

# THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

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Editorial Board: E. C. Branson, L. R. Wilson, E. W. Knight, D. D. Carroll, J. B. Bullitt.

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## BUILDING NEW RAILWAY LINES

### SERVING FARM HOMES

ioneer work in the extension of en-  
gineering service to farms and country  
communities is being carried on by the  
North Carolina State Highway Commis-  
sion in collaboration with the Bureau of  
Extension of the University of North  
Carolina. That state is said to be the  
first to provide a special fund by legis-  
lative grant for such a purpose, and to  
in its promotion the university or-  
ganized a new division of its extension  
work which has been called the "divis-  
ion of country home comforts and con-  
veniences." The staff is made up of  
members of the university's engineer-  
ing departments. In the six months  
since the work was organized, assist-  
ance has been given directly to more  
than 100 persons in rural communities.  
Electric light and power are chief  
among the conveniences that it is hoped  
to bring to rural sections all through  
the state. North Carolina has many  
all water-power sites, many streams  
wasted through the state having fall  
power enough to develop from 1 horsepower  
to 10 horsepower of hydro-electricity.  
The model installation of this kind is  
to be made at the site of the university  
at Chapel Hill, where waterwheels,  
generators and auxiliary apparatus will  
be shown and explained. Farm-light-  
ing sets have also been carefully studied  
with a view to aiding the farmers in  
their choice of apparatus. The exten-  
sion of rural telephones is to be pro-  
moted. P. H. Daggett is the director  
of the division staff of the university.—  
The Electrical World.

### SCHOOL FOR COMMERCIAL SECRETARIES

University of North Carolina,  
August 9-14, 1920

Someone suggested last winter that  
commercial secretaries in this section  
could welcome a chance to put in a  
few days studying their problems under  
expert leadership.

The School of Commerce at the Uni-  
versity of North Carolina offers this  
chance and invites you to sign and mail  
the enclosed card so we can make reser-  
vations for you.

#### The Program of Study

Colvin Brown has planned to be present  
during the entire session and give def-  
inite instruction on "Building and Main-  
taining a Local Chamber of Commerce."  
Paul Bunn, C. C. Kirkpatrick, A. V.  
Hull, H. E. Barlow, C. W. Roberts,  
Daniel N. Casey, will be present to con-  
duct Round Table Conferences on such  
topics as:—Secretarial Ethics; Publicity  
Methods; Demonstration of a Board of  
Directors' Meeting; Office Forms; etc.  
Howard W. Odum will discuss the  
"Industrial and Social Survey" and "The  
City-Building and Country-Serving Mu-  
nicipality".

E. C. Branson will present for your  
benefit Town and Country Interdepen-  
dencies.

J. F. Dashiell has promised a discus-  
sion of some phase of Psychology in  
business.

#### Other Features

But it is not to be entirely a work and  
study period. Ample opportunity will  
be given for tennis and baseball, hikes,  
the gymnasium, showers, and swimming  
pool to the heart's content.

We hope also to be able to amuse,  
entertain and instruct you with movies  
furnished by the North Carolina Com-  
munity Service Bureau.

#### Expenses

The cost to you for tuition, room in  
the dormitories and board at the Uni-  
versity Commons (Swain Hall) will be  
\$20 for the six days. No rebate will be  
allowed for part time attendance.

#### Exhibits

If you have any exhibits of material  
used to boost your town or to inform  
your own citizens about local conditions  
send them on at once. We shall have  
a room set apart for such exhibits and  
we need yours.

#### First Meeting

At three o'clock on Monday afternoon  
there will be a "get-together" and "get-

acquainted" meeting. It is important  
that you be here in time to attend this  
meeting.

Address all communications to L. A.  
WILLIAMS, EXECUTIVE SECRE-  
TARY, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Come directly to Peabody Building,  
Room 6, as soon as you arrive.

### NEW RAILROAD TRackage

The new railroad trackage laid down  
in North Carolina since 1910 totals 574  
miles. Which is an increase of 11.6 per-  
cent during this period. On this basis  
of comparison, only fifteen states of the  
Union made a better showing. See the  
table elsewhere in this issue.

Among these are five southern states  
—Tennessee, Virginia, Florida, South  
Carolina, and Kentucky, with increased  
trackage ranging from 12.1 percent in  
Tennessee to 22.4 percent in Kentucky.

