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# THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

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## SCHOOL NEWS

### Earning and Learning

The Citizens Bank and Trust Company of Concord, N. C., believes in urging school children to learn about banks and banking. They have co-operated with the County Superintendent of Schools to award prizes for compositions about banking. They state their object as being to give to the school children of Cabarrus County information on the subject of banking; to teach them what a bank is, what a bank does, how to deal with a bank, and how a bank can help each boy and girl to become a successful and independent man or woman.

The details of the plan may be secured from the company or from Supt. D. S. Lippard.

### Country Versus City

The illiteracy figures from the 1910 census make interesting reading. From these figures it appears that the rural rate of illiteracy among persons 10 years of age and over in the United States is practically twice as great as the urban rate of illiteracy; to be exact, 10.1 and 5.2 per cent respectively.

This is largely due to the lack of opportunities for school work in the rural districts. Nor can the higher rate of rural illiteracy in our Southern States be laid to the negro population; because for the entire group of Southern States the rate of illiteracy among rural whites is three times the rate among urban whites, and the rate among rural whites is greater in every individual Southern State than among urban whites.

The rate of illiteracy among rural negroes in the same States, while nearly seven times the rate for the rural whites, is only one and one-half times the rate of illiteracy among urban negroes.

### Montgomery Booming

School progress in Montgomery county is being studied by Mr. B. B. Holder at the University. The figures he has worked out dealing with the growth in high school work from 1907-08 to 1911-12 are encouraging.

For the first year the average length of the high school year for the county was 9.1 weeks longer than was the average for the State as a whole; in 1911-12 it was 2.1 weeks longer. This is due to the fact that the State increase had been large and also that during the period a new high school had been established in the county with only a 32 weeks term.

The enrollment in the high schools during the period has increased more than twice as fast in Montgomery as in the State. Of course some increase is to be expected, but the amount in this county is unusual.

Financially, the relative amount of support derived from local taxation for these schools has increased about four times as fast as the amount received from State funds. Montgomery county is doing exactly right in supporting its own schools with its own local funds.

## A GREAT SOUTHERN CONFERENCE

At Chattanooga, April 27-30, will occur the greatest conference of social servants ever held in the South; the Southern Educational Association, the Grain Growers Conference, the Live Stock Growers, the Fruit Growers, the Bee Cultivators, the Artisans, the Southern Club Women, the Country Church Workers, the Southern Commercial Congress, and so on and on.

It is worth a far journey to get the dynamic power of such a meeting. North Carolina has a prominent place on the various programs: Dr. J. Y. Joyner, Dr. Clarence Poe, Miss Mary Owen Graham, President E. K. Graham, Dr. C. H. Herty, Zebulon Judd, E. C. Branson, E. C. Brooks, President D. H. Hill, C. B. Williams, President Robert H. Wright.

### A Wonderful Story

In the last ten years, Wisconsin has spent nearly one hundred and thirty-six million dollars of public money upon public education; upon her common schools, high schools, normal and training schools for teachers, and her University.

## EXTENSION ADDRESSES

The professors in the University of North Carolina continue busy delivering commencement addresses in various parts of the State. A few of the places, lecturers, and dates are indicated thus:

M. H. Stacy, Forsyth County Commencement, Winston-Salem, April 1.

M. C. S. Noble, Hiddenite, April 14; Mecklenburg County Commencement, Charlotte, April 16.

Zebulon Judd, Wake County Commencement, Raleigh, April 9. Nebo, April 16.

C. L. Raper, Stem, April 13.

L. A. Williams, Benson, April 20.

A. H. Patterson, Madison, April 23.

Collier Cobb, Milton, April 23.

H. W. Chase, Hillsboro, April 30.

## COLLIER COBB, LECTURER

On Saturday, March 27th, Prof. Collier Cobb, of the University faculty, delivered a lecture before the people of Wilmington on Highways and Byways of Europe.

This lecture was given in the high school auditorium and was one of a series which is being given under the auspices of the Wilmington public school authorities.

## GREAT NAMES IN ORANGE

Chief Justice Walter Clark reminds us that in 1841 Orange county furnished both United States Senators, William A. Graham and Willie P. Mangum, and the chief justice of the State, Judge Thomas Rutlin; and in 1848 all three of the Supreme Court judges, Thomas Rutlin, Frederick Nash, and William H. Battle, and the Governor, Wm. A. Graham.

## WORTH-WHILE READING

We do not know into how many homes our North Carolina Health Bulletin goes, or how many people in these homes read it month by month. We do know that it is readable from cover to cover; interesting, simple, and authoritative in matters of vital importance.

Simplifying great subjects attractively for popular use is a difficult feat rarely accomplished. The bulletin of our State Board of Health easily ranks with those of Texas, Ohio, New York, and California. In some particulars, it easily outranks them all.

