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SOME OF THE EFFECTS THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF OIL  
IN YOUNG COUNTY HAS HAD ON THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM  
OF THE COUNTY

THESIS

Presented to the Graduate Council of the North  
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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### Problem

The problem in this study is to determine some of the effects that oil development in Young County has had on the educational program of the county. Some significant effects on the valuations for school purposes, bond rates, maintenance rates, salaries of the teachers in the common and independent schools, per capita cost of instruction, rural aid, enrollment per teacher, and total enrollment in the schools of Young County will be investigated.

#### Definition of Terms

To avoid ambiguity, certain terms are defined as to their use in this study.

Valuation for school purposes as used in this study is the assessed valuation made by the County Tax Assessor.

Bond rate is the tax rate, on the one hundred dollars valuation, voted by the people for bond payments.

Maintenance rate is the tax rate, on the one hundred dollars valuation, voted by the people for local maintenance of the schools.

Independent schools are those schools which are not under the supervision of the County Superintendent.

Common schools are these schools which are under the supervision of the County Superintendent.

Per capita cost of instruction is the instructional cost per pupil enrolled in the public schools.

Rural aid is the equalization fund for schools of Texas.

The enrollment per teacher is the average number of pupils enrolled in the schools per teacher employed by the schools in the county.

### Scope

This study includes all of the schools, in both the common and independent districts in Young County, for the years 1918 to 1939, inclusive. There were fifty-two common schools and three independent schools in the county during the school year of 1917-1918. This number decreased through consolidation to twenty-two common schools and four independent schools by the close of the school year 1938-1939.

For comparative purposes, a study of the independent and common schools of Denton County was made for the years, 1918 to 1939, inclusive. Denton County was selected for comparison with Young County because the only type of business of importance in either county in 1918 was agriculture, and the only other industry that had been subsequently developed in either county was the oil industry, and that in Young County only. Due to difference in population in the two counties, the comparisons are made on a per capita basis, when possible.

### Source of Data

The data for Young County were secured from the Superintendents' Annual Reports. The reports of the independent schools

were gotten from the offices of the superintendents of the various schools. The data on the common schools were gotten from the County Superintendents' consolidated reports made to the State Superintendents. The information concerning the indebtedness of each independent school was gotten from some school official in each of the schools.

For comparative purposes, much other data were needed. The annual reports for 1937, 1938, and 1939, for Denton County were secured from the County Superintendent's office in Denton. Other information pertaining to Denton County was taken from the Bi-ennial Reports of the State Department of Education. The assessed valuations in both Denton and Young Counties were taken from the State Comptrollers' Annual Reports.

#### Method of Presentation

This study is divided into two chapters.

Chapter I is an introduction to the study and contains the statement of the problem with its sub-divisions, the definition of terms, the scope of the study with reasons for comparisons, and the method of the presentation of the data.

Chapter II deals with some of the effects that oil development in Young County has had on the educational program of the county. This chapter contains the data obtained from a study of the reports of the schools of Young County over a period of twenty-one years, from 1918 to 1939, and the comparative data on the schools of Denton County for the same period.



## CHAPTER II

### SOME OF THE EFFECTS THAT OIL DEVELOPMENT IN YOUNG COUNTY HAS HAD ON THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OF THE COUNTY

#### Assessed Valuation

General assessment.--A comparative study of the assessed valuations of Young and Denton Counties can be made from Table 1. The per cents of changes are given as a basis of comparison. The assessed valuation of Denton County was higher in 1918 than it has been at any time since. This decrease was characteristic of Collin, Donley, Clay, Coryell and other purely agricultural counties.<sup>1</sup> The assessed valuation of Young County was lower in 1919 than it has been at any time since. In 1920 the assessed valuation of Young County was twenty-one percent higher than in 1919, while the assessed valuation of Denton County was about one per cent lower than in 1919. The assessed valuation of Young County increased seventy-four per cent from 1920 to 1922, while the assessed valuation of Denton County decreased nine and eight-tenths per cent during that period. The assessed valuation of Young County increased sixteen per cent from 1925 to 1927, while the assessed valuation of Denton County increased only one-tenth of one per cent. The assessed valuation of both counties decreased slightly from 1929 to 1935.

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<sup>1</sup>State Comptroller, Annual Reports, 1918-1939.

The assessed valuation of Young County increased seven and three-tenths per cent from 1936 to 1939, while the assessed valuation of Denton County increased four and one-tenth per cent.

TABLE 1

THE ASSESSED VALUATIONS AND THE ANNUAL FLUCTUATIONS IN  
ASSESSED VALUATIONS IN YOUNG AND DENTON COUNTIES  
FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Young County		Denton County		Differences in the Per Cent of Change in the Two Counties
	Evaluation	Per Cent of Change	Evaluation	Per Cent of Change	
1918	\$8,961,560		\$21,962,000		
1919	8,791,310	- 2	21,871,800	- .4	1.6
1920	10,657,120	21.2	21,627,190	1.1	22.3
1921	*		*		
1922	18,547,150	74	19,501,985	- 9.8	83.8
1923	17,526,790	- 5.4	19,876,485	1.9	7.3
1924	15,159,400	-13.4	19,923,150	.2	13.6
1925	14,740,000	- 2.7	21,225,100	6.5	9.2
1926	16,360,000	11.	21,169,240	- .2	11.2
1927	17,507,400	7.	21,250,000	.3	6.7
1928	16,963,720	- 3.1	21,160,560	- .4	2.7
1929	16,463,000	- 3.	21,160,000	.0	3.
1930	15,478,430	- 6.0	21,389,500	1.0	7.0
1931	15,478,000	.0	21,389,000	.0	.0
1932	12,764,575	-11.0	18,654,350	-12.3	1.3
1933	11,895,102	- 6.	18,204,650	- 2.4	3.6
1934	12,591,307	6.	18,067,710	- .7	6.7
1935	12,476,000	- .8	17,954,000	- .6	.2
1936	12,716,000	2.	18,094,000	.8	1.2
1937	13,912,000	9.4	18,292,000	1.0	8.4
1938	14,128,000	8.7	18,652,000	2.0	6.7
1939	13,647,960	- 3.4	18,840,380	1.0	4.4

\*Data not available.

These erratic changes in the assessed valuations of Young County, compared to the stable conditions in the assessed valuations of Denton County, is indicative of an influence on

property values in Young County that was not active in Denton County. It is assumed that the development of oil in Young County was the influencing factor, since that was the only industry developed in Young County not equally developed in Denton County.

Public schools are tax-supported institutions in Texas, and any change in the assessed valuation of property directly affects the school program. The amount of school expenditures in 1935 coming from local taxes on property was 36.4 per cent of the total.<sup>2</sup> The assessed valuation of Young County has averaged seventy-two per cent higher each year since the development of oil started in 1919 than the assessed valuation of the county in 1918. The development of oil in Young County increased the potential income from local taxes for school purposes seventy-two per cent.

The per capita assessed valuations.--Investigations show that the ratio of wealth in rich and in poor local school districts range from ninety-three to one, in Iowa, to seven to one, in California.<sup>3</sup> This range would tend to be narrower if any combination of districts or larger units were compared with a combination of districts or larger units, as one county with another. In 1924, the ratio per capita assessed valuations between Young County and Denton County was four to three.

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<sup>2</sup>School Finance System, Research Division, N. E. A., March, 1935.

<sup>3</sup>"Major Issues in School Finance," Research Bulletin of the National Education Association, Vol. V, No. 1 (January, 1927), p. 32, cited by Fred Engelhardt, Public School Organization and Administration, p. 496.

The difference in ratio gradually narrowed to near a ratio of one to one in 1930 and 1931. From 1932 to 1939, the ratio in per capita assessed valuation was slightly in favor of the pupil living in Young County.

TABLE 2

THE ENROLLMENT IN THE SCHOOLS AND THE PER CAPITA ASSESSED VALUATIONS IN YOUNG AND DENTON COUNTIES FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Young County		Denton County		Difference in Per Capita Assessed Valuation in Young and Denton Counties
	Enrollment	Per Capita Assessed Valuation	Enrollment	Per Capita Assessed Valuation	
1918	3771	\$2376.00	6500 <sup>b</sup>	\$3371.00	\$ 996.00 <sup>c</sup>
1919	3397	2588.00	6650 <sup>b</sup>	3289.00	701.00 <sup>c</sup>
1920	3818	2800.00	6775 <sup>b</sup>	3192.00	392.00 <sup>c</sup>
1921	4503	a		a	
1922	4477	4142.00	7100 <sup>b</sup>	2605.00	1537.00
1923	4860	3606.00	7200	2760.00	846.00
1924	4213	3600.00	7313	2724.00	876.00
1925	4494	3280.00	7200	2948.00	332.00
1926	4564	3584.00	7200	2940.00	644.00
1927	4857	3602.00	7455	2850.00	752.00
1928	5187	3268.00	7493	2824.00	444.00
1929	4358	3400.00	7638	2770.00	630.00
1930	5123	3021.00	7168	2985.00	36.00
1931	5310	2914.00	7214	2964.00	50.00 <sup>c</sup>
1932	4810	2663.00	7443	2508.00	155.00
1933	4766	2496.00	7951	2290.00	406.00
1934	4813	2616.00	7666	2356.00	260.00
1935	4880	2556.00	7335	2433.00	123.00
1936	4934	2577.00	7387	2449.00	128.00
1937	4631	3004.00	7272	2501.00	503.00
1938	4626	3054.00	6719	2775.00	279.00
1939	4576	2984.00	6500	2900.00	84.00

<sup>a</sup>Data not included in permanent records kept by officials.

<sup>b</sup>Estimates based on the judgment of the county superintendent.

<sup>c</sup>Denton County had the greater per capita assessed valuation.

The range in per capita assessed valuation in Young County was \$1,046.00 from 1924 to 1939, with an average per capita assessed valuation of \$3,075.00, while the range in per capita assessed valuation in Denton County was \$639.00, with an average per capita assessed valuation of \$2,755.00. From 1924 to 1939, the per capita assessed valuation for the children enrolled in the schools of Young County averaged \$320.00 more than the per capita assessed valuation for the children enrolled in the schools in Denton County.

