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PUBLIC WELFARE PROGRAM

STATE AND COUNTY COUNCIL

Chapel Hill, N. C. September 15-20, 1919, Governor T. W. Bickett, presiding. Under the auspices of the Governor of North Carolina, the State University, the State Association of County Commissioners, and the State Departments charged with carrying into effect our new Public Welfare Laws: the State Board of Education, the State Board of Health, the State Board of Public Welfare, the State Tax Commission, the State Highway Commission.

A Conference of Juvenile Court Judges, Probation and Parole Officers, County Welfare Board Members and Superintendents, School Attendance Officers and Factory Inspectors, County Health Officers and Public Health Nurses, County Highway Officials, County Commissioners, County and District Tax Assessors, County School Boards and Superintendents, their volunteer allies, and all other civic-minded citizens of North Carolina.

PROGRAM

Monday Evening Sept. 15

Address of Welcome.—Dr. H. W. Chase, President of the State University. Address.—Governor T. W. Bickett.

Tuesday, Sept. 16

9:00 Unified County Government under Responsible Headship.—Leaders, Hon. W. C. Boren, Chairman Guilford County Commissioners, Hon. W. C. Jones, President State Association of County Commissioners, Hon. R. K. Davenport, Chairman Gaston County Commissioners.

10:00 Our New Educational System.—Dr. E. C. Brooks, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

11:30 The Public Health Problem.—Dr. W. S. Rankin, Secretary State Board of Health.

12:30 What is Expected of County Welfare Boards and Superintendents.—Hon. R. F. Beasley, Secretary State Board of Public Welfare.

3:30 The Revaluation Act.—Governor T. W. Bickett.

4:30 Development of the County System of Roads. The Necessity for a County Roads Engineer.—W. L. Spoon, Engineer U. S. Bureau of Public Roads.

Evening Hour. Illustrated Lecture: The Consolidation of School Districts. George Howard, Jr., Superintendent, Edgecombe County Schools.

Wednesday, Sept. 17

9:00 Objects and Methods of County Health Work.—Dr. A. J. Warren, Assistant Secretary, State Board of Health.

10:00 The Fee and Salary Systems. The County Fee Fund: Its Importance.—Leaders, Hon. W. A. McGirt, Chairman New Hanover County Commissioners. Hon. W. J. Johnson, Asheville, N. C.

11:30 The Development of a State Highway System by Connecting Inter-county Roads.—Hon. Frank Page, Chairman State Highway Commission.

12:30 Coordination of County Extension Agents with the New Educational System.—Dr. B. W. Kilgore, State Director of Farm Extension Work.

3:30 Administration of our Tax Laws.—Hon. W. T. Lee, Chairman State Corporation Commission.

4:30 Practical Work of the Juvenile Court and Probation Officer.—Judge Charles N. Feidelson, Savannah, Ga.

Evening Hour. Modern Principles of Social Welfare.—Amos W. Butler, Secretary Indiana State Board of Charities and Corrections.

Thursday, Sept. 18

9:00 Case Work in handling Dependent, Delinquent, and Neglected Children.—Mrs. Clarence W. Johnson, Director of the Child Welfare Division of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare.

10:00 Objects and Methods of County Health Work.—Dr. B. E. Wash-

burn, Director of Rural Sanitation, State Board of Health.

11:30 Cooperation of the Federal Government in Building State Roads.—E. W. James, U. S. Bureau of Public Roads.

12:30 Uniform County Account Keeping and Reporting: Why and How.—Leader: Geo. G. Scott, Chairman State Board Public Accountancy. The Income Tax and Solvent Credits Amendments.—Ex-Judge George P. Pell, State Corporation Commission.

3:30 County Government as it Might be in North Carolina.—Hon. Geo. W. Connor, Wilson, N. C.

Evening Hour. The Model Plan of State and Local Taxation.—Dr. Charles J. Bullock, Department of Economics, Harvard University.

