

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
NEWS LETTER

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NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

NEARLY 300 MORE

As we go to press with this issue 1,026 students are registered at the University Summer School. It is nearly 300 more than last year. Year by year the University Summer School grows in attractiveness, in range of courses and advantages, in charm and inspiration.

Last week the Fourth of July Pageants, the Country-Life Institute, and the Conference of Rural School Supervisors. This week the Conference of High School Teachers. And so on to the end—a series of generous conspiracies for the welfare of the children and the people of North Carolina.

THE COUNTRY CHURCH

Is our country church in peril? Is there a country church problem in North Carolina and the South? What forces are menacing the well-being of the country church? Where is the country church flourishing, where marking time, where dying or dead? What can be done about it?

These are some of the enquiries that pass under consideration in the new University Extension Bureau Circular No. 1, "Our Country Church Problem." It will be mailed out on application.

Aside from the country church surveys in Gibson county, Tenn., Benton county, Ark., and Orange county, N. C., almost nothing has been done in direct field studies to answer any of these questions in exact, definite ways.

There is no doubt about the existence of a country church problem in the North and West, and the church authorities there are mightily busy with it—forty years too late.

If we are wise in the South we will be busy with our country church problem forty years ahead of time.

REGISTERED 233

The Country-Life Institute under ministerial leadership, as planned by the conference of ministers of various denominations at the University on May the 8th, was held July 5-9 in Gerrard Hall on the University campus.

It was a great program; no better at any time, anywhere in America!

This Institute at the University was simply intended to be an illustration of what any country community can do, and to stimulate the holding of such institutes all over North Carolina under local, home bred leadership. The Country-Life Institute Bulletin, which will be mailed by our Extension Bureau upon post card request, is intended to make such events easily possible.

Just as we anticipated, the attendance upon the University Country-Life Institute was small. For ten years or so we have been participating in big country-life conferences the whole country over, and we know that the country people do not attend them. But we also know that country people themselves can hold such institutes in a hundred places with multiplied thousands in attendance. Three such county events are already planned.

The preachers, teachers, doctors farmers, bankers, church and Sunday school workers who were in attendance off and on during the week, and who registered for the Country-Life Circulars issued by the University, numbered 233. We are to-day mailing out to them the Country-Life Bulletin, and the Country Church Circular.

Write the University Extension Bureau, if you want them. They will be sent only upon application.

CAROLINA STUDIES

Our Country Church Problems is the title of a Circular just issued by the University Extension Bureau. Other Circulars treating fundamental phases of Carolina life will follow from time to time.

Circular number 1 concerns the country church in the South in general, and North Carolina in particular. Until recently the abundant country church literature in circulation has concerned the dying or dead country church congregations of the North and Middle West—some 1,800 in Illinois alone. But we are now beginning to study our own country church problems as the reading list that follows will show.

The Country Church Circular treats: 1.

The Importance of the Country Church.

2. Menaces to the Country Church (a) The Cityward Drift of Country Populations, (b) Farm Tenancy and Instable Citizenship, (c) Absentee-Preachers, and Once-a-Month Sermons, and (3) Constructive Suggestions, (a) Realization by the Church Authorities and the Country People that the Country Church is in Danger, (b) Country Church Homes, Resident Ministers, and Living Salaries, (c) Special Training for Country Workers, and (d) Country-Minded Ministers.

This and the other Carolina Circulars will be mailed out upon application to the University Extension Bureau

Other University Extension Bureau Circulars ready for issue at an early date are Our Carolina Highlanders, and Wealth, Welfare and Willingness.

COUNTRY-CHURCH STUDIES

The following country church studies concern the South, or mainly so. Except Dr. Wilson's book on The Church of the Open Country, they are all pamphlets or newspaper articles that can be had free upon post card request.

The Part of the Church in Building Civilization.—Dr. Clarence Poe, Raleigh, N. C.

The Country Church: A Country-Life Defense.—Branson, University of North Carolina Bulletin.

The Status of the Country Church.—Branson, The Christian Observer, Louisville, Ky., March 12, 1913.

Our Carolina Country Church Problem.—Branson, University Extension Bureau Circular No. 1.

The Country Church in the South.—Rev. C. L. Greaves, Lumberton, N. C., Progressive Farmer, June and July, 1912.

The Country Church: Its Ruin and Its Remedy.—Dr. S. L. Morris, Presbyterian Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.

A Rural Survey in Benton County, Arkansas, and Gibson County, Tennessee. Presbyterian Church Home Mission and Country-Life Board, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York.

The Church of the Open Country.—Dr. Warren H. Wilson, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Reading list in Social Service.—Federal Council of Churches in America, Rev. C. S. McFarland, 105 E. 22nd St., New York.

The Rural Church Problem.—Rev. Charles King, Louisiana, Mo.

The Rural Church.—Dr. Henry Wallace, Home Mission Board, United Presbyterian Church, 704 Publication Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Country Church Day Bulletin.—University of Virginia, University, Va.