Since the assessed valuation of Young County increased more than 100 per cent prior to 1924, because of oil development in the county, it appears safe to assume that the difference in per capita assessed valuation between Young and Denton Counties was largely due to the development of oil in Young County. This difference in per capita assessed valuation made a difference in the quality of education that could be offered to the children of the two counties. In reference to the difference in the per capita wealth behind the school child, Reeder said, that "at present the quality of education, which the pupil receives, depends largely upon where he lives."<sup>4</sup>

Assessed valuation per teacher.--The salaries of teachers in Texas are paid, in most part, from three principal sources: namely, state apportionment, salary aid, and income from local taxes. The first is constant throughout the state; the second

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<sup>4</sup>Ward G. Reeder, The Business Administration of the School System, p. 416.

is based on need plus certain standards; while the third is determined, to a large degree, by the wealth behind each teacher employed by the school officials. The ratio of wealth to teacher is changed in two ways: by changes in the number of teachers, and by changes in the assessed valuation of the school unit. Both of these effects may be found by studying Table 3. From 1923 to 1939, there was an increase of thirty-six teachers employed in the schools of Young County; during the same period there was a decrease of fifty-three teachers employed in the schools of Denton County. This change was far more drastic than the change in assessed valuations, and tended to equalize the wealth per teacher between the two counties. As the total wealth in Denton County remained more or less stable, the decrease in the number of teachers increased the wealth per teacher; while the increase in the number of teachers in Young County, accompanied by a decrease in wealth, resulted in a decrease in wealth per teacher.

The constantly changing ratio of wealth to teacher in Young County tended toward instability, unscientific budgeting, and uncertainty of salary schedules.<sup>5</sup> To off-set these disadvantages, the oil development in Young County increased the assessed valuation sufficient to give a per teacher wealth greater for fifteen out of the seventeen years, from 1923 to 1939, in Young County than in Denton County. This resulted in

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<sup>5</sup>Fred Engelhardt, Public School Organization and Administration, p. 194.

better salaries in Young County, and theoretically better teachers were attracted to the county.<sup>6</sup>

TABLE 3

THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS EMPLOYED AND THE ASSESSED VALUATION PER TEACHER IN THE SCHOOLS OF YOUNG AND DENTON COUNTIES BY YEARS FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Young County		Denton County		Difference in Wealth Per Teacher in the Two Counties
	Number of Teachers	Wealth Per Teacher	Number of Teachers	Wealth Per Teacher	
1918	109	\$ 82,216.00	218 <sup>a</sup>	\$100,743.00	\$18,527.00 <sup>c</sup>
1919	107	82,161.00	230 <sup>a</sup>	95,090.00	12,929.00 <sup>c</sup>
1920	107	99,599.00	248 <sup>a</sup>	87,218.00	12,381.00
1921	126	b	b	b	
1922	131	141,581.00	260 <sup>a</sup>	75,007.00	66,574.00
1923	135	129,828.00	268	74,166.00	55,662.00
1924	141	107,513.00	268	74,340.00	33,173.00
1925	148	99,223.00	262	81,012.00	18,211.00
1926	154	106,233.00	262	80,800.00	25,433.00
1927	165	106,105.00	268	79,291.00	26,814.00
1928	177	95,840.00	273	77,511.00	18,329.00
1929	176	93,540.00	282	75,035.00	18,505.00
1930	176	87,940.00	274	78,100.00	9,840.00
1931	179	86,470.00	253	84,511.00	1,939.00
1932	173	73,789.00	262	71,200.00	2,589.00
1933	163	72,976.00	264	68,957.00	4,019.00
1934	162	77,724.00	256	70,577.00	7,147.00
1935	169	73,822.00	268	66,994.00	6,828.00
1936	167	76,153.00	249	72,666.00	3,487.00
1937	170	81,835.00	228	80,228.00	1,607.00
1938	168	84,095.00	213	87,563.00	3,468.00 <sup>c</sup>
1939	171	79,812.00	215	87,629.00	7,817.00 <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Estimates based on the judgment of the county superintendent.

<sup>b</sup>Data not available.

<sup>c</sup>Denton County had a greater wealth per teacher.

Maintenance rates.--The variations in the local maintenance rates for support of the schools of Young County are shown in Figure 1. This figure shows the increases in rate based on

<sup>6</sup>Ward G. Reeder, The Fundamentals of Public School Administration, p. 114.

the rate of 1918. In that year the average maintenance rate was fifteen cents on the one hundred dollars valuation for all schools of the county. In 1919 the maintenance rate was thirty-seven cents on the one hundred dollars valuation. This was an increase of 147 per cent above 1918. From 1920 to 1922, the rate was thirty-nine cents on the one hundred dollars valuation. In 1922 this rate was based on a hundred per cent increase in valuations, as Figure 2 shows. The rate gradually increased from 1922 to 1932. By 1932 the rate had increased 425 per cent above the rate of 1918. The increased rate from 1922 to 1932 was on an increased valuation of about seventy per cent above the valuations of 1918. From 1932 to 1939, the maintenance rate ranged about 400 per cent above the maintenance rate of 1918. During that period the valuations ranged about fifty per cent above the valuations of 1918.

If the valuations had remained as they were in 1918 throughout the period from 1918 to 1939, the increase in rates would have increased the income for maintenance of the schools about 425 per cent. Since the assessed valuations for school purposes averaged about seventy per cent above the assessed valuations of 1918 during the period from 1918 to 1939, the income from the maintenance tax increased more than 700 per cent over the income of 1918. A large per cent of this enormous increase in income for school purposes was due to oil development.



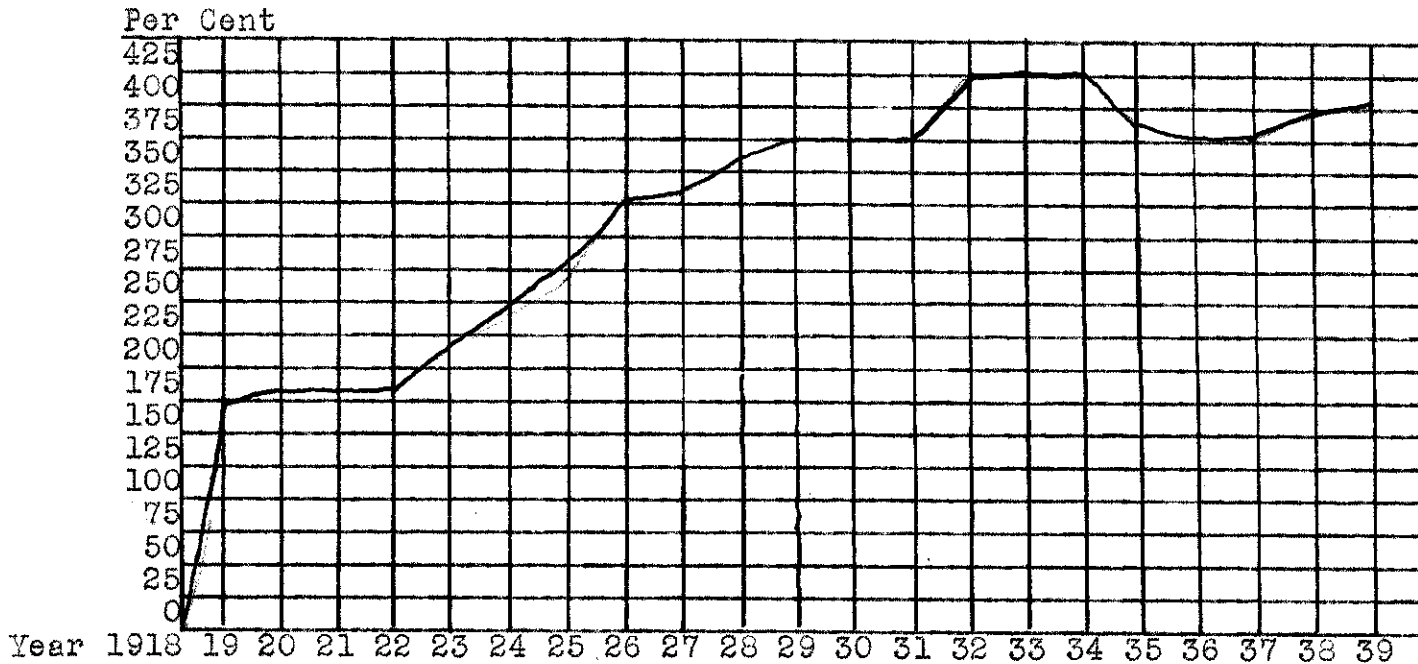


Fig. 1--The annual maintenance rates of local taxes for the support of the public schools in Young County.

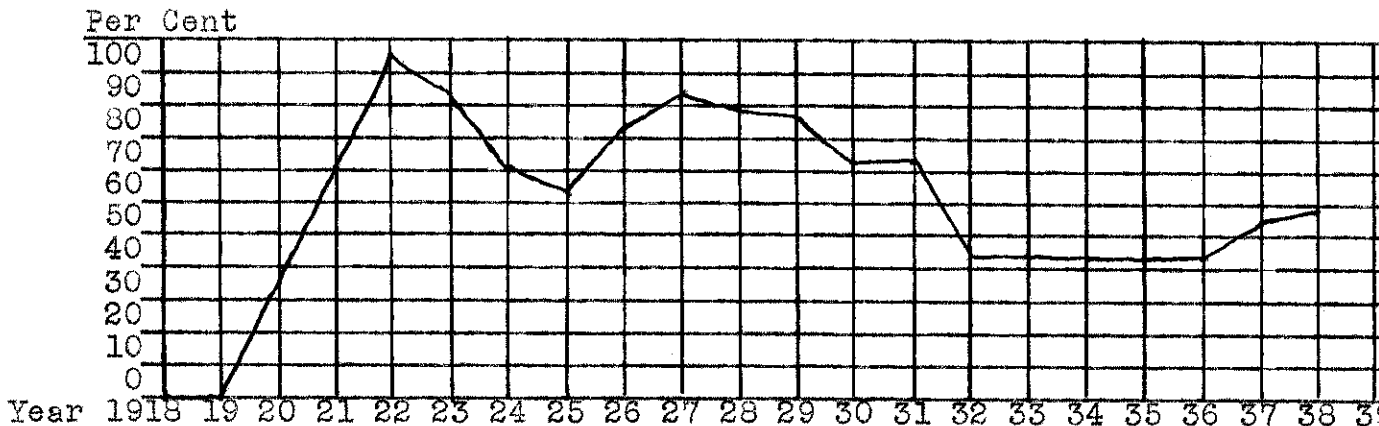


Fig. 2--The annual assessed valuation for school purposes in Young County.