Friday, Sept. 19

9:00 Unifying the Teacher Training Forces of a County.—A. T. Allen, State Board of Examiners and Institute Conductors.

10:00 Conservation of Childhood.—Dr. George M. Cooper, Director of Medical Inspection of Schools, and Mrs. Kate Brew Vaughn, Director Bureau of Infant Hygiene, State Board of Health.

11:30 Practical Organization of the Work of the County Welfare Superintendent.—A. S. McFarlane, County Superintendent of Public Welfare, Forsyth County.

12:30 The Tax Question from the Taxpayer's Standpoint.—Hon. A. J. Maxwell, Chairman State Tax Commission.

3:30 Economy and Efficiency in Road Construction.—W. S. Fallis, State Highway Engineer.

4:30 State-wide Auditing of County Accounts: Why and How.—Leaders: W. F. Woodward, Wilson County, Charles S. Wallace, Carteret Board of County Commissioners.

Evening Hour. A Complete Program of State Health Work.—Dr. Allen W. Freeman, Commissioner of Health of Ohio.

Saturday, Sept. 20

9:00 The Public Health Outlook in North Carolina.—Dr. W. S. Rankin.

9:30 A More Efficient School System. Dr. E. C. Brooks.

10:00 Maintenance, the Solution of Satisfactory Highways.—Hon. Frank Page.

10:30 Resume of Council Tax Discussions.—Hon. A. J. Maxwell.

11:15 The Function of Directed Play and Organized Recreation in Child Welfare.—R. K. Atkinson, Chairman Recreation Association, Sag Harbor, N. Y.

11:45 Committee Reports, Resolutions, etc.

12:00 Governor Bickett, Closing Address.

FREE DENTAL SERVICE

A system of free traveling dental service for rural-school children was established by the State Board of Health of North Carolina in July, 1918. This experiment was begun after examination of some 200,000 school children in North Carolina showed that at least 75 per cent had beginning decay in permanent teeth. Less than 10 per cent of these children had ever visited a dentist except for the purpose of having an aching tooth extracted. The records also proved that at least 90 out of every 100 parents never made any effort to have their children's teeth treated by a dentist.

This neglect is attributed by State authorities to several causes.

1. Poverty.
2. Ignorance and indifference.
3. Morbid fear of the dentist.
4. Hesitancy of many dentists to accept young children as patients.
5. Lack of specific instruction in the public school on the care of the teeth.

Work Educational

The prime object of the work is, of course, educational. The preference has been given to children between 6 and 12

THE TRUE HOME

John Ruskin

This is the true nature of home—it is the place of Peace; the shelter, not only from all injury, but from all terror, doubt and division. In so far as it is not this, it is not home. So far as the anxieties of the outer life penetrate into it, and the inconsistently minded, unknown, unloved, or hostile society of the outer world is allowed by either husband or wife to cross the threshold, it ceases to be home; it is then only a part of that outer world which you have roofed over, and lighted fire in. But so far as it is a sacred place, a vestal temple, a temple of the hearth watched by household gods, before whose face none may come, but those whom they can receive with love—so far as it is this, and roof and fire are types only of a nobler shade and light,—shade as of the rock in a weary land, and light as of the Pharos in the stormy sea;—so far it vindicates the name and fulfills the praise of home.

And wherever a true wife comes, this home is always round her. The stars only may be over her head; the glow-worm in the night-cold grass may be the only fire at her feet; but home is yet wherever she is; and for a noble woman it stretches far around her, better than ceiled with cedar, or painted with vermillion, shedding its quiet light far, for those who else were homeless.

years of age, and in some of the sections the work has been restricted entirely to children under 10 years old.

The idea is twofold: First, to teach the very small children practical care of the teeth, getting them to form the habit of regular visits to the dentist; and second by filling or other treatment, preserve the children's teeth until past puberty when they will be able to realize the importance of dental care.

