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## SELF-HELP AT THE UNIVERSITY

### EARNING A DIPLOMA

Probably at no other institution in the state do the students more nearly approach the idea of working their way through college than at the State University. It is a revelation made in a recent issue of *The Alumni Review* of the amount and variety of work done by students at the University. And the beauty of it is that most of these working students are honored on the campus for their prowess on the athletic field or in the classroom or debating society. It is a fact, too, that most of the editors of the *University Magazine* have worked their way through college. When commencement rolls around and vacation begins, it means for about 85 percent of the students in the University no migration to the seaside, or the mountains, no touring this continent, or any other, except to sell books, or to book chautauques. Home they go, not to rest, but to work. The only student who went abroad last summer went as a sailor before the mast, and representatives at Atlantic City sold advertisements for a paper and lectured to tourists on the wonders of the shark. Some went to the mountains and worked on the State Park on Mt. Mitchell, or in logging camps.

### How They Do It

It is surprising to read of the various things the working student finds to do in a college town. For instance, we read in *The Review* that they are "delivering milk at your boarding house before you arise, they wait on your table, wash dishes, sweep out classrooms, cut wood and make gardens during the afternoon, clean houses, wash windows, sweep the streets. If you go to church it is heated and cleaned by a student; if you go to the movies, you buy your ticket from a student, one operates the machine and another plays the piano. Much of the mail is handled by them. They do a large part of the laundry work. If you want candy, belt buckles, ties, clothes, shoes, or peanuts, there will be half a dozen students to supply you. Socks can be bought from a man whose father is in the wholesale mill business. You call central and a student gives you your number. Your town paper has a student linotype operator. Another student will make early delivery of the morning paper from Durham. If you want to advertise something, its merits can be blazoned on enough blotters to equip the Recording Angel till the Day of Judgment—just call a student. These tireless men type-write and mimeograph, paint signs, sell megaphones, programs, colors on Thanksgiving Day—well this is enough to illustrate the futility of a complete catalogue of their activities. They work hard, earning on an average \$260 a year. They study hard, contributing much to give the campus solidity and seriousness of purpose. They gain much in maturity of personality, integrity of character, and knowledge of life."—*Gastonia Gazette*.

### SELF-HELP STUDENTS

During the fall term, 1921, of the University of North Carolina, many of the students worked their way through, paying most if not all their expenses. Students do almost everything, from janitorial work to housekeeping.

An idea of the opportunities offered the right sort of student may be gleaned from the following announcement recently made public through the secretary of the Y. M. C. A.

There was probably never a time in the history of the university, says he, when so large a percentage of her students were working their way through, for a part or all of their expenses. Many are making their entire expenses. You may even find the exceptional case where a fellow works his own way and sends a sister or kid brother through. What chance have the powers of darkness against the light of such Carolina manhood as this?

The pessimistic view of this situation would be to say that it reflects the financial stress under which we are living. But the opposite, or optimistic view, is a message filled with the richest inspiration, for it reflects the kind

of stuff Carolina men are made of, and the magnanimous spirit of this old institution.

### They Rank First

Don't you worry one minute about the social standards at Carolina. The praises of that type of man known as the Self-Help student are being sung louder and longer than of any other type of man. The social standard based on wealth, the ability to dress and to idle, is passing. The aristocracy of service is the spirit of The Hill. If a fellow wants an education and is willing to work, it makes little difference what his bank account is, he can become a son of Carolina.

There are jobs slated now sufficient to take care of every case of need in the student body. One of the most interesting advances in the self-help line, was when the electrical department of the school of engineering took the contract to wire all the new buildings, at a figure a thousand dollars or more under any other bid, and the work is to be done with student labor.

