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# THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

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## NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

### OUR FARMERS OF TO-MORROW

The farm boys engaged in club activities in the South in 1914 numbered 53,000. Three hundred and thirty-four of them made 100 bushels of corn or more per acre; Carl Graves of Mississippi, 202 bushels, at a cost of only 14 1-2 cents per bushel!

The Pig, Poultry and Corn Club boys of North Carolina will be meeting for summer school instruction at the Agricultural and Mechanical College, August 17-20. And nothing more important in the state will occur during this brief period.

### DAVIE TO THE FORE

Davie is the third county in North Carolina and the fourth in the United States to have a Community Building. The order is Washington County, Penn., Rowan, Stanley and Davie in North Carolina.

The Davie County Commissioners have given the old courthouse for this purpose. Under the direction of the ladies of Mocksville, it will be remodeled and repainted.

It will contain a rest room for the farmwives, a museum, and an auditorium. A great step forward.

### DUST AND DEATH

The death rate from tuberculosis varies according to the amount of dust, says the North Carolina Board of Health.

Per one hundred thousand wage earners, the death rates are as follows:

Farming	102
Cotton manufacture	202
Brass work	279
Copper work	294
Glass making	295
Earthenware	333
Cutlery	383
Fine making	402

### EARLY BIRDS AND SCHOOL GARDENS

At 6:30 the other morning we found Miss Henrietta Bowen, a teacher in the Chapel Hill Graded School, at work with five of the young girls on the four-acre school garden just outside the windows of The University News Letter.

Here is a school garden cultivated for canning purposes; and it sets us to thinking.

The all-the-year-round garden habit, a score or so more of poultry, another or a better pig, a good milch cow in every home, and a revival of the old time household arts of canning, preserving and jellifying in the South would go far toward sponging out our enormous bills for imported food—nearly a billion dollars in the census year.

Of course a garden pays. It paid ninety-four dollars apiece in 55 farm homes in Gaston county in 1913. More than a fourth of the living of these families came from the garden and orchard alone!

### TOO LITTLE WEALTH IN NORTH CAROLINA

The estimated true value of all property and of specified classes of property in North Carolina in 1912 was a little more than one billion, eight hundred million dollars, says a recent Census Bureau Bulletin.

In this particular our rank among the states of the Union is 32rd; in the South, 10th. In per capita wealth North Carolina stands next to the last in the South and in the United States: only Mississippi has a smaller per capita wealth.

The wealth of the Southern States is as follows:

Rank	Total	Per Capita
1 Texas	\$6,859,900,000	\$1,697
2 Oklahoma	4,581,000,000	2,475
3 Georgia	2,382,800,000	883
4 Virginia	2,289,900,000	1,086
5 Kentucky	2,267,700,000	977
6 Louisiana	2,164,400,000	1,260
7 Alabama	2,127,000,000	964
8 Tennessee	1,920,300,000	864
9 Arkansas	1,829,500,000	1,120
10 North Carolina	1,807,500,000	794
11 South Carolina	1,351,400,000	869
12 Mississippi	1,344,860,000	726
13 Florida	1,049,100,000	1,307

### OUR HAY TAX

Aliens and strangers in other states and sections take out of the South around seventeen and a half million dollars for hay that our farmers fail to raise at home from year to year, according to a recent report of the Federal Department of Agriculture.

We import about a fifth of the hay we consume—a billion, three hundred thousand tons a year! And these are recent figures.

In the census year, 76,800 farmers in North Carolina, or nearly a third of them all, paid upon an average \$41 apiece for feed for farm animals. And it was farmers that did that.

It was the biggest tax of any sort they paid that year, but they probably grumbled more about the school or the road tax they were called upon to surrender.

### FRENCH FARMERS

If a French farmer pays out a cent for anything he can raise on his own farm, his neighbors think he is headed straight for the poor house or the bug house. They set him down as an incurable fool and laugh him to scorn.

The average annual income of the French farmers is only \$122 apiece; but they manage to put away \$16 of it under a corner brick in the hearth, or in a savings bank, or in national bonds.

And in 1870 these same farmers loaned the government a thousand million dollars in gold, or the most of it, to pay the war penalty Germany levied upon France.

### NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS

In 1910, the the average income of the farmers in North Carolina was \$233 apiece, but their per capita wealth was less than a third the average for the country at large; \$322 against \$994.

Why? Mainly because we are not self-financing farmers. We are not self-financing because we are not self-supporting. And we are not self-supporting because we do not raise our own supplies at home, or as nearly so as possible.

How else can we ever hold down the wealth we sweat out year by year?

We have many a lesson in thrift to learn from the French farmer.

### MAN FOR MAN--POOR, TOO POOR!

Total wealth is one thing and per capita wealth is another. Dividing total wealth by total population gives us the per capita wealth of the different states.