Every home in the State ought to have it regularly and read it carefully. Write for it, to Dr. W. S. Rankin, Raleigh, N. C.

## THE HAY FARMER'S CHANCE

The average price paid to producers of hay in North Carolina for hay last month was \$17.80 per ton—the highest price paid to farmers outside New England and the North. Similar good prices have ruled in North Carolina throughout the last five years.

There is money in raising it to sell; but an enormous loss in buying it to feed farm animals. In fact, the farmer pays around \$30 a ton for hay when he buys it at times prices.

In the census year, more than a third of the farmers in North Carolina bought hay and other feed for farm animals, and spent for that purpose \$3,151,000.

The feed tax averaged \$41.00 per farm. No other tax our farmers paid was heavier than this.

## The General Property Tax

Nearly three-fifths, 59 per cent, of our State revenues in North Carolina in 1912 arose from the general property tax, poll and occupation taxes. Here is the tax that reaches the largest number of people.

Twenty-one states raised smaller revenues from this source, and twenty-nine states a smaller proportion of the total revenues. Two states, Connecticut and Delaware, levied no such tax. Six states showed a decrease in receipts from a general property tax during the ten years—California, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont and West Virginia.

Thirty-seven states levied no poll tax; among them eight Southern states—Kentucky, Tennessee, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Oklahoma. —Notes upon a recent Census Bureau Bulletin.

## THE LONG FORGOTTEN MAN

He was shabby in appearance, and he hesitated, as he timidly approached one of the windows in the Raleigh postoffice and mumbled a question in a low voice. He was asking for a sheet of letter paper. Of course he could not get it there, but a search through their pockets by some of the well-dressed men standing near supplied the need.

Again he hesitated and apologetically he asked if somebody would not write a short letter for him. For an instant everybody held back, but quickly one of the gentlemen present agreed to assume the responsibility and soon the letter was written, addressed, and sent on its way.

Why was this illiterate man treated thus kindly? Perhaps it was something in his face that said: I never had a chance. Perhaps it was the kindness of Raleigh people.

North Carolina's social conscience is awakening, and the Moonlight School movement will soon make such a scene (which really happened), improbable anywhere in North Carolina.

At present, nearly fifty thousand illiterate native white voters in North Carolina offer daily instances of similar helplessness.—Adapted from the Raleigh Times.

## CAROLINA CLUB NOTES

### President Graham's Inaugural

On April 21st Dr. Edward Kidder Graham will be formally inducted into the Presidency of the University of North Carolina.

The academic procession will form in front of the Administration Building and move to Memorial Hall.

At eleven o'clock, addresses will be made by President John H. Finley of the University of the State of New York, President Edwin A. Alderman of the University of Virginia and President Albert Lawrence Lowell of Harvard University; after which President Graham will deliver his inaugural address.

At two o'clock the Alumni will gather at a luncheon in Swain Hall, and at 9 o'clock a reception will be held in Bynum Gymnasium in honor of President Graham.

It is an occasion of deep significance. So, because of the distinguished guests who come from other institutions and States. So, because loyal sons of the University are here in multitudes to serve the University in her mission of service to North Carolina. And so, because of Edward Kidder Graham himself—his catholic sweep of vision, his acquaintance with University development at home and abroad, his love for his mother-state, and his longing to relate the University in larger ways to her problems and necessities, his sane and sound views of ways, means, and ends, the sanity of his thinking and the simple, unaffected wholesomeness of his personality.

North Carolina first and the University as an agency to this end is the vision and the purpose of Edward Kidder Graham.

### Proud Of It

The Beloit, Wis., News says, Citizens of Wisconsin are proud to have a University that takes a lively interest in those practical things that make for the welfare of the state; that is not too dead to aid in the development of the State's resources, or too devoted to the musty past to take notice of the throbbing present.

### Where Our State Revenues Come From

Our total state revenues in 1912 amounted to a little more than three and a quarter million dollars.

The average was \$1.43 per inhabitant, and it was less in North Carolina than in any other state in the Union. South Carolina came next with \$1.51 per inhabitant.

Ten states in the south received more money and had larger resources with which to care for their afflicted children, their old soldiers, their public schools and universities, to build improved highways and promote public sanitation.—Notes upon a recent Census Bureau Bulletin.

## UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LETTER SERIES NO. 24

### Edgecombe Pushing Farm-School Idea

We are glad to note in the recent issue of the Edgecombe County School Bulletin that Edgecombe is pushing the development of its school farms. This bulletin gives an account of the organization of a school farm at Pinetops, School No. 3 in Township No 14, and at Pleasant Hill.

The school-farm is a most effective agency for the accomplishment of three definite ends.

#### 1. The Socialization of the Community

Not even the formal gatherings at churches and school entertainments provide the most wholesome conditions for the best mental reactions and the greatest fusing of ideas and ideals. It is the informal gatherings at the school-farm, when people in work-a-day clothes, are working under the compelling interest of some definite concrete project, that people are freest and think most intensely and clearly.

