

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
NEWS LETTER

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NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

WOMAN'S WORK

Twenty-nine hundred Canning Club Girls in 37 counties of North Carolina have put up 633,000 tins and jars of fruits and vegetables—tomatoes, string beans, soup mixtures, peaches, cherries, preserves, jams and the like.

The value of the club products this year is \$104,000; the profits \$75,000; and the average profits per member \$39.90.

A great record for Mrs. McKimmon and her girls!

Nine new counties begin the club work next year. Some of them made a late beginning this year—Orange among them, under Miss Cassidey who made such a great record in Sampson.

The saving of waste in time or material marks the difference between crudeness and culture in any business whatsoever.

SIXTY BUSHELS PER ACRE

Mr. T. E. Brown who directs the Corn Clubs thinks that the average yield of his 3550 boys this year will be around 60 bushels to the acre.

The grown-ups have averaged barely 20 bushels to the acre in North Carolina.

If they had done as well as the boys, we should have 182,000,000 bushels of home-raised corn; or enough for home consumption and a hundred million bushels more to market abroad or, better still, to feed our livestock.

The development of livestock farming depends first of all on surpluses of grain, hay, and forage; a fact worth considering.

PRIMARY PROBLEMS OF PROGRESS

It is important for a growing city (1) to be the center of a well-developed food-producing region; and (2) to keep the cost of living at the lowest possible level by solving the local market problem; by which we mean, bringing together city consumers and nearby producers of bread-stuffs, so that the consumer gets more for his money and the farmer more for his products.

Atlanta is a case in point. For years the production of food and feed supplies in Fulton and the adjoining counties has been a dwindling farm enterprise. Atlanta has no city market. A little while ago an investigation by Federal experts showed that Atlanta was one of the four most expensive cities in the United States to live in.

Atlanta Slows Down

As might have been expected, the 1914 census of manufactures shows that industrial enterprise in Atlanta has had hard sledding these last five years. The high cost of living has led to a demand for higher wages, to labor unrest, and chronic strike moods in factory operatives. In consequence, since 1909 the number of industrial establishments has decreased 12.2 per cent, the persons engaged in manufacture has increased less than 3 per cent, and the value of products only 25.2 per cent. It is a slow gait—for Atlanta.

Every developing industrial center in North Carolina can afford to study these primary problems of progress.

FARM CO-OPERATION IN NORTH CAROLINA

The other night Mr. L. P. Gwaltney, Jr., of Alexander county, passed in review for The North Carolina Club the subject of Co-operative Farm Enterprise in North Carolina. The discussion covered a wide and interesting field of State problems.

Dr. T. N. Carver, expert economic adviser of the Federal Department of Agriculture, found 6,383 co-operative enterprises in the United States in 1914, mainly in the middle West, as follows: 336 cheese factories, 2,165 creameries, 2,020 elevators, and 1,867 mutual insurance companies—these last being well distributed throughout the North as well as the West.

Our own State appears in this report to the small extent of two creameries. Nevertheless, the farmers of North Carolina have made a creditable beginning in co-operative enterprise.

Co-operative Telephones

1. For instance, in 1912 there were 718 telephone systems in North Carolina,

109,000 miles of wire, and 65,000 telephones. Some 650 of these were country telephone systems, owned and operated privately by groups of farmers. They had in use around 35,000 miles of wire, and some 20,000 telephones. There are 1,200 country 'phones on co-operative lines in Orange county alone.

Mutual Insurance

2. The Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association with headquarters in Raleigh has nearly 20,000 members, who carry insurance amounting to \$17,570,000 at an average cost of \$3.60 per thousand; in Catawba county it is only \$1.50 per thousand.

In addition to another association of this sort with headquarters in Rocky Mount, there are Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance companies in Gaston, Mecklenburg, Rowan, and Union counties carrying insurance on three and a third million dollars worth of farm property.

Farmers Union Enterprises

3. The Farmers Union in North Carolina is the best organized, the most active, and the most influential Union in the United States; and their co-operative enterprises number fifty or so—mainly warehouses, merchandise stores, fertilizer concerns and the like. The total investment in these enterprises is \$207,775, and they did business in 1914 amounting to \$1,042,500. They handled \$375,000 worth of fertilizers alone.

Catawba Leads

4. Catawba county leads the State in farm co-operation. Five years ago the farmers invested \$1,500 in a creamery. Last year it did a business of \$245,505 in butter, poultry, and eggs. A thousand co-operating farmers sold through this agency 228,700 dozen eggs, and 600,000 pounds of butter for the year ending with June 1914. They got from one to four cents more for their eggs per dozen, and nearly twice as much as before for their butter. Another group of 150 farmers sold 125 car loads of sweet potatoes last season and received \$2.67 per crate clear of all expenses. The farmers of this county also have a mutual fire insurance company and a land and loan association, while their wives are organized into two active clubs of United Farm Women. The Co-operative Warehouse in Newton did a business of \$25,000 last year.

