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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

BOARD OF EDUCATION

OF THE

STATE OF ARKANSAS.

SESSION OF JANUARY, 1874.

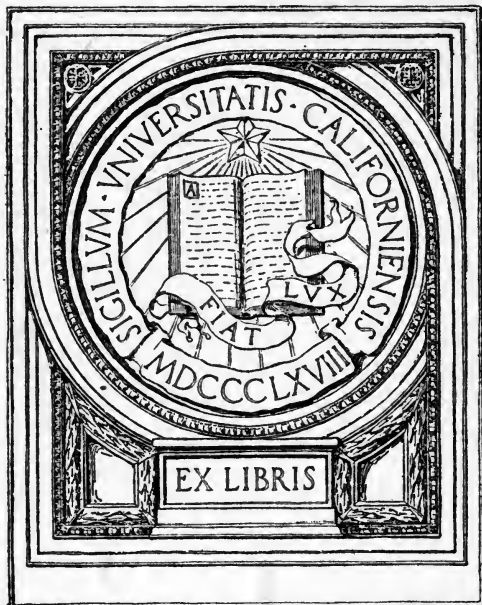
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LITTLE ROCK, ARK.:

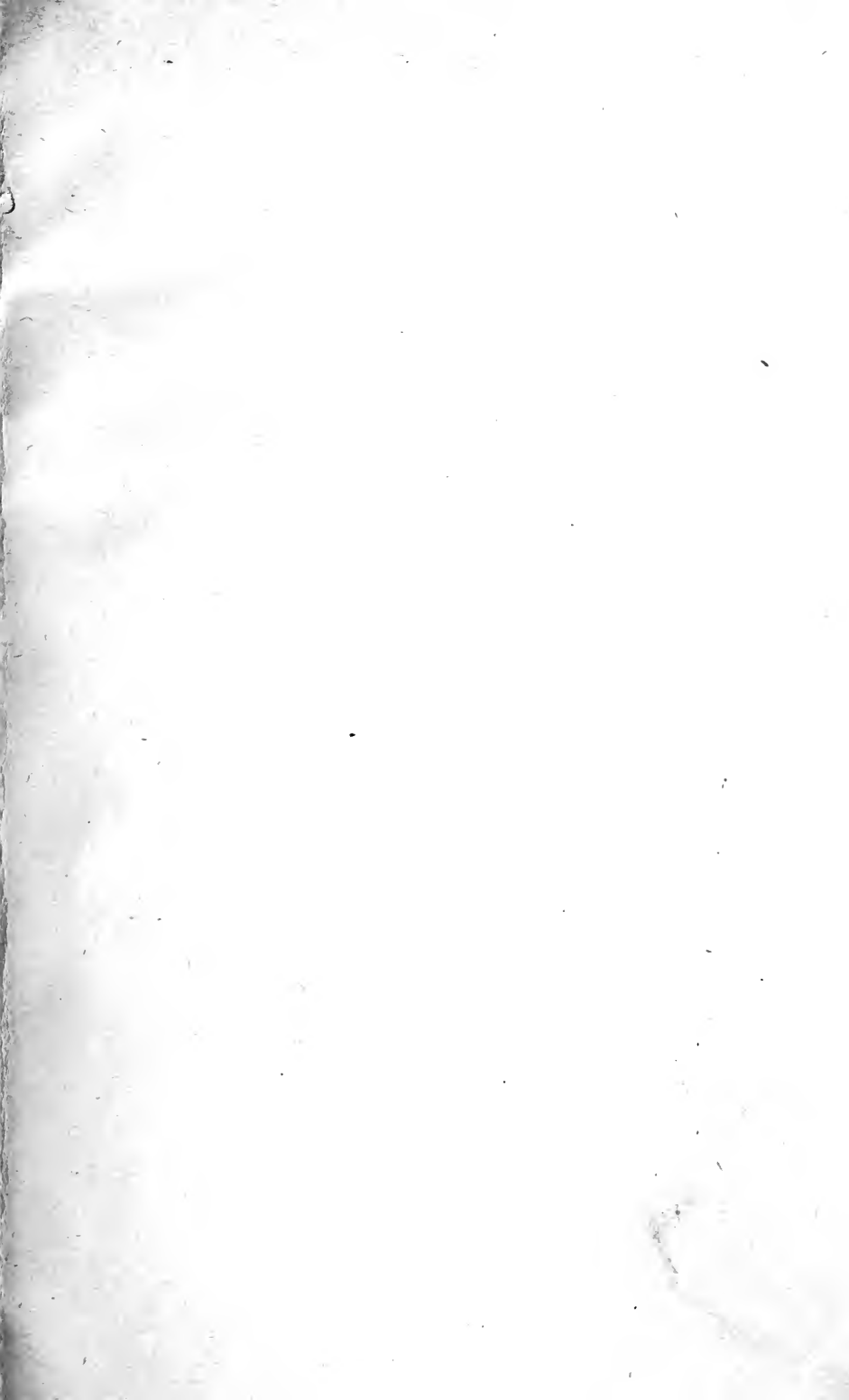
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1874.

