

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
**NEWS LETTER**

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

The news in this publica-  
tion is released for the press on  
receipt.

AUGUST 14, 1918

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

VOL. IV, NO. 38

Editorial Board: E. C. Branson, J. G. deK. Hamilton, L. E. Wilson, 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.

**HOME-GUARD DUTIES****REVIVIFYING CAROLINA**

A Government pamphlet of unusual interest shows what is being done in North Carolina for the industrial and social revivification of that State under the auspices of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Among the activities of the Extension Bureau of the university in the last three years have been the threshing out of no less than 227 subjects of State-wide importance. The whole economic and social condition of the State has been studied. Among the various subjects discussed are the church membership ratios, rural white illiteracy, illiteracy in the cotton mills, farm tenancy, infant death rates, indoor and outside pauperism, homicide rates, child labor, wage-earning women, local school support, consolidated country schools, boys' clubs, and university support.

**The Carolina Club**

The production and retention of wealth and the business and social uses of wealth have been investigated. There has been a comprehensive inquiry into farm production problems.

The North Carolina Club has held fortnightly meetings to stimulate interest in all such matters. "The students at work upon home-county booklets can quickly assemble from the club files 227 exact facts about their county, and show its rank among the one hundred counties of the State in 227 important particulars. They quickly see whether or not their county is moving forward, marking time, or lagging in the rear in essential matters of life and business." Last fall's club studies cover a remarkable range of State interests—farm wealth, industrial wealth, forests and wood lots, fisheries, mines and quarries, bank capital, State revenues, the per capita cost of State Government, the general property tax, State aid to agriculture, charities and corrections, investment in public-school properties and public health work.

It is plain that the study of questions like these, under expert direction, will have a direct effect on the future of the State. There will soon be a large body of young people with at least an elementary knowledge of North Carolina conditions—a knowledge gained not at haphazard or under the spell of the demagogue, but in an orderly and trustworthy way.

**A Fruitful Work**

The various many-sided activities of the Bureau of Extension cannot be easily summarized, but one of the most interesting is the revival of public debate through the medium of prize contests in the schools. The Government pamphlet says:

"In 1914 the number of schools grew to 150, and a number of girls made places on the teams. Forty-one schools won in the first preliminary and sent 164 representatives to the university for the final contest. Winston-Salem won on the negative of the subject of the initiative and referendum. Sixty-four of the one hundred North Carolina counties were represented, and a total audience of more than 50,000 was reached.

"Enthusiasm and interest have steadily increased from the beginning. In 1915 the number of schools reached 250; in 1916 it grew to 325; and in the 1917 contest it reached 332, with a total of 1,328 debaters, all speaking in 332 North Carolina communities on the same night (March 20) to audiences of 120,000 to 150,000 people. In these three contests the subjects were ship subsidies, the enlargement of the Navy, the Government ownership of railroads, the winners being the high schools of Wilson, Graham, and Waynesville."

A fruitful work has thus been begun in North Carolina. The university has gone out into the highways and byways, and made its influence felt throughout the State. It has interpreted the phrase extension work more generously than we have been accustomed to do in the North. It has undertaken to embrace all the vital interests of the State in its survey and lay the foundations for a more intelligent appreciation and treatment of these interests in the years to come. Other States and other universities should study the results already attained.—The Providence, R. I., Journal.

**WAR EXTENSION WORK**

Upon the entry of the United States into the world war the bureau of extension of the University of North Carolina promptly adapted its machinery for serving North Carolina in times of peace to a win-the-war program. It did it with the dispatch that characterized the establishment by the University of military training on the campus for the student body.

But the nature of the program of the bureau was different from that of the military units, and, in fact, from

that of bureaus of extension in other institutions. The bureau set itself the task of setting forth the ideals of America in their relation to the conflict, rather than methods of conservation or military endeavor. Believing that it was the highest privilege of a college to teach truth, it set about through its various channels to teach the ideals by which America was actuated in entering the struggle, and to show America's relation to her allies in the fight for freedom.

The first step in this changed program was the organization of extension centers in two North Carolina cities—Winston-Salem and Raleigh. Local committees were appointed in each city with which university instructors co-operated. At Winston-Salem two groups, one for the whites and one for the negroes, were formed with an enrollment of 400 and 75, respectively. This membership was drawn from every section of the city and offered an evidence of its serious interest by paying an entrance fee to cover the cost of programs, syllabus, traveling expenses of the instructors and by obligating its regular attendance at the conferences.

