



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CHAS. A. LEE, STATE SUPERINTENDENT

CITY OF JEFFERSON

June 21, 1934

Mr. S. L. Smith
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Smith:

There seems to be a number of reasons why the General Education Board and, in so far as they are able, the Rosenwald Board might be interested in this study.

1 - Each of these boards has spent quite a lot of money to improve building facilities in a number of states. It seems essential that the buildings erected should have adequate protection against loss at the least possible cost to the district.

2 - All available information seems to indicate that the insurance business is usually not well conducted and that oftentimes the policy does not give the protection that the board wishes to secure.

3 - The cost of school building insurance seems excessive. Our figures will show that in the large number of buildings that the coverage can be increased and the cost decreased.

4 - School officials do not always know what constitutes fire hazards around a building and in many cases endanger the lives of the pupils as well as the districts investment in the building by overlooking the presence of a number of hazards which could be eliminated without much difficulty.

Our study shows that on 200 buildings in Missouri picked at random that \$8,000 per year could be saved on insurance costs, even though the total amount of insurance carried is increased by thirty five or forty per cent.

Insurance experts tell me that similar conditions exist in the other states.

Yours very truly,

N. E. Viles

N. E. Viles, Director
School Building Service.

FSK
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CHAS. A. LEE, STATE SUPERINTENDENT

CITY OF JEFFERSON

June 21, 1934

Mr. S. L. Smith
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Smith:

Some time ago I talked with you on two propositions which you were going to take up with Mr. Favro and others of the General Education Board. One was on some assistance for this department, and the other was on some aid in printing a study on insurance.

Did you get any response from Mr. Favro or Mr. Davis relative to the assistance for this department? I should like very much for them to give us this aid to keep the department going.

Did you get any favorable response from either of the men concerning the printing of my study on insurance? I believe that this study will be of value to the school men and will enable them to save on insurance costs. The total saving in some of the schools is running as high as fifty to sixty per cent each year. I am enclosing a brief summary of the study that you may have a better idea of what it is.

Mr. Lee thought, from the nature of the study, that the General Education Board might be interested enough to pay for the printing and provide money for a series of conferences that I might hold with the school officials in various states to help them set up a program of reducing insurance costs, at which time the insurance study might be distributed.

I should, of course, be glad to follow this plan but if that can not be done I should be pleased to have some one buy enough copies of the study to pay for the printing. The study will be ready for printing within a month.

Yours very truly,

N. E. Viles, Director
School Building Service.

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A Brief Resume of our Insurance Study

This is a study of the insurance program in several hundred school buildings in the State of Missouri.

1. One section deals with school fire losses in this and other states. We have a number of tables showing the location where fires usually start in school buildings and the causes of fires. This section also shows that many of the fires could be prevented.
2. One section is devoted to the study of the principles of insurance as applied to school property.
3. The third section includes a table showing the effect of the fire hazards found in the building on insurance rates. These tabulations show the frequency of certain hazards, the number of cases in which each particular hazard is found, and the average cost in rates for each of these hazards. Case studies are given to show how certain hazards may cause a difference in insurance rates in buildings similar in construction and use.
4. The fourth section sums up some of the present practices in administering the insurance program with the type of policy carried, methods of determining building values, costs, and the lack of records. Coupled with this study are tabulations showing the result of case studies on 200 buildings, showing how much can be saved by the writing of coinsurance, by removing hazards, by a re-appraisal of the buildings, etc.
5. The fifth section is a series of recommendations showing how the board may make the changes outlined previously, and showing the type of policies to write. It also shows how to simplify the program so that the board will need to consider insurance but once each year, and so that the recommendations will be easily understood by all school officials.

SERVICES RENDERED BY DIVISION OF SCHOOLHOUSE PLANNING

	Total Cost of Build- ings Erected on Plans Furnished, Complete with Specifications by Division of School- house Planning	Total Cost of Build- ings Erected on Plans on Which Division of Schoolhouse Planning Gave Consultation Service	Total Cost of Buildings Erected on Plans Independ- ent of Division of Schoolhouse Planning
4½ Year Period - January 1, 1939 June 30, 1933	(1) \$675,250.00	(2) \$1,232,700.00	(3) \$1,692,240.00
1 Year Period - July 1, 1933 June 30, 1934	(4) \$128,200.00	(5) \$ 574,000.00	(6) \$ 287,853.00
Total Since Es- tablishment of Division of Schoolhouse Planning	\$803,450.00	\$1,806,700.00	\$1,980,093.00

For the fiscal year 1933-34, 5% commission of item (4), the cost of school buildings erected on plans furnished by the Division of Schoolhouse Planning, amounts to \$6,410.00

For the same period the commission at 1% on item (5), the cost of school buildings erected from plans on which the Division gave consultation service, amounts to. \$5,740.00

This makes the total saved, to school communities of Tennessee during the school year 1933-34, \$12,150.00

The salaries in the Division for Director, Draftsman, and one-third time of Secretary during that year were. \$6,424.00

Expenses, such as telephone, telegraph, office supplies, travel, etc., for this Division for the year 1933-34 were. \$1,777.20

Total salaries and expenses for the Division for the year 1933-34 . . \$8,201.20

* * * * *

In addition to the planning and consulting service mentioned above, the following services are rendered:

1. Study communities and determine educational needs.
2. Assist in determining educational specifications.
3. Develop plans and sketches for remodeling, altering, and making additions to school buildings, shops, dormitories, and teachers' homes, in order to incorporate functional design.