The additional railroad trackage built  
in North Carolina these last ten years  
was 357 miles of new lines, mainly lum-  
ber roads and short connecting lines of  
miscellaneous sorts, while 217 miles  
were yard tracks, sidings, second and  
third tracks for increasing traffic and  
better terminal facilities.

Our extended mileage of first tracks  
was as follows:

Year	Miles
1911.....	46.31
1912.....	93.45
1913.....	103.57
1914.....	34.00
1915.....	33.30
1916.....	23.00
1917.....	16.85
1918.....	6.30
1919.....	0.00

Laying down new railroads at an av-  
erage rate of 40 miles a year is slow enough  
to warn the people of North Carolina  
that if 33 remote counties get out of the  
woods they will have to go hammer-and-  
tongs into the building of improved  
highways and adequate bridges, the  
buying of passenger cars, and the es-  
tablishment of cross-country motor-  
truck freight lines. There seems to be  
no other way of escape from social stag-  
nation in a full third of the counties of  
the state.

Only 23 miles of extended trackage  
in North Carolina were built during the  
period of government operation. And  
until the railway companies get safely  
back on their feet once more we shall  
look in vain to railroads for relief in  
the matter of transportation lines.  
Meantime the farmers in these 33 coun-  
ties are reaping a minimum advantage  
from the sky-high prices that consum-  
ers are now paying for food, cloth-  
ing, fuel, building and manufacturing  
materials.

### IDLE FARMS

Almost a million and three-quarters  
acres of Michigan's fertile farm lands—  
a total of 18,232 farms, will be idle this  
year.

Statistics compiled by Verne H.  
Church, field agent of the United States  
Bureau of Crop Estimates, show that  
the remaining farm population of the  
state, 230,000, will fall far short of nor-  
mal crop production. There are 30,300  
vacant houses on Michigan farms, 10,000  
of which have been vacated during the  
last year.

The number of men who have left  
farms of Michigan during the last three  
years is three times as great as the  
number of Michigan men who died or  
were killed in the civil war. There are  
enough vacant farm houses in Michigan  
to house conveniently the population of  
Grand Rapids.

Of the farms of the state, 8.74 per-  
cent are wholly idle this year, an area  
of approximately 1,668,000 acres, equal  
to about five ordinary counties.

Of the 276,000 men on farms three  
years ago, 46,000 have since left, 20,000  
of them during the last year. This un-  
precedented exodus from farms indi-  
cates that city and industrial life has  
become more profitable and satisfactory  
than farm life.

With a steadily decreasing supply and  
increasing demand the price of food  
will continue to advance, the field agent  
asserts.—Home and Progress.

### MEN TO MAKE A STATE

George Washington Doane

The men, to make a state, must  
be honest.

I do not mean men who would  
never steal. I do not mean men who  
would scorn to cheat in making  
change. I mean men with a single  
tongue. I mean men that consider  
always what is right, and do it at  
whatever cost. I mean men whom  
no king on earth can buy. Men that  
are in the market for the highest  
bidder; men that make politics their  
trade, and look to office for a living;  
men that will crawl where they can-  
not climb—these are not the men to  
make a state.—Masseling's Ideals of  
Heroism and Patriotism.

### SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION

Here are fifty reasons in favor of  
country school consolidations.

