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DOCTORS IN THE UNITED STATES

THE HALIFAX BULLETIN

Halifax County: Economic and Social, the title of the 100-page bulletin that has just gone to the printers from the Department of Rural Social Science at the University of North Carolina. It is the work of three Halifax men at the University, Messrs. S. B. Allen, Travis, Jr., and D. S. Daniel, all of Edenton. Its publication was made possible by the advertising contracts and the generous contributions of the merchants and manufacturers of Halifax County.

The chapters are as follows:
Foreword.—E. C. Branson.
Historical Background.—D. S. Daniel.
Natural Resources.—R. S. Travis,

Industries and Opportunities.—S. B. Allen.
Facts about the Folks.—R. S. Travis, Jr.

Wealth and Taxation.—S. B. Allen.
The Public Schools of Halifax.—Travis, Jr.
Farm Conditions and Practices.—S. B. Allen.

Home-Raised Food and the Local Market Problem.—S. B. Allen.
Where Halifax Leads.—R. S. Travis, Jr.

Where Halifax Lags and The Outlook.—S. B. Allen.

There have been county histories in various states of America in multi-thousands, but North Carolina is producing bulletins devoted to economic, social, and civic problems—bulletins that take the backward and forward look as well as the rearward look at the problems and puzzles of local life and business. The Halifax county bulletins make a literature unique in this or any other state.

These young men are properly proud of the grandeur and glory of Halifax before yesterday. They may well be proud of their home county. It has had five governors, two supreme court judges, five superior court judges, attorney generals, sixteen congressmen, a member of the cabinet in Jackson's day, the democratic leader of the House of Representatives in Wilson's day and John Paul Jones, the Father of the American Navy.

But also their minds have been busy with what Halifax is today and what may be tomorrow.

This bulletin ought to be in the hands of every reader, thinker, and leader in Halifax county. The public school teacher ought to thumb it through thoroughly. No teacher ought to be allowed to teach in the county who knows less of Halifax than this little bulletin can teach him. It ought to be a textbook for the high-school seniors.

With its 400 comparisons of Halifax with herself over a stretch of years and with every other county in the state, it carries abundant food for thought by teachers and preachers, merchants and manufacturers, farmers and bankers alike.

The edition is small—3,000 only. Copies can be secured from the advertisers and contributors. The people that want copies will need to apply at once.

DOCTORS IN CAROLINA

There are 2,257 doctors in North Carolina. They serve two and a half million people settled in 48,740 square miles of territory. Which means on an average one doctor for every 1,100 people and every 23 square miles of area.

On the basis of territory per doctor, North Carolina ranks 26th among the states of the Union. See the table in another column.

Eight southern states make a better showing, as follows: Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, Georgia, Alabama, Arkansas, South Carolina, and Louisiana; and six a poorer showing, namely, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas, Florida, New Mexico, and Arizona.

The doctors like the preachers are being out of the country regions. Already there are a score or more of counties in North Carolina without a single doctor or preacher living out in the countryside. Instead they live in the villages and towns, and serve their

country clients and charges not in gigs and sulkies as in the days of yore, but in motor cars as a rule.

Fewer Country Doctors

Recently we talked with two middle-aged doctors moving out of a neighboring country county, bag and baggage, scrip and scrippage. One of them had \$10,000 and the other \$15,000 of uncollectable accounts on his books. "It is not the fashion to present doctor's bills out in the country," they said. "The doctor's pay is a bagatelle, and the settlement of accounts is slow, so slow that we cannot keep ahead of the game. Country people are sensitive and they feel insulted if they are dunned, as they say. We have literally lived from hand to mouth, and we've looked in vain for Elijah's ravens, so we're moving out."

There is now left in this county only one doctor for every 53 square miles and every 1,800 people. No wonder that more than 300 children in the county are delivered year by year by untrained midwives, and that one babe in every eleven dies during the first year—58 such deaths all told in 1917, and that three-fifths of these babes died of preventable diseases!

And there are some forty other counties of the state in similar plight.

Ninety percent of the doctors of the United States own automobiles, according to the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce. And fortunately North Carolina is among the first twenty states in country telephone mileage.

A City Concern

If it were not for country telephones, village doctors with motor cars, and improved roads in rapidly increasing number, rural North Carolina would be well-nigh depopulated within a generation or two. As it is, the cityward drift of country people in this and every other state the last five years is heading into a national calamity. Consumers are notoriously an unorganized, unthinking mob in every country, but the stupidest among them is beginning to see at last that the question of what we shall eat and where withal we shall be clothed depends on improved conditions of life in the countryside, on increased efficiency, prosperity, satisfaction, and wholesomeness in the farm homes of the state and the nation.

The city that is stolidly unconcerned about the well-being of the people in its surrounding trade-territory—that expects to grow fat on a lean countryside—is stupid beyond words. Happily the really alert chambers of commerce in our cities are beginning to see this fundamental fact clearly and to act upon it vigorously, as for instance in Newbern and Gastonia.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Headquarters: State Board of Education, Raleigh, N. C. Staff: W. C. Crosby, director; J. S. Black, assistant director; J. B. Williamson, director of mechanics; Mrs. Clair S. Thomas, librarian; Miss Sarah Sanders, director of physical education.