#### 2. The Provision of Practical Intellectual Stimuli

No event or occasion is more calculated to provoke intensive and persistent thinking than the work day on the school farm, when children, youths, mothers, and fathers meet for the cultivation of the small plot of ground, usually about two acres, known as the school-farm. In addition to the actual work which is performed, new problems, arising out of and connected with the cultivation of the farm, call for definite reading of bulletins, papers, and magazines, interesting discussion and practical suggestion. A time is usually set aside also for the discussion of those vital home and community problems that to-day are agitating the rural mind and the press of our country. That the work of the school farm may the better be directed and thus become a thorough teaching agency, it is placed under the supervision of one of the most wide-awake and progressive farmers in the community—a farmer who reads intelligently and widely. He calls the peo-

ple to their work, determines the methods of cultivation, and is in large measure responsible for the intellectual program of the school-farm working day.

#### 3. The Provision for the Increase of School Revenue

The school-farm is more than an experiment project. It is also a demonstration project. Therefore, in addition to proving an effective agency for the dissemination of agricultural and country-life ideas and ideals, it is a means of creating wealth. This wealth is created out of the expenditure of time which would otherwise have no economic value; for the social needs of the community require such gatherings. For this reason, the meeting is much more wholesome socially than the ordinary Saturday afternoon gatherings at cross-roads, country railroad stations and other such places. The school-farm utilizes the time for a triple purpose—social, educational, and economic. Under the improved methods practiced on the school farm there have been many instances when the net income from one of these small plots of ground has been as high as \$250.

#### School Farms for Every County

Not every county community is ready for the school farm idea; but there are communities in every county where the people would welcome the opportunity afforded by the school-farm for the association and the practical suggestions given by the work, for the discussions and the accompanying games and recreations of the school farm. They would also welcome a practical means of contributing to the success of their schools by adding to its all too meagre revenue.

### Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Education

Practical suggestions for the organization and operation of the school farm are contained in a bulletin published by the United States Bureau of Education, entitled, Cultivating the School Grounds in Wake County, North Carolina, by Zebulon Judd. This bulletin may be had by applying to the Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.

### Two Wilson Girls Win the Aycock Cup

The third annual final contest of the High School Debating Union of North Carolina was held at the State University in Chapel Hill April 8 and 9. One hundred and ninety-six debaters representing 49 high schools came to Chapel Hill and took part in this contest.

The query discussed was, "Resolved, That the United States should adopt the policy of subsidizing its merchant marine engaged in foreign trade". After two preliminaries had been held, Stewart Cowles and Cowles Bristol, representing the Statesville high school, were chosen to uphold the affirmative side of the query in the final debate, and Misses Lalla Bookh Fleming and Ethel Gardner, representing the Wilson high school, were chosen to defend the negative.

The final debate was held in Memorial Hall and was attended by 2,000 persons, including debaters, teachers, principals, superintendents, students and professors of the University, townspeople, alumni, and others. President E. K. Graham, of the University, presided over the debate. The decision of the judges was unanimous for the negative, and the Aycock Memorial Cup was presented to the Wilson debaters.

Previous to the final contest the triangular debates of the High School Debating Union were held throughout the State on March 26. At this time, 1,000 young high school students participated in debates held in 250 communities and 91 counties. The total audiences at this series of debates numbered 50,000 persons.

The High School Debating Union was organized in 1913 by the Dialectic and Philanthropic Literary Societies and the Bureau of Extension of the University. Since its organization, it has met with a remarkable success. Its work will be prosecuted with much vigor next year.

### Investment Money

Public money spent upon public education is a public investment in public progress and prosperity.

To spend meagrely upon education is to spend wastefully.

Solomon had the idea. Said he, There is that scattereth and yet hath increase, there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

### Orange County Booster Clubs

Seven-tenths of Orange county—172,000 acres all told—are abandoned to wilderness growths. The country population is only thirty-nine to the square mile.

Here is abundant elbow-room for the home-seekers who are swarming out of the middle West. Here is the State University. Here are good schools and churches, a good country population, good soils and seasons, cheap farm lands, abundant streams and pastures for profitable live-stock farming.

Orange County Booster Clubs are in order.

### What a Dollar in Our State Treasury Represented

According to the sources yielding it, each dollar of state revenue in North Carolina in 1912 represented:

General Property tax, Polls and Occupation taxes	59.00 cents
Department Earnings, Miscellaneous, etc.	16.70 cents
Business and Income Taxes	12.00 cents
Interest and Rents	8.00 cents
Federal Government, for Agricultural Experiments and Education	2.50 cents
Non-Business Taxes: on Automobiles	50 cents
Business Licenses (other than Liquor)	18 cents
Special Property Taxes: on Inheritances	16 cents

—Figures based upon a recent Census Bureau Bulletin.