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OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

HON. J. C. CORBIN.....	LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and President of the Board.	
HON. M. A. COHN.....	LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
Secretary of the Board.	
HON. JOHN E. BENNETT.....	HELENA, ARK.
HON. P. H. YOUNG.....	LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
HON. A. S. PRATHER.....	HUNTSVILLE, ARK.
MAJ. H. C. C. BOTEFUHR.....	FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.
DR. R. F. NAYLOR.....	DARDANELLE, ARK.
HON. A. W. BISHOP.....	FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.
HON. E. J. SEARLE.....	ARKADELPHIA, ARK.
HON. H. A. MILLEN.....	CAMDEN, ARK.
HON. JOHN M. CLAYTON.....	OAKVILLE, ARK.



TO THOSE WHO DESIRE GOOD SCHOOL LAWS.

NOTICE.

The undersigned were appointed a committee by the State Board of Education, at its recent session in this city, for the purpose of revising our present school laws, and to prepare them for the consideration of our next Legislature.

It is the earnest desire of said committee to prepare such a law as will, in every feature, if possible, meet the requirements and approbation of our citizens; and to this end they respectfully ask the co-operation of *all* who can, or have the inclination so to do, to correspond freely with either of the undersigned, in relation to suggestions or amendments to, or additions or erasures from our present school laws, including, if possible, the reasons for such suggestions, etc.

[Signed]

J. C. CORBIN, Little Rock;

M. A. COHN, Little Rock;

A. W. BISHOP, Fayetteville,

Committee.

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

LITTLE ROCK, January 12, 1874.

The State Board of Education met this day, at 3 o'clock P.M., at the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

There were present Hon. J. C. Corbin, President of the Board, and Messrs. Bennett, Young, Searle, Millen and Cohn.

Absent—Messrs. Prather, Botefuhr, Naylor, Bishop and Clayton.

No quorum being in attendance,

On motion of Judge John E. Bennett, the Board adjourned till 3 o'clock P.M. on to-morrow.

LITTLE ROCK, January 13, 1874.

The State Board of Education met pursuant to adjournment, and,

As on yesterday, no quorum appearing,

On motion, the Board adjourned till 3 o'clock P.M. on to-morrow.

LITTLE ROCK, January 14, 1874.

The State Board of Education met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—Hon. J. C. Corbin, President of the Board, and Messrs. John E. Bennett, M. A. Cohn, P. H. Young, A. S. Prather, A. W. Bishop, E. J. Searle, H. A. Millen and John M. Clayton.

Absent—Messrs. H. C. C. Botefuhr and R. F. Naylor.

A quorum being present,

On motion of Gen. A. W. Bishop, the Board proceeded to the election of a Secretary.

Mr. M. A. Cohn being nominated, and no further nominations being made, said Mr. Cohn was chosen Secretary of the Board, by acclamation, for the ensuing year.

The minutes of the previous meetings were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Cohn, the President of the Board was requested to appoint the following standing committees for the ensuing year, consisting of three members each, viz.:

Committee on Ways and Means.

Committee on Text-Books, Blanks and Forms.

Committee on Construction of School Laws and Rules and Regulations.

In compliance with the above request, the President appointed the following members to serve on said committees, to-wit:

Ways and Means—Messrs. Millen, Young and Prather.

Text-Books, etc.—Messrs. Bennett, Clayton and Cohn.

Construction of School Law—Messrs. Searle, Bennett and Bishop.

On motion of Mr. Clayton, section 58 of the school law was referred to the Committee on Construction of School Law for their opinion.

