

**J. B. BERRYMAN GIVES COST OF RUNNING SCHOOLS**

Compares La Grange and Deerfield High Schools With Proposed Local One.

July 26, 1920.

To the Editor of The Reporter; I have read, with interest, the statement of the Downers Grove Board of Education on the Community High School. The proposed levy for the present is set at \$1.11 per 100 of valuation. This will produce \$30,000, which is so inadequate that the proposition is not worth considering.

The maximum rate is set at \$2.00 per 100, to produce \$56,000, and as a first-class High School cannot be operated for that sum, it will be necessary to raise the rate, or the assessed value.

The expenditures for the year 1919-1920 of the Lyons Township High School, La Grange, were as follows:

Offices & Superintendence	\$ 8,376.22
Teachers	55,181.50
Books & Stationery	2,580.86
Int. on Teachers' orders	850.21
Janitors, Engineers, etc.	5,301.36
Fuel, Water, Light, etc.	7,694.47
Repairs	3,559.33
Library, Health, Transportation, etc.	4,664.31
Business School	394.90
Lunch	500.00

Total	\$89,411.89
Alterations	1,250.50
New Equipment	6,146.80
Grand Total	\$96,809.09

You will observe that the maximum proposed rate of \$2.00 per 100, would not pay the salaries of the staff at La Grange.

The expenditures of the Deerfield Township High School, serving Highland Park, Lake Forest and the adjacent territory, were (1919-1920):

School Board, Office & Supt	\$8,600.00
Publicity	820.00
Instruction, inc. Gym & ..	
Industrial Arts	61,200.00
Lectures	130.00
Operation (light, fuel, janitors, etc.)	22,890.00
Depreciation of build-	

ings at 2% and equipment at 5%	10,396.00
Library, Health Promotion Lunch Room, Night School and Transportation of Pupils	10,700.00
Bonded Interest	7,587.00

Total \$122,533.00

If a High School is to be of real benefit, it must be conducted on a proper scale with a staff of instructors qualified to teach. If the district will not sustain a school of that character, it had better get along with the facilities already in existence.

A school cannot be built and equipped under \$400,000, which means that interest and sinking fund will absorb about \$30,000 a year, and even if the LaGrange figures are trimmed down to \$70,000, the total charge will be \$100,000 or \$3.57 on each 100 of assessed.

Nothing is to be gained by deluding ourselves into the idea that a development of this kind can be had for a little money. The statement has been made that the tax on the farming community will be about 50c per acre. It will be much greater than that, and, in addition, all the live stock on the farms will bear their percentage, as the taxation is not confined to real property.

The Community High School law is inequitable in its operation. An urban community, with comparatively large population, can saddle half the expense on a farming community with sparse population. Or, putting it in another way, the Village gets 90% of the benefit for 50% of the cost. The urban community will also elect the Board of Education, who will "make up their own budget and spread their own tax levy." The outsiders will be allowed to vote, but that is all the good it will do them, as the Village will name and elect the ticket and the farmer will pay half the bill.

John B. Berryman.

**BOWMAN EXPLAINS POSTPONEMENT OF SCHOOL ELECTION**

Notice is hereby given that the call for an election to be held in Downers

Grove July 31st, for the purpose of voting on the question of establishing a Community High School, has been withdrawn, and that a new call has been issued providing for an election on the question, August 14th.

At the time the first call was made I believed that one polling place would prove adequate. Owing to the large number of voters in the territory however, it has been found that one polling place will not be sufficient.

A new call has therefore been issued and the election will be held Saturday, August 14th, at polling places designated in the notice.

The plan has the hearty approval of the members of the Downers Grove Board, as well as of persons in the outlying territory.

