and place, and in a manner prescribed by the county **board of education** and elect their successors, who must be approved by the county **board of education** as hereinbefore provided; and the election shall be for a term of three years. If any member should refuse to act, or should be guilty of any conduct unbecoming the dignity of a school **trustee**, the county **board of education** shall have the right, upon a written complaint of a majority of the voters of the district, to remove said member and have his successor elected as hereinbefore provided. But no **trustee** shall be removed from office without sufficient proof, and he shall be served with a copy of such complaint at least ten days prior to the time set for hearing, when such **trustee** shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in his defense.

[Sidenote: Trustees.]

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That said Act shall be also amended by striking out section 3 and substituting the following to be numbered section 4: "Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That whenever the citizens of any school district in a county not levying a local tax for education purposes wish to supplement the funds received from the State public school fund by levying a tax for educational purposes, they shall present a petition from one-fourth of the qualified voters of the district to the ordinary, who shall order the election not earlier than twenty days, nor later than sixty days after the petition is received; *provided*, that notice of the same shall be posted in at least three conspicuous places in the district ten days prior to the election. The election shall be held at a time and place prescribed by the proper county authorities, and under rules governing ordinary special elections. Those favoring local taxation for public schools shall vote 'For local taxation for public schools.' Those opposed shall vote 'Against local taxation for public schools.' The return of said election shall be made to the ordinary of the county, who shall declare the result, and two-thirds of those voting shall be necessary to carry the election for local taxation for public schools. No person shall vote in said election except regularly qualified voters residing in the district six months prior to the election. An

election for the same purpose shall not be held oftener than every twelve months."
[Sidenote: Elections for local tax]

SEC. 5. Be it further enacted, That the numbering of section 4 shall be changed to section 5, the same stricken, and the following be substituted therefor: "Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That in

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those districts which levy local taxes for educational purposes, the board of **trustees** shall make all rules and regulations to govern the schools of the district, and build and equip schoolhouses under the approval of the county **board of education**. They shall have the right to fix the rate of tuition for non-resident pupils, and to fix the salaries of the teachers. They shall receive from the county **board of education** the share of the public-school funds apportioned to the district by the county **board of education**. They shall determine the amount necessary to be raised by local tax on all the property of the district. The secretary of the board of **trustees** of said district with the aid of the county school commission of said county, shall ascertain from the tax returns made to the tax-receiver, and from the returns made to the Comptroller-General the total value of all property in said district subject to taxation for county purposes, and a regular digest of all such property of said school district shall be made by said secretary in a book furnished by the board of **trustees** and kept for that purpose. At or before the time of fixing the rate of taxation for said county, the secretary of each local board of **trustees**, with the aid of the county school commissioners, shall levy such rate on the property thus found as will raise the total amount to be collected; *provided*, that such rate shall not exceed one-half of one per cent. The county school commissioner of each county, at or before the time for fixing the rate of said county by the ordinary thereof, or the county board of commissioners, as the case may be, shall certify to said ordinary or said board of commissioners, as the case may be, and to the Comptroller-General of the State, the rate of taxation fixed for each school district in the county, and said taxing authority of said county shall levy such special tax at the same time and in the same manner as is now prescribed for levying taxes for county purposes. A copy of the special tax digest of said local tax district shall be furnished by the secretary of the local board of **trustees** to the tax-collector of the county, and it shall be his duty to compute and collect said taxes, keeping the same separate by school districts from county and State funds, and turn same over to the secretary of such local school districts as well as tax received for said district from railroads and other corporations that make their returns to the Comptroller-General, taking his receipt for same, upon order from the county school commissioner; and said tax-collector shall receive as compensation therefor two and one-half per cent. of the amount collected.

[Sidenote: Powers and duties of **trustees**.]

[Sidenote: Local tax, how levied.]

"In any case in which it is impossible to determine from the tax-returns

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made to the tax-receiver of the county the value of the property of any citizen situated in any school district and subject to taxation in said district, the secretary of the board of **trustees** shall issue a summons to said taxpayer requiring him to make returns within five days to said secretary of his property situated in said district and subject to taxation for school purposes. Should said return be unsatisfactory to said secretary he shall reject the same and submit said return to arbitration as is now provided by law for such cases when returns are rejected by tax-receivers.

[Sidenote: Tax returns]

"All property, both real and personal, including franchises belonging to railroad, telegraph and telephone companies, and to all other corporations which are now required to make their returns to the Comptroller-General of this State, which is in the taxable limit of any school district shall be, and the same is, hereby made subject to taxation by said school districts as fully and completely as is the property of other corporations within such taxable limits.

[Sidenote: Corporate property subject to local taxation.]

"It is hereby made the duty of every such corporation in this State, in addition to the facts now required to be shown in their returns to the Comptroller-General, to also show in said returns the value of such corporation's property in each of said school districts through which it runs. The rolling-stock, franchises and other personal property of said corporation shall be distributed to said school districts on the same basis that rolling-stock, franchises and other personal property are distributed to counties and municipalities under the law, that is, as the value of the property located in the particular school district is to the whole located property, real and personal, of said corporation, such shall be the amount of rolling-stock, franchise and other personal property to be distributed for taxing purposes to each school district.

"All of the other provisions of the Act of October 16, 1889, entitled 'An Act to provide a system of taxation of railroad property in each of the counties of the State through which said railroad runs, and to provide a mode of assessing and collecting the same, and for other purposes,' in so far as they can be applied, are hereby made applicable to the assessment and collection of taxes of all such companies and corporations which are now required by law to make their returns to the Comptroller-General, by and for school districts in this State upon the property and franchises of such companies located in such school districts and

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upon the rolling-stock, franchises and other personal property distributed under the provisions of this Act."