Mr. Bennett moved that a committee, of which the President of this Board be chairman, be appointed, for the purpose of procuring all the necessary information, from our

own and other states, in relation to school laws, and to perfect such a school law, for the government of our common schools, as in their judgment is required, for the consideration of our next Legislature, and to report their labors in full at the next meeting of this Board after the adjournment of the present session.

Said motion was unanimously adopted by the Board, and Messrs. Cohn and Bishop were appointed the other members of said committee.

On motion, the Committee on Text-Books were requested to report their recommendations in the matter of text-books as early as possible.

Mr. Clayton offered the following, which was unanimously adopted by the Board, to-wit:

Resolved, by the State Board of Education of the State of Arkansas, That the seal heretofore used in the Department of Public Instruction, be and the same is hereby adopted as the seal for the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Mr. Scarle offered the following, which was unanimously adopted by the Board, to-wit:

Resolved, That the committee on amending the school law of this state be and the same are hereby required to prepare a memorial for this Board to Congress, for endowments to national colleges and free common schools; and for this purpose they will confer with a similar committee of the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas Industrial University.

The Board adjourned till 3 o'clock P.M. on to-morrow.

LITTLE ROCK, January 15, 1874.

The State Board of Education met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—Hon. J. C. Corbin, President; Messrs. Bennett, Cohn, Young, Prather, Searle, Bishop and Clayton.

Absent—Messrs. Botefuhr, Naylor and Millen.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Millen appeared and was recorded as being present.

The Committee on Text-Books, etc., reported as follows, to-wit:

To the Board of Education:

We, your Committee on Text-Books, would respectfully report the following list of standard text-books for the schools of this state, viz.:

1. A. S. BARNES & Co.'s INDEPENDENT READERS and SPELLERS.
2. BROWN'S FIRST LINES OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR and INSTITUTES, or SWINTON'S LANGUAGE LESSONS.
3. QUACKENBOSS' ARITHMETICS.
4. BARNES' or SCOTT'S HISTORIES OF THE UNITED STATES.
5. GUYOT'S Series of GEOGRAPHIES.
6. GUYOT'S or CORNELL'S PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHIES.

We would also earnestly recommend, for schools of the proper grade, the following list of text-books, viz.:

1. ROSCOE'S ELEMENTARY CHEMISTRY.
2. MISS YOUMAN'S FIRST BOOK IN BOTANY.
3. KREUSE'S MANUAL OF INVENTIVE DRAWING.
4. LAMBERT'S Series of PHYSIOLOGIES.
5. GANOT'S PHYSICS.
6. GOOLD BROWN'S GRAMMAR OF ENGLISH GRAMMARS.

Also, for the use of common schools, WILLIAMS & SOUTHERLAND'S Series of PATENT COPY-BOOKS, in graded numbers from one to seven.

(Signed)

JOHN E. BENNETT,
JOHN M. CLAYTON,
M. A. COHN,

Committee on Text-Books.

The above report and all recommendations were unani-
mously approved by the Board.

Mr. Cohn presented the following, to-wit:

I move that a committee of three be appointed, of which the President is to act as chairman, for the purpose of acting as representatives of this Board at the next State Teachers' Association meeting in this city.

Which was unanimously concurred in, and said committee consists of Messrs. Corbin, Searle and Cohn.

By Judge E. J. Searle, from Committee on Construction of School Laws, was presented the following, to-wit:

We respectfully submit the following report as our opinion in the construction of section 58 of the school laws:

It is provided in said section "that the school trustees of the several counties in this state shall meet in convention, at the seat of justice, etc., for the purpose of selecting, by a majority vote, a suitable person as county superintendent of public instruction," etc.

Are school directors elected and performing duties under the act approved February 4, 1869, entitled "An act for the better regulation of public schools in cities and towns," entitled to the right of being members of said convention, and of participating as such in the transaction of the business as provided in said section?

We are clearly of opinion that they are. They are clothed substantially with the same powers and rights that belong to trustees, and substantially the same duties are required of them. In character they are nothing more nor less than trustees, though called directors in the act providing for their election, etc.

This section should be liberally construed in this matter; and so construed, it must be taken to include district school officers, whether called trustees or directors.

More clearly will this appear when we remember that the county school superintendents have supervision of all the schools of their counties respectively, whether they be officered by school trustees or directors. This being the case, the directors have a right to a voice in their election to the extent of their number.

