

SCHOOL COSTS IN COUNTIES

It cost \$7,787,000 to operate the public schools in twenty-three counties last year, according to an announcement made Saturday by the State Department of Education. The State contributed \$2,478,000, or 32 per cent, of the total amount, and the counties levied \$5,309,000, or 68 per cent.

The sum for current school maintenance was \$270,000 more than the preceding year, the increase in the State appropriation being \$149,000 and in the county levy \$121,000.

There was great variation in the percentage of the county school expense budget contributed by the State, namely, from sixty-two per cent in Somerset down to nineteen per cent in Allegany.

Somerset, Calvert, Charles, Garrett and St. Mary's received more

than half of the amount expended for schools, other than debt service and capital outlay, from State funds. The counties are arranged below in the order of percentage of funds received from the State:

County	Per Cent from State
Average county	32
*Somerset	62
*Calvert	60
*Charles	58
*Garrett	57
*St. Mary's	54
*Caroline	48
*Worcester	48
*Dorchester	47
*Wicomico	40
*Prince George's	36
*Harford	33
*Queen Anne's	32
*Cecil	32
*Frederick	31
*Howard	30
*Kent	30
*Montgomery	28
*Carroll	28
*Talbot	26
*Anne Arundel	26
*Washington	23
*Baltimore	20
*Allegany	19
*Receives equalization fund.	

Equalization Fund Explained

The equalization fund is explained as "any county which cannot carry the minimum State program for trained teachers and the minimum State salary schedule on a local tax rate of 67 cents on the assessable basis taxable at the full rate is given sufficient aid from the Equalization Fund to make it possible to carry the minimum program."

Of every dollar spent in the counties for conducting the public schools last year 71 cents were used to pay teachers' salaries, 5 cents for books and educational material, 3 cents for general administration, 7 cents for cleaning and heating buildings, 7 cents for repairing buildings, 7 cents for transporting pupils, health work and school libraries, and 2 cents for tuition to adjoining counties, insurance, rent and other miscellaneous items.

Increase in Pupils Noted

The average number of pupils enrolled in the county schools for whom this money was expended totaled 147,000, an increase of 3,100 pupils over the preceding year.

The cost per pupil, obtained by dividing maintenance costs by the average of pupils enrolled in all types of schools, elementary, high and colored, was \$52.62, an increase of 65 cents over the preceding year. Queen Anne's, Baltimore, Calvert, Frederick, Allegany, Harford and Washington counties had lower expenditures per pupil in 1928 than in 1927.

The largest increases were found in Cecil, Howard, Anne Arundel, St. Mary's and Garrett counties, all of which employed a larger proportion of trained and experienced teachers than in the preceding year.

Cost Per Pupil Varies

The cost per pupil varied from \$67 in Garrett county, which has many small one-teacher schools and no colored enrollment, to \$41 in Charles county, which has a large colored enrollment. The counties in order of amount expended per pupil enrolled are as follows:

County	1928 Cost per Pupil
Average county	45.3
*Garrett	67
*Carroll	64
*Kent	62
*Montgomery	58
*Queen Anne's	57
*Cecil	57
*Howard	50
*Baltimore	50
*Wicomico	51
*Prince George's	51
*Caroline	51
*Talbot	51
*Anne Arundel	49
*Worcester	49
*Frederick	49
*Wicomico	48
*Harford	48
*Dorchester	48
*Washington	45
*Somerset	45
*Calvert	43
*St. Mary's	42
*Charles	41

*Receives equalization fund. High school pupils cost twice as much as elementary school pupils. The education of the average county pupil in the white elementary schools costs \$48 and the instruction for the average white high school pupil costs \$96.00.

From Bill to Act

Before a "bill" becomes an "act" in Great Britain, it must be "read" three times in the house of commons and then sent to the house of lords for approval. When through both houses the bill is taken to the throne for the royal assent; this attained, it is no longer a "bill," but an "act of parliament."

Banana and Wisdom

"Fruit of the wise" Linnæus called the banana, says the Nature Magazine, because tradition has it that when Alexander the Great crossed into India he found the pundits discussing under the shade of its giant foliage.

Faith

Faith in your own power and confidence in this thing we call success. But keep an ear close to the door of knowledge, and don't forget that no man graduates from the school of experiences.