SEC. 6. Be it further enacted, That said Act shall be also amended by changing the numbering of sections 5, 6, 7 and 8, so as to read 6, 7, 8 and 9, respectively, so that the entire Act shall read, when amended, as follows:

"An Act to provide for the creation and operation of local tax district schools, and for the levying and collection of local tax by districts or counties for educational purposes, and for the laying off of counties into school districts, and for other purposes.

"Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Georgia, and it is hereby enacted by authority of same, That within thirty days after the passage of this Act, or as soon thereafter as practicable, it shall be the duty of the county **board of education** of each county in Georgia to lay off the county into school districts, the lines of which shall be clearly and positively defined by boundaries, such as creeks, public roads, land-lots, district-lines or county-lines. The school districts thus marked out shall contain an area of not less than sixteen square miles, and where practicable, shall be so shaped as to have the school buildings as near the center as possible, and no territory shall be included whose occupants reside farther than three miles from the school-house without written petition of

two-thirds of the qualified voters therein; *provided*, that the **board of education** may have the right to establish districts with areas less than sixteen square miles where there are natural causes or local conditions that make it necessary to do so. The natural causes which will permit the creation of smaller districts are mountains, streams over which there are no bridges, and dangerous roads. Local conditions which will permit the creation of small districts must be determined by the **board of education**.

[Sidenote: School Districts.]

"In counties having incorporated towns, now levying a local tax for educational purposes and operating a public-school system under their town charter or special Act of the Legislature, the county **board of education**, with the consent of the municipal authorities, may create a school district larger than the incorporated limits of the town by adding adjacent territory not already included in the incorporated limits, and the district thus marked out shall become a school district upon the vote of the people as hereinafter provided, but such school district, including incorporated towns, having a population of four thousand or more, shall be and remain under the exclusive supervision and

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direction of the school boards of the previously chartered schools in said class of incorporated towns and not under supervision of county **board of education**; and the school boards of such chartered schools in incorporated towns shall be **trustees** of said school district under this Act; *provided further*, that if there be located in such school districts a chartered school controlled by a board of stockholders, or by board of directors elected by them, the management and control of said chartered school shall remain in them, and they shall have all the rights and privileges of this Act to collect local taxes as hereinafter provided in this Act, and to receive their share of the State public-school fund. A map of the county thus laid off, plainly outlining the boundaries of the school district with full description thereof, shall be filed with the ordinary within forty days after the passage of this Act, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and the boundaries of said school districts shall not be altered any oftener than two years. The county **board of education**, in laying off the county, shall disregard any school districts embracing territory not included in incorporated towns heretofore created by special Act of the Legislature. The failure of any county **board of education** to comply with the requirements of this section within six months after the passage of this bill shall operate to annual their commissions, and vacancies thus created shall be filled as the law requires such vacancies to be filled.

[Sidenote: School Districts including towns.]

"Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That within ninety days after the **board of education** has laid off the county as required in section 1, the said **board of education** shall order the citizens of the several school districts to hold an election for the purpose of electing three **trustees** for each district in the county. Said election shall be held at a time and place and in a manner prescribed by the county **board of education**. The said **trustees** shall be intelligent citizens of good moral character, who are known to be earnest supporters of public education, and they shall serve, one for three years, one for two years, and one for one year, as the county **board of education** may determine. The notice of their election shall be filed by the election managers with the county school commissioners, who shall submit the same to the county **board of education** for their approval. After the said local board of **trustees** have been approved and properly commissioned by the county **board of education**, it shall meet immediately and organize by electing one of its number

president, and one secretary and treasurer. If the county **board of education** should consider

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any member or members unqualified for the work, they shall refuse to confirm the election of such member or members and require the citizens of a district at a time and place, and in a manner prescribed by the county **board of education**, to elect others. At the expiration of the term of office of the members thus elected the citizens of the district shall meet at a time and place, and in a manner prescribed by the county **board of education** and elect their successors, who must be approved by the county **board of education** as hereinbefore provided, and the election shall be for a term of three years. If any member should refuse to act, or should be guilty of any conduct unbecoming the dignity of a school **trustee**, the county **board of education** shall have the right, upon a written complaint of a majority of the voters of the district, to remove said member and have his successor elected as hereinbefore provided. But no **trustee** shall be removed from office without sufficient proof, and he shall be served with a copy of such complaint at least ten days prior to the day set for the hearing, when such **trustee** shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in his defense.

[Sidenote: **Trustees**, election of.]

"Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That whenever the citizens of any county wish to supplement the public-school fund received from the State by levying a tax upon the property of the county, it shall be the duty of the ordinary to order an election not earlier than twenty days, nor later than sixty days after receiving a petition of one-fourth of the qualified voters of the county; and notice of the same shall be published in at least three weekly issues of the county newspaper in which legal advertisements of the county are published. Said election shall be held as ordinary county elections are held. Those favoring the levying of the local tax shall vote for 'Local tax for public schools.' Those opposed shall vote against 'Local tax for public schools.' The returns of said election shall be made to the ordinary of the county, who shall declare the result, and two-thirds of those voting shall be necessary to carry said election for local taxation for public schools. An election for the same purpose shall not be held oftener than every twelve months. No person shall be allowed to vote in said election except those regularly qualified to vote in State and county elections. If the election is carried for local taxation the ordinary or board of county commissioners, whichever levies the county tax, shall levy a local tax as recommended by the county **board of education** upon all the property of the county, not to exceed one-half of one per cent., and the same shall be collected by the county tax-collector and paid by

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him to the county **board of education**. The county tax-collector shall keep the funds thus collected separate and distinct from all county and State funds, and he shall receive a commission of two and one-half per cent. for collecting the same; *provided*, that if there be an incorporated town in a county holding an election, as provided in this section, now operating a public-school system, it shall not be included in the election without the consent of the municipal authorities, but if the municipal authorities should so wish they may abolish their system by a special Act of the Legislature, and avail themselves of the provisions of this bill.

