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COUNTRY HOME COMFORTS

THE SUMMER SCHOOL

The registration at the Summer School this year was unusually large. Before the end of the second week 875 students had registered for work. Of these 500 took courses in education and 353 pursued work leading to college degrees.

The proportion of college credit students this year was unusually large. It is clear that the summer work is becoming more and more an integral part of the work of the University.

The list of graduate students was large also. There were 27 who pursued graduate courses in education, and nearly every department of the University had some candidates for the higher degrees—A. M. or M. S. A wide variety of college and graduate courses was offered this year by the summer school, and these courses were nearly all well filled.

SOCIAL WORK CONFERENCE

One of the most important conferences held here during the University of North Carolina Summer School this year was the Social Work Conference, which began on Sunday, July 13, and continued through the following Sunday. This conference brought here many of the leaders in social work of this and other states. A far-reaching program was planned under the direction of Professor E. C. Branson, and many well-known speakers were secured. A large number of visitors were present for the conference.

Among the many subjects which came up for careful consideration were: Culture for Citizenship; The Social Message of Jesus; Red Cross Home Service; Child Welfare Work in North Carolina; Mill Village Welfare Problems; The War of Homes against Social Vice; Rural Health and Sanitation; Southern Country Church and Sunday School Problems; Country Illiteracy and the Country Church; The Church and our Landless Multitudes; Country Y. M. C. A. Work in the South.

In addition to these set topics there were many entertainment features. Professor F. H. Koch gave an illustrated lecture before the conference on Playmakers of the People, and there were six lectures on Culture for Citizenship by Dr. Henry E. Jackson, Special Agent in Community Organization for the U. S. Bureau of Education.

Other speakers of note were Dr. Alexander Johnson, Director of the Red Cross Home Service work for the South, Dr. W. D. Weatherford, Field Secretary of the College Y. M. C. A.'s in the South, Mr. Howard Hubbell, director of country Y. M. C. A. work in the South, Mr. C. M. Oliver, of the Erlanger Mills, Dr. G. M. Cooper, Director of Medical Inspection of Schools in North Carolina, Dr. Eva M. Blake, national Y. W. C. A. worker, Mrs. Kate Brew Vaughn, Director of the State-Bureau of Infant Hygiene, and Rev. L. B. Hayes, of Franklin, N. C. the presiding officer of the conference.

This conference was planned specifically for social workers,—ministers, Sunday school teachers, public school teachers, club women of the state, Red Cross home service workers, community organizers, mill welfare agents, country Y. M. C. A. secretaries, county health officers, county welfare superintendents, defenders of the home against social vice, and so on.

The Carolina Playmakers entertained the visitors with two original folk plays, written by students under Professor Koch.

The Summer School of the University also offered several full courses in various phases of social work. There was a Red Cross Home Service course, which embraced Domestic Nursing and Dietetics, and a course in Public Health and Sanitation, First Aid, and the Medical Inspection of School Children. The latter was given by Dr. C. S. Mangum of the University Medical School.

A COUNTRY COUNTY SURVEY

Here's a hint for wide-awake county school superintendents in North Carolina.

Out in Wisconsin the school children directed by a live school officer recently took stock of the 3,412 farm homes in one county. Here is what they found.

498 country homes supplied with running water.
320 had bath-rooms and inside toilets.
407 had power washing machines.
520 had electric and acetylene lights.
129 had open-air sleeping porches.
850 had screened porches.
918 had pianos.
1,651 had daily newspapers.
1,516 had current magazines.
2,126 had farm papers.
1,878 had automobiles.
97 had gasoline tractors.
139 had fruit-spraying outfits.
903 had incubators.
127 had milking machines.
1,234 had silos.

They found 19 creameries and 28 cheese factories in this one county. It is significant that nearly nine of every ten of these farm homes were occupied by owners. The farm tenant homes were only 398. Nearly anything worth while can happen in an area of home-owning farmers, and nearly everything falls to pieces under the curse of excessive farm tenancy—schools, churches, whatnot.

Is there any county in North Carolina that has the home and farm equipments of this Wisconsin county? Which one comes nearest the record of this Wisconsin county in home comforts, conveniences, and luxuries? What are the facts indicative in this wise of country wealth and culture in the various counties of North Carolina?

The county school superintendent, teachers, and children could assemble the facts in any county in a single week. The bare facts, whatever they are, would be tremendously informing and stimulating.

In one country county in North Carolina in 1915 we found running water in only 9 of the 3,400 farm homes.

What corps of teachers in North Carolina will undertake to make a county survey of the sort these Wisconsin teachers and school children have just published? A sample survey card for this kind of County Home Stock Taking will be furnished upon application to the University News Letter.

STATESMANSHIP AND NERVE

An item in the English newspapers catches our attention.