Libeled

A London motorist was arrested for sounding seven blasts on his horn unnecessarily. The report that he was signaling a passing friend his pedestrian hat for the day turned out to be untrue.—Boston Transcript.

Kindly Shoppers Had Consoled Mary Ellen

On a shopping expedition in the Christmas holidays, little Mary Ellen had a dollar with which to buy a town with her mother they met her aunt and little cousin. Arriving in a large department store, the children received permission to go to the toy department while some shopping in another part of the store was done by the elder folk.

After about an hour the mother and aunt saw a crowd collected at the basement stairs and found Mary Ellen in the center of the group in tears, with several of the women weeping copiously, she having thought she had lost her dollar.

Everything was lovely when mother explained she had her pocketbook and the present was then bought for dad.

The next day while on another shopping trip with her mother, Mary Ellen had 60 cents that her mother did not know she had.

"Where did you get that money, Mary Ellen?" asked her mother. "You know yesterday, when I thought I had lost my dollar, those women made me take it."—Indianapolis News.

"Old Sol" Classed as Quite Ordinary Star

The sun is a very humble unit amid the great stellar population according to a leading astronomer. It is, he says, a very ordinary star about midway in the scale of brilliancy. We know of stars which give at least 10,000 times the light of the sun; we know also of stars which give 1-10,000 of its light. But those of inferior light greatly outnumber those of superior light.

In mass, in surface temperature, in bulk, the sun belongs to a very common class of stars; its speed of motion is near the average; it shows none of the more conspicuous phenomena in relation to the galactic system (the Milky way), being in fact near the confines of it. We cannot claim to be at the hub of the universe.

Includes Everything

Overheard in the cigar store: "What is that dog of yours—an alreadale?" "I really don't know. As a matter of fact we have named him 'Bread.'"—

KENT IN VAN IN HEALTH WORK

March proved a particularly busy and active month for the nurses of Kent County who work together under the Kent County Public Health Association and the Deputy State Health Officer, Dr. R. G. Beachley.

Twelve children and two adults were operated upon at the Kent County Hospital by Dr. F. A. Holden and local physicians for tonsils and adenoids. All patients were discharged from the hospital in good condition and made rapid recoveries.

It is worth a careful study of the way one case of diphtheria was followed to prevent further outbreak. The case reported was that of a colored child in Chestertown. Serum was administered to all other children in the home and Miss Marjorie Ford, the colored State Nurse visited the home and gave instructions and precautions under the direction of attending physicians. The Deputy State Health Officer, Dr. Beachley, and the nurse then visited the classroom where the contracts were in school and cultured seventy-five children's throats. The reports came back finding one positive for diphtheria. That home was visited and the same precautionary methods taken. Pre-treatments were carried out until a negative culture report was received. Too much emphasis cannot be made on the value of preventative work. All danger of epidemic was checked by prompt and thorough action.

Eye, ear, nose and throat clinics are held weekly at the Health Center with Dr. F. A. Holden in charge and during the past month a number of children were fitted to glasses. One new case of tuberculosis was reported. One death from the disease was reported and clinics in diseases of the chest were held at the Health Center.

A survey of the county has been made for crippled children in preparation for a clinic which will shortly be held in Chestertown for such children.

The pre-school age clinic this month was held in the school at Massey under the auspices of Dr. Elnhardt. Seven children were examined from that section of Kent.

Dr. Goodson is conducting classes in midwifery at Millington, Chestertown and Rock Hall and has large classes in attendance in each part of the county.

The toxin-anti-toxin campaign is being completed in the outlying districts where the impassable roads hampered the mid-winter work in that line.

Twelve births were reported for the month of March, an equal number of white and colored children. Preparations for National Negro Health Week are being carefully planned for this community.

Kent is one of the leading counties in the State of Maryland in health prevention activities, it has the second lowest infant death rate and is forging to the front in its fight against tuberculosis.

"In a shoe store at Memphis the boss saw a Swedish clerk throw a pair of brand new shoes in the waste basket. "What's the idea of throwing those shoes away?" he asked, indignantly.

"They bane no gods," replied the clerk. "I try them on six fellers and they don't fit anyone."

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