[Sidenote: Local tax.]

"Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That whenever the citizens of any school district in a county now levying a local tax for educational purposes wish to supplement the funds received from the State public-school fund by levying a tax for educational purposes, they shall present a petition from one-fourth of the qualified voters of the district to the ordinary, who shall order the election not earlier than twenty days, nor later than sixty days after the petition is received; *provided*, that notice of same shall be posted in at least three conspicuous places in the district ten days prior to the election. The election shall be held at a time and place prescribed by the proper authorities, and under rules governing ordinary elections. Those favoring local taxation for public schools shall vote 'For local taxation for public schools.' Those opposed shall vote 'Against local taxation for public schools.' The returns of said election shall be made to the ordinary of the county, who shall declare the results, and two-thirds of those voting shall be necessary to carry the election for local taxation for public schools. No person shall vote in said election except the regularly qualified voters residing in the district six months prior to the election. An election for the same purpose shall not be held oftener than every twelve months.

[Sidenote: Election for local tax.]

"Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That in those districts which levy a local tax for educational purposes, the board of **trustees** shall make all rules and regulations to govern the schools of the districts, and build and equip schoolhouses under the approval of the county **board of education**. They shall have the right to fix the rate of tuition for non-resident pupils, and to fix the salaries of the teachers. They shall receive from the county **board of education** the share of public-school funds apportioned to the district by the county **board of education**. They shall determine the amount necessary to be raised by local tax on all the property of the district. The secretary of the board of **trustees** of said

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district, with the aid of the county school commissioners of said county, shall ascertain from the tax-returns made to the tax-receiver, and from the returns made to the Comptroller-General, the total value of all the property in said district subject to taxation for county purposes, and a regular digest of all such property in said school district shall be made by said secretary in a book furnished by the board of **trustees** and kept for that purpose. At or before the time of fixing the rate of taxation for said county the secretary of each local board of **trustees**, with the aid of the county school commissioner, shall levy such rate on the property thus found as will raise the total amount to be collected; *provided*, that such rate shall not exceed one-half of one per cent. The county school commissioner of each county, at or before the time for fixing the rate of said county by the ordinary thereof, or the county board of commissioners, as the case may be, shall certify to the said ordinary, or said board of commissioners, as the case may be, and to the Comptroller-General of the State the rate of taxation fixed for each school district in the county, and said taxing authority of said county shall levy such special tax at the same time and in the same manner as is now prescribed for levying taxes for county purposes.

[Sidenote: **Trustees**, powers and duties.]

[Sidenote: Rate of taxation.]

"A copy of the special tax digest of said local tax district shall be furnished by the secretary of the local board of **trustees** to the tax-collector of the county, and it shall be

his duty to compute and collect said taxes, keeping the same separate by school districts from the county and State funds, and turn same over to the secretary of such local school districts, as well as tax received for said district from railroads and other corporations that make their returns to the Comptroller-General, taking the receipt for same upon order from the county school commissioner; and said tax-collector shall receive as compensation therefor two and one-half per cent. of the amount collected.

"In any case in which it is impossible to determine from tax returns made to the tax-receiver of the county the value of the property of any citizen situated in any school district and subject to taxation in said district the secretary of the board of trustees shall issue a summons to said taxpayer requiring him to make returns within five days to said secretary of his property situated in said district and subject to taxation for school purposes. Should said return be unsatisfactory to said secretary he shall reject the same and submit said return to arbitration, as is now provided by law for such cases when returns are rejected by tax-receivers.

[Sidenote: Tax returns]

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"All property, both real and personal, including franchises belonging to railroad, telegraph and telephone companies, and to all other corporations which are now required to make their returns to the Comptroller-General of this State, which is in the taxable limit of any school district shall be, and the same is, hereby made subject to taxation by said school districts as fully and completely as is the property of other corporations within such taxable limits.

[Sidenote: Corporate property.]

"It is hereby made the duty of every such corporation in this State, in addition to the facts now required to be shown in their returns to the Comptroller-General, to also show in said returns the value of such corporation's property in each of said school districts through which it runs, and for the purpose of enabling such corporation to show in said returns the value of its property in such school districts, it is hereby made the duty of the county superintendent of schools of each county to furnish on or before January 1, 1907, to each such corporation, information as to the boundaries of each school district in which such corporation may have property, such as will enable such corporation to determine the amount of its property in such district, and he shall also furnish similar information whenever the boundaries of any school district may be changed. The rolling-stock, franchises and other personal property of said corporation shall be distributed to said school districts on the same basis that rolling-stock, franchises and other personal property are distributed to counties and municipalities under the law; that is, as the value of the property located in the particular district is to the whole located property, real and personal, of said corporation, such shall be the amount of rolling-stock, franchise and other personal property to be distributed for taxing purposes to each school district.