- 1 Reduces tardiness.
- 2 Better equipment.
- 3 Better salaries paid.
- 4 Eliminates truancy.
- 5 Secures larger schools.
- 6 Teachers retained longer.
- 7 Secures graded classes of pupils.
- 8 More time for recitations.
- 9 Insures better and more regular at-  
tendance.
- 10 Better class of work is done.
- 11 Keeps the boys on the farm.
- 12 Petty jealousies interfere less.
- 13 Better management is secured.
- 14 Better returns for money spent.
- 15 Enhances the value of real estate.
- 16 Special teachers may be employed.
- 17 Classes larger and more interest-  
ing.
- 18 Buildings, better heated and venti-  
lated.
- 19 Number of classes per teacher de-  
creased.
- 20 Preserves a balanced course of  
study.
- 21 Keeps older boys and girls longer  
in school.
- 22 A school of character and dignity.
- 23 Eliminates waste of time, energy,  
and capital.
- 24 School becomes social center in the  
community.
- 25 Better and more experienced teach-  
ers employed.
- 26 Makes the farm the ideal place to  
bring up children.
- 27 Enables inspector not only to in-  
spect but to supervise.
- 28 Greater results in work accomplished  
in the same time.
- 29 Popular with people, teachers, and  
pupils where tried.
- 30 Healthy rivalry awakened through  
inspiration in numbers.
- 31 Principal can prevent errors from  
inexperience in assistants.
- 32 Course of study enlarged and en-  
riched by special subjects.
- 33 Morals of pupils protected going  
from and coming to school.
- 34 Health of pupils better preserved  
on account of transportation.
- 35 Unites and centers the interests of  
a larger section of people.
- 36 Adds tone and dignity to education  
and to the farm community.
- 37 Children of the farm have equal op-  
portunities with those of the town.
- 38 Those at a distance have equal ad-  
vantages with those near at hand.
- 39 Evokes pride, interest, and support  
on part of the people interested in  
the school.
- 40 Saves cost of sending children away  
to school and in moving to town to  
educate.
- 41 The only method of securing and  
holding trained teachers for coun-  
try schools.
- 42 Makes possible the taking up any  
special work of advantage to the  
community.
- 43 The rich and the poor have equal  
advantages in securing high school  
education.
- 44 Every child in the farm community  
is reached by it. All children at-  
tend; not a favored few.
- 45 School games are made possible on  
account of larger numbers, thus add-  
ing to the attractiveness of school.
- 46 Consolidation is the only method of

## COUNTRY HOME CONVENIENCES

LETTER SERIES No. 20  
HEALTHIER RURAL LIFE

Too often in the development of farm  
life the tendency has been toward de-  
veloping farm machinery and improv-  
ing farm methods in the fields with a  
great neglect of conditions in the home.  
While up-to-date barns and silos, trac-  
tors, and improved machinery have  
been making farming easier, household  
tasks are still being done under un-  
healthy conditions and in the old back-  
breaking way. Modern conveniences  
are of prime importance in promoting  
the health and comfort of the house-  
hold for it has been definitely proven  
that poor sanitation and the lack of  
household conveniences are largely re-  
sponsible for many of the diseases that  
prevail in rural communities.

Typhoid fever, tuberculosis, hook-  
worm and many other dangerous mala-  
dies may be traced eventually to improp-  
er sanitation. Running water in the  
home and a good sanitary system will  
greatly lessen the prevalence of these  
diseases.

### Conveniences Essential

A housekeeper with no modern equip-  
ment not only fails to accomplish the  
work demanded of her, but her health  
is broken down in the struggle.

Sweeping and dusting in the old-  
fashioned way establishes only an out-  
ward appearance of cleanliness while  
dust and disease germs are stirred about  
in the air to be inhaled into the lungs.  
The discomfort and frequent sickness  
that result from the use of unsanitary  
brooms are a waste and loss which the

use of a vacuum cleaner prevents.

When an electric motor is attached  
to the sewing machine a great deal more  
work can be done than in the old way  
with the continuous, wearisome pump-  
ing of the treadle.

A kerosene lamp furnishes a dim,  
flickering light that is very injurious to  
the eyes. It also robs the air of oxy-  
gen making it unhealthy to breathe.  
Electric lights give a bright, steady  
light, use no oxygen, give off no gas  
and leave the air pure.

In doing the weekly washing a woman  
is obliged to bend and scrub anywhere  
from six hundred to a thousand times,  
all the time absorbing the hot unhealthy  
steam. Then there is the additional  
labor of wringing the clothes. After  
becoming overheated in doing this dis-  
agreeable work there is great danger  
of cooling off too quickly. Nine out of  
every ten women who spend much time  
over the washtub suffer from colds,  
rheumatism, back-ache, stiff joints and  
kindred ailments, oftentimes with fatal  
results. In an hour an electric wash-  
ing machine will do the day's work of  
the scrub-board and wash-tub without  
drudgery or heat.

Little work can be done in the ab-  
sence of health and strength. It is  
much easier to keep one's health and  
strength than to regain it. Overtaxing  
the nerves and muscles if kept up week  
after week can have but one result—a  
shortening of one's years of usefulness  
and happiness.—A. N.

providing a true country school with  
home high school privileges for  
farm children.

47 It is at the door of the farm house,  
and is more available on account of  
transportation facilities than the  
present one-teacher school.