4. Furnish plans for equipment especially designed to meet school building needs. This particular service has made it possible for a number of communities to house their schools without proposed additional buildings.
5. Compile equipment lists for both old and new buildings. These lists attempt to specify equipment of a design and size suited to the particular children to be served.
6. Develop landscaping plans for the smaller schools.
7. Design special room plans such as Home Economics, Science, Library, Shop, Kindergarten, and Commercial Work.
8. Make surveys to determine feasibility of consolidation projects.
9. Score and evaluate proposed building sites.
10. Assist communities with P.W.A. and C.W.A. applications.
11. Plot county school transportation routes to assist school boards in checking the economy and efficiency of such routes.
12. Assist school officials in organizing school building programs and in arousing public interest.
13. The Division also assisted the Tennessee Educational Commission in making maps, charts, and graphs for its report.

7RS

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Remarks:

AUG 28 1933

Do you approve the request for \$500. to be allocated from the Rural School Program Reserve for Blue Prints? The current balance in the Reserve Account is \$15,789.15.

#68588

Mr Foreman's salary, travel expense will have to be taken from this balance.

no 8/22

etc

Letter to Trustees

Julius Rosenwald Fund

RRS (Embree)

Southern Office
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

S. L. Smith
Director for Southern Office
Fred McCuiston
Associate Director

December 4, 1933

<i>P</i>	<i>RRS</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>RRS 6</i>
			<i>56</i>

Dear Mr. Embree:

I am sure you will be very much interested to know that the southern states are becoming aroused as never before in helping to repair and repaint every Rosenwald school between now and the middle of February by aid of the CWA. State Superintendent W. F. Bond and Mr. W. G. Eckels, the State Supervisor of Buildings in Mississippi, are here today discussing with Doctor Hamon of Peabody and me plans for color cards, etc. in a whirlwind campaign to include in the program of Mississippi every Rosenwald school in this most significant program. Through our office I am giving major attention to two things in regard to this unprecedented schoolhouse repairing program: (1) urging the state officials to get all of the Rosenwald schools as well as other substantial Negro schools repaired and repainted and (2) especially urging that they particularly see to having all of the loose paint removed and that they put on at least two coats inside and outside with approved paint colors.

This seems to me most important at the moment since these Rosenwald schools represent about \$30,000,000 of investments by white and Negro citizens, local and state public school authorities, and philanthropic funds. It is gratifying to see that the officials are trying to show no discrimination between white and colored buildings in this program. In fact, if there is any difference, they lean toward doing the Rosenwald schools first.

Sincerely yours,

SLS/KS

grr S. L. Smith

Mr. Edwin R. Embree,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois

FISK
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STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Jackson

December
7,
1933

County Superintendents of Education:

In approving projects under the CWA I suggest that you do not overlook the Rosenwald Schools if you have any such schools in your county.

Your county program under the CWA as you know, should be well balanced, giving help and relief to all sections of the county in as many communities as possible where repairs are needed on school buildings.

I am sure that we all want to so handle Federal Funds that in case sometime in the future there should be a Federal Investigating Committee, we shall be able to show that we played no "favorites" and that we did the best we could with the money available.

With best wishes, I am

Your friend,

W. F. Bond
W. F. Bond
State Superintendent of Education

wfb*s

Mr. Bond sent this letter to county
Supts. immediately after his return
from Nashville and other members of
his staff are following this up. The
C.W.A. of Miss. has expressed a willingness
to approve applications for improvement
of all Ros. Schools
B L S

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NASHVILLE

DIVISION OF NEGRO SCHOOLS

May 2, 1934

Mr. S. L. Smith,
502 Cotton States Building,
Nashville, Tennessee.

Dear Mr. Smith:

Since receiving your letter of April 24, I have made inquiry of Mr. Turner, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Russell, and Mrs. Milom to see if I could arrive by their aid, together with what information I have, at an estimate of the number of Rosenwald schools in Tennessee that have been improved during the present year mainly by the aid of government funds, and the total estimated cost of those improvements.

By making as accurate an estimate as I can, I believe it would be safe to say that 150 Rosenwald school buildings and grounds have been improved and that these improvements cost at least as much as \$79,731.00.

With best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

Dudley Tamer

Dudley Tamer,
State Agent

DT-M

FISK
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WRS (Rehab)

State of South Carolina
Department of Education

JAS. H. HOPE
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION



May 7, 1934

COLUMBIA, S. C.

Mr. S. L. Smith,
Cotton States Building,
Nashville, Tennessee.

Dear Mr. Smith:

This will reply to your letter of June 1st; the questions being answered in the order asked.

- I. The State recommends a general policy of repairing school plants at regular intervals, but during the past eighteen months, we have attempted to emphasize a general repairing program under the Civil Works Administration.
In many instances, very worthwhile repairing and repainting projects have been carried through.
I assume that your question (I) refers to the inspections made by the State Department of Education. We do not make regular inspections to recommend repairs but when needed repairs are incidentally observed, recommendations are made to the interested parties.
2. At present, no counties in the State have such policies as you suggest. In normal times, I think several ^{counties} states would practice such policies.
3. None, at present.

4. We are seeking suggestions rather than offering them. We have attempted to call the attention of the County Superintendents of Education to the importance of maintaining their buildings, but during the past few years, taking care of teachers' salaries has been the principal objective of the school people.

I believe that a County Board Fund set aside specifically for repairs and up-keep of school buildings would be most effective means of taking care of these repairs. This fund should be administered by a county mechanic under the supervision of the County Superintendent of Education.

I thank you for your graph.

Sincerely yours,

S. P. Clemons
S. P. Clemons, Director
Division Schoolhouse Planning
and Construction.

C.

BOARD OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
DUVAL COUNTY INCLUDING CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

R. C. MARSHALL, *Superintendent*

Address All Communications To Superintendents Office
605 OCEAN STREET — TELEPHONE 3-1680

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

HARDY CROOM
Business Manager

H. E. SPAULDING
General Supervisor

May 24, 1934.

