

Playground Ball -----	1.70
Foot Ball -----	6.25
Hockey Sticks -----	1.55
Hockey Ball -----	2.00
Referee's Whistle -----	.38
Inflated Ball Laces -----	.07
Lacing Needles -----	.03

The space required for games and the dimensions of courts should be given careful attention. A good description of fields may be found in the *Handbook of Athletic Games*, by Bancroft and Pulvermacher, published by the Macmillan Company, 64 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

ALTHEA L. JOHNSTON

VIII

SOME VIRGINIA EDUCATIONAL NEWS

SALARIES OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS, 1920

A study of the salaries of county superintendents of schools for the entire United States in 1920 has been made by the Department of Education, and shows a range of salaries from \$100 to \$9,100, with an average salary of \$1,740. This figure is based on the returns from 2,050 out of the 2,874 counties in the United States.

Out of the 100 counties in Virginia, 57 reported; these show a range of salary from \$200 to \$2,400. Virginia county superintendents receive an average salary of \$1,505, on the basis of the returns of the 57 reporting counties.

The Virginia Survey Report showed (Table 116) that for 1918-19, 12 county, or division, superintendents received less than \$1,000 and more than half of them received less than \$1,500.

The Education Commission's recommendation in this matter was that a minimum of \$2,000 be set for division superintendents.

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE COSTS VIRGINIA HEAVILY

From the statistical study of State school systems in 1917-18, as published in the March

Journal of the National Education Association, interesting and significant facts are to be noted:

Virginia had school children between 5 and 18 years of age estimated at 678,455.

Of this number only 70.9 percent were enrolled in public school.

The length of school term provided was 141 days, but pupils actually attended school only 95.8 days.

The percent of the school term wasted was 32.1.

The financial loss to the State of Virginia due to this irregular attendance was \$2,665,747.

There were 13, 904 teaching positions in the State, and the average annual salary to elementary and secondary school teachers was \$385.

AFFILIATION WITH THE N. E. A.

It is in the communities whose teachers have the real professional spirit that local teachers' associations are quickest to affiliate with the National Education Association. At its November meeting the Virginia State Teachers Association affiliated, and four local associations have added their support to the

N. E. A. since January:

Danville Teachers Association; Mr. Lily F. Walters, Treasurer, Danville, Va.

Lynchburg Teachers Club: Myrtle E. Revely, Secretary, Lynchburg, Va.

Rockingham Teachers Association: Lina E. Sanger, Secretary, Bridgewater, Va.

Wise County Teachers Association: J. J. Kelley, Jr., Secretary, Wise, Va.

Every teacher of the Henry Clay School, Norfolk, Va., is a member of the N. E. A. Merrill J. Ober is principal.

VIRGINIA PAYS FOR INSTRUCTION:

Those who think Virginia's expenditures for the education of her children are excessive will be surprised to find that while the average cost per pupil attending daily in Virginia in 1917-18 was \$22.15, the amount similarly expended in Montana, was \$80.54.

California and Washington each spent \$67.18.

Virginia spent little over half as much as the average for the entire United States, which was \$41.45.

For new buildings, sites, etc., the costs distributed over the number of pupils attending daily was \$3.32 in Virginia; \$7.67 in Continental United States.

PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITIES

Asserting that the county library plan is now the accepted solution of the problem of providing library facilities for all the people, the *Journal of the National Educational Association* publishes a diagram showing what percentages of the people in each state have access to free public libraries.

For the United States the latest figures, those of 1918, show an average percentage of 45. Massachusetts has a percentage of 99.6; Connecticut, 95.4, California, 92.7. But there is a shocking shortage in a number of states, among them Virginia.

Only 9.6% of the people of Virginia have access to free public libraries. Of the forty-eight states of the Union, only five have poorer library facilities than Virginia. They are Georgia, 9.1%; Arkansas, 7.6%; Alabama, 7.4%; Mississippi, 4.6%; and South Carolina, 1.9%.

VIRGINIA CITIES USING TESTS

Thirty percent of the cities of over 10,000 in Virginia make systematic use of standardized tests or other scientific methods in their school systems, according to a study published in the January issue of the *Journal of Educational Research*.

The table is said to reveal "very clearly the progressive tendency of the west and the conservatism of the east and south."

ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

Under the guidance of Mr. H. G. Noffsinger, of Virginia Intermont College, and Mrs. Ada Hills, of Stuart Hall, as president and secretary, the Virginia Association of Women's Colleges and Schools held last month an unusually fine annual session at the Jefferson Hotel, Richmond. The whole of

the excellent program was carried out with no rush and no delay. Every speaker was present, though these came from the busy classrooms and offices of school administration all over Virginia, with Dr. Stanwood Cobb and Dr. P. P. Claxton from outside the state.

For several years there has been some discussion as to the advisability of merging this body with the Association of Virginia Colleges, but it was voted by overwhelming majority to maintain a separate organization, meeting at the same place with the other association, either on the day preceding or the day following, with a probable session on the evening between.

VISITING DAY FOR TEACHERS

An excellent plan recently put into effect by Superintendent W. H. Keister, of the Harrisonburg schools, provides a means for the professional improvement of his teachers. The arrangement permitted each teacher in the system to spend two days in visiting other teachers of the city and observing their work. Wherever possible, teachers visited other teachers doing work in the same grade as their own.

Superintendent Keister had the co-operation of Miss Katherine M. Anthony, director of the training school, in filling the temporary vacancies with practice teachers. The scheme was cordially endorsed by all the teachers, who found it a source of great benefit.

Nowhere should the salary of the county superintendent be less than \$2,500, and in the larger counties the salaries should be at least as large as the salaries of superintendents in cities having as large school population.—P. P. Claxton, U. S. Commissioner of Education.

Within the past two years the state of Texas has increased its apportionment for education from \$7.50 to \$14.50.

A law has recently been passed in Texas requiring that men and women in the schools shall receive equal pay for equal work.