On this basis North Carolina is next to the poorest state in the Union; only Mississippi is poorer.

The per capita wealth of the people of the United States as a whole in 1912 was \$1,965. It ranged from \$726 in Mississippi, a cotton growing state, to \$3,539 in Iowa, a well developed food producing state.

The per capita wealth of the Southern States, all property considered, was as follows, according to a recent Bulletin of the Census Bureau:

1 Oklahoma	\$2,475
2 Texas	1,679
3 Florida	1,307
4 Louisiana	1,260
5 Arkansas	1,120
6 Virginia	1,086
7 Kentucky	977
8 Alabama	964
9 Georgia	883
10 South Carolina	869
11 Tennessee	864
12 North Carolina	794
13 Mississippi	726

### MEAGER COUNTRYSIDE WEALTH

Dividing the value of all farm property, as it appears in the 1910 census, by the country population of each state, brings us close to the per capita rural wealth of the United States.

We say close, because the census figures upon farm property do not cover cash on hand, bank deposits, solvent credits, stocks, bonds, notes, mortgages and such like money equivalents. But the calculation puts all the states upon the same footing, and the results serve for fair comparison.

On this basis, the per capita rural

## RELIGION AND THE UNIVERSITY

President E. K. Graham

The religious perception of our time in its widest application is the consciousness that our well-being lies in intelligent co-operation.

The state university in its sympathetic study of relations that reconcile the divisions of society, while not concerned with differences in religious organizations, is inevitably and profoundly concerned with religion itself.

All of its study of men and things leads through the co-operating channels that connect them beyond the sources of immediate life to the one great unity that binds all together.

The human mind, whatever its achievement, in whatever field of endeavor, "with the yearning of a pilgrim for its home, will still turn to the Mystery from which it emerged, seeking to give unity to work and thought and faith."

The state university in its passionate effort to fashion this unity into a commonwealth of truly noble proportions of work and worth and worship, reverently pray as it follows the star of its faith: "Oh God, I think Thy thoughts after Thee."

wealth of the South in the census year was as follows:

1 Oklahoma	\$829
2 Texas	821
3 Kentucky	500
4 South Carolina	449
5 Virginia	424
6 Tennessee	380
7 Georgia	325
8 Arkansas	324
9 North Carolina	322
10 Florida	321
11 Mississippi	302
12 Louisiana	286
13 Alabama	230
The United States	\$ 994
Illinois	2,655
Iowa	3,386
McLean County, Ill	3,685

Note that Oklahoma is the greatest food-producing state in the South, and also the richest. The state produces food enough for home consumption and had in 1909 a twenty-million dollar surplus to export.

Every other Southern state needed to import food and feed in amounts ranging from twenty-seven million to one hundred and fifty-five million dollars.

### LIGHTNING ROD INSURANCE

It is a common belief that hay attracts the lightning, and this has been held to be the reason why barns are so likely to be struck by lightning. It is quite true that barns are more likely objects of a destructive stroke, but it is now quite certain that the hay in the barn has nothing to do with it.

If a barn filled with hay is in an exposed position it stands a good chance of being struck. If this same barn were empty, however, the chances of its being struck would be precisely the same, for the same underlying cause that makes the lightning select the barn as the object of its wrath still remains—namely, a good substantial "ground" resulting from the drainage from the live stock.

### A Warning

That more barns, and other buildings are not protected against damage or destruction by lightning is due no doubt to the unfortunate campaigns a number of years ago of charlatan "lightning doctors" who left on the farmer's hands a lot of junk on which the latter paid exorbitant profits. Not only that, but most of the lightning rods that were sold for absolute protection were really positive sources of danger, and instead of protecting actually increased the danger, as the farmers in most cases soon found out.

### Help Offered

Properly installed lightning rods actually do reduce the chance of serious damage to a very small percentage. It has been so proved by the careful analysis of fire insurance reports all over the country. In fact, proper rodding is almost certain protection against total destruction. Furthermore, this insurance can be obtained at a very reasonable cost, varying from about \$10 to \$20 depending on the size

## UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

LETTER SERIES NO. 36

### A FARM-LIFE SCHOOL FOR YOUR COUNTY

"A farm-life school"! The name sounds well and the thought back of the name is even better than the name itself.

A farm-life school, as we are trying to have it in North Carolina, is a professional school which attempts to train for life on the farm, and thus to give to the prospective farmer and his wife and sister a chance to prepare for a definite life work just as other professional schools give one a chance to prepare for law, medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, architecture, engineering, and many other professions. What about such a school for the boys and girls in your county?