Great Britain, it appears, has raised the grant of government funds to her colleges and universities from two to seven million dollars a year.

It takes grim grit and clear-eyed statesmanship to do a thing like that, the crushing war debt of England considered. It brings to our mind the 75 thousand dollars for university extension service that appeared in the sundry civil list in Congress the other day. Seventy-five thousand for the universities of the United States does not show up big against the seven millions that England is setting aside for her universities this year.

The Federal funds that are being poured into our land grant colleges are a capital instance of the wisdom and courage of Congress, but it is time for our statesmen, state and Federal, to take thought of the universities of the United States—especially in the nineteen states where the universities are aside and apart from the A. & M. Colleges.

These 19 universities are supported by state funds alone and the support is therefore meager. When compared with the working incomes of the land grant colleges, re-enforced as they are from the National treasury, the support funds of these 19 state universities are small and the disparity promises to be even greater as the years go on.

Almost without exception these 19 state universities are struggling to reach and serve the multitude beyond their campus walls; and in the South they are doing it without any special appropriations for extension work from any source whatsoever—even for summer school service to the teachers of the various states, in many or most instances. As a result the University of Mississippi has been obliged to give up its summer school.

Usually the field work of these universities is done here and there by a small group of devoted faculty members, as a

THE DREAM WE DREAM

Suppose we had in every county in North Carolina a body of closely integrated social servants composed of (1) the school board with its superintendent and supervisors, (2) an agricultural board with its home and farm extension agents, (3) a public health board with its whole-time health officer, its public health nurses, its clinics and dispensaries, (4) a public welfare board and its secretary charged with specific social concerns, and (5) a ministerial board composed of all the preachers of all the churches busy stamping every common effort with the ultimate values of life and destiny, time and eternity—suppose, I say, the civic and social mind of North Carolina were organized and federated in this way! If only it could be so, and it can, then what an era of democratic wholesomeness and effectiveness we should enter upon, and how rapidly our beloved state would move to the fore in the new social order that is even now breaking upon the world.

Man freely self-surrendered to his fellowkind and whole-heartedly given in organized effort to the common good is the dream we dream. Man dedicated to the state is Prussianism; man dedicated to humanity, in His name, is the last word in any kind of religion that is worth calling Christian. The Kingdom of Heaven doubtless means much more than this, but I am sure that it ought never to mean less.—E. C. Branson, an address before N. C. Social Work Conference.

labor of love. Pay or no pay, it is work that must be done if a university is to live. If a university ceases to be in daily vital touch with the state it is set up to serve, it ceases to live, or lives at a poor dying rate.

The situation is becoming acute in 19 states. England is facing the dire necessity of conserving her universities. And these 19 states face the same necessity.

The burden lies on the state legislatures or on Congress. One or the other of these supporting agencies must assume the burden, or some of these universities will speedily be reduced to zero.

ONE PASTOR'S WIFE

We know of one pastor's wife who on the second Sunday in May distributed to the mothers in her Sunday school a large number of tracts furnished her by the Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C. Diet for the School Child, was the subject of one of the tracts.

The object of this tract is to teach the people that every child has a right to be as strong and healthy as present day knowledge can make him and also to point out in a convincing way that proper feeding is one of the chief factors in health. The second was a blank individual weight record. This minister's wife could not have picked out a better time for the distribution of this literature. It was Mothers, and Cradle Roll Day in the Sunday school and she used this opportunity to great advantage.

If Jesus took time to heal the sick and suffering we certainly ought to seize opportunities to teach the fathers and mothers how not only to prevent sickness but what to do to help their children grow up strong and healthy in every way.—G. C. Hedgepeth, News and Observer.

THE COUNTY OFFICER JOB

Most county governments have a prosy set of duties. To get up a great popular enthusiasm over a change in the filing system in the county clerk's office, or over a new heating system at the county jail, would not be an easy matter. And yet such things are about as near to the people at large as any concern the county has. Once in a while you put in a new road or bridge, and popular interest in one end of the county may be fanned for

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

LETTER SERIES NO. 179

A RINGING CALL

Superintendent T. T. Murphy of Pender County has sent out the following ringing call to the school committeemen in North Carolina.

"Several of the counties of the state have had the opportunity this year of getting a woman for all her time while the schools were in session to stay in the field and help to direct the teaching in every school, and see that it was done right. If for any reason the teacher was not doing the work as it should be, it would be a part of her duty to teach the school as it should be taught so that the teacher in charge could get some better suggestions about her work and impart it to the children in such a way that they would understand what they were doing.

The Way to Save Money

"We are planning to spend \$45,000 on teachers' salaries this fall in the county with no supervision at all. Is this fair to the children? Is it fair to the taxpayers? Would you spend \$45,000 in your line of business without having some one to supervise the way it was spent? There is not one County Superintendent in 50 in North Carolina who is a Supervisor. I mean by that, a man that visits the school, sees exactly what is going on in the school and stays at the school long enough to help reorganize it if necessary, and see that the work is done in some systematic way that will mean results to the children.