Effects on the educational program.--The potential incomes from local tax averaged seventy-two per cent above the income for 1918 from that year to 1939, yet the annual assessed valuations were very irregular. Any action based on an estimate of annual income was very uncertain and often resulted in injury

to the school program. To illustrate, the potential income from local sources increased more than 100 per cent from 1919 to 1922, with an increase of only thirty per cent in enrollment and twenty per cent in the number of teachers employed in Young County. A great increase in the per capita wealth and the wealth per teacher resulted. From 1923 to 1925 there were decreases in assessed valuations, and a fluctuation of 647 pupils enrolled in the schools, yet the enrollment of 1925 was practically unchanged from that of 1922. The per capita wealth was only seventy-nine per cent as much in 1925 as it was in 1922, and the wealth per teacher was only seventy-one per cent as much in 1925 as it was in 1922. These reductions handicapped educational progress.

From 1927 to 1935 there was a regular decline in the assessed valuation of Young County, accompanied by equal or greater enrollment in the schools and an increase in the number of teachers employed. This reduced the per capita wealth and the wealth per teacher practically every year, and made annual plans or estimates very improbable of fulfillment, since the income from local taxes could not be ascertained until the close of the tax-paying period. Such hectic conditions prevented school officials from accurately ascertaining the salaries to be paid, the number of teachers to be employed, the length of term for which to contract, and the supplies for which funds would be available. In many cases these questions solved themselves by the exhaustion of funds. Fortunately, though, plans were not disrupted, because the assessed valuation, the

per capita valuation, and the wealth per teacher, were relatively high. In 1934 the per capita wealth in Young County schools, based on enrollment, was only 137 dollars below the average of fifty-two of the leading school systems of Texas.<sup>7</sup>

#### Instructional Service

##### Per capita cost of instruction in the common schools.--

The per capita cost in the two counties can not be compared for the first four years because the number of pupils enrolled in the common schools of Denton County could not be obtained for the years, 1918 to 1921, inclusive. The per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Young County averaged twenty-four dollars for the year 1922, while the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Denton County averaged eighteen dollars for that year. The following year the per capita cost of instruction increased one dollar in the common schools of Young County and one dollar and fifty cents in the common schools of Denton County. There is no data available on the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Denton County for the years 1924 to 1926, inclusive. The per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Young County was thirty-seven dollars in 1927; while the per capita cost in the common schools of Denton County was twenty-eight dollars and fifty cents for the same year. The per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Young County increased twelve dollars from 1923 to 1927, while the per capita

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<sup>7</sup>Eugene G. Wilkins, Public School Tax Management in Texas, p. 60.

cost of instruction in the common schools of Denton County increased only nine dollars. This shows that the increase in Young County was three dollars more than the increase in Denton County. In 1928 the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Young County was forty dollars and fifty cents,

TABLE 4

THE ANNUAL SALARIES OF TEACHERS, THE TEACHER-PUPIL RATIO, AND THE PER CAPITA COST OF THE INSTRUCTION IN THE COMMON SCHOOLS OF YOUNG AND DENTON COUNTIES FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Young County			Denton County			Difference in Per Capita Cost of Instruction in the Two Counties
	Annual Salary	Teacher-Pupil Ratio	Per Capita Cost of Instruction	Annual Salary	Teacher-Pupil Ratio	Per Capita Cost of Instruction	
1918	\$404	30	\$13.50	\$390	29 <sup>b</sup>	\$13.40	\$ 0.10
1919	435	27	16.00	390	26 <sup>b</sup>	15.00	1.00
1920	407	25	15.50	415	25 <sup>b</sup>	16.00	1.10 <sup>c</sup>
1921	711	26	27.50	600	26 <sup>b</sup>	23.00	4.50
1922	720	30	24.00	628	35	18.00	6.00
1923	780	31	25.00	608	31	19.50	5.50
1924	836	25	33.50	a	a		
1925	720	21	34.00	a	a		
1926	724	27	26.50	a	a		
1927	810	22	37.00	650	23	28.50	8.50
1928	851	22	40.50	675	24	20.00	20.50
1929	872	20	43.50	637	23	27.50	16.00
1930	871	20	43.50	701	22	32.50	11.50
1931	891	23	38.50	735	23	32.00	6.50
1932	818	22	37.00	700	23	30.50	6.50
1933	708	23	30.50	603	23	26.00	4.50
1934	705	23	30.50	620	23	27.00	3.50
1935	704	23	30.50	652	20	32.50	2.00 <sup>c</sup>
1936	740	24	30.50	716	21	34.00	3.50 <sup>c</sup>
1937	770	22	35.00	729	25	29.00	6.00
1938	832	23	26.00	861	27	32.00	4.00
1939	914	18	50.50	982	20	44.50	6.00

<sup>a</sup>Data not available.

<sup>b</sup>Estimate based on the judgment of the county superintendent.

<sup>c</sup>Denton County was higher.

which was an increase of three dollars and fifty cents over the year, 1927. From 1927 to 1928 the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Denton County decreased eight dollars and fifty cents. By 1928 the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Young County was more than twice as much as the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Denton County.

In 1929 and 1930, the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Young County was forty-three dollars and fifty cents. During the same years the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Denton County was twenty-seven dollars and fifty cents and thirty-two dollars respectively. During the next three years the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Young County decreased thirteen dollars, while the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Denton County decreased only six dollars. In 1935, the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Denton County was two dollars more than that of the common schools of Young County. This increased to three dollars and fifty cents the following year. By 1937, the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Young County was six dollars more than that of the common schools of Denton County. A corresponding difference prevailed in 1939. In that year the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Denton County was forty-four dollars and fifty cents, and the per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Young County was fifty dollars and fifty cents.

From 1922 to 1939, the percapita cost of instruction for the common schools of each county increased twenty-six dollars and fifty cents. During this period the differences in the average per capita costs of instruction in the common schools of Young and Denton Counties ranged from three dollars and fifty cents more in Denton County to twenty dollars and fifty cents more in Young County. The wide range of difference may be accredited to the development of the oil industry in Young County, which materially increased the available resources.

Per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools.--

A comparative study of the per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of Young County with those of Denton County may be made from Table 5. The data for this comparison were not available for Denton County from 1918 to 1921. The figures used for these years were taken from estimates based on the average per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of the state.

In 1919, the per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of Young County averaged fifteen dollars and fifty cents. For the same year the per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of Denton County averaged nineteen dollars and seventy-five cents, or four dollars and twenty-five cents more than the average per capita cost in similar schools in Young County. By 1924, the average per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of Young County had reached twenty-three dollars and twenty-five cents, while the average per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools

TABLE 5

THE PER CAPITA COST OF INSTRUCTION IN THE INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOLS OF YOUNG AND DENTON COUNTIES  
FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Young County	Denton County	Difference in Per Capita Cost Instruction in the Two Counties	
			Young	Denton
1918	\$13.75			
1919	15.50	\$19.75 <sup>a</sup>		\$ 4.25
1920	17.00	21.75 <sup>a</sup>		4.75
1921	23.75	26.00 <sup>a</sup>		2.25
1922	23.00	28.00 <sup>a</sup>		5.00
1923	23.00	30.25		7.25
1924	23.25	39.00		15.75
1925	34.00	b		
1926	32.25	b		
1927	33.00	33.50		.50
1928	31.75	33.75		2.00
1929	34.75	35.75		1.00
1930	33.25	37.50		4.25
1931	32.75	27.50	\$ 5.25	
1932	34.50	24.75	9.75	
1933	28.00	23.50	4.50	
1934	27.50	22.00	5.50	
1935	33.50	23.00	10.50	
1936	32.35	24.25	8.00	
1937	33.50	26.75	6.75	
1938	33.75	27.75	6.00	
1939	34.25	b		

<sup>a</sup>Estimate.

<sup>b</sup>Data not available.

of Denton County averaged thirty-nine dollars, which was a difference of fifteen dollars and seventy-five cents.

Beginning in 1924, there was a general increase in the per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of Young County, which continued until 1932. Beginning in 1924, there was a general decrease in the per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of Denton County, which continued until

1936, with the exception of 1929 and 1930. With these trends in opposite directions continuing over a period of years, the per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of Young County rose above the per capita cost of instruction in similar schools of Denton County for the first time in 1931.

From 1929 to 1930, inclusive, the annual per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of Denton County averaged higher than in similar schools of Young County. The average difference in the per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of the two counties was four dollars and seventy cents more in Denton County during that period. From 1931 to 1938, the per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of Young County averaged higher than in similar schools of Denton County each year. The average annual difference in the per capita cost of instruction in the independent schools of the two counties was seven dollars and ten cents more in Young County than in Denton County. The average difference in the per capita cost of instruction during the first period, from 1919 to 1930, plus the average difference in the per capita cost of instruction during the second period, from 1931 to 1938, make a total change of eleven dollars and eighty cents. This change was a continuing process and is indicative of the influence of oil development in Young County during the years, 1918 to 1939, which increased the available resources of the independent schools.