Dairy Farming

5. Catawba successes in farm co-operation have been followed by creameries in Union and Iredell, at Monroe and Mooresville; and by four cheese factories in Watauga, Ashe, and Alleghany. Nothing succeeds like success, and we may look for wonderful development along all these lines in this region of the State in the next ten years.

Our 425 silos, 3,000 cream separators, 13 creameries, and 5 cheese factories are not large totals for a state with 254,000 farms and 605,000 farmers. But they are a wonderful start toward dairy farming; and dairy farmers soon learn that share-profits are double profits. Later on they will take share-profits or no profits at all; or so the Iowa and Minnesota farmers are finding out.

North Carolina Leads in Progressive Legislation

6. So far, sixteen states have given legislative support to co-operative enterprise; but the laws passed by our last legislature on this subject are pronounced to be the best of them all. They cover (1) Co-operative Enterprise (2) Co-operative Credit Societies, and (3) Land and Loan Associations. On December 9th the first Rural Credit Society in North Carolina was organized under these laws—at Lowe's Grove in Durham county. And now another group of Durham farmers are getting ready to form a credit society. They are likely to succeed, because they are organizing under the guidance of Mr. John Sprunt Hill of Durham and Mr. W. R. Camp, the State Superintendent of Co-operative Enterprise.

The Currituck Farmers

7. The farmers of Currituck have this year sold their sweet potatoes co-operatively like the farmers of the Eastern Shore of Virginia; and they have learned that profits can be secured only by business-like market methods. The Currituck crop is around 100,000 barrels a

CULTURE AND DEMOCRACY

Dr. Wm. L. Poteat.

Culture would come too high, if it involved the compromise of democracy. For what is democracy? In Etymology it is the rule of the people. But equal participation in government, manhood suffrage, and majority rule are not democracy itself so much as the mechanism of democracy.

The essence of democracy is the spirit of fraternity and justice. It cannot be deceived by disguises of precedent and tradition, of circumstance and ceremony. It counts the individual human spirit so precious and so regal that its accidents of birth and position are insignificant. It was born into the modern world in the new definition of man in the teaching of Jesus and its development through the Christian centuries is their shining distinction.

The general struggle for freedom against despotism in all its forms has been universal and irresistible, possessing, as De Tocqueville says, all the characteristics of a divine decree.

Next after religion, it is our dearest possession. We cannot afford to sacrifice it on the altar of culture.

year, and it is worth protecting by co-operative methods.

Salemberg, a Model Community

8. Organized effort at Salemberg, a country community in Sampson county, has centered upon sanitation, better school facilities, attractive homes, home culture, and community law and order. The success of these efforts has made Salemberg famous far and wide. It is a form of co-operation that ought to be duplicated in a thousand communities in North Carolina.

FIRE!

Says the Insurance Commissioner for North Carolina: In America we burn twelve schoolhouses and two colleges every week. In the United States, a fire occurs every day in some school. Frequently the lives of our children are saved simply because the fire occurs while the school is not in session.

When we build new schoolhouses in North Carolina are we taking sufficient caution to protect the children from fires? Are our school buildings fire-proof? Write Mr. James R. Young at Raleigh and let him help you plan your buildings so as to save the kiddies.

THE WORK STARTED

Miss H. Celeste Hankel, Assistant County Superintendent of Iredell writes that there has been organized at the Harmony High School an open air school. The building is a pavilion used for camp-meeting purposes.

The teacher of the class is enthusiastic in praise of the plan and feels sure that great good has already been accomplished. Later the plan is to have the Domestic Science class furnish hot milk and cocoa to the children below normal health.

Success to the plan! May we have more of them!

ANOTHER SCHOOL RALLY

Ivy Township Rally Day was a rousing success on Thanksgiving Day at Barnardsville. The exercises began at 10:00 A. M. and lasted until late that night.

The speakers discussed adult illiteracy, community co-operation, good roads, sanitation and hygiene, boys' and girls' club work. The Barnardsville and Dillingham schools debated the question of A Greatly Increased Navy for the United States, and the Barnardsville High School presented a play in the evening for which a small admission fee was charged.

All in all it was a great big success and the Principal, H. C. Miller writes enthusiastically of the occasion and the increased interest aroused in the community for the schools of that section.

Let the good work go on!

**UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
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Not Amount To Much

And so under all these distracting influences the best results are not obtained. This though is

No Good Reason

for letting pupils leave their school work. The last week of a school term is the best week of the whole term, and if it is not the best week somebody is to be blamed for it. The last week is

The Great Rallying Point

of the session, and school committeemen, teachers, pupils, and parents should work to make the days between now and Christmas full of the very best results.