"You do not want to waste any of your money around the farm, and I do not believe you want any of your school money wasted, but judging by the different teachers you employ in your school every year, I take it for granted that you or the patrons were satisfied with the progress of their children. Is it fair to the children who sit in the school six hours every day to say: Oh well! we shall get another teacher next year, when possibly you or the good mother in the home knows that their time is about one-half thrown away, the way the school is going on. You do not discharge every workman you hire if you find out he is not making good, but you try to show him what you want done and how you want it done, and if after this he persists in making a bad job you do the next best thing. Why not do this school work in a more business like way and see that neither the money nor the time of the children is wasted.

Why Do It?

"But some one says, why pay one-half of the salary of a woman to look after this work when we are already paying the present county Superintendent to do nothing? Now, there you are again. This is the the argument that is put up to the Board of Education, and if it represents your sentiment, it certainly

a little while. Your great difficulty is that, altho you are always performing duties which are extremely important, they are rarely of general concern and never spectacular.

But there are possibilities before you for making county government take a greater place in the affections of the people. You are a part of a system that spreads over the United States, with scarcely a break. You are the foundation of the great structure of organized democracy. The state is pretty much the sum of its counties. Of the unofficial organization—that is, the party system—you are a particular indispensable part. The county is the unit of party organization. What form its policies take depends very largely upon you.—H. S. Gilbertson, An Open Letter to County Officials in The American City.

WAKE COUNTY WELFARE

To county Superintendent of Welfare Childress The Times would extend its best wishes. He has something of a job; it is gratifying to learn that he is much of a man.

Mr. Childress has been supply pastor to a church near Wendell. That's fine! No man can be too good to be a county superintendent of welfare. He is a grad-

seems to me that it is time for somebody to get busy telling the Board of Education that this kind of talk must stop. You can not very well expect a Board of Education in any county to be enthusiastic about getting some help to supervise the schools in the face of this argument which is said to be exactly what the people are thinking and saying.

An Illustrative Case

"If an honest confession is good for the soul, I have stated that I am not the supervisor, and I do not see how any county superintendent can be a supervisor in a county the size of ours and try to do all the routine work, visit 80 odd schools during the year and write something like 15 or 20 letters per day when our nearby county of Columbus is paying a woman \$1,200 per year to do the clerical work alone. Columbus is also paying a man \$1,500 per year, furnishing him with a Ford Machine and paying all the repairs, to enforce the compulsory attendance law and fill the office of Superintendent of Welfare.

"In order that the present County Superintendent of schools would not have to take a tonic for his appetite for lack of exercise this new office has been tendered him. Do you think that one man in Pender can do as much as three people do in Columbus?

"Realizing that the county was not extra wealthy, and never will be, as long as parents make slaves and servants of their children rather than men and women, I offered to do this extra work, or try to do it, for my expenses, if the Board of Education would take what money they would pay on this work and use it to employ a Supervisor on trial for one year. I have not pressed the matter with the Board. They understand better than I do what is not best for the county.

"If the people in Pender county do not see anything in this proposition, if some of them have their fighting blood up and are ready to kill this proposition like killing snakes, of course the work could and would not amount to much even though the schools might be temporarily benefited.

A Comparison

"Booker Washington said that the white people could beat the negro at almost any proposition in a competitive class, but the white man could not beat the negro singing negro songs. But my friends, the negro has beat us to it. Did you know that you, through your school taxes, have been paying one-half of the negro supervisor's salary in this county for the past two years? Ask any of the county officials if they think this colored woman is worth what she is paid. Personally I am unwilling for the negro children to have better supervision than the white children; however, I do not know how you feel about the proposition."—L. A. Williams.

uate of Wake Forest, which again is fine; his new job requires vision and should be held by an educated man. He has in times past been connected with the Odd Fellows' Orphanage, and this is even better; a man without warm sympathy with and understanding of children would be an utter failure in a position which makes him chief truant and probation officer for the county.

He is to receive \$2,000 per annum as salary. He will be worth vastly more or not that much, and if he deliver the goods, he can expect to have his salary raised.

We are not sufficiently temerarious to attempt to advise the new official as to his specific duties; in a general way everybody at all familiar with the new laws governing compulsory education, child labor and juvenile courts knows that the prime prerequisite of an efficient county superintendent of welfare is an intelligent interest in the well-being of others.

This, we are quite sure, Mr. Childress has. If he receive, as he must receive, the support of the rest of Wake's sentiment folk, he should be able to polish and brighten the community's uncut and tarnished gems till they gleam like those of Cornelia, mother of the Gracii.—Raleigh Times.