

**EDUCATIONAL SURVEY
OF BULLOCH COUNTY,
GEORGIA, NO. 4**

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Educational Survey of Bulloch County, Georgia, No. 4 by M. L. Duggan

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M. L. DUGGAN

**EDUCATIONAL SURVEY
OF BULLOCH COUNTY,
GEORGIA, NO. 4**

COUNTY SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

Bulloch County, Georgia



County Superintendent of Schools.

Hon. B. R. Olliff Statesboro, Ga.

Canning Clubs' Demonstration Agent.

Miss Polly Ann Wood Statesboro, Ga.

County Board of Education.

Hon. D. B. Franklin, President..... Statesboro, Ga.

Hon. F. M. Hendrix Portal, Ga.

Hon. A. M. Deal Statesboro, Ga.

Hon. Paul B. Lewis Brooklet, Ga.

Hon. J. G. Neville Register, Ga.

PREFACE

The appreciation of and co-operation with the work of surveying the rural schools has nowhere been heartier and more cordial than in Bulloch County, and nowhere has there been manifested a readier determination to take advantage of it and build upon it. The enthusiastic and ready help extended by the county superintendent and board of education made possible and pleasant a work which would have otherwise been extremely difficult. The time seemed to be opportune, for the irresistible enthusiasm prevailing throughout the county for better schools needed the intelligent direction that comes from a more accurate and fuller knowledge of existing conditions, lest the cause should suffer from a "zeal not according to knowledge."

Unexpected and gratifying results of the survey came in many instances along with it, sometimes even anticipating it, and there are strong indications that others will surely follow. Indeed, many of our reports of conditions had to be modified before leaving the county on account of having been immediately improved, and before this report can be put into print it will do injustice to others on account of still further improved conditions. The rapid development of the schools of so large a county calls loudly for more and better professional supervision and direction than it is possible for any one man to give, however well qualified or industrious he is.

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EDUCATIONAL SURVEY
OF
BULLOCH COUNTY
GEORGIA

By
M. L. DUGGAN, Rural School Agent

Number 4



Under the Direction of the
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

M. L. BRITTAIN
State Superintendent of Schools
1915



TYPICAL WINTER SCENES OF BILLOCH COUNTY

BULLOCH COUNTY.

Bulloch has well earned the reputation of being one of the largest, richest, most progressive and most resourceful of the southeast Georgia counties. Until the recent cuts from its territory for the formation of three new counties, it was one of the largest in the State, and still covers a very large and rich territory. It has for some years stood in the foremost rank of Georgia counties in the matter of progressive agriculture, yet only about one-third of its land is under cultivation. There still stands untouched large tracts of original south Georgia yellow pine that will ere long be a memory of the past in the State. If every acre of arable land was under cultivation, and all as intelligently tilled as the best now are, Bulloch County could feed the State. However, it would be unfortunate, indeed, if its material resources should be rapidly developed at the expense or neglect of the educational.

"One dollar in the pockets of an educated man is worth more to him than a thousand in the pockets of an ignorant man is worth to him. Ignorance multiplied by a million dollars does not come to as much as intelligence multiplied by thirty cents."

"The common schools should have the right of way over all other institutions that stand for the public good."

"Every dollar that the taxpayer takes out of his pockets for the support of the common schools today will put back many dollars into the pockets of his children tomorrow."

Bulloch County has built many miles of fine public roads, over which I traveled to inspect the ninety-three public schools of the county.

Notwithstanding these good roads, and with the constant use of Superintendent Olliff's automobile, it required seven full weeks' work to complete a hurried personal inspection of each one of these schools. Very little help or supervision was attempted for the limited time and the large number of schools hardly allowed more than a hurried inspection. This experience was convincing proof that no one man, however industrious, could satisfactorily superintend and effectively supervise so large a system of rural schools. Such close and efficient supervision as the needs of Bulloch County schools indicate.

or the teachers and children of Bulloch County deserve, would require at least one supervisor working constantly with and under the direction of the superintendent. And, next to a more liberal and business-like plan of maintenance, this is now probably the most immediate need of the county school system. To limit his work for the schools of the county to the "letter of the law," and merely "visit each school at least once in every sixty days," would occupy all of one man's time. But the interests of the cause and the spirit of the law demand far more than this.

"Rural school systems, especially, need skillful supervision, for here the educational problems of the day are the most difficult, the teachers generally the youngest, both in years and experience, and have the least training for their work. The rural teachers, therefore, need and have a right to the help that comes from the sympathetic oversight of a competent supervisor."

Definite recommendations touching this important matter appear elsewhere herein.

SCHOOL HOUSES AND GROUNDS.

There are good titles to nearly all of the school lots in the county, and generally they are vested in the county board of education. Furthermore, the areas are above the average, generally from two to four acres. They have not generally, as yet, been improved for educational purposes. There are some notable exceptions where the grounds are being beautified and school gardens planned. Very few have given much attention to play grounds, and none to providing play appliances and apparatus.

"A school without a play ground is an educational deformity and a gross injustice to childhood."

Very many good and some expensive school houses have been built, generally by the patrons, aided by appropriations from the board of education. With few exceptions, however, these have not been well planned. Some of the best ones are fine auditoriums, but unsuited for class rooms, neither properly shaped nor sufficiently lighted. This is generally the case in every county in proportion as the units of administration are

increased. It is evidence of commendable zeal and a lamentable lack of knowledge as to school architecture. So in the painting of school houses in this and most counties it is noticeable that due consideration is not generally given to a harmony of colors or their scientific selection with reference to proper lighting of the buildings. There is, however, a decided tendency towards improvement in these matters in the more recent buildings. All are heated by small wood stoves, and no jacketed stove was found anywhere.

(A good bulletin on school architecture can be had from the State Department of Education.)

EQUIPMENT.

In Bulloch County, as elsewhere over the State, there is a lamentable lack of adequate school equipment, and this is a serious hindrance. (See detailed inventories of school equipment at each school as herein given.) Such equipment and teachers' helps as are provided for the most progressive and successful up-to-date schools would greatly facilitate the education of the children and enhance the work of the teachers. Money wisely spent on equipment in any business always proves profitable and makes for true economy.

SANITATION.

Always the health of the children should be the first and foremost concern. The most serious matters of sanitation that demand attention are the drinking water and the school toilets. Practically all of the schools of the county are provided with shallow wells or pumps on the school lots, varying in depth from 20 to 30 feet, but the water standing quite near the top during the wet seasons. At best this is a difficult problem in south Georgia, but nevertheless a serious one. Some of these wells were found in bad, and a few in filthy, condition. Responsible parties should be charged with the duty of constantly looking after them, and at least keeping them cleaned out. Where the lives of the children are involved, it would be well to have the water examined and its purity certified by the State Board of Health.

The absence of toilets for teachers and children is always