**The Winston-Salem Plan**

Co-operating with the committee, the University, through its faculty, furnished the syllabus and instructors, and arranged for six conferences at weekly intervals, each instructor meeting the two groups on consecutive days. Those in attendance at the conference later met smaller groups throughout the city, with the result that thousands of the population were reached. The general subject, America and Her Allies—France was discussed under the following heads: (1) The Common Cause (2) The Physical Scene (3) The People—Civilization and Achievement, (4) History and Institutions, (5) The Debt of America to France, (6) A Nation in Arms.

**The Slater School for Negroes**

The Slater School at Winston-Salem, one of the most important schools for negroes in the South participated in the conference on France. The University instructors met the group of students and negro leaders, giving them the same instruction as the whites. After the conference these leaders in turn "carried on" the subject matter to the large body of negro employees in the tobacco and other industries of the city and evidenced keen interest in the larger aspects of the relation of the American and French Republics in their common struggle for freedom.

**The Raleigh Group**

A somewhat similar plan was carried out in Raleigh. There the local committee was composed of representatives of the city schools, Meredith College, St. Mary's School, and Peace Institute. Russia was the first subject, the topics of the conference following: (1) Tolstoy: Prophet of Revolution; (2) Kropotkin and the Revolutionary Group; (3) Contemporary Russia in Her Literature; (4) Political History of Russia, 1878-1914; (5) and Present Transformation in Russian Politics and Society. A syllabus was prepared and distributed among the members of the center. Reference books were set aside in the city and college libraries, and the local papers featured the discussions at the conferences. At the conclusion of the course on Russia, arrangements were made for repeating the Conference on France given at Winston-Salem, the total number enrolled being approximately 200.

An interesting outgrowth of the conferences in both cities was the determination to hold in Winston-Salem during the first week in April a patriotic celebration of the anniversary of the entrance of the United States into the war, and in Raleigh to give later in the year a community pageant celebrating the three hundredth anniversary of the death of Sir Walter Raleigh.

**Group Lectures Provided**

In a number of other cities it was not advisable to form centers and provide for conferences with intensive study. It was practical, however, to offer such cities from three to six lectures on related war topics, a condition which had been foreseen by the bureau to meet which a program of such lectures was outlined and a leaflet on What to Read Concerning the War was prepared. Upon this basis interesting series were carried out in Greensboro, Southern Pines, Rocky Mount, and other towns. In all of these communities the subject of American ideals received special emphasis.

Similarly lectures were given in communities which could not provide for more than one lecture of this sort. In all a total of sixty such lectures were given in as many towns throughout the State.

**SOLDIERS OF OBSCURITY**

The Soldiers of the Common Tasks—  
They do not dwell in tents;  
In house and school, in shop and field

Arise their battlements.  
They do not wear a warrior's dress  
Nor march to thrilling drums,  
Yet mighty in their lowliness  
They fight till Wrong succumbs.

The Soldiers of the Humble Deeds,  
Who save the light and heat;  
Who keep with joy the holy fast  
That gives the starving meat;  
The woman whose swift needles clothe

The bearer of her lance;  
Yea, every praying, toiling heart  
Defends our flag in France!

The Soldiers of Obscurity—  
They hide their wounds and grief  
And guard against despair and doubt

The forts of their belief,  
They keep the faith, for on them rests  
Their great Republic's fate—  
From them its heroes draw the strength  
To shield and save the State!

**Publications Broadcasted**

In order to reach individuals throughout the entire State, correspondence courses were offered and a readers' package library service was maintained. Twenty leaflets published by the University were sent to the press, the high schools, and many citizens of the State. In case of the leaflets, a special effort was made to have them used by school principals for discussions and opening exercises, in literary societies, in public entertainments and at county commencements. Several of them were also prepared for the use of college students studying American and English literature. Three hundred members of the freshman and sophomore classes of the University used them as texts, as did students in other schools and colleges of the country.

In every instance the minimum edition of the leaflets was three thousand copies and in the case of patriotic selections the editions were five thousand or more.

The University News Letter, a clip sheet having a circulation of 15,000, was issued weekly, the content of which was largely related to the war and extended the instruction given in the more extensive methods indicated above.