The actual treatment given has been of course, limited in class, but ranges all the way from cleaning and extraction to the placing of permanent amalgam fillings in permanent teeth.—School Life.

BEN FRANKLIN'S WISDOM

I confess that there are several parts of this Constitution which I do not at present approve. But having lived long, I have experienced many instances of being obliged, by better information or fuller consideration, to change opinions even on important subjects, which I once thought right, but found to be otherwise. It is therefore that the older I grow, the more apt I am to doubt my own judgment and pay more respect to the judgment of others.

I doubt too whether any other convention we can obtain may be able to make a better Constitution. For when you assemble a number of men to have the advantage of their joint wisdom, you inevitably assemble with those men all their prejudices, their passions, their errors of opinion, their local interests, and selfish views. From such an assembly can a perfect production be expected? It therefore astonishes me, Sir, to find this system approaching so near to perfection as it does, and I think it will astonish our enemies who are waiting with confidence to hear that our councils are confounded like those of the builders of Babel, and that our States are on the point of separation, only to meet hereafter for the purpose of cutting one another's throats.

Thus I consent, Sir, to this Constitution because I expect no better, and because I am not sure that it is not the best. The opinions I have had of its errors I sacrifice to the public good. I have never whispered a syllable of them abroad. Within these walls they were born, and here they shall die. If every one of us in returning to our constituents were to report the objections he has had to it and endeavor to gain partisans in support of them,

we might prevent its being generally received and thereby lose all the salutary effects and great advantages resulting naturally in our favor among foreign nations as well as among ourselves from our real or apparent unanimity.

On the whole, Sir, I cannot help expressing a wish that every member of the convention who may still have objections to it would with me, on this occasion, doubt a little his own infallibility, and to make manifest our unanimity, put his name to this instrument.

A NEGRO PREACHER'S WISDOM

The subsidence of race-prejudice was not coincident with the downfall of Germany, nor will it be with the formation of the League of Nations, if effected. The white man has it, the black man has it—most men, everywhere, still have it.

He who arouses in the negro expectations of a speedy democratic solution of all his depressing race-problems will, I fear, do him much harm. It will give frequent occasions for irritating disappointments, which would work evil in various ways.

I say to my people: Be patient! Not the patience of insensible apathy nor indeed of passive docility, but of active peaceful effort, and of patient 'watchful waiting.' The possibility of rising is the inspiring angel of effort, and that possibility is ours. The race is climbing. The forces of interracial amity and brotherly reciprocity are mobilizing. Race discrimination, here and there, is beginning to betray the relenting face of self-condemning shame. Mob violence will be stopt. Be patient! Be upright! Be in all things honorable. We are living in the early morning of a glorious day, whose moral splendor shall illumine the world, but we must labor and wait till the noon cometh—we can not go to it. The heights attained will never be abandoned. The good work begun will go forward with subduing power and with ever-unfolding rectitude. Till the war-drums throb no longer, and the battle-flags are furled, in the parliament of man, the federation of the world!—J. Will Jackson, D. D., of The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, in The Southwestern Christian Advocate, New Orleans.

CULTURE AND AGRICULTURE

Those of us who are struggling with the country-life problem in the South believe that the culture of the farmer is more important than the farmer's agriculture; and that the farmer's home and children are more precious than the farmer's fields and farm animals, barns and bank balances.

Here are important questions that we face daily: Will the new industrial city civilization of the South bring about depletion and decay in our rural regions, as it has done elsewhere in America? Are we doomed to a one-crop civilization based on tenancy farming? Will the apparently permanent high prices of food stuffs tempt us into diversified farming? Or must the business of the South be repeatedly paralyzed by low-priced cotton, before we can give ourselves to diversified farm activities? Or will we wait to take our lesson from the boll weevil, as Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia have done? Who can say?

