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# COUNTY PUPILS COST $47.26

Excluding general control and fixed charges, the expense of educating each white elementary school pupil in the counties last year was $47.25, an increase of $1.24 over 1926, Albert S. Cook, State Superintendent of Schools, said:

In every county in the State except Caroline, Carroll, Cecil and Talbot the cost per pupil increased in 1927, as compared with 1926, Mr. Cook added.

"Costs ranged from $39 a pupil in Washington county to $57 in Calvert," Mr. Cook asserted. Six counties—Colvert, Montgomery, Kent Queen Anne's, Garrett and Galtimore—have costs in excess of $50 a pupil. Seven counties—Washington, Harford, Frederick, St. Mary's, Cecil, Somerset and Howard—spent less than $45 for each pupil enrolled. Nearly one-half of the counties required an annual expenditure of from $45 to $50 for each white elementary school pupil."

The teacher's salary item, Mr. Cook said, was the largest in the expense of instructing each pupil. It was dependent not only on the salary of teachers but was influenced by the size of the classes. With the exception of St. Mary's, Allegany, Baltimore, Montgomery and Prince George's counties, the eleven counties highest in salary cost per pupil were lowest in the size of the classes.

Despite small classes in St. Mary's county, the average cost per pupil was kept down by the average teacher's salary being lower than in any other county in the State.

Salaries for teachers during the last year were increased by forty-three cents a pupil because of the employment of a large number of teachers holding higher grades of certificates. There were decreases in salary costs in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Caroline, Carroll, Kent, Montgomery, Queen Anne's and Talbot counties. Salary costs varied from $30.68 a pupil in Washington county, which ranked second in the State in the size of classes, to $42.45 in Garrett county, which ranked next to the lowest in size of classes.

Supervision costs increased to $1.42 against $1.35 for 1926.

"The expenditure for supervision varied from 73 cents a pupil in Cecil county, which had only one supervising teacher, although it was entitled to three, to $2.71 in Calvert, the smallest county," Mr. Cook said. "Costs were above $2 in seven of the counties. Four of these — Calvert, Kent, Queen Anne's and St. Mary's—are our smallest counties.

"Garrett county has the largest area in the State, the largest number of one-teacher schools and the smallest number of pupils per teacher, which explains the high cost of supervision there. Carroll county employed a musical supervisor. The cost of supervision was under $1.20 a pupil in seven other counties."

The State pays two-thirds of the salary of each supervisor, while the county contributes the remainder.

—oo—

### *Tools Found in Africa May Antedate Ice Age*

The prehistoric men of the old Stone age, who lived in Europe for thousands of years between the advances of the ice during the glacial period, and even, perhaps, before that great Ice age began, may have learned how to chip their flints and make their rude stone tools under the kinder skies of Africa.

This is suggested by very ancient implements recently found in that continent by an East African archeological expedition.

The stone tools and weapons newly found are believed to have been made and lost by their owners even before the Ice age. During all the half million years or more since then they have been lying undisturbed in the gravel deposits where they have now been found.

Africa was too far south to be reached by the glaciers of the Ice age, it is observed, but the climate at that time seems to have been cooler and more rainy than now. It was before this rainy period, it is said, that the makers of stone tools must have lived.

During the Ice age, and even before its beginning, men of the old Stone age are known to have invaded Europe, from which they retreated again as the ice sheet advanced. Where these men of the glacial period came from has always been a mystery, some scientific men advocating Asia as their probable home and others favoring Africa.

—oo—

### *The Great Master*

In these days it might be revised to read that haste makes waste of human life.—Boston Evening Transcript.

# COMMUNICATION ACHIEVEMENTS MARK PROGRESS OF COUNTRY DURING 1927

**Transatlantic Telephone Service; Television; Opening Of The Third Transcontinental Line; And Extension Of Long Distance Service To Mexico And Saskatchewan Among Notable Events**

A review of last year's telephone progress shows conclusively that there was no diminution in the development of the systems in the United States. According to telephone officials there are now about 18,500,000 telephones in this country, a net gain of more than 750,000 during the past year. The wire plant of the telephone companies, now estimated to be about 63,000,000 miles, was increased by about 5,000,000 miles during 1927.

Constantly people are finding new uses for telephone service and at the close of 1927 there was a daily average of over 72,500,000 conversations made in the United States. This means an average of 205.8 conversations for each man, woman and child in this country.

The advancement and development of the telephone art last year resulted in transatlantic radio telephone connections to Great Britain and long-distance service to the principal cities in Mexico, and Saskatchewan, Canada. Television, seeing by telephone, was also demonstrated before large audiences.

Emphasizing the necessity for transcontinental telephone service, a third cross country line was placed in operation between Minneapolis and Spokane, Seattle and Portland, Oregon, early in the year. This line supplements the original transcontinental line extending from New York to San Francisco and a southern route connecting New Orleans, Dallas, El Paso and Los Angeles. The latter line was opened to public service about four years ago.

Research and development devoted both to physical things and to methods of operation have been perhaps the most important basic factors in the phenomenal growth and general improvement in the quality of telephone service throughout the country. The gradual extension in the range of telephone communication (which, during 1927, was so vividly illustrated by the establishment of transatlantic telephone service) and such by-products of the telephone as the transmission of pictures by wire, are alike the products of telephone research.

*Americans averaged 205 telephone calls last year. Miss Margaret Popkins seems pleased with this one.*

Throughout the past year the Bell System research organization, comprising over 4,000 engineers, physicists, chemists and other scientists and their assistants, employed in the Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc., and the Department of Development and Research of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, have continued their tireless search along many lines of technical investigation for adaptations and improvements in telephone apparatus and methods, whereby the speed, quality and economy of telephone service may be further enhanced.

It is a far cry from Alexander Graham Bell, working with one assistant in a Boston attic, where he discovered the principle of the telephone, to these highly organized groups devoted to research and development, which are constantly subjecting to the most minute scrutiny and investigation every phase of the science of communication which has to do with telephone service

### *American History*

S. Delaware is named for Thomas West, Lord de La War, who after his death was condemned to eternal hunger and thirst, although he stood in water to his chin, with delicious fruits overhead.—"What's the Answer?" Column in the San Francisco Examiner.

### *"Your Button?"*

Rev. W. G. Wittam, vicar of Messing, near Tiptree, Essex, has thought of an original method of shaming members of his congregation who put pearl buttons in the collection bag. The buttons are affixed to a card pinned on the church door in full view of the congregation as they leave after the service.—London Mail.


# Have You Money In Reserve?

Every family that does not live whithin its means must go through trying and irritating hours during which its members face fact. It is best to have the institution of home based soundly upon the principle that Income must exceed Outgo. Why not put your home affairs on a business basis? Open an account here and adopt the policy of spending just a little less than your income. You will be surprised how quickly you will have cash in hand to make investments that are sound and which will in turn bring you more cash in hand. And remember that in times of financial stress your banker is your best friend.

A Friend When You Need One

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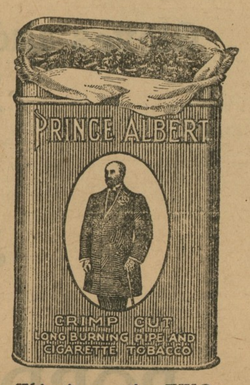


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