### Self-Help Jobs

The following is a list of specific things students are doing to work their way through the university:

Waiting on tables, washing dishes, scrubbing floors, washing windows, raking leaves, splitting wood, shoveling coal, firing furnaces, ditching, tilling gardens, electrical wiring, janitorial school buildings, janitorial boarding houses, keeping athletic grounds, stenography, typewriting, type-setting, clerical work, clerking, working in restaurants, making candy, surveying, agents for various firms, coaching under classmen, operating picture show, book exchange, instructing, job work for university, pressing clothes, barbering, shining shoes, numerous independent enterprises, keeping house for absent families, laundry agents, carpentering, painting, selling insurance, managing boarding houses, clearing ground for building, acting as time keepers, and so on.—Louis Graves.

### DIABOLICAL SUCCESS

The examination system now employed in American universities is a symptom of dead formalism and mechanical externality. If we have been searching for a method of killing intellectual curiosity and a genuine spirit of inquiry we have been diabolically successful. If our aim is to convince the student that knowledge comes in chunks, and consists of separate fields bearing no relationship to the fascinating reality of life, then our methods justify the procedure. If to become educated is to center one's interests on acquiring enough credits to receive a diploma, then we have succeeded in quantity production beyond even the experts of the industrial world.—M. L. Burton, President University of Michigan, quoted in *What the Colleges are Doing*.

### SMALL-SCALE FARMING

When I asked Luther Burbank how much land is really necessary for the average man to use, he replied:

"A thousand acres for an Indian, a hundred acres for a farmer, ten acres for an orchardist, one acre for a good market gardener, half an acre for a flower or seed man, and for an experimenter like myself, a graveyard lot will do."

In the scientific and intensive use of the soil, we have not touched the hem of the garment of this country as yet. We have run to broad acres of speculation, to machinery and hired men. We are just now at the dawn of a new and infinitely finer day. Not broad acres, but little lands; not speculation, but home building; not the grudging labor of hirelings, but the loving labor of self-employing proprietors—these are the signs and tokens of the new day. Of that day Luther Burbank is the prophet beyond anything we have realized heretofore.—Wm. E. Smythe, in *City Homes on Country Lanes*.

### CITY BUILDERS

The picture once painted or the poem sung, it stands henceforth by itself; the artist can do no more for it. It must

(Released for week beginning Feb. 6)

### KNOW NORTH CAROLINA Just Keep on Doing It

"North Carolina in 1921 stands with the leaders agriculturally, with a rank of fourth in the 22 leading crops, and fifth in the value of all crops." So says Statistician Frank Parker.

"With a total value of \$228,900,000 for the field crops, North Carolina has only Texas, Illinois, and Iowa surpassing her, while in the aggregate value of all crops we surpass Iowa, but let California and New York ahead. The fruit crops are responsible for these two states getting up front.

"North Carolina produced last year more than four percent of the value of all crops in the United States, yet she has only 1.6 percent of the improved farm area of the Union."

The state crop values for 1921 were as follows:

1 Cotton.....	\$74,212,000
2 Tobacco.....	67,600,000
3 Corn.....	38,416,000
4 Hay.....	14,077,000
5 Sweet potatoes.....	9,992,000
6 Irish potatoes.....	5,788,000
7 Soy beans.....	4,169,000
8 Sorghum.....	2,364,000
9 Oats.....	2,142,000
10 Cowpeas.....	1,983,000
11 Peaches.....	1,513,000
12 Apples.....	1,482,000

No wonder Commissioner W. A. Graham on contemplating this gratifying result declares: North Carolina is in the same position as the young negro who thought the Ku Klux were after him and was fleeing from them. In his flight he met Uncle Ephraim and said, while still gasping for breath, Uncle Ephraim, the Ku Klux are after me! What shall I do? Uncle Ephraim said, You are doing all right; just keep on doing it!—Clarence Poe.

live or die without further help from him. But the city is never thus entirely separated from its builders. It remains tied to us by the invisible cord of nourishing passions. It grows with us or it dies with us. It is in a real and personal sense a part of us, as we are of it. It becomes then the reflex of the lives and aspirations of the people who dwell in it. So that a city—its streets, its highways, its buildings, its public places, as well as its business and life—is an embodiment of ourselves. It is this living spirit that may hearten and inspire us; that may delight and enchant us, and that may also break and destroy us.—Temple Scott.