C. B. Bowman,  
Co. Supt. of Schools.

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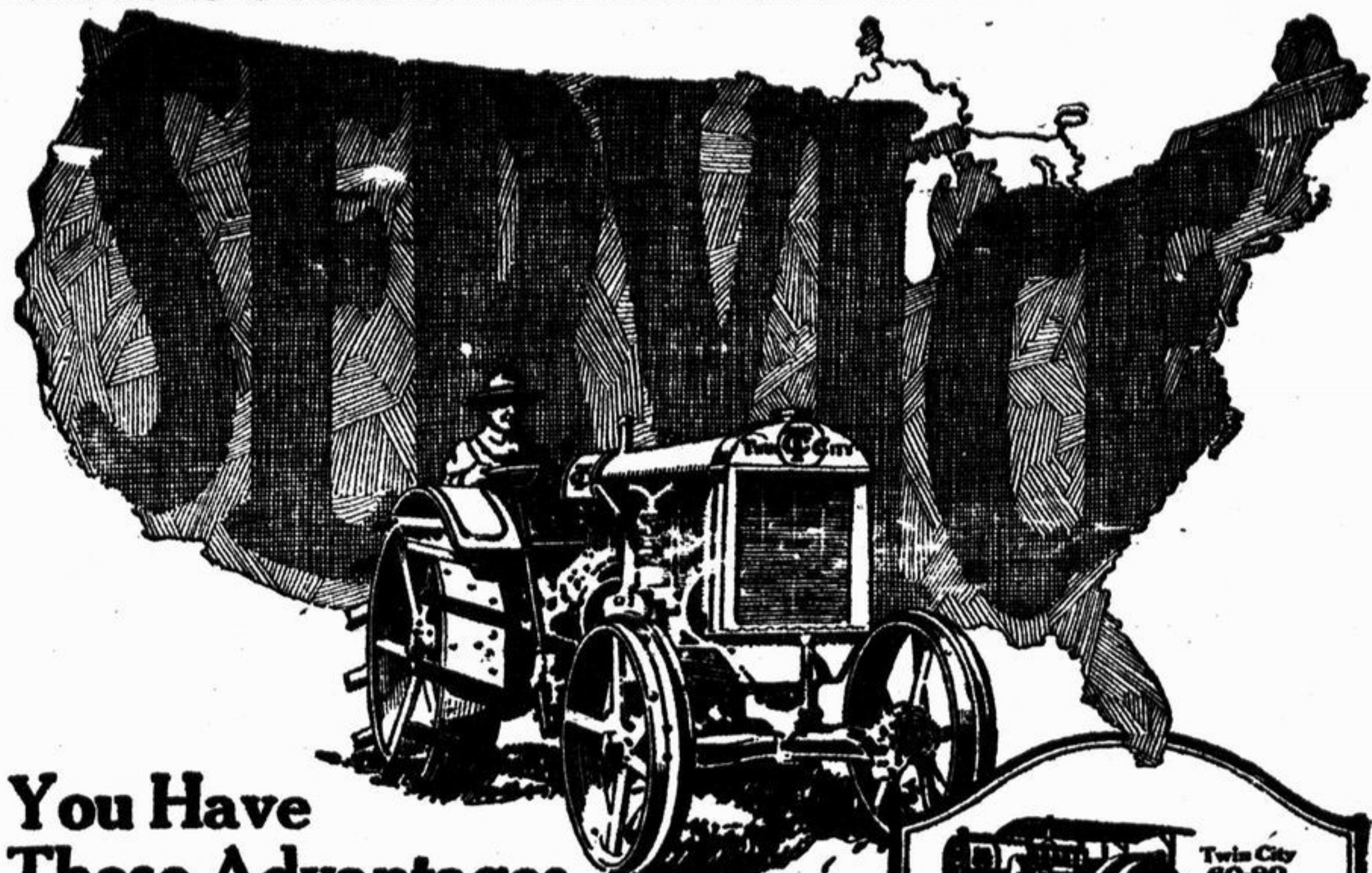
