

The news in this publication is released for the press on the date indicated below.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

Published weekly by the
University of North Carolina
for its Bureau of Extension.

SEPTEMBER 6, 1916

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

VOL. II, NO. 41

Editorial Board: E. C. Branson, J. G. deR. Hamilton, L. R. Wilson, L. A. Williams, R. H. Thornton, G. M. McKie. Entered as second-class matter November 14, 1914, at the postoffice at Chapel Hill, N. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

INTERESTING FACTS

Some interesting facts about the baby death rate last year in North Carolina are that the counties having the highest death rates were in general those counties known to have one or more of the following conditions: a low percentage of white population, a low per capita wealth, and a high percentage of illiteracy.

And conversely, those counties having the lowest baby death rates in general have the greatest per capita wealth, the best schools and the largest percentage of white population.—The State Health Board.

POVERTY SLAYS CHILDREN

Some time ago the death rate of children in Pittsburg, Pa., was studied by investigators sent out by Miss Julia C. Lathrop, Chief of the Children's Bureau of our Federal Government.

They discovered that infant death rates were highest in homes having the lowest family incomes; and lowest in homes enjoying the largest family incomes.

The safety of children increases as the standards of living rise; and peril to the lives of children increases as poverty increases.

Children's lives depend, then, on our beliefs about Poverty—the complicated causes, the manifold consequences, and the ameliorating remedies.

We say ameliorating, because after we have satisfied all the demands of economic justice and tender charity, we shall have the poor with us still.

The laborer is worthy of his hire, said the Master of Men. If we really believed that in Christendom, we should go a long way toward curing the increasing poverty of the world.

THIN PICKING

The note-shaving and loan-sharks are on short commons in Durham; at least around the Carr mills.

The Employees Fund for the 1,500 mill hands amounts to about \$10,000. It was contributed by the Company, but it is managed by directors chosen from the operatives.

It is an emergency fund, loaned in small amounts in cases of illness, death, and other unforeseen distresses. The interest is 6 per cent, and the loan is paid off at the rate of a dollar a week.

The greatest loss any one year has been only \$17, and the loans are without security other than the established good reputation of the borrowers.

THE FIRST REPORT

We have known about and chronicled a number of times schools having a school pig but it has remained for Laurel Hill school in Sampson county to report on the movement.

The pig at this school develops his squeal and his fat not only from the discarded portions of the children's lunches, but the parents and patrons are raising velvet beans, rape, grain, and clovers as a further supplement to piggie's enjoyment.

The principal, Miss Bessie Daughtery, has had her efforts supplemented by Mr. J. W. Pearson in developing the community pig idea and while Laurel Hill is not at all piggish the folks they are planning a pork barrel campaign of their own.

As a result of the enthusiasm aroused over this school pig the number of pig club members jumped this year from 10 to 30, and the best of the whole idea is the fact that the school has become a real community center for Laurel Hill.

A NEW DEPARTURE

The Federal Education Bureau on July 25 sent out a news letter to the press of the United States concerning the Traveling Postgraduate School for Practicing Physicians in North Carolina, promoted by the University and State Health Board.

This enterprise is of national significance and is attracting national attention.

Extension Training in Medicine

"Extension training in medicine for regular practitioners is essentially a new departure. The Bureau of Education has

just received an account of an apparently promising experiment in this direction undertaken during the present summer by the University of North Carolina in cooperation with the State Board of Health. The outline of the plan is as follows:

"Groups of six towns situated relatively close together are selected as the territory for a single instructor. In each town a class is formed, composed of physicians from the town itself and from the surrounding country. A skilled scientist is then brought from one of the centers of medical progress, to give instruction for 16 weeks in each circuit of towns. His procedure is to lecture to the class in the first town on Monday morning, for example, and to hold a clinic in the afternoon. On the next day he proceeds to another town, lectures and holds another clinic, then to another, and so on, returning to the first as soon as the round is completed. Each class thus gets 16 lectures, with accompanying clinical demonstrations, during the course.

Two Schools this Summer

"The University has already inaugurated two such courses which are being given by specialists in children's diseases. Each class section numbers from 10 to 15 physicians, and a total of about 150 physicians are already in attendance. The expenses are borne by the physicians taking the course. The University and the State Board of Health with the aid of a local secretary in each town, manage the course. The University selects the lecturers."

BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER

It really looks as though The State Fair in Raleigh, October 16-21, were going to reach high water mark.

Under the leadership of Mr. Leonard Tufts, the president, backed by Mr. Bion H. Butler, Colonel Pogue, Captain Parrish, Colonel Cameron and other devoted public servants of this sort, the Fair this fall promises to be bigger, better and more significant than ever before.

The weather permitting, the State Fair attracts enormous crowds from every quarter of the state, and if a county has any livestock or farm, orchard, and truck crops, or industrial products that are really worth showing, this is the place and the time to get into the public eye.