"All of the other provisions of the Act of October 16, 1889, entitled 'An Act to provide a system of taxation of railroad property in each of the counties of the State through which said railroad runs, and to provide a mode of assessing and collecting the same, and for other purposes,' in so far as they can be applied, are hereby made applicable to the

assessment and collection of taxes of all such companies and corporations which are now required by law to make their returns to the Comptroller-General, by and for school districts in this State upon the property and franchises of such companies located in such school districts and upon the rolling-stock, franchises and other personal property distributed under the provisions of this Act.

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"Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, That the board of **trustees** may have the right to pay the secretary and treasurer a commission on the amount of local tax collected, not to exceed two and one-half per cent., but there shall be no commission allowed on the amounts received from the State. They shall furnish quarterly to the county **board of education** a statement showing all receipts, disbursements, and cash on hand. They shall also furnish statement showing school population, enrollment, average attendance, course of study, and other data the county **board of education** may require whenever called upon to do so.

[Sidenote: Commission on tax collected.]

"Sec. 7. Be it further enacted, That while it is the purpose and spirit of this Act to encourage individual action and local self-help upon the part of the school districts, it is expressly understood that the general school laws of this State as administered by the county **board of education** shall be observed.

[Sidenote: County **board of education**.]

"Sec. 8. Be it further enacted, That all elections held under the provisions of this Act shall be governed as to registration and qualification of voters as the general law governing special elections provides.

"Sec. 9. Be it further enacted, That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be, and the same are, hereby repealed."

Approval Date: Approved August 21, 1906.

Aug 22, 1907

Content of Act/Resolution

ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA 1907

**Part I.—PUBLIC LAWS.
TITLE VI. MISCELLANEOUS.**

1907 Vol. 1 — Page: 100

Sequential Number: 039

Short Title: DISTRICT SCHOOLS, LOCAL TAX AND TRUSTEES.

Law Number: No. 266.

Full Title: An Act to amend an Act approved August 21, 1906, and entitled "An Act to amend an Act entitled `An Act to provide for the creation and operation of local tax district schools, and for the levying and collection of local tax by districts or counties for educational purposes; for the laying off of counties in school districts, and for other purposes, approved August 23, 1905, so as to provide for amending the caption, to provide a proper enforcement of the bill and for the laying off of counties into districts of reasonable size; for the election of district trustees, whether local tax is levied or collected or not; to provide a correct method of assessing and collecting the taxes in local districts and for other purposes," so as to provide for modifications in the boundaries of districts annually; for the right of hearing by members of the county board of education who are charged with neglect of duty; for the election of five trustees in certain districts; for striking out certain words in sections four and five, and for other purposes.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That an Act approved August 21, 1906, entitled "An Act to amend an Act entitled an Act to provide for the creation and operation of local tax district schools and for the levying and collection of local tax by districts or counties for educational purposes; for the laying off of counties in school districts, and for other purposes, approved August 23, 1905, so as to provide for amending the caption, to provide a proper enforcement of the bill and for the laying off of counties into districts of reasonable

size, for the election of district trustees, whether local tax is levied and collected or not, to provide a correct method of assessing and collecting the taxes in local districts, and for other purposes," be, and the same is, hereby amended, by striking out the words "two years" in section 1, lines 16 and 17, on page 67 and substituting therefor the words "once a year." The same section shall also be amended by striking out the last sentence in the section beginning with the words "the failure" in the 20th line, page

67 and substituting therefor the following: "The failure on the part of any board of education to perform the duties required by this Act, shall be immediately inquired into by the first grand jury sitting after such neglect of duty, and if said grand jury should find that any member or members of said board have failed to perform their duty it shall report the same to the judge of the superior court, who shall cause a rule nisi to issue against such member or members, and they shall be heard by the judge in their own behalf; if the said member or members can not give a good and sufficient reason why they have not performed their duties as required by this Act, they shall be discharged and the said judge shall fill the vacancies until the next grand jury shall meet.

[Sidenote: District schools, local tax.]

[Sidenote: Board of education.]

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, That section 2, on page 67, shall be amended by inserting after the words "may determine" in line 11, page 67, the following sentence: "In districts containing incorporated towns there may be five trustees, one of whom shall be elected for one year, two for two years, and two for three years."

[Sidenote: Trustees.]

SEC. 3. Be it further enacted, That section 4, page 69, of said Act shall be amended by striking out the words "in a county now levying a local tax for educational purposes," beginning in the second line after the word "district" and ending before the word "wish" in the third line, so that the first three lines of said section shall read as follows: "Be it further enacted, That whenever the citizens of any school district wish to supplement the funds received from the State," etc.

[Sidenote: Local taxation.]

SEC. 4. Be it further enacted, That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be, and the same are, hereby repealed.

Approval Date: Approved August 22, 1907.