Mr. D. E. Williams, State Agent,
Tallahassee, Fla.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to your inquiry of the 21st inst. relative to information requested by Mr. S. L. Smith, Southern Director, concerning the Rosenwald Fund, we beg to advise you as follows:

We do not have any Negro school buildings in this county which have been built with Rosenwald funds, or partly so. Our records show that in the scholastic year of 1930 and 1931 the amount of \$1266.66 and in 1931 and 1932 \$520.00 was received and expended for the transportation to and from school of Negro children residing in the rural districts.

Trusting this will answer your inquiry, I am,

Yours very truly,

R. C. Marshall
Superintendent

M/d.

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WKS (Rehab)

State of Mississippi

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DIVISION OF RURAL EDUCATION

JACKSON

W. F. BOND,
SUPERINTENDENT

P. H. EASOM,
STATE AGENT

MRS. KATE G. ELAM,
SECRETARY

May 30, 1934

Mr. S. L. Smith
502 Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Smith:

Immediately upon receiving your questionnaire about the work that was done by the C. W. A. on Rosenwald schoolhouses, I made up and sent out a questionnaire to all county superintendents. Up to the present time I have received answers from fifty county superintendents and thirty-two of these have made improvements on Rosenwald schoolhouses as follows:

145 Rosenwald school plants were improved with the aid of the C. W. A. program at a cost of \$49,780.02 from C. W. A. funds, \$10,827.22, from local funds, or a total of \$60,507.24.

A large number of county superintendents had applications for the improvement of negro schools when the order came canceling all materials. This sudden withdrawal of aid was responsible for the failure of many county superintendents to get work done. I happen to know that one county superintendent who had thirty-five negro schools approved by the state and county boards and did not get to touch these because there were no funds for materials.

Very cordially yours,

P. H. Easom

P. H. Easom
State Agent

PHE:KGE

FISK
UNIVERSITY

WFS (Rehab)

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
RALEIGH

June 4, 1934.

Mr. S. L. Smith,
502 Cotton States Building,
Nashville, Tennessee.

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am answering your questionnaire of June 1 in the order in which the questions were submitted:

1. Our State does recommend a general policy of repairing school plants at regular intervals, based on inspection every three or four years. During the last two years the cooperation of the FERA and the CWA have been enlisted in carrying out the recommendations. The great majority of our buildings have been repaired and repainted.

2. The legal limitations of the school budget do not permit the employment of building mechanics. However, all of the counties of the State have a mechanic in charge of school transportation facilities. The supervision of repairs to plants is articulated into the duties of this school bus mechanic.

3. Several counties had building mechanics during the days when the schools were operated largely with local funds. It was a fixed policy of some of these counties - particularly Durham County - to include in the school budget funds for the repainting of buildings every five years. I do not anticipate an early return of the time when counties will be permitted to have these money saving, worthwhile employees.

4. The continuation of Rosenwald Day (Negro School Improvement Day) will continue to be helpful. A similar and combined program for all of the schools might be more effective, even for the Rosenwald schools. The Rosenwald Day Idea could be emphasized as a special feature for the colored schools.

Your letter is a very suggestive one and will I am sure stimulate all of us building men to formulate a more definite program for the more systematic inspection and up-keep of school buildings.

I thank you for sending me a copy of the chart, graphically telling the story of school building effort in the South.

With good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

W. F. Credle

W. F. CREDLE
Director Schoolhouse Planning

WFC EG

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STATE OF MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CHAS. A. LEE, STATE SUPERINTENDENT
CITY OF JEFFERSON

May 16, 1934

TEACHER-TRAINING DIVISION
C. A. KITCH, JR., DIRECTOR

Rosnp

Mr. S. L. Smith
502 Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Smith:

I consider that the Rosenwald Day Programs in the Negro schools in Missouri were very much worthwhile this year. We have compiled the information from the "Report on School Improvements" and I am enclosing herewith a copy for your information.

Some repairs, painting, or ground improvements have been made at each of the Rosenwald buildings. I am unable to give you the amount expended for such repair but shall attempt to give you this information in the near future.

Sincerely yours

C. A. Kitch, Jr.
C. A. Kitch, Jr.
Director of Teacher-Training

CAK-mc

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REPORT ON SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

1933-34

Mississippi County

<u>Name of School</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>P.O. Address</u>	<u>Amount of Money</u>
Thompson Bend Oiled floor, painted building	Miss W.R. Hamilton	Charleston	\$25.00
Rush Ridge Building has been screened, roof repaired & window lights replaced Pits dug for both toilets, blinds built and whitewashed. Pump Textbooks, dictionary & supplementary books, about	Mr. R. D. Jones	Charleston	180.00 \$15.00 50.00 115.00
Samos	Julia M. Stampley	Charleston	4.00
Gravel Ridge Walks to Toilet	Hazel Eulingburg	Charleston	10.00
Henson	Fannie Crosby	Charleston	5.00
Crosono	Thos. Crosby	Charleston	8.00
Gray	Leanetta H. Simms	Wolf Island	11.55

New Madrid County

Neuman	Pearl Norvell Wade	Portageville	5.43
St. Mary	Mary B. Flournoy	New Madrid	6.00
La Forge	Mrs. Edna M. Smith	New Madrid	7.50

Scott County

Bugg Ridge	Mr. B. B. Thompson	Morley	11.83
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Pemiscot County