We wonder a little about Orange. Is it possible for Orange to have an exhibit that will demonstrate our advantages, opportunities, and possibilities?

We have a mighty good county, but the folks that know about it are too few.

It is worth while to settle new farm families on our 359 abandoned farms. It would boost things in Orange tremendously.

A PLAN SUGGESTED

Speaking of uniform county account keeping, standardized annual balance sheets, and auditors of county book-keeping, Mr. E. S. Millsaps of Statesville writes:

"The idea is a good one. Make the matter the duty of the State Auditor, and let him appoint one man in each Congressional District to look after the auditing of the books in his district the first year after his appointment, and then in the second district the next year, having each alternate district auditor represent a different political party. For instance let District One be a Democratic District, Two a Republican district and so on. Then let these auditors alternate as do the judges, one following the other.

"Some counties are Democratic and others are Republican. This auditing board will be non-partisan, and no auditor would dare put up a false audit in any county or city (and the cities need the public auditors as much as the counties) for fear the next auditor would call him.

"This number of auditors could audit the books of the counties and towns each year, and I feel sure the public would be glad to pay the bill. The fact is, I doubt if there is a county or town in the State that would not save money by having such a system of public auditing."

CAN HAVE WHAT IT WANTS

When a common or universal passion for productive achievement is once definitely aroused in a community, the achievement will follow as a matter of course.

Any community can have as beautiful a country-side as it wants, provided it wants it seriously enough, and with sufficient unanimity, to spend the time and energy necessary to beautify it.

Any community can have as moral a community as it wants, under the same conditions.—Dr. Thomas N. Carver.

ON ALL-FOURS

Forest fire damage appears to be excessive in free-range areas, and flood destruction greatest in the mountain counties where forest fires were excessive last spring. They go on all-fours, as the old-time lawyers used to say.

The following items by Mr. J. S. Holmes, our State Forester, are highly significant:

"Of the eight eastern counties which showed the largest amount of fire damage last spring, five are almost entirely free-range counties, two are in the throes of deciding whether they will be free range or stock law counties, and the eighth, Bladen has only recently adopted the stock law.

"Of the seven western counties, at least four of them have been the heaviest sufferers from the recent floods. An intimate relation exists between these facts, but the exact extent of that relation I am not prepared to state."

GREAT AND SMALL

A sign of greatness is to be greatly interested in great things, and little interested in little things.

A sign of littleness is to be little interested in great things, and greatly interested in little things.

The size of a man is measured by the things he gets excited about.

Tea-pot tempests are a sure sign to small souls that the whole universe is wrecked.

The great soul is comfortably certain that the sun will rise on time to-morrow morning, subject to the Constitution of the United States, as Artemus Ward said it would.

Pint-cup thinking about big-scale things, and big-scale interest in pint-cup things has always been humanity's sorest handicap.

The clamor of the crowds for signs and wonders nearly broke the heart of the Master twenty centuries ago.

And the multitude is still hungry for signs and wonders.

The Perils of Pauline draws bigger crowds than Public Health and Sanitation, the country over.

LAST SPRING'S FOREST FIRES

The flood damage in Western North Carolina intensifies rather than obscures our interest in the prevention of forest fires; for the average man traces some relation between fire and flood, though what that relation is may not be definitely known.

Last spring this state suffered more from forest fires than for many years.

The North Carolina Geological and Economic Survey which has been gathering information on the losses sustained has just made public the following figures.

Twenty-eight eastern counties report a total damage of more than \$3,500,000, while seventeen western counties mention nearly \$500,000 loss. The counties suffering the greatest fire damage are listed below, in order of the greatest loss:

Eastern	Western
Carteret \$1,030,000	McDowell \$125,000
Bladen 1,000,000	Burke 79,000
Craven 281,000	Haywood 75,000
Pender 210,000	Wilkes 36,000
Beaufort 206,000	Caldwell 35,000
Duplin 161,000	Avery 23,000
Pamlico 122,000	Stokes 20,000
Brunswick 117,000	

It is interesting to see the reasons given

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LETTER SERIES NO. 89

RANK INJUSTICE The Teacher's Money

School committees hold a most responsible position and they generously serve the community free of charge. There are hundreds of school committeemen in North Carolina whose work for the children is a service which merits and receives the hearty thanks of all of the best people of the community.

A Point of Law

The duties of the committee are clearly defined and they should be performed in strict compliance with the law. It is a fact that no part of the school fund of one year shall be used to pay school claims of any previous year! Every one knows that the law says what it means.