MORE COTTON AND LESS GRAIN

Under the stimulus of revived prices, we are this year increasing our cotton acreage and counting on a crop of 747,000 bales. Our cotton acres are 185,000 more than in 1909, and our crop as forecasted by the census authorities on June 25 is some 48,000 bales more than last year. Which is all right, because we will consume in our own mills all the cotton we raise this year, and more.

But on the other hand, it is estimated, our grain crops will fall behind last year's total nearly 9,000,000 bushels, as follows: corn 5,050,000 bushels, oats 3,170,000 bushels, wheat 665,000 bushels, and rye 88,000 bushels.

To move ahead two and three-quarter million dollars in cotton is wise, but to fall behind seven and three-quarter million dollars in grain crops is other-wise, considering that we lack some 80 million dollars a year in being a self-feeding state.

A Billion Dollar Prize

If only we could or would produce a sufficiency of bread and meat in North Carolina from year to year and have our cotton and tobacco as clear money crops, our country people would soon be worth more man for man than the Iowa farm population. And we need greater country wealth for churches and schools, roads and health officers, conveniences and luxuries, farm extension and equipments, markets and credits.

This simple, single policy would increase the wealth of the state by a billion dollars in a baker's dozen years. At present we have a per capita country

AFRAID OF NOTHING

I am afraid of nothing on earth, or above the earth, or under the earth, but to do wrong.

The path of duty I shall endeavor to travel, fearing no evil and dreading no consequences.

I would rather be defeated in a good cause than to triumph in a bad one.

I would not give a fig for a man who would shrink from the discharge of duty for fear of defeat.—Alex. H. Stephens.

wealth of only \$322 in farm properties, against \$3386 in Iowa.

It is well worth the while of the bankers and merchants to help our farmers increase their wealth by a billion dollars in the next dozen years.

SOMETHING NEW

The post-graduate courses in medicine for practicing physicians, inaugurated this summer by the University of North Carolina in cooperation with the State Board of Health, have now been going on in the eastern part of the state for about one month, and the work has been attended with signal success and interest.

Beginning July 1, the work will be enlarged to include certain towns in the western section of the state, the lectures and clinics to be conducted by Dr. Jesse Gerstley of the Northwestern Medical School, on a plan similar to that now used by Dr. Louis Webb Hill, of Harvard, in the eastern section.

The towns included in the western group are: Greensboro, High Point, Statesville, Mooresville and Winston-Salem. Sixty practicing physicians are enrolled in these five sections or divisions—14 in Greensboro, 10 in High Point, 13 in Statesville, 9 in Mooreville, and 14 in Winston-Salem. The lectures will continue for three months, thus giving to each place 13 meetings.

This scheme of bringing the lecturer to the class, instead of sending the class to the lecturer, is something new in medical education. In dollars and cents it means the saving to each physician of between \$300 and \$400—the price of a post-graduate course of similar length at some standard school. The University makes no profits on these lectures, all the funds being used to defray the expenses arising from the course.

PRIMITIVE ACCOUNT KEEPING

Would it be possible to devise (1) a simple, standardized form of accounting for all moneys received and paid out by the county officers of North Carolina, and (2) a uniform exhibit sheet that would show at the end of each fiscal year exactly how each county stood in its finances?

If so, each county could be compared with every other in a score or more particulars, and ranked accordingly; say, in the average annual cost of indoor and outside paupers, the per capita cost of convicts and work animals in road building, the cost per mile of sand-clay or top-soil road construction, the keep of jail prisoners per person per day, and so on and on.

The taxpayers could easily see in which county they were getting the most or the least for their money; and where expenses were light or unreasonably heavy.

At present, outside the school accounts, no county in the state can be compared with all the others in the expenditure of public moneys. Nobody knows whether his county government is inefficient and wasteful or not. There is no basis for comparison.

State Law Requires It

New York State not only standardizes these county accounts and exhibits but keeps an auditing commission busy the year around instructing county officials and holding them up to the mark in their record keeping. They act under the direction of the Comptroller-General.

In North Carolina such a commission might be directed by the state auditor or the state treasurer. And why not? The county is merely a detached agent of the state. The plan does not interfere with local self-government. It helps county government on to efficiency.

We believe that dishonesty is rare in

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LETTER SERIES NO. 82

THE TEACHER'S SALARY

The salary of our public school teachers is one thing that the public ought to be ashamed of and yet the public is not ashamed of it.

The young lady who comes from a four year's course of professional training in our state institutions averages not more than fifty dollars a month for eight months in the year. This gives her \$400 on which she is to live for 365 days. This is poor return for the services of a trained teacher in the school room teaching the little ones of a community.

The Comparison

One shrinks from a comparison of the teacher's wages with the wages paid to the bricklayer, the plasterer, the plumber, the carpenter, or the day laborer on the farm and in the factory. The teacher like any other day laborer must be healthy and able-minded for her task, but she must also have professional training for her work. Therefore, the public must make up its mind to pay living wages to these faithful people who are earnestly at work training its boys and girls.

Our county offices, but the county exhibits published from year to year bring us to believe that our methods of account keeping are generally antiquated, and confusing almost beyond belief.