Braggadocio Floor repaired and window put in	Eugenia B. Tatum	Hayti	35.00
Chute	Willie Mae Givens	Caruthersville	19.00
Concord Replacing windowpanes, repairing desks & blackboards	P.O. Wesley	Hayti	17.70
Hayti Central New building. Walks, ditches, basketball court, low places filled	Wm. Brooks	Hayti	100.00 labor
Oak Grove Painting outside of building \$85. Equipment \$5.50, Improvements on building & grounds \$12.50	Katye Crawley	Holland	103.00

Pemiscot County

<u>Name of School</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>P.O. Address</u>	<u>Amt of Money</u>
Schaeffer Repaired the coal house	Mrs. A. C. Wilson	Caruthersville	2.50
Speer New roof on building. Repaired one side and papered one side Made ditch around school to drain campus	Effie Welch	Hayti	14.00
St. Matthew Steps repaired. Inside wood trimmings fastened. Money being raised to build pit toilets. Low places drained, trees set out, rubbish buried, walks made, volley and baseball fields laid out, broken desks repaired, county map obtained.	Mrs. A. W. Gipson	Caruthersville	3.80
St. Paul Oiled the floor	Beatrice Ferguson	Caruthersville	10.00
Beasley Grove Ditch for drainage	Mrs. Jennie Conway	Steele	25.00
Deering Rood repaired, building painted, outbuildings repaired \$94.75 Grounds leveled and deained \$110.25, pump installed \$18.75	L. H. Gibson	Deering	223.75
Canady Switch New lavatory for girls \$3.00 Made walks and whitewashed outhouses and coal shed, also tree. \$0.25 Readers for lower grades presented by County Superintendent H.S. Jones	Annie L. Walker	Caruthersville	5.25
Needmore Improvements on windows & floor \$5.00, on school apparatus \$5.00	Eliza B. Hughes	Caruthersville	10.00
Bass-Hill Temporary walks & drains - gratis (parent)	G. W. Bass	Portageville	00.00
Hermondale Four windows & chimney \$10.00 Two ditches, trees set out, and post set in front of playground \$9.00	Edmon Brodie	Hermondale	19.00
Dunbar Trees & shrubbery	J.D. Frederick	Hayti	3.00
Fisher Building painted \$45.00, leveled yard in front \$45.00, made a locker for books \$10.00	Mrs. Cora Rounds	Caruthersville	100.00



M. D. COLLINS
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS

State
Department of Education
Atlanta, Georgia

June 4, 1934

Mr. S. L. Smith
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Smith:

As a plain matter of fact, the State of Georgia does not have any too definite a program relating to the construction and upkeep of school buildings. The school laws of this state do not give us as much control over this matter as we should have. I am sure our State Department would recommend a general policy of inspection and repairing of school buildings, but at the present time this is not done.

With the exception of a very few of the larger counties; namely, Fulton, Bibb, Chatham, and Richmond, which have regularly employed maintenance men, none of the counties follow a general policy in this regard. So far as I know, the counties mentioned above are about the only ones which employ men for repairs and upkeep.

I am answering this letter rather hurriedly and, if you do not mind, will postpone answering the fourth question until I have a bit more time.

Cordially yours,

J. C. Dixon
J. C. Dixon
Supervisor of Negro Education

JCD/h

FISK
UNIVERSITY



State of Mississippi

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DIVISION, SCHOOL BUILDING SERVICE

JACKSON

W. F. BOND,
SUPERINTENDENT

W. G. ECKLES,
DIRECTOR

W. E. CAMPBELL,
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

June 5, 1934

Mr. S. L. Smith
Julius Rosenwald Fund
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Smith:

In reply to question one in your letter of June 1, we do recommend a maintenance program without stipulating or providing the exact intervals of inspection.

2. Under our district school administration plan, the responsibility for providing the school plant and maintaining the school plant rests largely with the school district rather than with the county administration. Our county superintendents have been interested to some extent of course in the problem of maintenance, more especially since our C.W.A. program last fall.

3. I know of no counties in which a county school mechanic is employed for a period of twelve months during the year and who works directly under the county superintendent of education.

4. I have no suggestions to offer at this time but I would welcome any good suggestions for such a program.

Cordially yours,

W. G. Eckles
Director, School Building Service

WGE:RW

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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND

June 5, 1934

Mr. S.L. Smith
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tenn.

My dear Mr. Smith:

Replying to your letter of June 1st, please let me thank you first for the chart on the comparison of school property values in the south, based on pupil enrolment for 1930. This is very interesting data.

Answering specifically your questions concerning school building maintenance:

First: We have for a number of years been emphasizing the importance of employing full-time county school mechanics to make repairs and handle maintenance problems as needs arise. We have no regular periodic inspection service on which to base recommendations for repairs.

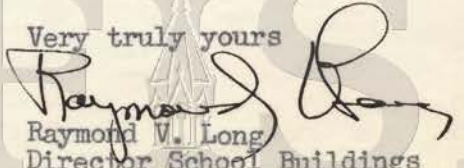
Second: It is the usual practice to make the necessary repairs during the summer months in practically all the counties.

Third: Of the 100 counties in Virginia, 12 employ full-time county school mechanics, 16 employ part-time county school mechanics, 6 have a program of men specifically designated to do special phases of work, such as a roofing man to repair all roofs, a plumber to make plumbing repairs, etc. The balance depend upon a pick-up repair man to do the necessary repairs as such needs arise.