Activities

The Bureau of Community Service is a state agency, operating directly under the State Board of Education. By means of an appropriation of \$25,000 a year, this Service promotes recreation and community advancement through rural schools.

In operation, the county constitutes a unit and the work in each unit is under the direction of the County Superintendent of Schools and his Board.

In each county where the service is operative the State Bureau places an automobile truck with a portable electric lighting system and moving picture machine. A woman director and a mechanic are employed and ten school centers are selected to constitute the circuit or field of activities in the county.

Each of these centers is visited by the outfit once every two weeks. The director arrives at the school before the children are dismissed (when school is in session) and conducts games, athletics, storytelling, and other recreational and educational activities. Clubs for women, boys and girls are organized and any possible service for the

CIVIC PRIDE

Abraham Lincoln

I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live in it so that his place will be proud of him.

Be honest, but hate no one. Overturn a man's wrong-doing, but do not overturn him unless it must be done in overturning the wrong.

Stand with anybody that stands right, and part with him when he goes wrong.

advancement of the community is rendered by the director and mechanic. Often, between school sessions (in the summer time) recreational and educational activities are promoted in the afternoon for children and adults.

In the evening a moving picture entertainment, usually consisting of six reels, is given to the general community meeting. At this meeting county agents such as the superintendent of schools, superintendent of public welfare, health officer, home demonstrator, farm demonstrator or other invited speakers, help the community with community betterment, organization, recreational activities, or educational features. As a result the school in many localities is rapidly becoming the center of social and community life.

A special feature of the service is the promotion of the incorporation of rural communities under Chapter 202 of the Public Laws of 1919, which provides for the election of local officials for promoting local government within the school district, similar to town or village government. Several communities are finding this a valuable means of crystallizing and making effective the organization in their district.

Cost of Operation

From their appropriation the State Bureau purchases the automobile truck, picture machine and other equipment, including the films shown. The cost of this equipment constitutes most of the one-third of the total cost of the unit in a county for a year, which amount the Bureau agrees to supply. The remaining two-thirds of the required operating expense is met by a ten-cent admission charge to each entertainment. If a county falls behind in its share of the expenses the State Bureau supplies the deficit to a limited extent, while, if there is a surplus it keeps the same. This arrangement prevents commercializing the service.

The Films

The supply of films is selected, purchased and kept by the State Bureau. These are sent out in balanced programs, usually consisting of six reels—two of which are dramatic or historical, two purely educational, and two are good clean comedy. Educational reels frequently treat some process of farming, animal husbandry, dairying, manufacture, studies in animal or vegetable life, etc.

Extent of Operation

The first county circuit was organized in 1917, in Sampson county. Six counties were organized the first year in spite of war conditions. Now there are twenty counties operating regularly and 45,000 people are reached monthly. Other counties have made application for the services of the bureau but for lack of funds they cannot now be served.

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3. Reprint, An Act to Repeal Chapter 128 of the Public Laws of 1917, and to Provide for the Incorporation of Rural Communities.—Pamphlet.
4. Physical Education in the Public Schools, 1919.—A. E. Howell, Superintendent of Public Welfare, Wayne County, N. C.

COLD FEET

Speaking at Gastonia on the occasion of the cornerstone laying of the North Carolina Orthopaedic Hospital, Governor Bickett, as is his custom on all occasions these days, turned the discussion to taxation. It was, of course, the natural and logical thing to do. For every time the State establishes a

COUNTRY HOME CONVENIENCES

LETTER SERIES No. 18

A HINT FOR CANNING TIME

Now that vegetables are growing in abundance in the gardens and many kinds of fruit rapidly ripening on the trees the season for canning is at hand. The high cost of food stuffs of all kinds makes it necessary to save by canning for winter use all garden and farm produce not actually needed for daily consumption by the family. This is a big job and especially so for the farm wife as it is on her that the burden of the work falls. The scarcity of hired help adds to the difficulty of the task. The housewife must not only plan her every-day work systematically but she must be equipped with every convenience for doing it quickly and efficiently. She must have time to save these fruits and vegetables and also keep her health and strength during the fatiguing summer.

A housewife who has installed in her home a farm lighting set with the added conveniences of a water system and electrical household appliances has decided advantage over her neighbor who has none of these electrical servants.

For example, it has been estimated that many farmers' wives are lifting a ton of water a day—that is in lifting it from the spring or well, carrying it to the kitchen, pouring it into the kettle, pouring it out of the kettle into the dish pan and from the dish pan out of doors. When you take into consideration the cooking of three meals a day, the scrubbing, washing etc., this does not seem such an enormous estimate, and when the time and strength that are expended in doing this work are taken into account, the advantage of a farmer's

wife who has running water in her home is clearly seen.