(Signed)

E. J. SEARLE,
A. W. BISHOP,
JOHN E. BENNETT.

Said report was unanimously concurred in by the Board.

On motion, section 16 of school laws was referred to the Committee on Construction of School Law.

On motion of Mr. Cohn, the several counties of the state were called in their alphabetical order, for the purpose of considering them separately, from reports of the officers thereof, as transmitted to the President of the Board, and the following status of reports was ascertained, to-wit:

[NOTE.—As the substance of said reports will be embodied in that of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, this one is confined to the character of the reports only.]

COUNTY.	CHARACTER OF REPORT.	COUNTY.	CHARACTER OF REPORT.
Arkansas	Partial.	Lee	None.
Ashley.....	Fair.	Lonoke.....	None.
Baxter	Partial.	Little River.....	Partial.
Bradley	None.	Lincoln	Partial.
Benton.....	None.	Madison	Partial.
Boone.....	None.	Marion	Partial.
Carroll	Partial.	Mississippi.....	Partial.
Clayton	None.	Montgomery.....	None.
Crawford	*Very fair.	Monroe.....	None.
Calhoun	*Very fair.	Nevada	Partial.
Columbia	*Very fair.	Newton	*Fair.
Chicot	*Very fair.	Ouachita.....	Partial.
Clark	None.	Poinsett	Partial.
Crittenden	*Good.	Pope	None.
Cross.....	None.	Phillips	*Fair.
Conway	*Fair.	Prairie	None.
Craighead	*Fair.	Pulaski.....	*Fair.
Dallas.....	*Fair.	Perry	*Fair.
Drew.....	*Fair.	Polk	None.
Desha	*Fair.	Pike	None.
Dorsey	*Fair.	Randolph.....	Partial.
Fulton	None.	Sharpe	Partial.
Faulkner	None.	Searcy.....	Partial.
Franklin	None.	St. Francis.....	Partial.
Grant	None.	Saline	Partial.
Greene	None.	Scott.....	Partial.
Garland	None.	Sebastian	None.
Hempstead	None.	Sevier	Partial.
Hot Spring	Partial.	Sarber	Partial.
Howard	None.	Stone.....	Partial.
Izard.....	None.	Union.....	Partial.
Independence	*Fair.	Van Buren	Partial.
Jackson	*Fair.	Washington	Partial.
Johnson	*Fair.	Woodruff	Partial.
Jefferson	*Fair.	White.....	*Fair.
Lawrence.....	None.	Yell.....	*Fair.
Lafayette.....	None.		

*Clerically.

 RECAPITULATION.

Partial reports	25
Not reported.....	26
Fair reported (clerically).....	17
Very fair and good (clerically).....	5
	73
Total.....	73

The Board adjourned till 3 o'clock P.M. on to-morrow.

LITTLE ROCK, January 16, 1874.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—

Hon. J. C. Corbin, President ;

Messrs. Bennett, Cohn, Young, Prather, Bishop, Searle,
Millen and Clayton.

Absent—

Messrs. Botefuhr and Naylor.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

The following report, from the Committee on the Construction of the School Law, through Judge Searle, was then presented, to-wit :

Your committee, to whom was referred the question as to whether the county school superintendent should participate in the business and proceedings of the Convention of Trustees, spoken of in section 58 of the school law, and also as to what place such convention, etc., should meet, and also the construction of section 16, beg leave to make the following report :

In the absence of any positive provision of law making it their duty or right so to do, we are of opinion that the county school superintendents should not participate in any manner in such business or proceedings. The chief, if not the only, business of the convention is to elect a suitable person for county superintendent of common schools, and they should be perfectly free, in making such selection, from any influence that such officer might have by virtue of his being a member of the convention or participating in its business, if permitted so to do.

The convention provided for in section 58 of the school law ought, ordinarily, to convene in the court-house of their respective counties.

The minutes of their proceedings should be signed by the President and Secretary of the convention, and then forwarded to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State.

As to the meaning of section 16, we have nothing to say. It is too plain to be misunderstood, and needs no construction.

(Signed)

E. J. SEARLE,
A. W. BISHOP,
J. E. BENNETT.

The above report was unanimously approved.

On motion of Mr. Prather, the Secretary was authorized to have five hundred copies of the proceedings of this Board printed in the usual manner.