Fourth: In our judgment the best method of securing satisfactory maintenance on school buildings is to train a competent corps of janitors for the larger schools, employ them on a twelve months basis, and depend upon them to do the odds and ends of repair work, and to employ a full-time county school mechanics for the larger counties, and on a part-time basis for the smaller counties, perhaps two or more counties employing one full-time man, let such man use janitors during the summer months for painting and repair work, provided such janitors are trained for the type of repair work they are called upon to perform. The best method for stimulating this we think is to have the more progressive counties enter into the program and show by definite and specific results the saving and benefits to the counties as the result of such program. It is a long up-hill problem but it is our judgment that procedure along this line is the most satisfactory for a well rounded and continuous maintenance program.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours


Raymond V. Long
Director School Buildings

RVL:LC



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CHAS. A. LEE, STATE SUPERINTENDENT

CITY OF JEFFERSON

June 5, 1934

Mr. S. L. Smith
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Smith:

I have your letter asking for information relative to the repair program of schools.

1 - We are organizing a repair program for the schools in the state and are handling it through the school administrators. One of our big problems is to be able to provide adequate supervisors reports. The school men in general are not qualified to tell just what repair should be made and how they should be made. If we could provide an adequate force to keep one or two men in the field they would be able to help the district save large sums of money. We have about \$150,000,000 invested in public school buildings and if we could extend the normal useful life of these buildings for even two or three years we could effect a substantial saving to the state.

2 - Our work is not done by counties but each school unit, other than the rural school, confers directly with the state.

3 - None of the counties have regular building mechanics.

4 - We believe that school mechanics selected through the county superintendent and supervised by the building department of the State Department of Education would aid materially.

We are holding several janitorial schools each year and find that we can reach a lot of the people this way, but our force is small to make all of the contacts desired.

Sincerely yours,

N. E. Viles

N. E. Viles, Director
School Building Service

FISK
UNIVERSITY



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BATON ROUGE

June 7, 1934.

Mr. S. L. Smith,
Cotton States Building,
Nashville, Tennessee.

Dear Mr. Smith:

I will answer categorically the questions you raise in your letter of June 1 with reference to repairing negro school buildings.

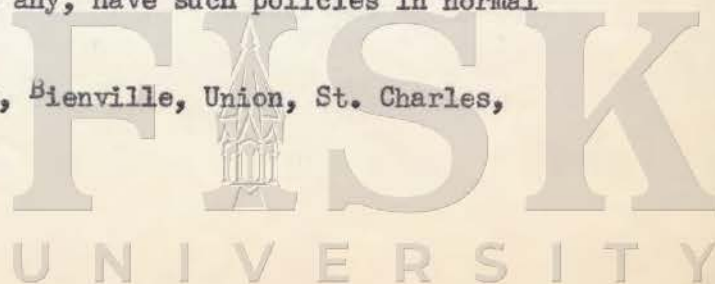
1. Does your state recommend a general policy of repairing school plants at regular intervals based on inspection every three or four years?

Answer: No.

Explanatory Statement: Louisiana is one of the states that does not have a special building supervisor connected with the State Department of Education. We have a committee composed of members of the State Department of Education appointed by the State Superintendent to examine plans and specifications drawn by architects for new buildings and repairs and renovations for old buildings, but we do not have anyone whose special business it is to inspect school buildings. Mr. Barrow and I, in the course of our visits to the various parishes, attempt to inspect as many of the Rosenwald schools as we can and advise the superintendents and school officials about what should be done to keep them in proper state of repair, but we cannot say that this is systematic to the extent that we see every Rosenwald school every two or three years. During the last few months a great many of the parishes have taken advantage of the opportunity to obtain free labor from the government and have repaired, renovated, and repainted a large number of Rosenwald schoolhouses, the best work along this line having been done in Claiborne Parish, Webster Parish, Lincoln Parish, Bienville Parish, and Morehouse Parish. That work has not yet been completed. In cases where the Federal government has withdrawn aid, a good many of the superintendents are continuing the work through this summer. After the school session closes we will make an effort to get some estimate with reference to the number of schoolhouses repaired, renovated, and repainted and the value of this work.

2. What counties in your state, if any, have such policies in normal times?

Answer: Webster, Claiborne, Sabine, Bienville, Union, St. Charles, Caddo, and Ouachita.





STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BATON ROUGE

S.L.S. #2.

6-7-34.

3. How many counties employ regular building mechanics who devote their time mainly to repairs and upkeep?

Answer: East Baton Rouge, Webster, Caddo, and Ouachita.

4. What suggestions have you to offer for stimulating such a policy in your state?

Answer: Several things might be done. First, the State Superintendent could instruct the entire staff of supervisors during their visits to parishes to make inspections of all school buildings and report the general conditions with recommendation that competent builder or architect be called upon to make estimates of the cost of such repairs at parish expense. Second, if funds were available, a special building supervisor could be employed by the State to visit all school plants and make estimates and recommendations to the superintendents and school boards. In all cases it seems to me that some sort of an educational campaign should be conducted to impress upon superintendents, school boards, and school officials the necessity for keeping the school buildings in the proper state of repair. A recommendation from an expert with reference to repairs of certain buildings would not result in any good unless his recommendations were carried out and unless the school boards were willing to spend a little money for the preservation of the school plants. It has been awfully hard, in the last few years especially, to have school boards make any money available for these purposes. In Louisiana in normal times it was very difficult to keep the school buildings in a normal state of repair, and it is much harder now. If we could have a special fund created by the State Legislature to be used for repairing school buildings, repainting them, etc., it would be a good thing when properly supervised and administered.

Yours sincerely,

ACL:S

FISK
UNIVERSITY

NRS (Rehab.)

HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION

J. ANDREW HOLLEY
E. L. MORRISON
E. E. HALLEY

State of Oklahoma
Department of Public Instruction

JOHN VAUGHAN, SUPERINTENDENT
CLAY W. KERR, ASS'T SUPERINTENDENT

Oklahoma City

RURAL SCHOOL DIVISION

E. A. DUKE
HASKELL PRUETT

June 8, 1934.