The Best School in the State

must have many points of excellence to merit that good name, but it ought to be that all of our best schools should have their best record for attendance in the month of December. What school committee would let the school close the last of every month on the ground that very little good was ever done the last week and still pay a full month's salary? What farmer stops plowing the last few days before he lays by his crop and gives as his reason that the last few day's work is never worth much? How many of our schools will take for their slogan, **No Absences Now Till Christmas?**

CHRISTMAS IN THE SCHOOLS

At this season of the year, boys, girls, teachers, and parents are eagerly counting the weeks, days, and hours that lie between them and the great holiday of the year. As the good

Christmas Day Draws Nigh

there comes on with it to many people a strong desire to slacken their pace for the time being and live an almost entirely disorganized life till New Year's.

Some Teachers Get Restless

possibly, and look forward to the close of school rather than to the details of the work to be accomplished before the closing day.

Some Parents Get Careless

possibly, and take a child from school to help the father at his work or the mother in her household duties. And when they do take a child away with this purpose they apologize to themselves for their act with the thought that a few days out of school makes no real difference.

Some Pupils Get Tired

and beg parents to let them stop till Christmas because so many others have stopped and the last week or two does

CORN PRODUCTION IN THE SOUTH IN 1915

Six-Year Increase in the U. S., 17 per cent; in the South, 45 per cent; in North Carolina, 73 per cent.

Rank	State	Per A. Bu.	Total Bu.	Six-Yr. Gain
1	Kentucky	31	119,939,000	36,591,000
2	Oklahoma	29.5	127,440,000	33,157,000
3	Virginia	28.5	61,332,000	23,037,000
4	Tennessee	27	95,877,000	28,195,000
5	Texas	23.5	175,968,000	100,519,000
6	Arkansas	22.5	62,100,000	24,490,000
7	Louisiana	20	48,000,000	21,990,000
8	North Carolina	19.5	59,144,000	25,080,000
9	Mississippi	19	70,623,000	42,194,000
10	Alabama	17.5	68,548,000	37,852,000
11	Georgia	15	66,600,000	27,225,000
	United States	28.3	3,090,509,000	535,320,000

ONSLow: A SLEEPING GIANT

We have just returned from a most enjoyable visit to Onslow county. The folks down there surely know how to entertain in royal fashion. We never ate such an oyster roast nor such cracklin' bread as they have in Jacksonville. It was hard work to get away soon enough to get back in time for church on Sunday. It is a fine homey sort of folks one finds there.

A Sleeping Giant

No one can estimate Onslow's possibilities. It is like a sleeping giant, not yet awakened to realize what it can do. Acres upon acres of good farming land lying waste, miles of good river front for eight-foot boats, plenty of good fishing ground, millions of feet of lumber, numberless cords of fire wood. Nobody knows what the per capita wealth of the county would be if she would develop her resources.

Roads and Schools

The folks are beginning to believe in good roads and are justly proud of the few miles of sand-clay roads they now have. Ten years ought to see every main thoroughfare of Onslow a first class road. The school districts are rapidly constructing new and up-to-date schoolhouses. Cedar Lane and Bacon Neck have consolidated and, aided by the personal loan of a public spirited citizen of the county, have built a beautiful new building. Jacksonville, under the excellent principal, I. M. Bailey, has added a new wing to its fine brick building and other districts are making like progress.

Work to Be Done

There is still much to be done. A more united sentiment for public improvements, a more lively interest in community welfare, a more determined effort to bring Onslow to the fore would help lift the county out of the position of a commonplace coastal county. It has the resources, it has the potential wealth. It needs more folks and folks who will help her to realize her possibilities. It has some such folks and it needs more.

Wouldn't it be fine if we could make the average term of schools for the state 150 days instead of less than one hundred as it is now?

THE FIRST IN ORANGE

Superintendent S. P. Lockhart of Orange county is stirring up things educational this year. With the aid of Miss Lulu M. Cassidey, Rural Supervisor, he has organized a series of township meetings to be held in each of the townships sometime during the year. This work is being done in the thought that the teachers will benefit by coming together occasionally in smaller groups than in the regular county meeting.

On December 4th the first township meeting under this plan was held at the Carrboro school in Chapel Hill Township. Mr. E. C. Brogden of the State Department was present and added much to the interest of the meeting. Representatives from the University School of Education were present to aid as they might. The Carrboro school gave a model type opening exercise, and the plans for County Commencement and the qualifications of a standard teacher and a standard school kept the meeting lively.

Several of the district committeemen and one member of the County Board of Education were present; and one school, the Merritt, had all the teachers and the entire committee present—a 100 per cent school.

At lunch time Mr. Ray, of Carrboro, invited all the lady teachers to eat at his table and other citizens took care of the men teachers, proving the warm hospitality of the community and its interest in Orange county schools. It was a good meeting and means much to the township and county.

THE PROFESSOR SAYS

Play is as necessary for children as food. An insufficient amount or an improper kind of either retards development.

Some folks tell us that teachers are born, not made. Perhaps so, but one thing is sure; they are not born ready-made.

Two dangerous weapons in the teacher's power are the hickory switch and the sarcastic remark. One cuts the flesh, the other scars the soul. Few teachers can use either safely.