NO APOLOGIES NECESSARY

The popular mind is mightily exercised these days by war events, politics, and baseball news. These things are so cyclonic and spectacular or so directly appealing to the multitudes that the humdrum and commonplace occurrences of life are unconsidered trifles light as air.

On the other hand, the business mind is cool and calculating. There may be a great deal of heat at present in the business world, but there is a great deal more of light. More than ever, big business is patiently assembling, analyzing, and interpreting economic and social data. The captains of industry, transportation, and finance are concentrated upon conditions that bull or bear the stock market. They study crop acreages, crop conditions, prospective crop totals, steel orders, interest rates, the output of gold, import and export totals and the like. The Wall Street journals are sticking to their jobs more closely than ever while popular attention is diverted by spectacular events.

The Commonplace

It is well to remember that the forces at play in the steady routine of life have a power like that of the sun's rays. Cyclones are evidence of forces acting in sudden, violent combination. So are wars. But the steady, fateful, pull and power of the same forces in the everyday, work-a-day affairs of life are even more eventful. They are less flamboyant in their results, however, and so they attract less attention or no attention at all.

The University News Letter carries no war news and no comment on war events. It is not necessary. There is ample statesmanship and military genius in other editorial sanctums; so much, indeed, that we are left free to puzzle at the abiding problems of life and business in North Carolina. And so, like Uncle Josh's Ford, we keep a-chuggin' right along. We are sticking to our job of finding out, as far as possible, the forces, agencies, and influences, the tendencies, drifts, and movements, that are to-day making the history that our children will be studying to-morrow.

This, in answer to a reader who complains that we give no attention to world events. The fact is we are busy with world forces instead, and these forces are no more real and significant in the big wide world than they are in our back yards, bank offices, and church pews. The world—it is my backstairs, writ large, said Talleyrand. And it is easier to be world-wise than home-wise.

GOOD FOR OLE MISS.

One hundred and sixty-three consolidated schools in Mississippi employ 515 teachers and keep 389 school wagons busy transporting 6,489 pupils. So reports Mr. J. T. Calhoun, the State Rural School Supervisor.

A String to It

Not only does the public pay too small a salary to the teacher, but it does worse when it ties a string to the salary by requiring or at least implying that she must spend a part of it every year or two for further preparation for the work, without any promise of a larger salary. This further preparation is right and necessary, but it would also be very right and just and appreciative on the part of the public if it could arrange to pay the expenses of its teachers at some good summer school every other vacation. This is already done by some communities and ought to be done generally.

Honor Due Them

All honor is due our faithful teachers who spend their money to improve the quality of their work. More than 2,500 North Carolina teachers are now attending summer schools. Are the folks at home thinking about them? Has a single member of a school committee written one of them one word of encouragement and appreciation? Suppose you do it!

These pupils are transported daily an average of four miles each at a cost of \$1.65 per month, according to a recent investigation by L. C. Brogden, our State Supervisor of Elementary Schools.

It looks like Mississippi is leading the whole South in Consolidated Country Schools using school wagons to transport pupils.

There are no state-wide figures for North Carolina. However, 20 counties in 1916 reported to Mr. Brogden 221 white consolidated schools and 141 pupils transported.

It is encouraging to note that our white country schools with two or more teachers number 2,220 this year. Which is to say, the number of such schools in North Carolina has nearly doubled since 1908. We fall behind Mississippi in the transportation of children in school wagons, but we are far ahead in the consolidation of country schools.

GROCERY-SHELF GARDENING

As long as the average farmer keeps his garden on the grocery shelf, he sells everything wholesale and buys everything retail. Sidelines such as canning, preserving, making apple butter, are profitable where the farmer is wise enough to see that the women of his household get all necessary help with their work.

Any reasonable expenditure for making the home place more attractive is as real and profitable an investment as though the money had been spent for limestone and phosphate.

It is not enough to grow a good crop, or even to grow a good crop at low cost. To make a big crop a business success it must be disposed of as efficiently as it is grown, must be so graded and packed as to meet market standards and so marketed as to bring the farmer the highest current price.

The farmer who is too suspicious to get together with his neighbors in order to do co-operatively what no one can do alone is sure to pay dearly for his incapacity for teamwork.—Carl W. Vrooman, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Federal Farmers' Bulletin, No. 704.

KINDERGARTENS

Every day we get new evidence of the growing interest and confidence in public kindergartens.

San Francisco has just recently decided to add 20 kindergartens to her school system. Los Angeles has 133 and Oakland has 30.

We must begin to think about this question for North Carolina. Our cities are doing something but not nearly enough. The kindergarten is a fundamental step in the educational ladder.

EXHIBIT SUGGESTIONS

It will not be long before folks all over the state will be looking about for suggestions in regard to exhibits for the community and county fairs.

Some idea of what can be done in the way of educational exhibits may be secured from Bulletin 1916, No. 1, of the U. S. Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.

The Bureau of Extension will be glad to send other suggestions upon request. It costs nothing to get aid from both these bulletins.