Mr. S. L. Smith,
Cotton States Building,
Nashville, Tennessee.

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am quite in sympathy with the questions of repairing school plants as mentioned in your letter of June 1. We have had no regular policy of recommending the repair of school plants based upon inspection. Our staff is so limited that I do not see how time could be taken from our regular routine work to make inspections of all school buildings.

Oklahoma does not have a County Unit plan so there could hardly be a county policy about the repair of school buildings except in an advisory capacity by the County Superintendent.

Likewise without the County Unit system none of our counties employ a regular building mechanic.

One of the most important things which would stimulate a repair program in Oklahoma would be some source of revenue which would enable the school officials to do the repairs which they would like to do.

The financial situation in Oklahoma for schools is certainly a very serious one. All but two counties in the state now have State Aid districts. State Aid regulations are such that money has not been furnished districts for repair of buildings, nor have such districts been able to raise local funds for needed repairs. Before we got Federal relief last winter, I was in one school building while it was raining and the roof leaked so much that it would have filled a wash tub in about five seconds. Thanks to the Federal Government, we have been able to repair school buildings in Oklahoma by the hundreds. Mr. Williams and I both have worked long hours for many weeks supervising as much of this as we possibly could.

Some of the buildings which were in such a bad state of repair were salvaged and reconstruction started, some buildings were complete. In other cases, the projects were stopped when the buildings were about one-half completed, and some of such buildings have had nothing done to them for more than two months. You may well guess what has happened to the beginning of otherwise good four-teacher buildings.

FISK
UNIVERSITY

I suppose you know that the Assistant State Superintendent double-crossed our great friend, Mr. Vaughan, and is making a strenuous campaign in opposition to him. Furthermore, the Governor has one of his cousins as a candidate against Mr. Vaughan. The first primary is July 3, and the second primary the last of July. I feel quite confident that Mr. Vaughan will be re-elected, but the situation has made many unpleasant experiences for the constructive school people in Oklahoma.

Confidential

Inasmuch as the G.E.B. has definitely decided to discontinue the school building division after the next session of the Legislature, it seems that our most important job now would be to get Mr. Vaughan re-elected so that the we could be fairly certain of having the work continued by the next session of the Legislature this winter. Unless this happens, I can't even guess what will become of the repair of the 1700 school building jobs on which I have worked in Oklahoma.

Sincerely yours,

Haskell Pruet, Director
Division of Schoolhouse Planning.

HP-g

STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
MONTGOMERY

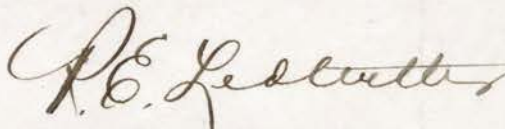
June
Eight
1934

Mr. S. L. Smith
Director for Southern Office
Julius Rosenwald Fund
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Smith:

In reply to your inquiries of June 1, permit me to say that this Department recommends to county boards of education the policy of repairing school plants based on all-time repair crews. However, but few county boards have had the funds to carry out the plans. Jefferson and Mobile Counties so far as I know are the only two counties that have been successful in the operation of this plan. In my opinion it is a wise policy and I would like very much to see all county boards of education adopt the plan. However, I find on advising with the various boards that lack of funds is the main excuse. They all agree that the plan is practical and should be adopted.

Yours very truly,



R. E. Ledbetter
Director of Schoolhouse Planning

L:DB



STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

TALLAHASSEE

W. S. CAWTHON
SUPERINTENDENT

June 19, 1934

Mr. S. L. Smith
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Smith:

Your letter to me concerning the up-keep of the buildings in the State of Florida has been discussed with Mr. Williams. I am giving you the benefit of his answers.

The State recommends a general policy of repairing schools at regular intervals. So far as Mr. Williams knows there is no county in the State which has a definite policy relative to repairs for schoolhouses. Five counties that we know of employ building mechanics who devote their time to repairs and up-keep. As yet we have no definite suggestions to offer for stimulating such a program but we hope to work out some suggestions during the summer.

With best wishes to you and your work, I am

Yours sincerely

J. L. Graham
Director Division School Building Service

JLG:S

FISK
UNIVERSITY

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TWENTIETH FLOOR, LEXINGTON BUILDING
LEXINGTON AND LIBERTY STREETS
BALTIMORE

J. W. HUFFINGTON
SUPERVISOR OF COLORED SCHOOLS

June 22, 1934.

Mr. S. L. Smith,
502 Cotton States Building,
Nashville, Tennessee.

My dear Mr. Smith:

In reply to your inquiry of June 1, I beg to advise

1. That the general policy of repairing at regular intervals is left to the county - with an encouragement from the State Department of Education to do this.
2. Twelve of the 23 counties have such a policy in normal times.
3. Ten of the 23 counties employ a regular mechanic who devotes time mainly to repairs and upkeep. In Maryland construction is purely a county function with no State financial aid whatever. Plans for buildings must be approved by the State Superintendent. Hence, we can do little more than at present which is to encourage, pass on suitability of repairs, etc., since the State as a commonwealth pays no part of bill.

Thanks for Graph V. It is interesting.

Sincerely yours,

Walter Huffington
Supervisor of Colored Schools.

JWH:HBB

FISK
UNIVERSITY

Same letter to
W.F. Credle
Ray L. Hamon
W. G. Eckles - 10/18/34

2 R 5
(Rehab Prog)
B. G. Eckles

June 25, 1934

Dear Mr. Favrot: The trustees of the Julius Rosenwald Fund have been giving a good deal of attention to the question of current repairs to rural school buildings. Since the Fund took so great an interest in erecting Negro schools we feel that we have an obligation and an interest in having them maintained on a level of efficiency and beauty. We can not and should not enter into another program of subsidy either for buildings or maintenance, but it has occurred to us that we might help by stimulus and the providing of general programs which might be adopted by the several states.