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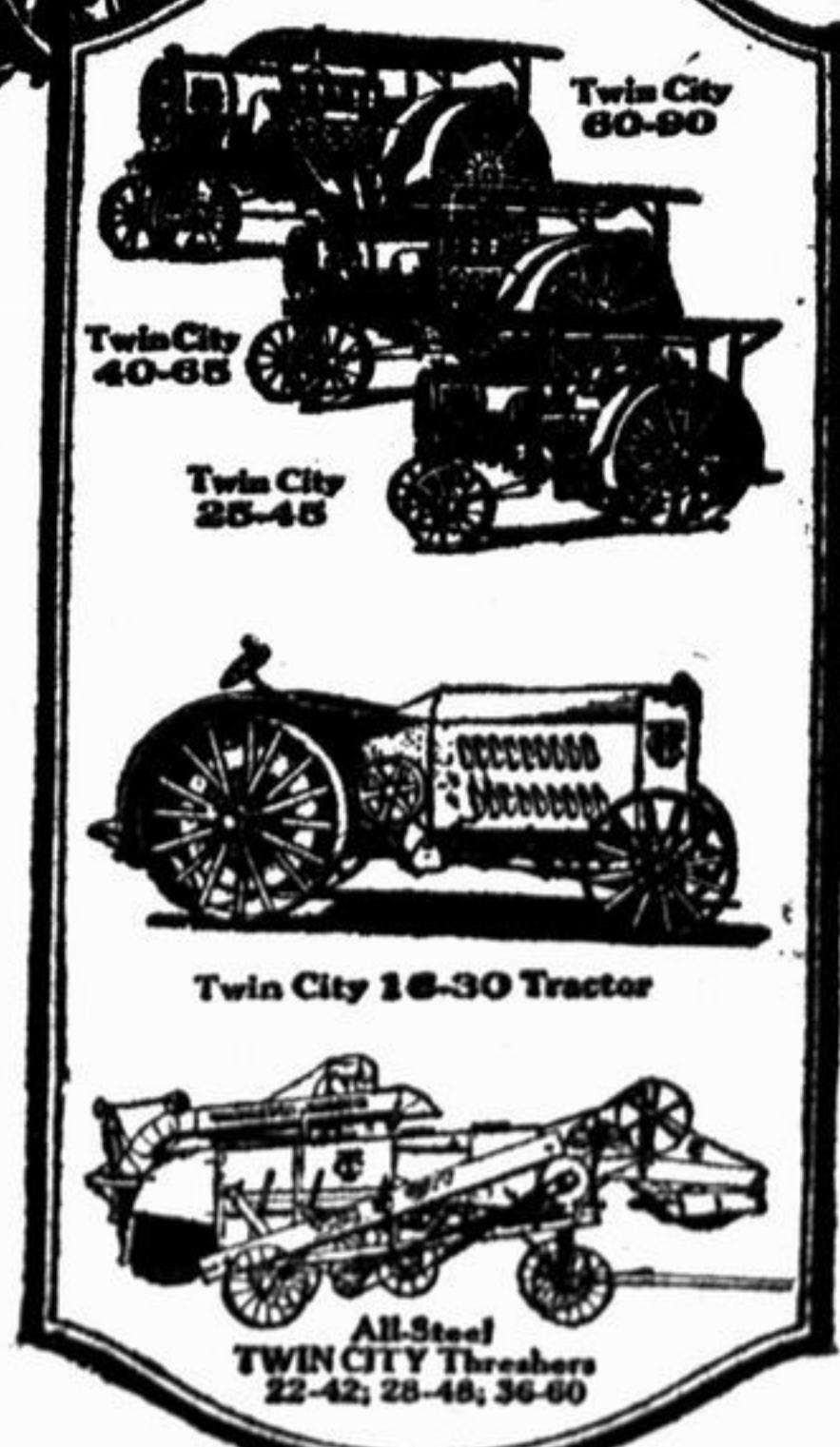
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