### The Subjects Taught

In addition to the subjects taught in the rural high school, the curriculum of the farm-life school offers instruction in agriculture, sewing, household economics, and many other farm-life subjects of practical, every-day value. People who believe that certain subjects should be studied in order to train the brain are coming to believe that it does train the brain when one studies and attempts to master the difficult and intricate problems of the man who is to run the farm. Does your county have such a school for the training of its boys and girls?

### Helps the Grown-Ups

A farm-life school will present to the farmers of the county the best methods of cultivating crops, the splendid results of carefully planned rotation of crops, the use and care of the latest and best types of farm machinery and implements, the care of animals on the farm, and the care of orchards and vineyards. Would a farm-life school that did these things help the grown-ups in your county?

### A Center of Enthusiasm

The farm-life school is destined to be

and shape of the building.

The Department of Electrical Engineering at the University will be glad to aid in reducing the lightning bill of the state. For information and advice write to Professor P. H. Daggett.

### A CAROLINA DINNER

A detail of County Progress Day in Community Service Week next fall.

Proposed by the Chapel Hill Community Club to the North Carolina Community Service Week Committee, the Women's Clubs and the Chambers of Commerce in the state.

### 1. Carolina Products

AN EXHIBIT in every county-site town of (a) Home-raised Garden, Field, Dairy and Poultry products, Kitchen and Needle products.

(b) Industrial products, made by hand or machinery, seeking markets at home or abroad.

### 2. A Carolina Dinner

A DINNER, with menu containing nothing but home-raised products (except coffee, tea, sugar and the condiments); to which the farmers, and the town dwellers are invited.

Recently 700 people sat down to a dinner of this sort in Wisconsin—town and country together.

### 3. Carolina Toasts

TOASTS—brief suggested program:

- Our Food-Producing Power.
- What we Raise and What we Buy: a Community Balance Sheet.
- Getting Producers and Consumers together: Why and How.
- Our County: where it Leads and where it Lags.
- Solving our Local Market Problems.
- Our Prize Winners.

### 4. Preliminary

BEGIN at once to—

a. Campaign the idea of Home-raised Community Products—by personal letters, by newspaper articles, and keep it up—until Clubs and Boards of Trade catch the idea and begin to prepare for the event next fall.

b. Arrange a prize list appealing to (1) boys, (2) girls, (3) housewives, (4) farm-

the center of a genuine and spreading enthusiasm that will have a constructive influence upon the whole county. Big summer picnics will be held at the farm-life school, and fine growing crops out in the well-tilled fields around the school will be practical lectures on agriculture, lectures so clear and so convincing that all will heed with interest and profit as they look around the well kept farm. Does your county need such a center of constructive enthusiasm?

### Cost of a Farm-Life School

The cost is not great and the state will help the counties that are willing to help themselves. Any county may have a farm-life school, if it will provide the required equipment and make an adequate appropriation for its support. Whatever it provides in money for the support of the school, up to \$2,500.00, the state will duplicate. Superintendent Joyner is ever ready and anxious to confer with the school authorities in any county who wish to know about the details of establishing a farm-life school.

### Twelve Counties Have Them

At least twelve counties in North Carolina have taken advantage of the present law permitting the establishment of farm-life schools, and there are now in these counties as many as fifteen farm-life schools. The number will increase rapidly as the years go by. The boys and girls in one of these schools, visited by the writer, were enthusiastic about their school and their studies and on commencement day said to him, "We are going right to work tomorrow and show folks we know something about farming." And these boys and girls will be thinking all the summer about what they have learned at school.

Does your county need a school that will hold the attention of its pupils during the whole vacation?

ers, (5) industrial concerns, (6) schools, (7) clubs.

c. Secure the prizes—from the people and business men of the community.

d. Advertise promptly, widely—and repeatedly as the day approaches. A preliminary prize for the best dinner menu of home-raised foods stirs up great interest.

e. Work through the teachers and the school children largely.

### 5. Organization Details

- APPOINT Committees on—
- Promotion and Publicity.
  - Prize List and Prizes.
  - Arrangements.
  - Diversions
  - Awards.

### A FINE RECORD FOR CARTHAGE

Some weeks ago a member of the University faculty delivered the commencement address at Carthage. The following are a few very interesting facts which he gathered from Superintendent C. G. Credle:

Not a single member of the graduating class, consisting of sixteen members, had been tardy during the last two years.

Not a single member of the 9th grade, consisting of twenty-six members, had been tardy during the past year. Two-thirds of this number live from one to six miles from the school building. During the past year there were twenty-nine pupils who were neither absent or tardy.

### RURAL LIFE CONFERENCE WEEK

Rural Conference Work at the University Summer School found 674 people in attendance, representing 86 counties of the state and 13 states of the Union—Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Louisiana, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Minnesota, Ohio, Kansas, and the District of Columbia. The Summer School registration the third week numbered nearly one hundred more than the registration for the entire session last year.