Comparison of the local expenditures for salaries in the common schools.--The local expenditures for salaries of teachers in the common schools of Young and Denton Counties from 1918 to 1939 may be compared from Table 6. The comparison is made on a per capita basis and the differences in the two counties are indicated. For each county named in Table 6, the total per capita cost of instruction, the per capita rural aid, and the differences are given in separate columns. Included in the differences for each county are one constant, which is the state apportionment, and one variable, which is the local expenditure for salaries of the teachers. The difference between the two counties is the difference in the local expenditure for teachers' salaries on a per capita basis.

The local expenditures for teachers' salaries in the two counties could not be made for the first four years because the data for Denton County were not available for the years, 1918 to 1921, inclusive. The local expenditures plus the state apportionment for the common schools of Young County were twenty-one dollars and ninety cents per capita for teachers' salaries in 1922. Sixteen dollars and forty cents per capita, from local expenditures and state apportionment, was spent for teachers' salaries in the common schools of Denton County in 1922. This was five dollars and fifty cents more local expenditure per capita for the salaries of the teachers in the common schools of Young County than was spent from that source in Denton County. The local expenditure per capita for the salaries of the teachers in the common schools of Young County was nineteen dollars and

TABLE 6

THE PER CAPITA COST OF INSTRUCTION, THE PER CAPITA RURAL AID, AND THE PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE FROM LOCAL SOURCES FOR SALARIES OF TEACHERS IN THE COMMON SCHOOLS OF DENTON AND YOUNG COUNTIES FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Young County			Denton County			Difference in Local Per Capita Expenditures in the Two Counties
	Per Capita Instruction	Per Capita Rural Aid	Per Capita Expenditures State Appor-tionment and Local Tax	Per Capita Instruction	Per Capita Rural Aid	Per Capita Expenditures State Appor-tionment and Local Tax	
1918	\$13.50	\$0.80	\$12.70	\$13.40a	\$1.80	\$11.60	\$ 1.10
1919	16.00	2.75	13.25	15.00a	4.55	10.45	2.80
1920	15.50	4.45	11.05	16.60a	3.10	13.50	2.45c
1921	27.50	b	b	23.00a	b	b	
1922	24.00	2.10	21.90	18.00	1.60	16.40	5.50
1923	25.00	1.30	23.70	19.50	.95	18.55	5.15
1924	33.50	2.55	30.95	b	1.60	b	
1925	34.00	2.55	31.45	b	2.00	b	
1926	26.50	2.05	24.45	b	1.55	b	
1927	37.00	1.90	35.10	28.50	1.95	26.55	8.55
1928	40.50	1.40	39.10	20.00	2.05	17.95	19.15
1929	43.50	2.25	41.25	27.50	3.50	24.00	17.25
1930	43.50	1.95	41.55	32.00	4.55	27.45	14.10
1931	38.50	2.40	36.10	32.00	5.45	26.55	9.55
1932	37.00	2.65	34.35	30.50	5.00	25.50	8.85
1933	30.50	4.65	25.85	26.00	5.70	20.30	5.55
1934	30.50	2.75	27.75	27.00	4.95	22.05	5.70
1935	30.50	3.20	27.30	32.50	5.55	26.45	.85
1936	30.50	5.00	25.50	34.00	6.45	27.55	2.05c
1937	35.00	4.90	30.10	29.00	8.50	20.50	9.60
1938	36.00	3.10	32.90	32.00	7.90	24.10	8.80
1939	50.50	b	b	44.50	b	b	

aBased on estimate of the former County Superintendent.

bData not available.

cLocal per capita expenditure was greater in Denton County.

fifteen cents greater than such expenditures in Denton County in 1928. This difference decreased until 1935, when eighty-five cents per capita more was spent for the salaries of the teachers in the common schools of Denton County than was spent from local sources for salaries of teachers in the common schools of Young County. In 1937, the local expenditure for the teachers' salaries of Young County was nine dollars and sixty cents per capita greater than was spent in the common schools of Denton County.

From 1922 to 1939, the difference in the local expenditures per capita for teachers' salaries had a range from \$16.70 more in the schools of Denton County to \$12.95 more in the schools of Young County. It is assumed that the great variation in the amount of local expenditure per capita for the salaries of teachers in the common schools of the two counties is an indication of temporary active influences within one county, that was not felt in the other county. Since the range from the lowest to the highest per capita expenditure from local sources in Young County was nineteen dollars and sixty-five cents, while the range in Denton County was only eleven dollars and fifteen cents, it is assumed that the oil development in Young County was the influencing factor.

Local expenditures for the salaries of the teachers in the independent schools.--An idea of the difference in the local per capita expenditure for the salaries of the teachers in the independent schools of Young and Denton Counties can be secured from Table 7. In this table the total per capita cost of

TABLE 7

THE PER CAPITA COST OF INSTRUCTION, THE PER CAPITA RURAL AID, AND THE PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE FROM LOCAL SOURCES FOR THE SALARIES OF THE TEACHERS IN THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OF DENTON AND YOUNG COUNTIES

Year	Young County			Denton County			Difference in Local Per Capita Expenditures in the Two Counties
	Per Capita Instruction	Rural Aid	State Appor-tionment and Local Tax	Per Capita Rural Aid	State Appor-tionment and Local Tax	Local Tax	
1918	\$13.75	\$0.80	\$12.95	b	b	b	\$2.45 <sup>c</sup>
1919	15.50	2.75	12.75	\$4.55	\$15.20	\$15.20	6.10 <sup>c</sup>
1920	17.00	4.45	12.55	3.10	18.65	18.65	
1921	23.75	b	b	b	b	b	
1922	23.00	2.10	20.90	1.60	26.40	26.40	5.50 <sup>c</sup>
1923	23.00	1.30	21.70	.95	29.30	29.30	7.60 <sup>c</sup>
1924	23.25	2.55	20.70	1.60	37.40	37.40	16.70 <sup>c</sup>
1925	34.00	2.55	31.45	2.00	b	b	
1926	32.25	2.05	30.20	1.55	b	b	
1927	33.00	1.90	31.10	1.95	31.55	31.55	.45 <sup>c</sup>
1928	31.75	1.40	30.35	2.05	31.70	31.70	1.40 <sup>c</sup>
1929	34.75	2.25	32.50	3.50	32.25	32.25	.25
1930	33.25	1.95	31.50	4.55	32.95	32.95	1.65 <sup>c</sup>
1931	32.75	2.40	30.35	5.45	22.05	22.05	8.30
1932	34.50	2.65	31.85	5.00	19.75	19.75	12.10
1933	28.00	4.65	23.35	5.70	17.80	17.80	5.55
1934	27.50	2.75	24.75	4.95	17.05	17.05	7.70
1935	33.50	3.20	30.30	5.55	17.45	17.45	12.95
1936	32.25	5.00	27.25	6.45	17.80	17.80	9.45
1937	33.50	4.90	28.60	8.50	18.25	18.25	10.35
1938	33.75	3.10	30.65	7.90	19.85	19.85	10.80
1939	34.25	b	b	b	b	b	

<sup>a</sup>Based on estimate of the former County Superintendent.

<sup>b</sup>Data not available.

<sup>c</sup>Local per capita expenditure was greater in Denton County.

instruction, the per capita amount of rural aid received, and the combined per capita state apportionment and local expenditures for the salaries of the teachers in the independent schools of the two counties are compared. Since the state per capita apportionment for the two counties was the same, the difference in columns four and seven was the difference in the local per capita expenditure in the counties. This difference is given in column eight.

In 1922, the local per capita expenditure for the salaries of the teachers in the independent schools of Denton County was five dollars and fifty cents more than it was in Young County. In 1924, the local per capita expenditure for the salaries of the teachers in the independent schools of Denton County was sixteen dollars and seventy cents more than it was in Young County. In 1929, the local per capita expenditure for the salaries of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County was twenty-five cents more than it was in Denton County. From that time the local expenditures for salaries of the teachers in both counties increased until 1932, when such expenditures for the salaries of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County were twelve dollars and ten cents more per capita than were such expenditures for the teachers' salaries in the independent schools of Denton County. This difference in local expenditures decreased from 1932 to 1934, when it was seven dollars and seventy cents more per capita in the independent schools of Young County than in the independent schools of Denton County. In 1935 the greatest difference was found.

This year, it was twelve dollars and ninety-five cents per capita more for the salaries of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County than for the salaries of the teachers in the independent schools of Denton County. Since 1935, the local expenditures for the salaries of the teachers in Young County have been about ten dollars per capita more than such expenditures in the independent schools of Denton County.

It may be seen from a study of Table 7 that the local expenditure per capita for teachers' salaries in the independent schools of Denton County was more than the local expenditure per capita for teachers' salaries in the independent schools of Young County from 1922 to 1928 and again in 1930. From 1931 to 1939, the local per capita expenditure for salaries of teachers in the independent schools of Young County has been more than such expenditure for salaries of teachers in the independent schools of Denton County. From this study it may be assumed that something influenced the local expenditure per capita for salaries of teachers in the independent schools of one county that was not operative in the other county. Since the local expenditure of teachers' salaries in the independent schools of Young County has ranged upward, and such expenditure for teachers' salaries in the independent schools of Denton County has ranged downward, it appears safe to assume that oil development in Young County was the active influence that affected the increase in the local per capita expenditure for salaries of teachers in that county.

Salary aid.--Table 8 contains the necessary information for determining the rural aid as a factor in affecting the progress of the schools of both Denton and Young counties. The granting of rural aid is supposedly based on the relative needs of a county.<sup>8</sup> In 1922, the schools of Young County received aid amounting to two dollars and ten cents per capita, compared to one dollar and sixty cents per capita received by the schools of Denton County. This ratio of aid received by the two counties changed very little until 1927. In that year, the amount of aid granted to Young and Denton Counties was about the same per capita. This has never been true since. The aid for the schools of Denton County ranged upward until 1938, when it had reached seven dollars and ninety cents. In 1938, the per capita aid in Young County was only three dollars and ten cents.

The total aid granted to the schools of Young County, with an enrollment of 4477 pupils, in 1922, was \$9,400. In 1936, the enrollment in Young County was 4,934 pupils, and the amount of rural aid granted that year was \$24,626, which was the greatest amount of rural aid received by the schools of Young County in one year from 1918 to 1939. This was 267 per cent of the aid received in 1922, yet the enrollment had increased only twelve per cent.