To this end the trustees have requested me to name a committee which might serve as a planning and advisory group to the various states on this subject. I am asking Mr. S. L. Smith to serve as chairman of such a committee, and I hope that you will consent to be a member of it. The duties of the committee should not be burdensome, since Mr. Smith or other persons designated by the committee will see to carrying out any plans or recommendations which it makes.

I am also asking Mr. W. F. Credle of the North Carolina State Department of Public Instruction and Mr. Ray L. Hamon of George Peabody College for Teachers to be members of the committee. It is understood that the committee may add to its membership if it so elects. Of course we will meet any expenses incurred by members in the course of their committee service. On account of your interest and experience in this field and the valuable service that you can render, I hope very much that you will agree to serve on this committee.

Very truly yours,

EDWIN R. EMBREE

ERE:MLU

Mr. Leo Favrot
General Education Board
910 Louisiana National Bank Building
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

FISK
UNIVERSITY

JUN 27 1934

NRS (Rehab)

Edwin R. Embree
President
Margaret S. Simon
Secretary
D. A. Elvidge
Comptroller

Julius Rosenwald Fund

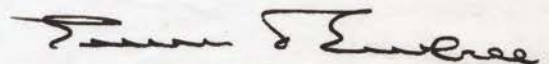
4901 Ellis Avenue
CHICAGO

June 26, 1934

Dear Mr. Smith: As suggested in your note, you
are authorized to use small
advances from the \$10,000 appropriation for school
house rehabilitation any time during the summer
for calling meetings of the advisory committee.

My best wishes to you as I shortly
start out of the country. I think we have an under-
standing about everything that is likely to come up
during the summer.

Very truly yours,



ERE:MLU

Mr. S. L. Smith
Hotel Washington
Washington, D. C.

FISK
UNIVERSITY

(EPH)

GEORGE PEABODY COLLEGE FOR TEACHERS
NASHVILLE TENNESSEE

June 26, 1934

no es
plant Proj
R...

Mr. Edwin R. Embree, President
Julius Rosenwald Fund
4901 Ellis Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mr. Embree:

I just received your letter of June 25 asking me to serve on a committee with Mr. Smith and others for the purpose of working out plans for better plant maintenance of the Rosenwald Schools in the South.

It is with pleasure that I accept this appointment. I consider it an honor to be selected by you and asked to serve with Mr. Smith, Mr. Favrot, and Mr. Credle. I am also very much concerned about the maintenance, or the lack of maintenance, of your Rosenwald Buildings. It distresses me to see the large investment the Julius Rosenwald Fund made in school plants so rapidly depreciate for the lack of minor repairs and paint. What was done this past year through the C. W. A. was only the beginning.

Sincerely yours,

JUN 29 1934

Ray L. Hamon
Ray L. Hamon
Professor of School Administration

FISK
UNIVERSITY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
RALEIGH

70 RS
(Rehab Prog)

June 29, 1934

	ERE	7/2	SPR	2

Mr. Edwin R. Embree, President,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago.

Dear Mr. Embree:

Your letter of June 25, outlining plans of the Julius Rosenwald Fund for keeping alive community interest in the maintenance and beautification of the colored school plants of the South, is received. I think the Fund is launching this program at a most opportune time.

Surely, I am glad to accept service on the committee which you mentioned, and I shall be pleased if I can make a contribution in this most worthwhile undertaking.

It might be of interest to you to know that, in spite of the fact that we have had our full measure of almost every conceivable kind of reaction, we have in immediate prospects almost \$4,000,000.00 to be used in the construction of school buildings during the summer and fall months. A reasonably fair proportion of the funds are going into the construction of Negro schools. I am more convinced than ever that the wholesome attitude of white people towards the Negroes, which the Rosenwald Fund has had so large a part in creating, will be permanent in North Carolina.

With good wishes and kind personal regards, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

W. F. Credle

W. F. CREDLE

Director Schoolhouse Planning

WFC EG

JUL 5 1934

FISK
UNIVERSITY

JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND

CHICAGO
SOUTHERN OFFICE

COPY

June 25, 1934

Dear Mr. Hamon: The Trustees of the Julius Rosenwald Fund have been giving a good deal of attention to the question of current repairs to rural school buildings. Since the Fund took so great an interest in erecting Negro schools we feel that we have an obligation and an interest in having them maintained on a level of efficiency and beauty. We can not and should not enter into another program of subsidy either for buildings or maintenance, but it has occurred to us that we might help by stimulus and the providing of general programs which might be adopted by the several states.

To this end the trustees have requested me to name a committee which might serve as a planning and advisory group to the various states on this subject. I am asking Mr. S. L. Smith to serve as chairman of such a committee and I hope that you will consent to be a member of it. The duties of the committee should not be burdensome, since Mr. Smith or other persons designated by the committee will see to carrying out any plans or recommendations which it makes.