Mr. Prather offered the following, to-wit :

Resolved, That the President of the State Board of Education be authorized to issue a circular to each county superintendent in the state, earnestly urging and recommending that such several county superintendents shall hold their annual county teachers' institutes, as now required by law, and that a cordial invitation be extended to every county superintendent to attend the State Teachers' Association meeting, to be held in this city on the first Tuesday in May next.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr. Prather, the President, Hon. J. C. Corbin, M. A. Cohn and A. S. Prather were chosen as delegates to represent this State in the National Teachers' Association meeting, to be held in Detroit in August next.

The Board adjourned till 3 o'clock P.M. on to-morrow.

LITTLE ROCK, January 17, 1874.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present—

Hon. J. C. Corbin, President ;

Messrs. Bennett, Cohn, Young, Prather, Bishop, Searle and Clayton.

Absent—

Messrs. Botefuhr, Naylor and Millen.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

The following was introduced by Mr. Prather, to-wit :

Resolved by the State Board of Education, That the President of the State Board of Education and State Superintendent of Public Instruction be and he is hereby authorized to procure a suitable number of teachers' registers for the use of the public schools of this state, that shall conform to the requirements of the school law, and report his action to the next meeting of this Board.

Adopted unanimously.

Mr. Prather next offered the following, to-wit :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board are due, and are hereby tendered, to Hon. J. C. Corbin, the President of this Board, and to Hon. M. A. Cohn, the Secretary of this Board, for the uniform and courteous manner in which they have discharged their several duties during our present session.

Said resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board.

The Board, on motion of Judge John E. Bennett, adjourned *sine die*.

(Signed)

J. C. CORBIN,

State Supt. of Public Instruction and President of Board.

M. A. COHN, *Secretary State Board of Education.*

NOTICE TO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, }
LITTLE ROCK, ARK., January 27, 1874. }

TO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS:

Gentlemen—The following is a list of standard text books for schools of the State of Arkansas, readopted by the State Board of Education at its meeting in January, 1874, viz:

1. A. S. Barnes & Co.'s Independent Readers and Spellers.
 2. Brown's First Lines of English Grammar and Institutes, or Swinton's Language Lessons.
 3. Quackenbos' Arithmetics.
 4. Barnes' History of the United States, or Scott's.
 5. Guyot's Series of Geographies. (Guyot's or Cornell's Physical Geography.)
- Also, for common schools, Williams & Sutherland's Graded Patent Copy-books, numbering from one to seven.

The following were also warmly recommended by the Board for schools of the proper grade, viz:

1. Roscoe's Elementary Chemistry.
2. Miss Youman's First Book in Botany.
3. Kruse's Manual of Inventive Drawing.
4. Lambert's Series of Physiologies.
5. Ganot's Physics.
6. Gould Brown's Grammar of English Grammars.

Very respectfully,

J. C. CORBIN,
Superintendent of Public Instruction.

THE PEABODY FUND.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, }
LITTLE ROCK, ARK., January 27, 1874. }

The following are the rules and regulations for distributing the proceeds of the fund:

Donations are not made to colleges, academies, or any private, sectarian or charity schools.

For well regulated public free schools, continued about ten months of the year, and having a regular attendance of not less than

100 pupils, averaging 85 per cent., we pay.....	\$ 300
150 pupils, averaging 85 per cent., we pay.....	450
200 pupils, averaging 85 per cent., we pay.....	600
250 pupils, averaging 85 per cent., we pay.....	800
300 pupils, averaging 85 per cent., we pay.....	1,000