One of the characters in Mrs. Abbott's story, The Sick-a-Bed Lady, says: "Up to the time he's thirty, no man has done the things he wants to do, but only the things that have happened to come his way. He is forced into business to please his father, and cajoled into the Episcopal Church to please his mother, and bullied into red neckties to please sister Isabel. But having once reached the grown-up, level-headed, independent age of thirty, a man's a fool who doesn't sit down deliberately and list out, one by one, the things that he wants—and go ahead and get them."

Now, the South is grown-up, and level-headed enough to sit down and deliberately list out the things that she needs for permanent well-being.

Fundamental Needs

She needs, first and most of all, to preserve sanely and safely the balance between her country life and industrial civilization.

To this end, she needs improved public highways, cross country trams and telephones, improved health conditions,

modern conveniences and comforts in her country homes, applied science and labor saving machinery on her farms, and new ideals and activities in her country schools and churches.

But we must realize that none of these are possible to a civilization based upon landless, homeless, ignorant, unskilled labor; that civilization is bottomed on the home-owning, home-loving, home-defending instinct; and that economic salvation depends upon a multiplied host of small farmers who till the land they own and who own the land they till.

True, we cannot go ahead and get all these things in a jiffy; but we can struggle toward these ends with fervent love of our motherland and with unyielding hope and courage.

The South has bravely set her hand to her task. Her agricultural colleges are achieving wonders. Her teacher training schools have been forced into a study of the country-life problem; because, population considered, the country school bulks big. It is 83 percent of the whole problem of public education in the South.

In the colleges and universities of the South, if anywhere in the world, there ought to be really effective courses in rural economics and sociology. We shall doubtless have them in good time.

In any event I dare to say that the South is not a Sick-a-Bed Lady, but a strong man, ready and rejoicing like a bridegroom to run a race.—E. C. Branson, address before the American Economics Association.

A SAVOR OF LIFE

I have no sort of hesitation in saying that the President of these free states has a vision of world righteousness and peace, of the fine art of national living, such as never before informed and animated the head of a great and purposeful people. And so, as a genuine American, I am righteously proud of him in his righteous purpose to teach righteousness to the nations, to bring disorder and wars and their waste and misery to an end, to establish a just, constructive and enduring peace throughout the world—this strong-jawed American school-teacher whom all the nations look up to.

Wilhelm was a savor of death unto death, a vessel unto dishonor; Wilson, an embodiment of the American spirit, a savor of life, a vessel unto honor, meet for the Master's service. I bid him God-speed, therefore, in the right formation of a righteous league of nations for the rehabilitation of this wasted earth, and the prevention of the destruction and misery and death incident upon social disorder and war.—Dr. Cyrus Thompson, retiring president State Medical Society.

VALUES THE NEWS LETTER

We have a daily conference of the eighty members of our staff to consider matters affecting our business and to receive suggestions from the members of the staff.

At this conference the other day Mr. M. A. White, who, by the way, is a Carolina man, made the following suggestion:

"For the last few years I have been reading a weekly periodical that has more real meat in it concerning county and state conditions, than I believe any other ten papers in the State. I refer to the University News Letter. I think every person interested in our State, whether from a selfish or unselfish standpoint, owes the publishers of this little sheet a word of commendation.

My suggestion is this: let the Company express its appreciation of the efforts of the publishers of this paper in any manner which may suggest itself, with the request that if possible the News Letter be sent to our North Carolina agents each week. No doubt some of our agents already see this Letter, but I believe that all of them should. From time to time they will be able to get information and ideas from this source which may be a help to them in soliciting life insurance and serving their clientele.—H. B. Gunter, Southern Life and Trust Co., Greensboro, N. C.

EQUALLY BAD

There is an active minority of powerful capitalists and employers intent upon establishing in the United States a dictatorship of plutocracy.

There is an equally active and even more determined minority on the labor side determined to a dictatorship of the proletariat.

Neither can succeed except by wrecking the existing industrial and social structure of the United States—Basil Manly, Joint Chairman of the War Labor Board.