**Package Library Service**

For years the University library has furnished package libraries and single books and pamphlets to the club women and high schools of the State. This year special material in magazine and pamphlet form bearing upon America's entry into the war has been collected. This was loaned for the preparation of debates, club papers and school orations and essays. Consequently its use reached a large public. During the winter 2,474 pieces of literature were loaned in this way, and more than 1,100 letters were written relative to the use of the material. Among the package libraries loaned the following were most frequently in demand:

America's Relation to the War, Austria-Hungary and the War, Aviation, The Battle of Jutland, British Munitions Production, The British Navy, Causes of the War, Documents Relating to America's Entry into the War, England and the War, European War Relief, Experiences at the Front, The Future Peace of the World, German Aims and Ideals, Germany—Economic and Financial, German Ideals, German Occupation of Belgium, German Occupation of France, India and the War, The Manufacture of Munitions, Italy and the War, Our Flag, Pan-Germanism, Prisoners of War, Red Cross, Russia and the War, Submarines, The Turkish Empire and Armenia; United States Army, United States Navy, Women's Work in the War, Why We Are at War, Y. M. C. A. War Work

**Movies Widely Used**

The University also loaned to schools throughout the State moving picture films and featured as far as possible the war activities of America and her allies. Special films showing the preparation of England for the war were exhibited in the Y. M. C. A. halls at Camp Greene and lectures by members of the faculty were given on a number of topics.

The fundamental idea of all this service has been that of "carrying on." In every instance the University has attempted to give information and instruction in such a way that it might be further multiplied through school or club or press of the State.

**SPIES AND LIES**

During the week of the national war stamp drive we ran afoul of so many

mischievous, anti-war, pro-German lies that we are convinced of the presence of paid German agents in Orange county.

The serpent whispers about the Red Cross were nasty and nauseating. They could not possibly have originated in innocent ignorant minds. The rest were positively devilish in their cunning.

For instance, the automobiles used in the country campaign were generously loaned by their owners; nevertheless the country people were promptly told that they were fools to put their money into war stamps to pay for motor cars to haul around town folks out on a frolic.

Alert, courageous patriots in this and every other county need to get busy with treachery and treason in every locality.

Get into communication with the Committee on Public Information, 8 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C. Ask for its pamphlets, especially for The Kaiserite in America.

"Do not become a tool of the Hun by passing on the malicious, disheartening rumors which he so eagerly sows. Remember he asks no better service than to have you spread his lies of disasters to our soldiers and sailors, gross scandals in the Red Cross, cruelties, neglect and wholesale executions in our camps, drunkenness and vice in the Expeditionary Force, and other tales certain to disturb American patriots and to bring anxiety and grief to American parents.

"And do not wait until you catch some one putting a bomb under a factory. Report the man who spreads pessimistic stories, divulges—or seeks—confidential military information, cries for peace, or belittles our efforts to win the war.

"Send the names of such persons, even if they are in uniform, to the Department of Justice, Washington. Give all the details you can, with names of witnesses if possible—show the Hun that we can beat him at his own game of collecting scattered information and putting it to work.

"You are in contact with the enemy today, just as truly as if you faced him across No Man's Land. In your hands are two powerful weapons with which to meet him—discretion and vigilance. Use them.

**SAFE-GUARDING OUR BOYS**

The attitude of Secretary Baker and General Pershing has been that of men of enlightened social consciousness. I have seen a private letter of Secretary Baker which shows not only that he is sensitively aware of the value of a standard of sex morality set by officers for men, but that he has instituted a policy for obtaining it in the home camps. It is my personal belief after nearly four years of observation of five armies in this war that no other army is so safeguarded against venereal disease as ours.

It is certain that no army in history has ever dealt with this accompaniment of war—more devastating than machine guns—so wisely and so thoroughly, with so high a purpose grounded on so careful a program as ours. But the situation is so vast and so complex that no measures can ever wholly meet it. There are needed in France men of commanding position in this department of social science—men like Fosdick, Flexner, and Kneeland.

**Help the Red Triangle**

But if I were writing a criticism, at least I should have the grace to refrain from scoring points on the army Y. M. C. A. The simple truth is that it is an overworked and useful organization. The Red Triangle is trying to cheer up nearly half a million lonely boys who are a long way from home. It isn't doing it in a unitarian or trinitarian—but in a humanitarian way. It wants the soldiers to come and stay and feel at home. It doesn't legislate on personal habits in minor matters like smoking for men old enough to fight for their Country. It regards soldiers as self-respecting human beings who are free agents. It doesn't ask as a test for admission to the huts that the men shall sign a pledge or recite a creed. It asks no questions, but ministers in the spirit of the Master to men in need without distinction of creed—to Jews, Catholics, Unitarians, Evangelicals and the creedless alike.