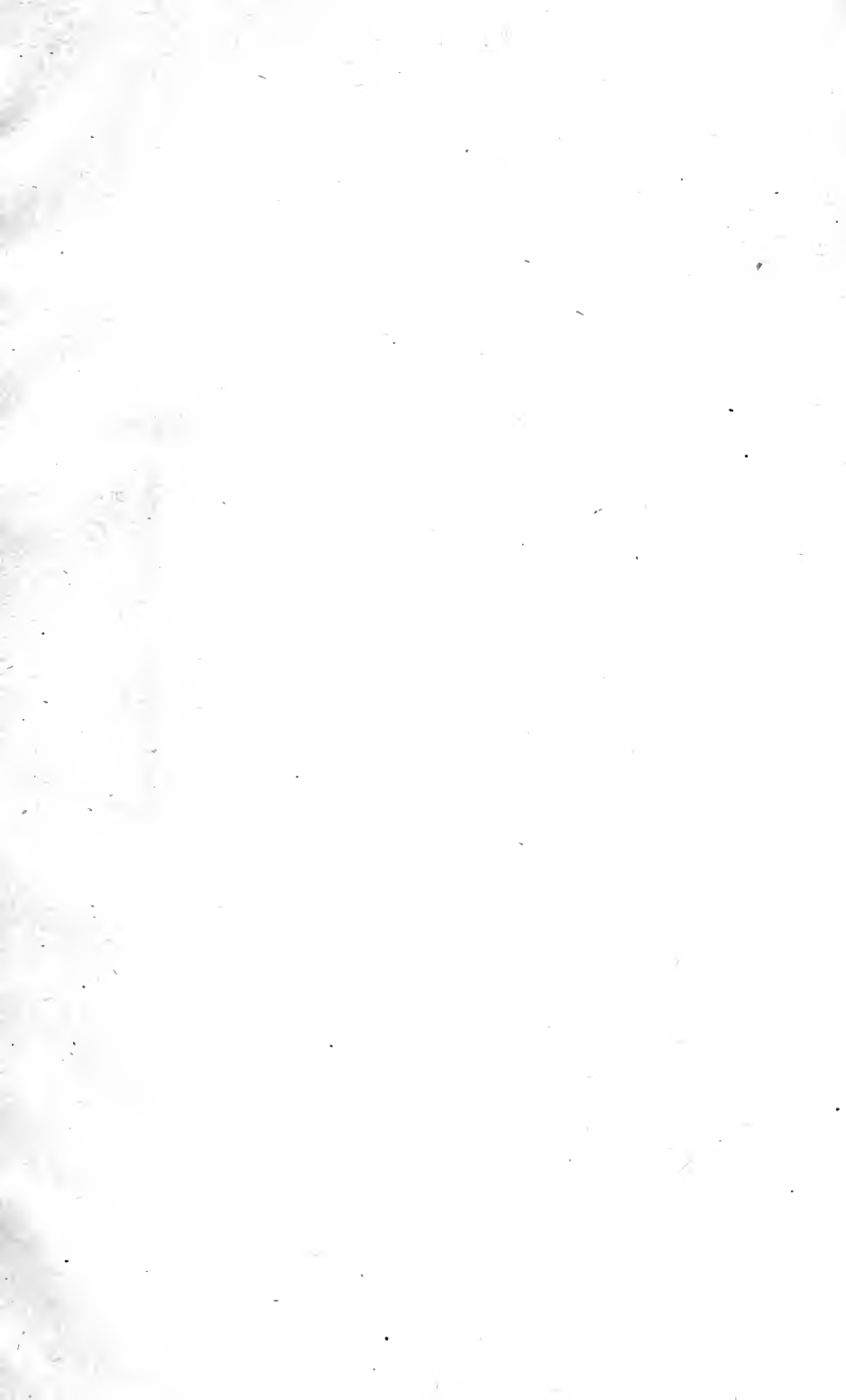
In doubtful cases of attendance, the average number decides the question. The amount appropriated for larger numbers in cities cannot be fixed, but must depend on circumstances. The people are to pay for current expenses at least twice, and usually three times, as much as they receive from the fund, and to bear all the expenses of erecting and repairing and furnishing school-houses. They are to grade their schools, and provide a teacher for every fifty pupils. It is recommended that applications for assistance be made through the Superintendent of each State, near the beginning of the school year. No claim for a share of the fund can be admitted where a special contract has not been previously made.

For colored schools, two-thirds of the above named are, for reasons already given, paid at present. In all other respects the regulations are the same as for white schools. The number of pupils required applies to each class of schools separately. This is necessary, in order that the schools may be properly graded.

The avowed object and purpose of the Board of Trustees of the Peabody Education Fund is "to strengthen the State system" of public schools by rendering them superior to private schools. The above rules are strictly adhered to, and applicants for aid must show conclusively that the school in whose behalf application is, in all respects, of the class described therein. The under-

signed will take pleasure, upon such showing being made, in making the necessary recommendation to the agent of the Peabody Education Fund, but will not undertake to hold a lengthy correspondence with parties whose applications are not in accordance with the above requirements.

J. C. CORBIN,
Superintendent of Public Instruction.





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