Feb 1, 1946

Content of Act/Resolution

**ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF
GEORGIA ADJOURNED SESSION 1946**

**PART I—GENERAL PUBLIC LAWS
TITLE VI EDUCATION**

1946 Vol. 1 – Page: 206

Sequential Number: 075

**Short Title: COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION
Law Number: No. 634**

Full Title: An Act To amend Chapter 32-9 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the powers and duties of county Boards of Education, by striking and repealing from said chapter all references to local or **consolidated school** districts trustees and sub-districts; by repealing the powers of the county Boards of Education with respect to the consolidation, re-arrangement or division of **school** districts; by providing the conditions and manner in which children of one **school** district may attend the **schools** of another **school** district; by amending Section 10 of the Act of 1937 (Ga. Laws 1937, P. 882, 887), relating to period of operation of **schools** by repealing the words "or the board of trustees of any local **school** district" in lines two and three of said section; by repealing all reference to local tax district **schools**, other than independent **school** systems; by amending Chapter 32-11 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, by repealing and amending sections of said chapter relating to the powers of local or **consolidated school** district trustees to levy and collect taxes, and by providing the manner in which **school** trustees shall be elected or appointed and prescribing their powers and duties; by amending Chapter 32-14 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the building of **school** houses in local tax districts, by repealing and amending the sections of said chapter relating to the elections for bonds, the levy of taxes to retire said bonds

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and the building of **school** houses or the purchase of property with the proceeds derived from the sale of said bonds; to vest the county Boards of Education of each county with the power and authority to build **school** houses, to recommend the levy of taxes to retire bonded indebtedness in any local or **consolidated school** district, to provide for delivery of books, papers, records, etc., and the payment by local or **consolidated school** district treasurers of sinking funds or other **school** funds held by them for the retirement of bonded indebtedness or other **school** debts to the county Board of Education, and the audit of bond accounts; to make it the duty of the county Board of Education to disburse to bond holders all funds collected for the retirement of bonded indebtedness on behalf of local or **consolidated school** districts; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Be it and it is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of Georgia:
[Sidenote: Code Chapter 32-9 Amended]

Section 1. That Section 32-909 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, be and the same is hereby amended by striking the words "belonging to the sub-districts now or hereafter defined" as they appear in line 8 of said section, and by striking the words "either by labor on the part of the citizens of the sub-districts, or by a tax on their property" as they appear in lines 26 and 27 of said section, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "by a tax on all property located in the county and outside the territorial limits of any independent **school** district."

[Sidenote: New words added]

Section 2. That Section 32-911 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the vaccination of pupils of public **schools**, be and the same is hereby amended by striking and repealing from said section the words "local system" as they appear in line 2 of said section, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "independent **school** system."

[Sidenote: "Local system" amended to read "independent **school** system"]

Section 3. That Section 32-915 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the power of the county

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Board of Education to **consolidate schools**, be and the same is hereby amended by repealing the words "located in the same or different districts" in line 4 and by repeating the last sentence of said section, relating to the election of **consolidated school** district trustees, in its entirety.

[Sidenote: Code 32-915 amended.]

Section 4. That Sections 32-916 and 32-917 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating respectively to the powers of the county Board of Education to divide **school** districts and to **consolidate** or re-arrange **school** districts be and the same are hereby repealed in their entirety.

[Sidenote: Code 32-916 and 32-917 Repealed in Entirety]

Section 5. That Section 32-919 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the powers of county Boards of Education or local district trustees to provide for the transportation of pupils and teachers, be and the same is hereby amended by striking and repealing from said section the words, "or local **school** district trustees" as they appear in line 2 of said section; and by inserting between the words "trustee" and "teacher" in line 5 the words "member of the county Board of Education".

[Sidenote: Code 32-919 Amended]

Section 6. That Section 32-938 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the attendance of children residing in one sub-district in **schools** located in another **school** district, be and the same is hereby amended by striking and repealing the words "sub-district" in line 2 and line 4 of said section and inserting in lieu thereof in each instance the word "county"; and by adding at the end of said section the following:

[Sidenote: Code 32-938 Amended]

"The word 'near' as used herein shall mean within two miles of the **school** of the adjoining county, measured by the shortest route by public road. When the county officials fail to arrange or contract for the attendance of such children, as aforesaid, the parents of such children shall have the right, by mandamus, to compel the county Board

of Education of the county of their residence to make such a contract, or to appeal to the State Board of Education. The decision of the State Board of Education shall be final and binding on the local board."

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Section 7. That Section 32-943 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, exempting **school** property from levy and sale, be the same is hereby amended by striking and repealing from said section the words "or **consolidated school** district for the use of the common **schools**, or common high **schools**" of they appear in lines 3, 4 and 5 of said section, and by striking or repealing the words "or **consolidated school** districts" in lines 12 and 13 of said section.

[Sidenote: Code 32-943 Amended]

Section 8. That Section 32-1101 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the duties of the county Boards of Education to lay off **school** districts, be and the same is hereby repealed, and the following is hereby enacted in lieu thereof:

[Sidenote: Code 32-1101 Repealed and New Section Enacted]

"Pursuant to the amendment to the Constitution adopted in 1945, each county of this State, exclusive of any independent **school** system now in existence in a county, shall compose one **school** district and shall be confined to the control and management of a county Board of Education."

Section 9 That Section 32-1102 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the powers of county Boards of Education to lay off and divide **school** districts without regard to county lines, be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety; and that Section 32-1103 of said Code, relating to the failure of county Boards of Education to lay off districts, be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety.

[Sidenote: Code 32-1102 and 32-1103 Repealed in Entirety]

Section 10. That Section 32-1104 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the election of local **school** district trustees, be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety, and in lieu thereof the following is enacted:

[Sidenote: Code 32-1104 Repealed in Entirety and New Section Enacted]

"The county Board of Education of each county, exclusive of those counties having local **school** systems created prior to the adoption of the Constitution of 1877, may within thirty days from the enactment of this law appoint not less than three nor more than five local **school** trustees for each **school** in the county. Each person

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so appointed shall be a free holder and manifestly interested in education, and be a resident of the county where he is appointed. Each person so appointed shall have a term of four years, and should any vacancy occur due to death, resignation, change of residence from the county where appointed, or otherwise the county Board of Education shall, at its next regular meeting after such vacancy occurs, appoint a successor to fill said vacancy. The trustees so elected or appointed shall elect one of their members as chairman and

another as secretary. All trustees shall serve without compensation; provided, nevertheless, the trustees of each **School District** as constituted prior to August 7, 1945, shall be the trustees of each **school** in said district until their respective terms expire."