The total aid granted to the schools of Denton County, with an enrollment of 9,816 pupils, in 1922, was \$15,685.

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<sup>8</sup>Fred Englehardt, Public School Organization and Administration, p. 497.

TABLE 8

THE TOTAL SALARY AID AND THE PER CAPITA AID RECEIVED BY  
THE SCHOOLS OF YOUNG AND DENTON COUNTIES  
FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Young County		Denton County		Difference in Per Capita Aid in the Two Counties
	Total Aid	Per Capita Aid	Total Aid	Per Capita Aid	
1918	\$ 2875	\$0.80	\$11,815	\$1.80 <sup>a</sup>	\$1.00 <sup>c</sup>
1919	9385	2.75	30,275	4.55 <sup>a</sup>	1.80 <sup>c</sup>
1920	17000	4.45	21,030	3.10 <sup>a</sup>	1.35 <sup>c</sup>
1921	b		b		
1922	9420	2.10	15,685	1.60	0.50
1923	6385	1.30	8,795	.95	.35
1924	10,786	2.55	12,039	1.60	.95
1925	11,390	2.55	14,099	2.00	.55
1926	9,395	2.05	11,392	1.55	.50
1927	9,360	1.90	14,495	1.95	.05 <sup>c</sup>
1928	8,000	1.40	15,475	2.05	.65 <sup>c</sup>
1929	10,933	2.25	26,450	3.50	1.25 <sup>c</sup>
1930	10,000	1.95	32,387	4.55	2.60 <sup>c</sup>
1931	12,611	2.40	39,452	5.45	3.05 <sup>c</sup>
1932	12,707	2.65	37,884	5.00	2.35 <sup>c</sup>
1933	22,156	4.65	45,637	5.70	1.05 <sup>c</sup>
1934	13,289	2.75	37,031	4.95	2.20 <sup>c</sup>
1935	15,628	3.20	41,094	5.55	2.35 <sup>c</sup>
1936	24,626	5.00	47,647	6.45	1.45 <sup>c</sup>
1937	22,777	4.90	60,812	8.50	3.60 <sup>c</sup>
1938	14,229	3.10	52,880	7.90	4.80 <sup>c</sup>
1939	b		b		

<sup>a</sup>Estimate of enrollment made by the former County Superintendent.

<sup>b</sup>Data not available.

<sup>c</sup>Per capita aid for Denton County was greater.

The greatest amount of aid granted to the schools of Denton County in any one year from 1918 to 1939 was in 1937. In that year, the enrollment in the Denton County schools was 7,387 pupils and the amount of aid received was \$60,812. This was 400 per cent of the aid granted to the schools of the county in 1922, yet the enrollment decreased fifteen per cent.



The difference in aid received in the two counties it is assumed, is indicative of a decreased need in Young County due to the development of oil.

Annual salaries of the teachers in the common schools.--

From the data given in Table 9 a comparative study of the average salaries paid to the teachers in the common schools of Young and Denton Counties can be made. In 1918, the average salary of the teachers in the common schools of Young County was fourteen dollars higher than the average salary of the teachers in the common schools of Denton County. By 1923, the teachers in the common schools of Young County received an average annual salary of \$172 more than the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Denton County. Between 1920 and 1927, the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Young County lacked four dollars of increasing 100 per cent, which made the average salary of the teachers in the common schools \$810 per year. During this period, the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Denton County increased only fifty-seven per cent, which gave them an average annual salary of \$650 in 1927. This was \$160 less than the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Young County. By 1929, the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Young County was \$235 more than the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Denton County. In 1931, the

TABLE 9

THE AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARIES AND THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS  
EMPLOYED IN THE COMMON SCHOOLS OF YOUNG  
AND DENTON COUNTIES

Year	Young County		Denton County		Difference in Annual Salaries in the Two Counties
	Number of Teachers	Annual Salary	Number of Teachers	Annual Salary	
1918	80	\$404	138 <sup>a</sup>	\$390	\$ 14.00
1919	78	435	145 <sup>a</sup>	390	45.00
1920	80	407	147 <sup>a</sup>	415	8.00 <sup>c</sup>
1921	79	711	150 <sup>a</sup>	600	111.00
1922	84	720	156	628	92.00
1923	88	780	156	608	172.00
1924	94	836	b	b	
1925	94	720	b	b	
1926	89	724	b	b	
1927	89	810	146	650	160.00
1928	91	851	145	675	176.00
1929	91	872	151	637	235.00
1930	90	871	142	701	170.00
1931	85	891	145	735	156.00
1932	82	818	149	700	118.00
1933	80	708	153	603	105.00
1934	81	705	148	620	85.00
1935	80	704	148	652	52.00
1936	75	740	130	716	24.00
1937	76	770	108	729	41.00
1938	69	832	100	861	29.00 <sup>c</sup>
1939	68	914	101	892	22.00

<sup>a</sup>Estimate based on the judgment of the former County Superintendent.

<sup>b</sup>Data not available.

<sup>c</sup>Salaries were higher in Denton County.

highest salaries were reached for the teachers in the common schools of both Denton and Young Counties. In that year the teachers in the common schools of Young County received an average salary of \$891 per year, and the teachers in the common schools of Denton County received an average salary of \$735 per year. This was a difference of \$156 per year in favor of the teachers of Young County.

From 1931 to 1935, the difference between the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Young County and the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Denton County gradually decreased. The average salary of the teachers in the common schools of both counties decreased from 1931 to 1935, but the decrease in Young County was more rapid than the decrease in Denton County. During that period the decrease in the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Young County was \$187, while the decrease in the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Denton County was only \$132. From 1935 to 1939, the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Denton County increased \$289, while the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Young County increased only \$210. This change in ratio made the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Young County only twenty-two dollars higher than the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Denton County, in 1939.

From 1918 to 1939, there were three periods of increasing salaries; from 1920 to 1924, from 1924 to 1931, and from 1935 to 1939. During the first and second periods, the increases in the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Young County were more than double the increases in the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of

Denton County, for each period. During the third period, the increase in the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Denton County was about one-third more than the increase in the average annual salary of the teachers in the common schools of Young County. The irregular change in the average annual salary in the common schools of Young County, while the average annual salary remained much more stable for the teachers in the common schools of Denton County, is indicative of a periodical influence that was felt in the common schools of Young County that did not effect the common schools of Denton County.

Teachers' salaries in the independent districts.--In 1919, the teachers in the independent schools of Denton County received an average salary of fifty dollars per year more than the average salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County, and by 1923 the difference was \$110. During the period from 1919 to 1923, the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Denton County increased \$290, while the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County increased only \$225. In 1924, the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Denton County was ninety-five dollars more than the average annual salary of 1923, while the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County was only seventy dollars more in 1924 than in 1923. The average annual salary of the teachers in the

independent schools of Denton County increased sixty dollars more from 1919 to 1924 than the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County.

TABLE 10

THE AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARIES OF THE TEACHERS IN THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OF YOUNG AND DENTON COUNTIES FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Young County	Denton County	Difference in Average Salary in the Two Counties
	Average Salary	Average Salary	
1918	\$ 618	\$ 795	\$ 50.00 <sup>b</sup>
1919	745	875	30.00 <sup>b</sup>
1920	825	875	50.00 <sup>b</sup>
1921	1154	1039	115.00 <sup>b</sup>
1922	1060	1114	54.00 <sup>b</sup>
1923	1000	1085	85.00 <sup>b</sup>
1924	1070	1180	110.00 <sup>b</sup>
1925	1254	a	
1926	1252	a	
1927	1150	1097	53.00
1928	1153	1052	101.00
1929	1208	1094	114.00
1930	1249	1110	139.00
1931	1190	1000	190.00
1932	1090	931	159.00
1933	1011	928	83.00
1934	981	862	119.00
1935	1125	833	292.00
1936	1109	948	161.00
1937	1150	1018	132.00
1938	1133	1000	133.00
1939	1165	a	

<sup>a</sup>Data not available.

<sup>b</sup>Higher salaries were paid in Denton County.

The data for Denton County for 1925 and 1926 were not available. By 1927, the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County was fifty-three dollars more than the average annual salary of the teachers in

the independent schools of Denton County. From 1924 to 1927, the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County increased eighty dollars, while the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Denton County decreased eighty-three dollars. In 1928, the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County increased three dollars, while the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Denton County decreased forty-five dollars. By 1931, the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County was \$190 more than the average annual salary of the teachers in similar schools of Denton County. The difference in the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County and that of Denton County decreased slightly during 1933 and 1934. The difference in the average annual salaries in the independent schools of the two counties was more in 1935 than in 1934. During that year, the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County was \$292 more than the average annual salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Denton County. Since 1935, the average salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Young County has remained over \$100 per year more than the average salary of the teachers in the independent schools of Denton County.

There were two periods between 1918 and 1939 in which the difference in the average annual salaries of the teachers in the independent schools of the two counties made increases. The

first of these periods was from 1927 to 1930, which was followed by a period of decreasing differences in average annual salaries. The second period was from 1934 to 1935. Since that time the difference in the average annual salaries of the teachers in the independent schools of the two counties had decreased. These irregular differences in the average annual salaries of the teachers in the independent schools of the two counties are indicative of influences that were felt more extensively in one county than in the other. The development of oil in Young County was the influencing factor causing the difference in average annual salaries in the two counties.

Effects on instructional service.--The increase in available resources made possible the employment of a much larger number of teachers in proportion to the number of pupils enrolled in the schools of Young County. This caused a decrease in the size of the classes, which resulted, in what some writers claim, increased efficiency.<sup>9</sup> Other writers claim this method of employing more teachers and increasing the per capita cost by reducing the size of classes is a waste of money, because there is no difference in the efficiency of instruction in large and small classes.<sup>10</sup> There is little question that the per capita resources increasing for the schools of Young County resulted in an increased opportunity on the part of school

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<sup>9</sup>Curtis Baxter Tate, "A Study of the Effects of Teacher-Pupil Ratio Upon the Child's Achievement" (Unpublished M. S. Thesis, Dept. of Education, North Texas State Teachers College, 1938), p. 72.

