

and experience, the county tax rate required for participation in the Equalization Fund became 51 cents in 1940. Equalization of salaries of colored and white teachers took effect in January, 1942, as a result of legislation in 1941.

Because of the tremendous loss of teachers due in part to low salaries and in order to attract qualified teachers, the legislature in 1943 and in the special session of 1944 provided for teachers receiving salaries of less than \$3,000, nineteen payments of \$20 per month for July and August 1943 and during 17 of the 20 school months between September 1943 and June 1945. In addition as provided in the 1943 law, the State made available \$27 additional to any local unit paying its teachers \$140 above the State minimum salary schedule. In most units this payment was used to augment teachers' salaries. In addition most of the counties gave teachers additional emergency payments varying from \$5 to \$20 a month. The recognition on the part of the public of the need for a higher permanent salary schedule for teachers culminated in the 1945 legislation fixing the minimum salary for county teachers with degrees at \$1,500 and the maximum after sixteen years of experience at \$2,250. Teachers without degrees receive \$200 less. A number of counties are adding to this schedule amounts varying from \$50 to over \$200.

The cost of the 1945 salary schedule, of the introduction of a twelve year program in the twenty counties which have had only eleven years, and of reduction in the size of elementary school classes is being borne in part (1) through increasing to 56 cents the levy which counties must provide towards the cost of the State minimum program, (2) through a new State fund allotting basic aid of \$150 per classroom unit, (3) through allowing high school aid for junior high schools, and (4) through additional State aid in the Equalization Fund.

During the school year ending in June 1944, there was at least one supervising or helping teacher in every county in Maryland. This is the twenty-second year that this satisfactory situation has existed. The State pays two-thirds of the salaries according to the minimum schedule of the county supervising and helping teachers and of county superintendents. The 1945 legislature provided for increases in salaries of superintendents and supervisors and for equalization of salaries of colored and white supervisors.

In the fall of 1943 there were 45 county supervising teachers employed for the 2,714 white elementary teachers scattered over the 9,870 square miles in the Maryland counties, an average of 60 teachers for each supervising teacher. Since there are very few non-teaching principals in the Maryland county elementary schools, the counties are helping teachers to improve instruction with a relatively small corps of supervisory officials.

The average current expense cost in 1944 of educating a day public school pupil in the twenty-three counties was \$93.74. Graded schools having three or more teachers, with better trained teachers, more equipment and expenditures for transportation, cost less per pupil than rural schools having one or two teachers, chiefly because the classes are larger. Transportation was provided at public expense for nearly 75,000 county pupils at a cost of \$1,562,000.00.

Nearly 71 per cent of the white county schools, and nearly 90 per cent of the colored schools in the counties reported that they had active parent-teacher associations organized in 1944.

The vocational rehabilitation service has been offering an extended program since the increase in the amount and character of Federal aid