Section 11. That Section 32-1105 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the duties of the trustees and treasurer of said trustees, be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety, and there is enacted in lieu thereof the following:

[Sidenote: Code 32-1105 Repealed in Entirety and New Section Enacted]

"The duties of the **school** trustees appointed or elected by the county Board of Education, as aforesaid, shall be advisory in nature. They shall make recommendations to the county Board of Education as to budgets, employment of teachers, and other authorized employes, and as to other matters relating to the **school** of which they are trustees. Such recommendations shall be merely advisory and the county Board of Education is not bound to observe or follow the same. They shall serve without compensation. The bonded treasurer of each **consolidated** or local **school** district now serving as such shall, within thirty days from the effective date of this Act, turn over to the county Board of Education all **school** funds now held by him or deposited in his name or in the name of the local or **consolidated school** district in any county or State depository, either derived from maintenance tax or from taxes levied to retire bonded indebtedness of the **school** districts in which he serves, and shall take a receipt therefor from the secretary of the County Board of Education, and shall also

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turn over to said Board all books, paper, receipts, documents and other property belonging to the **school** district of which he is treasurer. Upon the failure of said treasurer to do so, the county Board of Education may, be mandamus, compel him to do so."

Section 12. That Section 32-1106 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to local tax elections for counties, be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety, and the following is enacted in lieu thereof:

[Sidenote: Code 32-1106 Repealed in Entirety and New Section Enacted]

"The county tax collector shall continue to collect unpaid county **school** taxes formerly levied and payable under the provisions of Section 32-1106, and shall be entitled to commission of 2½ per cent for collecting the same. He shall pay over to the Board of Education all [Illegible Text] collected for the **schools** once a month. He shall also collect all county **school** taxes levied under the authority of Article 8, Section 12, Paragraph 1 of the Constitution of this State, upon which collections he shall receive a commission of 2½ per cent. He shall likewise pay over to the county Board of Education once a month, all monies collected under such levies. In those counties where the Tax Collector or Tax Commissioner is on a salary basis the fees herein provided for shall be collected by him and paid over to the proper fiscal authorities."

Section 13. That Section 32-1108 and 32-1110 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating respectively to elections in local districts authorize levies of additional tax for educational purposes, and election to repeal local tax laws, are hereby repealed in their entirety.

[Sidenote: Code 32-1108 and 32-1110 Repealed in their Entirety]

Section 14. That Section 32-1111 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to local **school** systems, be and the same is hereby amended by repealing the words "to establish and" in line 4 and inserting in lieu thereof the words "now authorized by law to operate independent **school** systems to", and by repealing the last two sentences of said section.
[Sidenote: Code 32-111 Amended]

Section 15. That Section 32-1112 of the Code of Georgia

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of 1933, as amended, relating to the establishment of **school** systems in cities and towns, be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety; and Section 32-1113, relating to the powers and duties of the trustees and secretary of local **school** districts levying taxes for educational purposes, be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety, and there is enacted in lieu thereof the following:
[Sidenote: Code 32-1112 Repealed in Entirety and 32-1113 Repealed in Entirety and New Section Enacted]

"Within thirty days from the effective date of this Act the secretaries of all **school** districts which formerly levied a local tax for educational purposes shall turn over to the county Board of Education all of his official books, records, receipts, **school** funds, vouchers, and other **school** property held by him, together with all tax digests which he was required to keep."

Section 16. That Section 32-1114 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the duties of the tax collectors to collect local or **consolidated school** district taxes, and Section 32-1115, relating to the tax returns of citizens, and the arbitration thereof, be and the same are hereby repealed.
[Sidenote: Code 32-1114 and 32-1115 Repealed]

Section 17. That Section 32-1118 of the Code of Georgia of 1933 as amended, relating to the making of returns to the Comptroller General by and for **school** districts upon the property and franchises of certain corporations, be and the same is hereby amended by repealing the words "Comptroller General" in lines 4 and 5 of said section and inserting in lieu thereof the words "State Revenue Commissioner", and by repealing the last sentence of said section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
[Sidenote: Code 32-1118 Amended]

"The county Board of Education shall annually recommend to the fiscal authorities of the county the rate of levy to be made for taxes for the support and maintenance of education in the county, (exclusive of property located in independent **school** districts), and likewise notify the State Revenue Commissioner of the rate of the levy to be made on such property in said county for the support and maintenance of education."

Section 18. That Section 32-1119 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to reports by and compensation

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of the secretary and treasurer of local or **consolidated school** districts; and Section 32-1120, relating to the bond of the treasurer; and Section 32-1121, relating to the failure of the treasurer to give bond; and Section 32-1122, relating to the method of disbursement of funds by the treasurer or secretary, and

Section 32-1123, relating to the audit of books and acts of the treasurer or secretary, and Section 32-1124, relating to the application of said law, and Section 32-1125, relating to elections held under said law, and Section 32-1126, relating to observance of general **school** laws by local districts, be and the same are hereby repealed, and in lieu of Section 32-1123, there is hereby enacted the following:
[Sidenote: Code 32-1119 to 1126 inclu. Repealed and a New Section 32-1123 Enacted]

"The treasurer or the secretary and treasurer shall, within thirty days from the effective date of this Act, turn over to the county Board of Education all official books, records, and vouchers, together with any other property belonging to the **school** district which he represents."