### THE FARMERS' CHANCE

The farmers of America represent the greatest single force in the nation, economically speaking, but it never has been exerted unitedly in any one direction.

Just now an economic movement is gathering way which is more promising than anything we have ever seen. It is the tendency of farmers to cooperate along what one may call single-commodity lines. Under this system the farmers of Denmark have done wonders for themselves. The system calls for co-operatives to handle every commodity separately. The farmer belongs to as many different cooperative organizations as he has products. As an egg producer he belongs to the egg association. As a hog raiser he is a member of the bacon association, which met the American packers in the British market—and met them with success.

The most typical cooperatives in this line in America for a long time were the fruit growers of the Pacific Coast. The first extension on a great scale from these industries was the cotton growers' association, first organized in Oklahoma.

Now the plan is spreading like wildfire. It has spread from the Pacific Coast across the continent to Maine, and north and south from the Canadian line to the Gulf. The separate organizations take in potatoes, sweet potatoes, eggs, cotton, many fruits, various truck-garden products, and the like.

The farmer joining makes an agreement, which he cannot legally break, to pool all of a certain product through the association for a term of years. The association markets the product in the pool. The returns are divided pro rata. The association does not consider it can fix prices, but it sells to the highest bidder and tries to stabilize the markets. In cotton, for instance, it hopes to eliminate six or seven leaks, to grade accurately and to get the benefit of skill and knowledge exerted in the farmer's favor.

It looks now as if these single-commodity cooperatives, in which the producer and the association are bound together by strong and continuing contracts, would do much good. Their greatest opportunities lie in quality products, tastefully packed, skilfully advertised and well sold. Such cooperation has its dangers, however. The building up of so many new cooperatives in a short time makes it difficult to get good, efficient men to carry on these enterprises, some of which are already enormous. Some failures may be expected, but the whole movement cannot fail, we believe, to bring great benefits to the farmer.—The Country Gentleman.

### TOO NEAR BOTTOM

It should be constantly borne in mind that any and all information relative to adult illiteracy reported by the census of 1920 is based only on the oral Yes or No in answer to the censustaker's question, Can you write?

Of course, this information is reliable relative to comparisons with previous census reports, or relative to comparisons of states or sections, but I do not think the census figures give anything like a correct estimate of the actual number of illiterates in North Carolina or any other state.

It has been the common experience of our workers who have made surveys in this field that the number of illiterates reported by the census is not more than one-third of the actual number. Of course, if to the actual number of illiterates should be added the near-illiterates, the number would be much larger still.

You, of course, know that North Carolina is now eighth place from the bottom in the illiteracy list of states. This sounds hopeful and good compared with the 1910 census, but it does not sound so hopeful when we consider the fact that this eighth place is based

upon total illiteracy, and not upon native white illiteracy.

Here is the fact that hurts: Only two other states are lower on the list when native white illiteracy is considered. These two states are Louisiana and New Mexico. May not Mexico's 11.6 percent native white illiteracy be placed at the door of the Mexican element, and Louisiana's 10.5 percent to the Creole?

But what of North Carolina's 8.2 percent? This is our boasted pure Anglo-Saxon blood?

Isn't it time for educators and other leaders of civilization in North Carolina to stop assuming a tolerant attitude toward the work of teaching adult illiterates, and to get busy in actually helping put across some sort of program that will give to our illiterates a chance to have at least a working knowledge of the tools of learning—reading, writing, and arithmetic?—Elizabeth Kelly, Director of North Carolina Community Schools for Adults.