Then there is the convenience of electric light. Besides furnishing bright, safe and cheerful illumination, there is the great amount of time and energy saved from cleaning and filling kerosene lamps and lanterns. The helpfulness of an electric churn, cream separator, washing machine, electric iron, dish washer, and vacuum cleaner should all be considered, as the saving in time by their use is estimated to be anywhere from ten to fifteen hours a week—quite an item during the busy canning season! The service of an electric fan during the hot summer months in the heated kitchen, dining room and bed room cannot be determined in hours and minutes. The comfort and health it affords and the strength and energy it furnishes are incalculable.

It has been satisfactorily demonstrated that the automobile and tractor have improved the efficiency of farm work. They are solving some of the labor problems and have enlarged the power of production. A still greater advantage in farm management and production can be obtained through the use of electrical appliances, and it should be the aim of every farmer to see that his wife is not handicapped by the lack of these conveniences for meeting the demand for canning farm and garden fruits and vegetables in larger quantities than ever before to insure an adequate food supply during the winter season.—A. N.

great charitable institution like this the tax-payers foot the bill. And most of them are glad to do so.

Those who compare the amount of taxes paid by the citizen at present with the amount in the good old days of extremely low tax rates fail to take into consideration the tremendous progress of North Carolina. In 1848, when ever the State laid its hands on a man or woman or child it did so for one of two reasons—to send him to jail or to the poorhouse. At that time no other institutions were maintained. There were no charitable institutions in North Carolina then—no hospitals for the insane, no school for the feeble-minded, no institutions for the deaf and the blind, no industrial home for girls and women, no school for wayward boys, no sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis. All these have been established in comparatively recent times. Is it any wonder that taxes are higher now than they were in 1848?

All good citizens rejoice in the establishment of the Orthopaedic Hospital, said the Governor. "Its mission is to heal the crippled, the lame and the halt. The word orthopaedic means the right sort of feet. The man who is in direct need of treatment in this hospital is the fellow who gets cold feet when we talk about raising taxes to maintain such institutions as this in North Carolina."—News and Observer.

UNCONSIDERED SOCIALISM

Using the term in a broad sense, every act of government may be described

as socialistic—that is, society, acting together, does for all what would be otherwise left to individual action.

Our schools are socialistic; they provide by taxation for a system of instruction that would otherwise be left to individual initiative and enterprise. Our road system is socialistic both in the city and in the country; the people, acting together, do what otherwise would be left to individual effort or to voluntary associations of individuals. Even our courts of justice are socialistic; they are tribunals established by law, and supported by taxes, a substitute for the old plan under which each individual enforced by personal violence what he regarded as his right.

The feuds that survive in remote mountain regions furnish us illustrations of the condition which would exist everywhere, if we had not carried the socialistic idea far enough to establish orderly government.

Our post office is a very long step in the direction of socialism. It carries for a small cost the letters and papers which would be distributed at a much greater cost if the mails were left to private monopoly. The Government has recently extended the activities of the Post Office Department. Rural delivery was established, then came the parcel post, and now we have the postal savings bank, each invading, to a certain extent, the field of individual and corporate activity.

And so in the cities. Nearly all the municipalities own and operate city water plants, and many of them city lighting plants.—W. J. Bryan, in Collier's.

DOCTORS IN THE UNITED STATES

States ranked according to the number of square miles per physician in 1919. Based on the figures of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce.

Department of Rural Social Science
University of North Carolina

Rank	State	Average Sq. Mi. per Dr.	Number of Doctors	Rank	State	Average Sq. Mi. per Dr.	Number of Doctors
1.	Rhode Island	1.4	752	25.	S. Carolina	22	1,433
2.	Massachusetts	1.5	5,494	26.	Louisiana	23	2,060
3.	New Jersey	2.6	3,153	26.	North Carolina	23	2,257
4.	New York	3	15,877	28.	Mississippi	24	1,975
4.	Connecticut	3	1,701	29.	Oklahoma	26.5	2,672
6.	Pennsylvania	3.9	11,495	30.	California	27	5,929
7.	Maryland	5	2,268	31.	Maine	28	1,179
7.	Illinois	5	11,095	32.	Kansas	31	2,668
9.	Ohio	5.1	8,089	33.	Minnesota	33	2,566
10.	Indiana	7.5	4,765	34.	Nebraska	39	1,960
11.	Delaware	9	264	35.	Washington	41	1,698
12.	Missouri	10	6,963	36.	Texas	43.5	6,246
13.	Kentucky	11.6	3,483	37.	Florida	45	1,296
14.	Tennessee	12	3,481	38.	Colorado	60	1,713
15.	West Virginia	12.5	1,759	39.	Oregon	84	1,157
16.	Iowa	14	4,004	40.	S. Dakota	111	695
16.	N. Hampshire	14	666	41.	N. Dakota	116	604
18.	Vermont	14.6	653	42.	Utah	172	488
18.	Virginia	16.6	2,552	43.	Idaho	180	458
20.	Georgia	17	3,442	44.	Montana	225	661
21.	Wisconsin	20	2,817	45.	New Mexico	251	456
22.	Michigan	21	2,810	46.	Arizona	344	333
22.	Alabama	21	2,530	47.	Wyoming	387	254
22.	Arkansas	21	2,587	48.	Nevada	696	159