Section 19. That Section 32-1128 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the conduction of additional tax levy elections; and Section 32-1129, relating to successive tax election; and Section 32-1130, relating to the levy of such additional taxes; and Section 32-1131, relating to elections to repeal additional taxes; and Section 32-1132, relating to the power of Board of Trustees of local **school** districts to borrow money to pay teachers; and Section 32-1133, relating to the procedure to be followed in borrowing money; and Section 32-1134, relating to the execution of notes for loans; and Section 32-1135, relating to the period for the repayment of loans, be and the same are hereby repealed in their entirety.
[Sidenote: Code 32-1128 to 32-1135 inclu. Repealed in their Entirety]

Section 20. That Section 32-1401 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the elections for bonds to build and equip **school** houses in **school** districts, be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety, and the following is enacted in lieu thereof:
[Sidenote: Code 32-1401 Repealed in Entirety and New Section Enacted]

"The county Board of Education of each county shall succeed to and be vested with all of the rights, powers

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and duties formerly vested in the local or **consolidated school** district trustees with respect to the building and equipping of **school** houses in the county, preparing tax digests and furnishing same to the tax collector of the county in the manner formerly provided by Section 32-1113 of the Code of 1933."

Section 21. That Section 32-1402 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to the possession and the use of the proceeds of **school** bond issues, be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety, and there is enacted in lieu thereof the following:
[Sidenote: Code 32-1402 Repealed in Entirety and New Section Enacted]

"In any local or **consolidated school** district in any county where there is an outstanding bonded indebtedness created for the purpose of building **school** houses, or equipping **school** houses, the County Board of Education shall, upon the effective date of this Act, become the trustee of all funds which shall have been or may be collected from taxes or received from other sources, for the purpose of retiring the principal and interest on said bonds, or for creating a sinking fund for said purpose. The County Board of Education is charged with the duty of disbursing said funds to the bond holders in accordance with the terms under which the bonds were issued, and the duty of constructing any buildings, acquiring any building sites, or any equipment for which the bonds were issued. The

county Board of Education shall also annually, within the time required by law, or the terms of said bond issue, recommend to the fiscal authorities of the county, the levy upon the property subject to taxation in the district originally voting said bonds, such tax as may be necessary to provide a sinking fund for the retirement of said bonds and for paying the principal thereof and the interest thereon, in accordance with the terms under which said bonds were issued; this to be in addition to the general tax for the maintenance of the **schools** of said districts.

"Within thirty days from the effective date of this Act, the bonded treasurer or bonded secretary and treasurer

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of each local or **consolidated school** district in each county, in which there is an outstanding bonded indebtedness for **school** house bonds, or for equipping **school** houses, or for acquiring sites and building **school** houses, shall deliver to the county Board of Education of the county all of his books, papers, digests, documents, receipts, vouchers, and other instruments relating to said outstanding bonded indebtedness; and at the same time shall render a statement, under oath, as to the status of said bonds. Said statement shall show the principal amount due on said bonds, the interest due on said bonds, the names and addresses of the bond holders of said bonds, the rate of tax previously levied upon the property of the district for the retirement of said bonds and the interest thereon; the total amount of payments made upon said bonds and the date thereof; the territorial limits and boundaries of the **school** district in which said bonds are outstanding; and the name and address of the county or State depository in which any sinking fund for the retirement of said bonds is deposited, the amount of said sinking fund, and the name in which said sinking fund is deposited. "Upon the delivery of said things and statement to the county Board of Education, the local or **consolidated school** district bonded treasurer or secretary and treasurer shall be considered discharged from any further duties with respect to said bonds or sinking funds, and the county Board of Education shall, within thirty days of such delivery, provide for the auditing of the bond account.

"It shall be the duty of the county Board of Education to make a full report to the Grand Jury of the county of any discrepancies revealed by said audit in the bond account and to enlist the aid of the County Attorney in collecting from the bond of said treasurer or secretary and treasurer any funds of said bond account which may have been misapplied, misappropriated, or otherwise improperly dealt with by said official, and to collect the same and pay said monies over to the county Board of Education. If the audit of the bond account

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reveals the same has been properly administered, then there shall be no duty on the part of the county Board of Education to make any report thereof to the Grand Jury of the county."

Section 22. That Section 10 of the Acts of 1937 (Ga. Laws 1937, pages 882-887), relating to the period of operation of **schools**, be and the same is hereby amended by repealing the words "or the board of trustees of any local **school** district" in lines 2 and 3 of said section.

[Sidenote: Sec. 10, Acts of 1937 (Ga. Laws, 1937 pp. 882-887) Amended]

Section 23. That Section 32-1403 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, relating to bond elections and taxes to pay bonds for building and equipping **school** houses and buying sites therefor, be and the same is hereby repealed in its entirety and the following enacted in lieu thereof:
[Sidenote: Code 32-1403 Repealed in Entirety and New Section Enacted]

"That hereafter, when any county Board of Education shall deem it to the best interests of education in the county to incur any bonded debt for building, equipping or purchasing sites for the building and equipping of **school** houses, pursuant to Article 7, Section 7, Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Constitution of 1877, as amended in 1945, the election required shall be called and held in the manner prescribed by Chapter 87-2 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended, and the bonds shall be validated in the manner provided by Chapter 87-3 of the Code of Georgia of 1933, as amended. The purpose of this amendment is to permit and require the same procedure to be followed in the voting, issuance, levying of taxes for, and the retirement of bonds issued by county Boards of Education for building and equipping **school** houses, or purchasing sites therefor, as is required in the case of municipalities and other county bonds. Provided, however, that in such elections persons residing within territorial limits of independent **school** districts may not participate as qualified voters in said election, and should said election result favorably to the issuance of said bonds, the property located within the limits of an independent **school** district shall not be subject to taxation for the retirement of any

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bonds so issued."