<sup>10</sup>Ward G. Reeder, The Business Administration of the School System, P. 370.

officials to improve the quality of education offered to each individual enrolled in the schools of the county.<sup>11</sup>

The increase in the local resources made an increase in the salaries of the teachers in the schools of Young County possible. It can be assumed that this resulted in better qualified teachers for the schools of Young County than for those schools not affected by the increase in local resources, as in Denton County, because qualified teachers tend to gravitate toward schools paying the best salaries.<sup>12</sup> Increased salaries for the teachers of Young County partially eliminated the possibility of selecting the itinerant failure from the lowest quartile of candidates who presented themselves for employment as teachers in the county.<sup>13</sup> It is likely that the increased salaries resulted in an influx of the best talent among teachers in other sections, because where low salaries prevail, the resident teachers are in the majority, and many of them lack the incentive, or are too busy with home duties, to seek promotion by efficient work and continued training. Many of them choose to depend upon social and political influences for promotion.<sup>14</sup> It seems safe to assume that the teachers of

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<sup>11</sup>Ibid., p. 70.

<sup>12</sup>Ward G. Reeder, The Fundamentals of Public School Administration, p. 114.

<sup>13</sup>Fred Engelhardt, op. cit., p. 194.

<sup>14</sup>Dennis H. Cooke, Problems of the Teaching Personnel, p. 294.



Young County continued their training more regularly than they might have done had the salaries not been increased.

The development of oil in Young County presented a problem concerning salary schedules. Constant fluctuation of local income made the adoption of salary schedules impractical, yet very desirable by both teachers and school boards.<sup>15</sup> The discrimination in salaries could not be understood by the teachers and therefore tended to affect both their mental and emotional stability, which, no doubt, affected the quality of instruction offered to the children. This lack of salary schedules partially off-set the increased salaries for teachers in attracting efficient teachers, because one of the fundamental purposes of a salary schedule is to attract and to hold the best teachers in a school system.<sup>16</sup> Establishing a salary schedule aids in scientific budgeting and prevents rivalry among the teachers for the better salaries.<sup>17</sup> This competition causes a rapid turnover in teachers, because a better salary for the same work in another school is an incentive to move.<sup>18</sup> It also tends to cause a loss in efficient work while the adaptations are being made.

The increase in local resources resulted in a decrease in the rural aid received in Young County in comparison with Denton

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<sup>15</sup>Dennis H. Cooke, Ray L. Hamon, and Arthur M. Proctor, Principles of School Administration, p. 315.

<sup>16</sup>Ibid., p. 282.

<sup>17</sup>Ward G. Reeder, The Fundamentals of Public School Administration, p. 375.

<sup>18</sup>Dennis H. Cooke, op. cit., p. 78-83.

County. The necessity for meeting the standards to obtain aid was removed from many schools in Young County.<sup>19</sup> The tendency is to equalize the educational opportunities by granting larger amounts of state and county aid.<sup>20</sup> The more aid a school receives the more significant is its alignment with other schools in salary schedules and required standards.<sup>21</sup> Without these standards for checks, many of the schools in Young County have become what the local patrons require. This lack of restrictions has partially off-set the efficiency in instruction which may have resulted from attracting select teachers to the county. On the other hand it has offered an opportunity to the wealthier schools to offer broad educational programs that State Aid schools would not be permitted to offer.

#### Enrollment

The average number of pupils per teacher in the common schools.--A comparison of the average number of pupils enrolled per teacher in the common schools of Young and Denton Counties is made in Table 11. In 1922, the number of pupils enrolled per teacher in the common schools of Young County averaged thirty, while the number of pupils enrolled per teacher in the common schools of Denton County averaged thirty-five. This difference

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<sup>19</sup>N. E. A. School Finance Systems, March, 1935.

<sup>20</sup>Ward G. Reeder, Business Administration of the Public Schools, p. 82.

<sup>21</sup>Cooke, op. cit., p. 285.

TABLE 11

THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS, THE ENROLLMENT, AND THE NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED PER TEACHER IN THE COMMON SCHOOLS OF YOUNG AND DENTON COUNTIES FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Young County			Denton County			Difference in Pupils Per Teacher in the Two Counties
	Enrollment	Number Teachers	Pupils Per Teacher	Enrollment	Number Teachers	Pupils Per Teacher	
1918	2409	80	30	4000a	138a	29	1
1919	2004	78	27	3850a	145a	26	1
1920	2069	80	25	3800a	147a	25	0
1921	2089	79	26	3950a	150a	26	0
1922	2575	84	30	5515b	156	35	5c
1923	2754	88	31	4912b	156	31	0
1924	2407	94	25	3953	153a	25	0
1925	2099	94	21	3600a	150a	24	3c
1926	2461	89	27	3600a	148	24	3c
1927	2009	89	22	3435	146	23	1c
1928	2056	91	22	3525	145	24	2c
1929	1961	91	20	3577	151	23	3c
1930	1878	90	20	3208	142	22	2c
1931	1979	85	23	3326	145	23	0c
1932	1865	82	22	3362	149	23	1c
1933	1905	80	23	3622	153	23	0
1934	1925	81	23	3454	148	23	0
1935	1889	80	23	3015	148	20	3
1936	1827	75	24	2746	130	21	3c
1937	1722	76	22	2712	108	25	3c
1938	1561	69	23	2651	100	27	4c
1939	1210	68	18	2069	101	20	2c

aEstimates based on scholastics and the judgment of the county superintendent.  
bPossible error in the report from which the data were secured.  
cClasses were larger in Denton County.

of five pupils was the greatest that was found in the enrollment per teacher in the two counties from 1918 to 1939. The common schools of Denton County had an average enrollment per teacher of one pupil more than the common schools of Young County during the period. This difference is insignificant, except to show that the higher per capita cost of instruction in the common schools of Young County, than in those of Denton County, was not due to excessive differences in the enrollment per teacher.

Enrollment per teacher in the independent schools.--From 1918 to 1924, inclusive, the enrollment per teacher in the independent schools of Young County ranged from forty-two to forty-eight pupils. In 1924, the enrollment per teacher in the independent schools of Young County was forty-two pupils, while the enrollment per teacher in the independent schools of Denton County was thirty pupils. From 1924 to 1931, the enrollment in the independent schools of Young County increased sixty per cent and the number of teachers employed increased 100 per cent, which reduced the enrollment per teacher to thirty-six pupils. During the same period the enrollment in the independent schools of Denton County increased fifteen per cent and the number of teachers employed remained about the same, which increased the enrollment per teacher to thirty-six.

Since 1931, the variation in the number of teachers employed and the enrollment in the independent schools of the two counties has changed the enrollment per teacher very little.

TABLE 12

THE ENROLLMENT, THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS, AND THE NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED PER TEACHER IN THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OF YOUNG AND DENTON COUNTIES FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Young County			Denton County			Difference in Pupils Per Teacher in the Two Counties
	Enrollment	Number Teachers	Pupils Per Teacher	Enrollment	Number Teachers	Pupils Per Teacher	
1918	1363	29	47	2500 <sup>a</sup>	80 <sup>a</sup>	54	16
1919	1392	29	48	2800 <sup>a</sup>	85 <sup>a</sup>	33	15
1920	1734	35	48	2975 <sup>a</sup>	101 <sup>a</sup>	29	19
1921	2256	47	48	3150 <sup>a</sup>	110 <sup>a</sup>	28	20
1922	1962	47	46	4000 <sup>a</sup>	110 <sup>a</sup>	36	10
1923	2115	47	45	4144	112	37	8
1924	1974	47	42	3360	112	30	12
1925	1998	54	36	3500 <sup>a</sup>	116 <sup>a</sup>	30	6
1926	2470	65	38	3800 <sup>a</sup>	119 <sup>a</sup>	32	6
1927	2660	76	35	4026	112	33	2
1928	3096	86	36	3968	128	31	5
1929	2975	85	35	4061	131	31	4
1930	3268	86	38	3960	132	30	8
1931	3384	94	36	3888	108	36	0
1932	2912	91	32	4181	113	37	5 <sup>b</sup>
1933	2988	83	36	4329	111	39	3 <sup>b</sup>
1934	2916	81	36	4212	108	39	3 <sup>b</sup>
1935	2937	89	33	4320	120	36	3 <sup>b</sup>
1936	3128	92	34	4641	119	39	5 <sup>b</sup>
1937	3196	94	34	4560	120	38	4 <sup>b</sup>
1938	3366	99	34	4068	113	36	2 <sup>b</sup>
1939	3502	103	34	<sup>c</sup>	<sup>c</sup>	<sup>c</sup>	

<sup>a</sup>Estimates based on scholastics and the judgment of the county superintendent.

<sup>b</sup>Classes were larger in Denton County.

<sup>c</sup>Data not available.

It seems safe to assume that a sixty per cent increase in the enrollment and a 100 per cent increase in the number of teachers employed in the independent schools of Young County, while the enrollment in the independent schools of Denton County increased only fifteen per cent and there was practically no change in the number of teachers employed, is indicative of active growth and development in Young County which was not present in Denton County. The growth is attributed to oil development in Young County.