48 It is the only way of insuring an en-  
rollment large enough to provide  
the social and cultural contact with  
companionable associates necessary  
to the best development of every  
child.

49 It is the only method whereby it is  
possible to make a division of labor  
by graded classes whereby teachers  
may have sufficient time to do good  
work and choose grades or special  
subjects for which they are best  
fitted.

50 The best known way of promoting  
community-building in rural areas;  
of gradually grouping country peo-  
ple in farm villages and thus cur-  
ing the fundamental defect of Amer-  
ican country life—social isolation  
and loneliness.—Report of Depart-  
ment of Education, Manitoba, Can-  
ada.

### UNIVERSITY SUPPORT

The educational program to be con-  
sidered by the next general assembly  
ought to include appropriations which  
will double the capacity of the Universi-

ty of North Carolina. In the college year  
1918-19 the white people alone of the  
state paid to support the university on  
an average 11 cents per capita, or a  
total of \$194,166. The university's ex-  
tension service is worth that in the in-  
formation and free assistance it offers  
to individuals and communities. This  
charge is less than three cents if the  
citizen has less than \$100 on the tax  
books.

There are half a million more white  
people in North Carolina than in Ne-  
braska, but Nebraska gives her state  
university \$664,500, or 53 cents per cap-  
ita. Nebraska believes more than North  
Carolina in the value of her university,  
she gives it more funds and consequent-  
ly receives more service—but not more  
in proportion to the appropriations.  
Arizona's per capita of 80 cents for her  
state university would make North Car-  
olina's university appropriation \$1,-  
400,000.

This state has got to spend more on  
all its public schools; teachers of the  
elementary and high schools must have  
better salaries; but it must also be un-  
derstood that the head of the state  
school system must be supplied with  
the financial resources to keep it where  
it has fought its way on meagre sup-  
port, at the very forefront of state  
universities in the United States.—  
Asheville Citizen.

## NEW RAILROAD TRackage BUILT BETWEEN 1910-20

Based on Reports of the Bureau of Railway Economics, Washington, D. C.  
Department of Rural Social Science  
University of North Carolina

Rank	State	Increase Percent	New Track Miles	Rank	State	Increase Percent	New Track Miles
1	Wyoming.....	31.5.....	461	24	Pennsylvania.....	7.7.....	839
2	Oregon.....	27.6.....	698	26	New Jersey.....	7.1.....	156
3	Idaho.....	24.3.....	559	27	Kansas.....	6.5.....	570
4	Montana.....	23.7.....	950	28	Ohio.....	6.3.....	540
5	Kentucky.....	22.4.....	705	29	Arkansas.....	6.2.....	324
6	North Dakota.....	19.0.....	848	30	Louisiana.....	5.6.....	288
6	South Carolina.....	19.0.....	611	31	Colorado.....	5.5.....	293
8	Florida.....	18.9.....	834	32	Indiana.....	5.3.....	378
9	Arizona.....	18.7.....	381	33	South Dakota.....	5.2.....	213
10	Washington.....	16.5.....	799	34	Illinois.....	4.9.....	564
11	Utah.....	16.2.....	302	35	Iowa.....	4.6.....	434
12	Virginia.....	15.0.....	612	36	Rhode Island.....	4.4.....	9
13	West Virginia.....	13.6.....	482	37	Connecticut.....	4.3.....	42
14	California.....	13.4.....	990	37	Minnesota.....	4.3.....	378
15	Tennessee.....	12.1.....	449	39	New York.....	3.8.....	313
16	North Carolina.....	11.6.....	574	40	Nebraska.....	3.5.....	211
17	Texas.....	10.0.....	1,447	41	New Mexico.....	3.2.....	92
18	Georgia.....	9.5.....	649	42	Delaware.....	3.1.....	42
18	Oklahoma.....	9.5.....	567	43	Michigan.....	3.0.....	298
20	Alabama.....	9.2.....	448	44	Massachusetts.....	2.2.....	46
21	Nevada.....	9.0.....	189	45	Missouri.....	1.5.....	122
22	Maryland.....	8.0.....	106	45	Maine.....	1.5.....	35
23	Mississippi.....	7.9.....	328	47	New Hampshire.....	.6.....	7
24	Wisconsin.....	7.7.....	552	48	Vermont.....	.4.....	4