Friends in America, our young men are at war. Don't defeat efforts to give them recreation from the bitterness of war, by insistence on credal statements, denominational preaching and anti-nicotine regulations. Help the army, the Red Cross and the Red Triangle with full generosity. But let them alone in the use they make of your help. They know the field.—Arthur Gleason, in The Survey.

**BE RIGHT AND SPEAK OUT**

These are the words of John Purroy Mitchell, the former mayor of New

York city who was defeated for a second term by the Tammany candidate by a vote of two to one. They perfectly indicate what manner of man he was.

Long before he consented to become a candidate for a second term he had applied for a place in the United States infantry. After his defeat he jumped into aviation, and won his flying commission just three weeks before his death by accident in Louisiana on July 6.

As a soldier of liberty he has served humanity far better than ever he did as mayor of New York city, great as that service was.

"I decline to be slick and play a smooth game," he said to his advisers in politics; "I prefer to be right and speak out."

Noble words, those!  
They voice a rare greatness of soul. They ring with righteousness and courage—with what Carlyle called the Immensities and Verities of life.

Arresting words!  
They challenge response from the souls of men, now and evermore. And the response will come in strict accord with spiritual law—Deep calleth unto deep. And only the deep will answer.

But also, Shallow calleth unto shallow. And the shallow will little hear the voice of a soul like John Purroy Mitchell.

Or of Clay, who said, I'd rather be right than President.

Or of Lee, who said, My son, never do a wrong thing to make a friend or to keep one.

Or to Stephens, who said, I fear nothing on earth, above it or below it, only to do wrong.

**HOME-GUARD DUTIES**

The world's greatest battle has now begun, says Mr. James H. Pou, of Raleigh. Our soldiers as well as those of our allies are on the fighting line. They are fighting and dying like heroes. On their efforts the fate of civilization depends. While we at home cannot fight, we can do things that will strengthen the men who do fight. I suggest the following methods by which we at home can do somewhat to strengthen the hands of our army. Here are my suggestions:

1. Produce and save every pound of food possible, and use only those foods not needed for export—especially avoid the use of sugar, flour, bacon and lard.

2. Avoid the use of coal. Burn wood and thereby save both coal and freight room for those who can't get wood.

3. Avoid luxury and extravagance and be saving as possible in the use of necessities. Stay away from the markets. Don't buy until you must and then sparingly. We have a famine market, and every unnecessary purchase increases the scarcity. Wear old clothes. Expenditures to meet the requirements of fashion are in bad taste and are unpatriotic.

4. Don't employ labor in unproductive work. Every workman is needed in essential industry. The unnecessary and unproductive occupations should be suspended until peace.

5. The Kaiser's most valuable allies in America are not the pro-German, the pacifist, the anarchist. They are luxury, extravagance, waste, idleness.

6. At essential work, do a hand and a half's work every day; earn every dollar possible and save the results of your work.

7. If you are in debt, and your debts fall due in the next two or three years, pay your debts, or fund them into long time loans. Otherwise when peace comes you may find the debt burdensome. Paying debts in a falling market is a painful ordeal.

8. If you have money, or if you can save money by economy, or can earn by industry invest this money with the Government. If you can spare the money and wish a permanent loan, buy 4 1-4 per cent non-taxable Liberty Bonds. If you can spare it for only a few months buy 4 1-2 per cent Treasury Certificates. Buy some War Savings and Thrift Stamps and keep buying. These dollars will fight during the war and come back to you after the war when money will be worth several times its present value.

9. After the war, we must all help with our taxes to pay the bonds. If we be thrifty and wise now, we can arrange for some of this money to come to us.

10. Show courtesies whenever possible to passing soldiers. They are going to the front to fight and maybe die, that we may remain at home in safety. They go to meet the German and stop him before he comes here. We haven't a dollar that is too good for the humblest soldier who risks his life for us.

11. In doing and giving—go the limit. In after life we will be proud of the things we gave and the sacrifice we made. Riches earned by shirking duty will be badges of infamy for generations to come.

12. If we intend to give or to do anything—DO IT NOW.—James H. Pou.