Section 24. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

Approval Date: Approved February 1, 1946.

Local School Taxation For Grady County

(By J. S. Weathers, County School Superintendent.)

Editor Cairo Messenger:
Dear Sir:

You have asked me to write an article for the Christmas Edition of your paper, on the public schools of our county. To do this is in a measure to restate what I have already several times given as my views regarding our necessities, both in the newspapers of our county, and in my report to the Grand Jurors of this

child, but it is unfortunately true that thousands of boys and girls in Georgia are receiving no more preparation and most of them even less than that offered by the state, because they do not take advantage of the seven grade course.

If the equipment purchased at this price is not sufficient, what shall be done? The State is appropriating about all that it can for educational

needs most necessary at this time is the consolidation of our small schools into larger ones, and local taxation to supplement the funds derived from the State.

I do not recall just the exact appropriation per pupil for the school children of Georgia at this time, but it is approximately \$8.25 per pupil. The state undertakes to furnish free in the common school branches for our rural schools through seven grades.

If the appropriation from the state should remain what it is now for the next seven years, and it will naturally increase, the state will have to spend for each child through the seven grades of public school a little more than \$22.00. For the sake of argument, suppose it was \$15.00. The question presents itself therefore to the thoughtful parent, is an investment of \$25.00 for my child, sufficient equipment with which to run him in an educational way to meet the requirements and responsibilities which he must face, when he comes to his majority?

This sum is considerably less than is frequently spent for a good shotgun or a good bird dog. Is an investment which would barely be necessary to buy a bird dog or shot gun a sufficient amount to invest in the future of the boy or girl?

Of course this is an insignificant sum to spend for the education of a

child, but it is unfortunately true that thousands of boys and girls in Georgia are receiving no more preparation and most of them even less than that offered by the state, because they do not take advantage of the seven grade course.

If the equipment purchased at this price is not sufficient, what shall be done? The State is appropriating about all that it can for educational needs most necessary at this time is the consolidation of our small schools into larger ones, and local taxation to supplement the funds derived from the State.

I do not recall just the exact appropriation per pupil for the school children of Georgia at this time, but it is approximately \$8.25 per pupil. The state undertakes to furnish free in the common school branches for our rural schools through seven grades.

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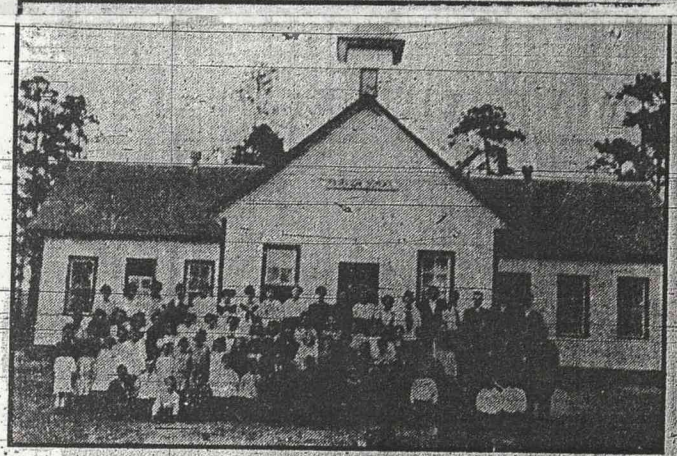
and attention. It is very gratifying to know that the people of this county are waking up to the necessities of consolidation of schools. The Fairview school, 6 miles south of Cairo is a living monument to the effectiveness of consolidating small schools into larger ones. This school was a consolidation of three small ones. People of this district came together, united their energy and by private subscription put up a building that is a credit to any community. They later voted local tax for the school district without a dissenting vote.

school. Now as to local taxation. During the present year, six districts in the county have voted on the question of local taxation for schools. Five of these have carried local taxation, making a total of 22 districts out of 45 that now have local taxation for schools.

The facts already stated are sufficient to convince anyone that the people of our county are waking up as they have not done heretofore to the needs and necessities of their children. It will not be many years, I predict, before we will have local

CENT

FAIRVIEW SCHOOL



The Cent were incorporated year open first has it began a best drug store. They are being built and carry line of drug

and now have a school doing splendid work through ten grades.

What has been done there is no better than can be done all over Grady County.

In the northern section of the county, the Humphries and Union Hill districts have consolidated, and have also voted local tax for the consolidated district, and they are now planning to put up a splendid building after the same plan as the Fairview School, and when they have gotten it in operation, I have no doubt that they will have as effective a system as they have at the former

taxation all over the county, as is true now in 40 other counties of the State.

While the plan of local taxation by districts is much better than the old plan of taking subscriptions, having box agencies, etc., to supplement public schools funds, local taxation county wide is infinitely better, because it would give some of the smaller districts, whose tax value are low, the same advantages as are enjoyed by those whose tax values are high. It would also mean that the corporation taxes would be distributed among all of the schools in

the county schools in exist, or of railroads, through the As one in of this com of all of it for the time over the complement th to every sections of vantages in are enjoyed schools of