Paying Debts

Last year the committee in a certain district made a contract with a teacher for an eight months term. The teacher worked away smoothly and in the best of spirits for six months and then came a rude shock. The secretary of the committee notified her at the end of the sixth month that the term would be cut from

for this great spring conflagration. About half of the fires were said to have been caused by carelessness in burning brush, grass and rubbish on the farm. Most of this burning was unnecessary, for the best farmers now recognize that it pays better to plow under rubbish or to use it to prevent erosion. The remainder of the fires were chiefly set by railroads and sawmills. Many of the correspondents strongly urge a state appropriation for putting in force the new fire law, while some suggest a law to prevent all burning after March 15th. The appointment of forest wardens in all woodland townships, in accordance with the new law, would go far toward preventing a recurrence of such a series of destructive fires. It is hoped that the next legislature will make this possible by providing an adequate appropriation.—J. S. Holmes, State Forester.

THE OLD TIME MINISTER

"The old time minister helped to build this nation," said Rev. A. C. Hamby of Clayton, the other day, "(1) by a fine personality and a fine life, (2) by building a home that sent out sons and daughters with characters like his own, and (3) by an active interest in schools and culture."

"The Old Time Minister," said he, "helped to build the nation by inaugurating and building our great system of schools. Being educated, they loved books and owned good libraries. These books they shared with others. They founded academies and colleges. Yale, Harvard and Dartmouth were established by preachers. The preacher was before the schools and colleges, back of them and in them. In those days there was scarcely a school of any note whose principal or president was not a preacher."

All of which is true—every word of it! The whole of this excellent address appeared in the Smithfield Herald on August 8th.

New Time Opportunities

It leads us to say that if now-a-day ministers, churches and Sunday schools will stand in and back of the movement to sponge the shame of illiteracy off our map, this heart-breaking task could be accomplished within the next five years.

It is hard to understand why the Moonlight School Campaign should challenge the secular conscience more than religious consciousness; why the burden should be upon Day school teachers more than upon Sunday School teachers and church workers; why the state should be more active in this matter than the church.

If ministers of sects and sorts would come up to the help of the Lord against the sons of illiteracy we could shout great shouts of victory against the going down of the sun.

The great public school problem will nowhere be solved without the active help of devoted ministers. Best of all they can lead their people toward larger sus-

eight months to seven months in order to get money with which to pay for some desks bought on credit the year before.

Gross Injustice

It is clearly illegal and unfair to violate a contract with any one and especially with a teacher who has made a contract in good faith. A teacher who has been employed at forty dollars a month should not be forced to give up a month's salary as a contribution towards buying desks for the community.

Unfair to Children

Neither is this arbitrary shortening of the term fair to the children for whose benefit the money was apportioned to the district. They had money enough for an eight months term and they should have had it. May be that this one month was the last one that many of them would ever be able to go to school. Of course, debts must be paid but the teacher should not be forced to pay them at the expense of herself and the children. The school law provides a way for paying for furniture without taking money from the teacher's salary and closing the doors of the school for even a day.

taining revenues, better buildings and equipments, longer terms, better teachers and teaching, better support in the homes, better attendance and greater effort on part of the children.

For Lack of Knowledge

The movement to educate all the children of all the people lacks what it most needs—religious fever and fervor!

As it is, devoted men of God in our churches everywhere must utter again and again the pitiful laments of Old Testament times: "Israel doth not know. My people doth not consider"; "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge"; "Where there is no vision the people perish."

Popular education in North Carolina needs the active support of the New Time Minister.

CUTE, CLOSE, AND PIOUS

Mrs. Hettie Green and her son, E. H. R. Green, owned the small Texas Midland Railroad, and she was indignant at the flood of requests for passes. So she sent out a card calendar to politicians and all others who had presented themselves as candidates for railroad graft. She drew down the Bible on them.

In this manner it was arranged: Monday—"Thou shalt not pass." Numbers xx, 18.

Tuesday—"Suffer not a man to pass." Judges iii, 28.

Wednesday—"The wicked shall no more pass." Nahum i, 15.

Thursday—"This generation shall not pass." Mark xiii, 30.

Friday—"By a perpetual decree it can not pass." Jeremiah v, 22.

Saturday—"None shall pass." Isaiah xxxiv, 10.

Sunday—"So he paid the fare thereof and went." Jonah i, 2.—The New York World.

OLD RAGS

The Federal Department of Commerce is sending out frantic calls to the people asking them to save old rags and old paper to be used in the manufacture of paper.

There seems to be an unusual demand for paper coupled with an unusual shortage of material from which to manufacture it. Everyone is urged to aid in saving, collecting and marketing all rags and paper that can be utilized in making paper.

The Appeal

Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade throughout the United States are requested to cooperate with the Department of Commerce by furnishing to applicants the names of local firms which assemble rags and paper and sell them in small quantities.

Teachers can assist in this work by bringing the matter to the attention of each pupil in the schools. Have this notice read to the pupils in the various schools. Cooperation will be very much appreciated and it surely will have definite results.