### A HIGH CRIME

If I were the Czar of North Carolina instead of the Governor, I would issue an edict declaring that from and after five years from date any man who imported into North Carolina any corn or meal, wheat or flour, beef or bacon, should be forthwith hanged and without benefit of clergy. Of course, in the beginning I should be denounced as an infamous tyrant, but after the law had been in effect for ten years the richest state in the union would build a monument to me as the financial redeemer of my people.—Ex-Governor T. W. Bickett.

### GOOD ROADS IN CAROLINA

North Carolina has at the present time under actual construction or contracted for 591 miles of road of the topsoil, sandclay, or gravel type, costing \$5,100,000; approximately 300 miles of the various hard surface types costing \$8,750,000; bridge work costing approximately \$400,000.

During the year there has been completed approximately 380 miles of the topsoil, sandclay, or gravel type costing in round figures \$4,000,000; 85 miles of the various hard surface types which cost approximately \$3,000,000; and bridge work costing approximately \$250,000.

These figures include both Federal Aid and state work but do not include work that is being done by counties, of which we have no record. It is expected that during the coming year approximately 400 miles of paving work and 600 miles of other types of roads will be let to contract.—H. K. Witherspoon, *Manufacturers Record*.

### CROP WEALTH PRODUCED IN 1921

Covering the hypothetical value on the farm of all farm crops. Based on the Federal Monthly Crop Reporter, December 1921.

If only the 22 standard farm crops be considered, North Carolina ranked 4th, with only Texas, Iowa, and Illinois ahead. But with all crops considered, our rank was 5th, with Texas, California, Illinois, and New York ahead.

The total value of all farm crops in North Carolina in 1921 was \$262,880,000, against \$142,890,000, the values reported in the 1910 census.

Tobacco produced 29 percent and cotton 25 percent of our total crop values in 1921. More than half our crop wealth was produced by these two non-food crops alone.

The food and feed crops amounted to \$120,000,000, while the pantry bill of the state is reckoned at \$452,000,000, stock feed not counted.

Department of Rural Social Science, University of North Carolina

Rank	State	Crop values	Rank	State	Crop values
1	Texas.....	\$424,471,000	25	North Dakota.....	\$138,905,000
2	California.....	350,519,000	26	Virginia.....	131,093,000
3	Illinois.....	294,914,000	27	South Dakota.....	112,717,000
4	New York.....	269,717,000	28	Louisiana.....	103,279,000
5	North Carolina.....	262,880,000	29	Oregon.....	85,221,000
6	Iowa.....	258,643,000	30	Colorado.....	83,472,000
7	Kansas.....	228,108,000	31	Idaho.....	68,385,000
8	Pennsylvania.....	227,133,000	32	Montana.....	67,829,000
9	Wisconsin.....	220,615,000	33	Maine.....	65,968,000
10	Ohio.....	212,466,000	34	West Virginia.....	58,023,000
11	Minnesota.....	196,572,000	35	New Jersey.....	53,571,000
12	Missouri.....	194,474,000	36	Florida.....	50,176,000
13	Michigan.....	184,004,000	37	Massachusetts.....	48,684,000
14	Georgia.....	177,986,000	38	Maryland.....	48,025,000
15	Oklahoma.....	171,061,000	39	Connecticut.....	47,767,000
16	Nebraska.....	171,037,000	40	Vermont.....	40,904,000
17	Indiana.....	164,022,000	41	New Mexico.....	23,097,000
18	Arkansas.....	159,764,000	42	Utah.....	26,390,000
19	Tennessee.....	159,525,000	43	New Hampshire.....	22,592,000
20	Alabama.....	156,778,000	44	Wyoming.....	20,817,000
21	Washington.....	155,685,000	45	Arizona.....	19,738,000
22	Kentucky.....	150,291,000	46	Delaware.....	10,631,000
23	Mississippi.....	149,494,000	47	Nevada.....	8,053,000
24	South Carolina.....	146,185,000	48	Rhode Island.....	4,061,000