School enrollment in Denton and Young Counties.--The enrollment in the schools in Young County was very irregular from 1918 to 1939 compared to the enrollment in the schools of Denton County. There was a ten per cent decrease in the enrollment of the schools in Young County in 1919 from the enrollment in 1918. From 1919 to 1921, there was an increase of thirty-two per cent in the enrollment. This was followed by a slight decrease in 1922, and another increase in 1923 of eight and five-tenths per cent. In 1924, there was a decrease in enrollment of 13.3 per cent from 1923. From 1925 to 1928, there was an increase of 15.4 per cent in the enrollment in the schools of Young County, while the enrollment in the schools of Denton County increased four per cent. The enrollment in the schools of Young County decreased six and three-tenths per cent in 1929, while the enrollment in the schools of Denton County increased two per cent that year. From 1929 to 1931, the enrollment in the schools of Young County increased nine and four-tenths per cent, while the enrollment in the schools

TABLE 13

THE ENROLLMENT AND THE FLUCTUATIONS IN ENROLLMENT  
IN THE SCHOOLS OF YOUNG AND DENTON COUNTIES  
FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Young County		Denton County	
	Enrollment	Gain or Loss	Enrollment	Gain or Loss
1918	3771	....	6500*	....
1919	3397	-10.0%	6650*	2.3%
1920	3818	12.5	6775*	1.8
1921	4503	18.0	7100*	4.5
1922	4477	- .58	7200*	1.4
1923	4860	8.5	7200*	.0
1924	4213	-13.3	7313	1.5
1925	4494	6.7	7200	-1.5
1926	4564	1.6	7200	.0
1927	4857	6.4	7455	3.5
1928	5187	7.0	7493	.5
1929	4858	- 6.3	7638	2.0
1930	5123	5.5	7168	-6.2
1931	5310	3.6	7214	.6
1932	4810	- 9.4	7443	3.2
1933	4766	- .9	7951	6.8
1934	4813	1.0	7666	-3.6
1935	4880	1.4	7335	-4.3
1936	4934	1.1	7387	.7
1937	4631	- 6.0	7272	-1.6
1938	4626	- .1	6719	-7.6
1939	4576	- 1.1	6500	-3.0
	Mean fluctuation	5.76		3.02

\*Estimates based on the county superintendent's judgment.

of Denton County increased ten per cent. From 1934 to 1936, the enrollment in the schools of Young County increased two and five-tenths per cent, while the enrollment in the schools of Denton County decreased three and six-tenths per cent. From 1936 to 1939, the enrollment in the schools of Young County decreased seven and three-tenths per cent, while the enrollment in the schools of Denton County decreased twelve per cent.

The average annual fluctuation in enrollment in the schools of Young County was 5.76 per cent, which was one and nine-tenths times as much as the average annual fluctuation in enrollment in the schools of Denton County. This indicated a shifting population in Young County, a factor which tends to accompany oil development. This factor affects, adversely, the functioning of a satisfactory school system. It makes pupil adjustment necessary, and at the same time, makes it almost impossible.

Effects on enrollment in Young County schools.---In tables 11 and 12, it can be seen that the enrollment per teacher in the schools of Young County vary as much as six pupils from one year to the next. If the variations had been evenly distributed, the problem would have been minimized, but as can be seen in Table 14, the unequal distribution of the enrollment within the county resulted in as much as a one hundred per cent increase in some districts during a year when the enrollment in other districts decreased. This shifting within the county made it impossible for school officials to employ the correct size faculties for instructing the pupils.

The building valuations per pupil, and the number of pupils enrolled per teacher, changed more radically than a study of the county as a whole would indicate due to the internal shifting of the pupils. The total enrollment of the schools of Young County increased 1106 pupils from 1919 to 1922, and of this number 880 pupils were in three of the fifty-two schools. In 1926, the enrollment in the schools of the county increased one



TABLE 14

THE ENROLLMENT IN EACH OF THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS, THE TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN ALL COMMON SCHOOLS, THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS IN EACH OF THE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS, AND THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TEACHERS IN ALL COMMON SCHOOLS IN YOUNG COUNTY FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Enrollment in School Systems <sup>a</sup>					Number of Teachers Employed <sup>a</sup>				
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5
1918	401	569	396	b	2409	9	12	8	b	80
1919	367	610	416		2004	9	12	8		78
1920	487	827	420		2069	10	17	8		80
1921	493	1166	621		2323	13	22 <sup>c</sup>	12		79
1922	509	1160	464		2349	10	24 <sup>c</sup>	11		84
1923	525	1160	376		2754	11	25 <sup>c</sup>	9		88
1924	525	1160	380		2099	11	26 <sup>c</sup>	9		94
1925	519	1134	380		2461	13	27	9		94
1926	1037	1040	421		2063	25	30	10		89
1927	1037	1093	378	317	2009	25	31	10	10	89
1928	1141	1170	400	420	2056	32	31	11	12	91
1929	1058	1196	400	331	1861	32	31	11	11	91
1930	1132	1347	400	343	1878	29	35	11	11	90
1931	1132	1391	484	339	1979	33	38	11	12	85
1932	1098	1349	484	280	1829	32	38	11	10	82
1933	1068	1319	435	280	1829	28	34	11	10	80
1934	1023	1154	445	273	1918	27	33	11	10	81
1935	1035	1211	456	289	1889	30	38	11	10	80
1936	1110	1295	461	286	1841	32	39	11	10	75
1937	1100	1345	431	286	1488	33	40	11	10	76
1938	1071	1555	426	267	1307	34	42	11	12	69
1939	1039	1607	455	267	1210	35	45	11	12	68

<sup>a</sup>Schools numbered one to four, inclusive are independent schools, and number five is the total of all common schools.

<sup>b</sup>Reported with common schools until 1927.

<sup>c</sup>Estimate.

and six-tenths per cent over 1925, but the enrollment in one school increased 518 pupils, which was a one hundred per cent increase in that school over 1925. This was off-set by decreases in many other schools. In 1937, the enrollment for the county decreased six per cent, yet the enrollment in the four independent schools remained practically the same as in 1936. This large decrease was in the common schools, only. From 1937 to 1939, the enrollment in School No. 2 increased twenty per cent, but all the other schools decreased in enrollment, resulting in a one and two-tenths per cent decrease in the enrollment in the county. Radical internal changes in enrollment resulted in the pupils being enrolled in schools that were unprepared to care for them, while the schools from where they came were already prepared, yet lost them. The result of this shifting was over-crowded classes in some schools, too much room in other schools, and multiple preparation for the pupils, which proved to be expensive.

The number of teachers employed in the schools of Young County continued to increase after the enrollment became more stable. This resulted in a decrease in the number of pupils enrolled per teacher. The enrollment per teacher more nearly approached the regulation of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. This association sets, as a maximum, thirty pupils per teacher.<sup>22</sup> The increase was not general throughout the county, since many schools followed a completion

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<sup>22</sup> F. C. Harwood, "Standards of Other Regional Associations on Pupil-Teacher Ratio and Teacher-Load," High School Quarterly, XVIII (January, 1930), 71-75, cited by Dennis H. Cooke, Problems of the Teaching Personnel, p. 226.

of the development of oil in their districts by reducing the number of teachers, and increasing the enrollment per teacher. Many retrenchments are first directed at the salaries and numbers of teachers because that item represents about seventy per cent of the budget.<sup>23</sup> This procedure merely increased the inequalities within the county, and by 1939 some schools had three times as many pupils enrolled and four to five times as many teachers employed as in 1918, while others were practically as they were in 1918, or had lost in both enrollment and number of teachers employed.

#### The Building Program

The building investments increased annually from 1918 to 1939, except during 1923 and 1924 when a slight decrease is noted. The equipment investment increased annually except in 1923, 1931, and 1932. The per capita investment in buildings and equipment in 1939 was approximately six times as much as it was in 1918. From the data it was found that slightly less than one-half of this investment had been paid off by 1939. The remaining sum consists of regular school bonds, outstanding. The average per capita indebtedness of the county, based on the outstanding bonds and the number of pupils enrolled in the schools of the county, was \$140 in 1939.

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<sup>23</sup>Ibid., p. 106.

TABLE 15

THE ENROLLMENT, THE BUILDING INVESTMENT, THE EQUIPMENT INVESTMENT AND THE PER CAPITA INVESTMENT IN THE SCHOOLS OF YOUNG COUNTY FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Enrollment	Buildings Investment	Equipment Investment	Total Investment	Per Capita Investment
1918	3771	\$ 136,900	\$ 20,986	\$ 157,886	\$ 41.90
1919	3397	171,900	26,290	198,190	58.30
1920	3818	217,300	28,950	246,250	64.50
1921	4099	280,000	34,850	314,850	76.90
1922	4477	291,000	39,496	330,496	74.00
1923	4860	287,000	39,323	326,323	65.10
1924	4213	260,000	42,850	302,850	71.90
1925	4494	393,000	54,065	447,065	99.50
1926	4564	437,500	65,375	502,875	110.20
1927	4857	452,500	69,555	522,005	107.50
1928	5187	498,500	86,150	584,650	112.70
1929	4858	621,700	86,785	708,485	145.20
1930	5123	628,200	90,225	718,425	140.20
1931	5310	644,200	87,802	732,002	138.00
1932	4810	647,800	87,705	735,505	153.00
1933	4766	647,800	88,560	736,360	154.50
1934	4813	666,200	89,030	755,230	157.00
1935	4880	764,200	94,125	758,325	155.40
1936	4934	775,200	101,280	876,480	177.60
1937	4631	780,800	103,940	884,740	191.00
1938	4626	810,245	107,532	917,777	198.40
1939	4576	1,010,000	120,410	1,130,410	247.00

Bonded indebtedness.--In 1921, the total bonded indebtedness of all schools in Young County was \$100,000. At that time the average rate of tax for bond payment in all the schools of the county was ten cents on the \$100 valuation. In 1923 the total bonded indebtedness for all the schools of the county was \$173,000, and the rate of tax for bond payment was still ten cents on the \$100 valuation. By 1927, the bonded indebtedness of all schools of the county was nearly three times as much as in 1921, while the bond rate was only twice as much as in 1921. The bonded indebtedness of all schools increased steadily until it reached \$644,000 in 1939, which was 6.44 times as much as it was in 1921. In 1939, the rate of tax for bond payment was twenty cents on the \$100 valuation which was twice as much as that of 1921.

This variation between the increase in amount of bonded indebtedness and the increase in the bond rate indicates that the valuation on which the bond rates were assessed increased a great deal from 1921 to 1939. It is assumed that the development of oil in Young County resulted in the increased valuation, which made possible a relatively low bond rate for the amount of bonded indebtedness. This resulted in a potential increase in the building program. A further study of the condition of bonded indebtedness for school purposes in Young County may be made from Figure 3.