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Very truly yours,

(Signed) Edwin R. Embree

ERE:MLU

Mr. Ray L. Hamon
George Peabody College for Teachers
Nashville, Tennessee

FISK
UNIVERSITY

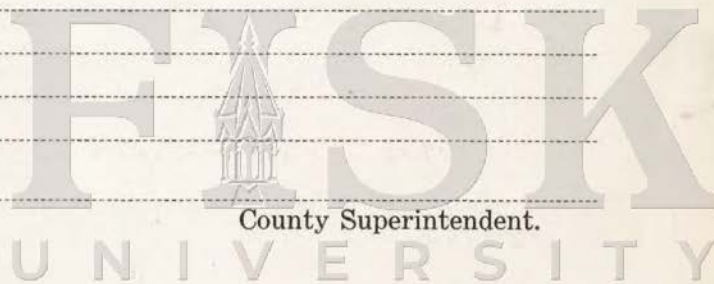
N.C.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF *Alamance* COUNTY:

1. Do you have at present a county mechanic or repair and maintenance man to look after the up-keep of schoolhouses, grounds, and equipment?..... Is he employed by the year?..... What salary does he receive?.....
2. Does your county have a program for school plant repairs in which the buildings and equipment are inspected at regular intervals and repairs made when needed?.....
3. (a) From your experience as Superintendent how often do you think a schoolhouse should be painted (1) inside?.....and (2) outside?.....(b) What is the approximate cost of repainting a one-teacher school inside and outside?....., and a two-teacher school inside and outside?.....
4. What in your opinion would be a satisfactory set-up for a continuous county-wide program for keeping schoolhouses and equipment repaired and repainted, and the schoolgrounds kept attractive and sanitary?.....

Date.....193.....



County Superintendent.

This office will fill in blanks marked ✓

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF _____ COUNTY.

Our records show the information on the following Negro school built by aid of the Julius Rosenwald Fund in your county which was given at the time the building was reported completed:

School _____, Size _____ Teachers _____

Built in 19____; total cost of building, grounds and equipment \$_____

For our further information will you, please, fill in the blanks below at your earliest convenience and return to the State Department of Education? This will be helpful to us in efforts to plan a program of continuous school plant up-keep.

1. Type of construction: Frame? _____; Brick? _____ Brick veneer? _____; Stone? _____; Concrete? _____

2. Is building still in use? _____ If name has been changed make correction.

3. Has it been enlarged? _____ If so, how many rooms? _____

4. Improvements made: (a) Repainted inside _____, outside _____; (b) Roof _____; (c) Steps _____

(d) General repairs _____; (e) Additional equipment _____; (f) Schoolgrounds beautified (describe what has been done) _____

5. Give the total cost or value of improvements on the building, equipment and grounds the past four years \$_____ How much of this was done through federal aid? \$_____

6. Report condition of the following as good, fair, or poor: (a) Buildings _____; (b) Equipment _____; (c) Grounds _____; and (d) Water Supply _____

7. List funds that might be made available from the following sources for rehabilitation work:

(a) Private _____

(b) Public _____

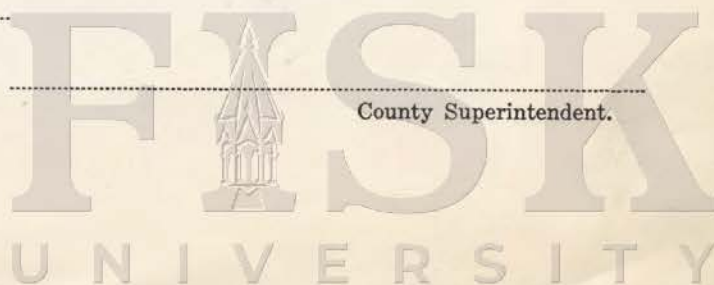
(c) CWA (any Federal funds) _____

8. How many Negro schools have been built on modern plans the past two years? _____

What was approximate cost? \$_____

Date _____, 19_____

County Superintendent.



JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND

SOUTHERN OFFICE

COPY

July 16, 1934

Dear Mr. Cook: As the Julius Rosenwald Fund has given aid toward the construction of more than 5000 Negro public schools in 885 counties of fifteen Southern States, costing around thirty million dollars, the Officers and Trustees are naturally interested in knowing how well they are being preserved for long-time use by a systematic program of up-keep.

As evidence of this interest the following action was taken at the May, 1934 meeting of the Board of Trustees: (1) A modest sum was appropriated to be used for the purpose of organizing and evolving the best methods to be used in an intensive campaign for repairs and beautification of these school plants, including grounds and equipment; and (2) the President of the Fund was authorized to appoint a committee for development of methods of keeping Negro public schools in continuous repair and beautification. Mr. Embree appointed the following members on the Committee; Dr. Ray Hamon, School Administration, Peabody College; W. F. Credle, State Supervisor of School Plants, North Carolina; Leo M. Favrot of the General Education Board and S. L. Smith, Chairman.

The committee has had one meeting and decided as a first step to find out the present conditions of as many of these buildings in each state as possible, including the extent of improvements made through government funds and other aid. A simplified blank is being prepared for the purpose of gathering this information through the various State Departments of Education, which will be sent you within a few days. If necessary we could likely furnish a small sum to cover necessary expenses of gathering these facts.

On behalf of the committee I am writing to ask for the cooperation of both you and your staff in this important project. We shall be very glad to have any suggestions you may find time to give us from time to time.

Sincerely,

S. L. Smith

SLS:ch

Supt. Albert S. Cook
Baltimore, Maryland

cc to Mr. J. Walter Huffington



Exhibit F
JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND

SOUTHERN OFFICE

COPY

July 16, 1934

NRS
(Rehab)

Dear Mr. Cook:

As the Julius Rosenwald Fund has given aid toward the construction of more than 5000 Negro public schools in 883 counties of fifteen Southern States, costing around thirty million dollars, the Officers and Trustees are naturally interested in knowing how well they are being preserved for long-time use by a systematic program of up-keep.

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Sincerely,

S. L. Smith

SLS:ch

Supt. Albert S. Cook
Baltimore, Maryland

cc to Mr. Walter Huffington

*Wherever there is a State super. of Bldgs.
a copy goes to him also. S. L.*

ESK
UNIVERSITY