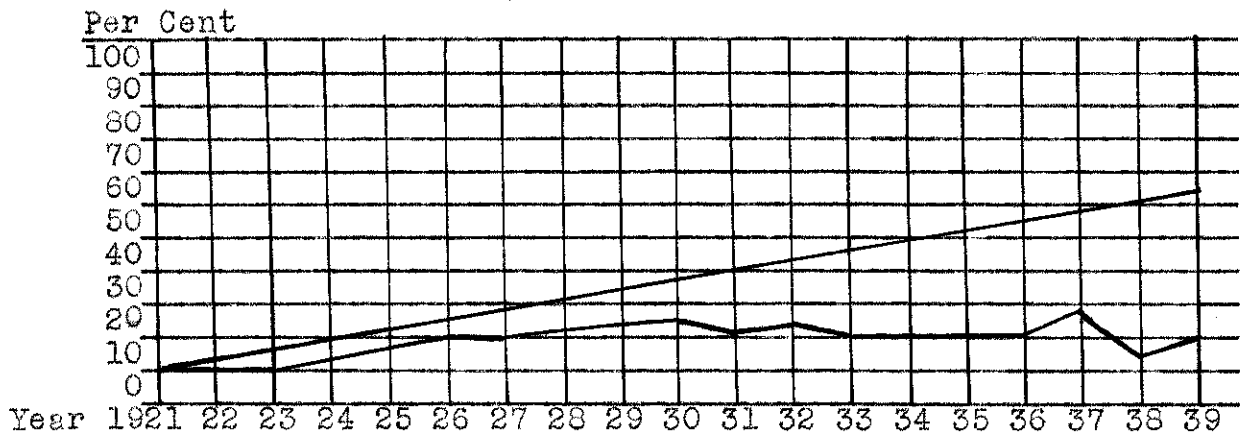


Fig. 3.--The relation between the increase in bonded indebtedness and the increase in the bond rate necessary to meet the payments on the bonds.\*

\*With 1921 as a base the increases in both amount of bonded indebtedness and the increases in the rate necessary to meet the bond payments are shown in Figure 3 on a per cent basis. For example, the amount of bonded indebtedness of 1926 was 250 per cent of the bonded indebtedness of 1921, while the rate in 1926 was 200 per cent of the rate in 1921. In 1936 the amount of bonded indebtedness was 650 per cent of the amount of bonded indebtedness in 1921, while the rate for bond payment was 200 per cent of the rate in 1921. The difference in the increases gives an idea of the increase in valuations on which the bonds were based, and suggests a pyramiding of bonds for future patrons to pay, rather than retiring the bonds as the buildings are constructed.

Effects on building program.--A building program based on oil development has been practiced in Young County since the development of oil began in the county. A new building with new equipment became the natural result of the discovery of oil in practically every school district. The values of all school buildings in 1918 was \$136,900, and the equipment was valued at \$20,986. This increased to \$1,010,000 invested in buildings and \$120,410 invested in equipment, by 1939. This enormous increase in investments would be acceptable if it had been based on a pay-as-you-go plan, which most school

authorities agree should be used if the finances can possibly be arranged.<sup>24</sup>

The rapid increase in bonded indebtedness has become a danger signal, because the bonds are being pyramided for future patrons of the school to pay. If it becomes necessary to issue bonds they should never be for a longer term than the life of the improvements.<sup>25</sup> In Young County many of the bond increases were made in schools which already had bonded indebtedness on the buildings being replaced. This is contrary to the idea that one building should be paid for before it is replaced by another.<sup>26</sup>

In 1921, the ratio of tax rate for the payment of bonds to the amount of bonded indebtedness was one cent to each \$10,000, while in 1939, the ratio was one cent to each \$32,000 in bonded indebtedness as is shown in Figure 3. There was 3.22 times as much bonded indebtedness per one cent of tax rate in 1939 as there was in 1921, but the assessed valuation, on which the rate was based, was approximately the same in 1921\* as it was in 1939, therefore the ratio of annual payment to the amount of bonded indebtedness was approximately 3.22 times greater in 1921 than it was in 1939, which indicates that the increase in bonded indebtedness was more drastic than the increase in bond

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<sup>24</sup>Ward G. Reeder, Business Administration of the Public Schools, p. 186.

<sup>25</sup>Ibid., p. 206.

<sup>26</sup>Don L. Essex, Bonding vs Pay-As-You-Go in the Financing of School Buildings, p. 16.

\*The assessed valuation of Young County was not available for 1921. The assessed valuation for 1920 was \$10,657,120, and for 1922, it was \$13,547,150. From these figures, it seems safe to conclude that the assessed valuation in 1921 was about equal to that of 1939, which was \$13,647,560.

payment or bond rate of tax. This difference was due to the postponement of payments, which is unfair to future patrons of the school.<sup>27</sup>

If the same increases had been made in the bond payment that were made in the bonded indebtedness, the legal limit, in bond rates, of fifty cents on the one hundred dollars valuation, would have been reached by 1935. Only three-fourths of the building values of 1939 would have been possible if the principle of increasing the bond payments in proportion to the increasing bonded indebtedness had been strictly followed by school officials, and this was possible only by including the seventy-two per cent increase in assessed valuation, due to oil development in Young County. If there had been no development of oil in the county, the ratio of rate to bonded indebtedness would have been one cent to \$5800 in 1921. With this ratio of payment, the legal limit of fifty cents on the one hundred dollars valuation would have been reached by 1927, with less than one-half the investments in buildings that existed in 1939.

The postponement of payment on the bonded indebtedness was unfair to future taxpayers of the county, but the increase in valuations might be an asset. If the oil development were to be abruptly depleted, the postponement of the payment on the bonded indebtedness would become perilous, since the ratio of

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<sup>27</sup>Arthur B. Moehlman, Public School Finance, p. 219.



TABLE 16

THE PER CAPITA INVESTMENT IN BUILDINGS IN EACH OF THE  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS AND THE TOTAL INVESTMENT FOR  
ALL COMMON SCHOOLS IN YOUNG COUNTY  
FROM 1918 TO 1939, INCLUSIVE

Year	Per Capita Investment in Buildings in the Independent Schools <sup>a</sup>				Per Capita Investment in All Common Schools <sup>a</sup>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4 <sup>b</sup>	
1918	\$ 63	\$108	\$ 27		\$18.00
1919	78	130	28		26.00
1920	60	164	c		28.00
1921	58	106	96		27.00
1922	57	125	64		45.00
1923	57	135	70		42.00
1924	100	146	66		39.00
1925	149	165	c		38.00
1926	95	185	83		62.00
1927	91	175	92	\$162	64.00
1928	90	168	92	119	60.00
1929	189	160	140	151	63.00
1930	178	145	140	145	70.00
1931	180	140	116	145	73.00
1932	183	165	c	221	70.00
1933	177	175	129	c	81.00
1934	196	175	126	227	85.00
1935	185	230	123	214	87.00
1936	180	225	121	216	81.00
1937	181	225	176	c	116.00
1938	194	188	178	232	140.00
1939	208	306	167	232	142.00

<sup>a</sup>Decrease in per capita investment in buildings due to increased enrollment using the particular buildings.

<sup>b</sup>Common school until 1927.

<sup>c</sup>Data not given in annual reports.

bonded indebtedness to assessed valuation, including oil valuations, is unusually high in the schools of Young County.<sup>28</sup> If the ratio of 1921, between the rate and bonded indebtedness, were restored, the increased valuations would be utilized, and

<sup>28</sup>Eugene G. Wilkins, Public Schools Tax Management in Texas, p. 60.

oil properties would pay for the building program which was necessary because of the increased enrollment due to oil development. Since the ratio of rate to bonded indebtedness has decreased more than the assessed valuation has increased due to oil development, it is concluded that the school authorities have not taken advantage of the taxes on oil property to pay off the indebtedness of the schools of the county as rapidly as it might be paid. The oil industry has been more or less favored by low bond rates at the expense of future tax payers.

The shifting population within the county resulted in rapid increases and decreases in the per capita investment in buildings in the various schools. The increases in per capita investment in buildings may be accounted for in two ways, additional building and decreased enrollment. The decreased per capita investment in buildings is always due to increased enrollment, and many times represent crowded conditions within a school system. This shifting resulted in building programs which soon became unnecessary and placed a burden on the tax payers that might have been avoided by temporary structures. When the oil development is completed and the enrollments return to normal, the per capita investment in buildings will be excessive. Funds for school operation will be diverted to payment of unneeded buildings.

Summary of the Effects of the Oil Development in  
Young County on the Educational Program of the County

The effects of oil development in Young County on the schools of the county will be summarized under favorable and unfavorable effects, in the light of which certain recommendations will be made.

Several progressive changes in the educational program of Young County were made because of the increase in the available resources, due to the development of oil in the County. Among these are the employing of a larger number of teachers in proportion to the number of pupils enrolled in the schools, the attracting of better qualified teachers by paying higher salaries, the improving of buildings and equipment, and the dispensing with rural aid requirements, which in many instances permitted a broader educational program.

Many accompanying evils came with the development of oil in the county, so far as the schools were concerned: shifting enrollment in the schools made it impossible for school authorities to employ the correct number of teachers; classrooms in some schools were crowded and in some schools were empty; salary schedules were impractical because income was uncertain; teachers were upset emotionally and mentally because of discriminations in salaries and special favors; educational standards required for rural aid were made optional with local school officials; building programs were expanded too much; and bond rates were set too low, because unwise school officials overestimated the importance of income from oil development.

In the light of this study, certain recommendations should be followed under similar circumstances in other counties. Surplus funds should be held in reserve for future use, temporary buildings should be used for several years, salary schedules should be made low enough to be practical, the lowering of educational standards should be guarded, buildings should be constructed on a cash basis or with short term bonds. Teachers should be employed with the understanding that their employment will be subject to fluctuations in enrollment.

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