

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

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TOASTING THE NEW NORTH STATE

THE NEW NORTH STATE

Once it was the Old North State—a sweet memory, a pathetic lament—the Rip Van Winkle state, asleep for two full centuries.

Now it is the New North State—awake at last, wide awake—refreshed and renewed by her long sleep—vigorous, and aflame with the early morning visions of youth—boastful—blatant, if you please—chock-full of bla-bla and blurb, after the manner of a robust, two-fisted male youngster in the pin-feather stage of development—conscious of his power and immodestly boastful.

North Carolina is actually beginning to believe in herself and to boast of herself gracefully, for all the world like Atlanta. Chicago the Atlanta of the West, was The Constitution headline when Cleveland reached the Windy City in his Swing Around the Circle in the days of his presidency.

Atlanta has been the butt of many a merry jest. She's shameless in her boasting. Henry Grady began it and the very kids keep it up. It is the spirit of indestructible youth, and youth wins. Atlanta proves it. California proves it. And in particular Los Angeles.

Los Angeles bonds herself a hundred dollars per inhabitant, spends thirty millions on a water-supply system, and twelve millions more on a man-made harbor twelve miles away. She stands right up and blows about it, pictures it in the magazines the world around, and she doubles her population and quadruples her wealth in a single decade.

North Carolina multiplies her public school fund twenty times over in twenty years, spends forty-two million dollars in two years on public school buildings, equipments and support, one hundred and twenty-two millions of federal, state, and local money on public highways, and pays another one hundred and twenty-two millions of taxes into the federal treasury on incomes, profits, estates and the like in a single year.

But sh-h-h! Nobody must mention it! It's immodest to say a word about it! North Carolina begins—barely begins—to cash in the immense assets that lie in her soils and seasons, forests and water-falls, mines and factories; and just as she begins, her fervor is chilled by the charge that she is immoderate and unabashed in her boasting.

It was a Californian who said at Long Beach in 1921, North Carolina has got California beat a mile, and doesn't know it.

But North Carolina does know it in 1923 and she means to let the world know it.

It has taken her two centuries to develop gumption, grace, and grit enough to lay down the foundations of a great commonwealth in public education, public health, and public highways. And she has the courage of her convictions.

She does not mean to hide her light under a bushel measure but to set it on a candlestick right out in the open for all the world to see.

The people of North Carolina know—at least they have been told often enough to know—that we are building good roads faster than any other state in the Union, Pennsylvania alone excepted; but also that our improved highways do not yet reach the total mileage of good roads in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, or California.

And they know, too, that the twenty million dollars we are spending on public schools this year is four times the sum we were spending for this purpose ten years ago; but also that we are still far behind the Middle Western states in public-school support. And that in legislative appropriations for college culture, thirty-five states make a better showing than North Carolina. The University News Letter exhibited the facts away back yonder in July 1922.

The state has not lost her sense of perspective. She is not swashbuckling, but she is doing great things of late and she's proud of them. She can display her wares, but she need not do it like Simple Simon of Mother Goose fame. She need not be provincial and

parochial—which are polite terms for ignorance of what is happening in the big wide world beyond her borders.

So here's to the New North State. The old-age son of Sarah the barren. The bottle-fed boy brought up by Murphy and Morehead—schooled by Wiley, McIver, Noble, Alderman, Graham, Claxton, Joyner, and Brooks—and licked into lustiness by Vance, Aycock, Bickett, and Morrison! Who is now as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber and rejoicing as a strong man to run a race.

May he forever be rich in purse and poor in spirit! Always abounding in wealth and in willingness to devote it to the common weal and the commonwealth!

THE UNIVERSITY SERVES

The University of North Carolina is fast developing into that great servant of the state Edward K. Graham would have made it had he lived. The vision of the brilliant young college president is being fulfilled. The University is touching every section of the state. Its several activities are many and varied. The student body activities are only a part of the manifold ramifications of the University. Its extension department reaches every county and nearly every community in the state, according to the report of President Chase.

Extension service has been both freely offered and accepted in North Carolina, according to the report. Seven hundred and three communities were reached by one or more forms of the department. These contacts ranged from sending out a book or package library to a teacher trying to improve herself in some particular subject, through correspondence courses in subjects of the regular university curriculum, to summer session lectures and clinics out in the state for practicing physicians.

The report gives these figures which are interesting:

356 enrollments were received for correspondence-study courses from 262 students in 79 counties.

200 physicians took the 1922 summer post-graduate medical course in 12 centers of the state.

165 students enrolled in extension classes in 6 cities.

188 lectures given by University speakers scheduled through the Extension Division.

53,050 people heard at least one University lecture.

16,000 homes received the University News Letter every week during the two-year period.

101,850 educational bulletins were printed and sent out.

6,500 high schools students took part in the State championship debating and athletic contest organized by the Extension Division.

780 people were reached by the Bureau of Design and Improvement of School Grounds.

2,500 requests for educational information were taken care of by the School of Education.

5,285 members of women's clubs studied programs prepared by the Extension Division.

3,264 package libraries were sent upon request.

850 people were reached by the field work of the School of Commerce.

4,263 letters were written in answer to requests for general information.

1,740 people were reached by the extension service of the School of Public Welfare.

650 play-books and pageants were sent out upon request by the Bureau of Community Drama.

7,600 people were served by the work of the Bureau of Community Music.

7,800 letters requesting information about North Carolina were given attention by the Department of Rural Social-Economics.—Gastonia Gazette.

WHERE FARMERS ARE RICH

Look at the Danes of today. They are one of the richest, healthiest, and I believe the happiest people of the whole world. They stand high in education and culture.

The great success of the Danes has

KNOW NORTH CAROLINA

She's in the Public Eye

North Carolina is in the public eye. Everywhere people are talking about the amazing progress of the Old North State. One of the prominent officials with the Rexall people in convention at Charlotte this week gave voice to this sentiment when he said:

"North Carolina, as our Tar Heels may have heard who are staying at home instead of running away to other states, is just now very much in the public eye. You at home here do not appreciate, perhaps, the outside view of North Carolina and the astonishing change of opinion which the outside world has formed of your state in the past few years. Everywhere you hear people speaking of its development, its great wealth, its potential wealth, and its bright prospects for the future.

"You of course understand that people at the head of big business enterprises keep a sharp lookout to see where progress and prosperity is located on the business map and there's many a man outside of your state who has intimate and accurate knowledge of how North Carolina has waked up in the past few years and is almost leading the van of progress, if not being entitled to lead the procession."—Gastonia Gazette.

come from the land. They are a nation of intensive farmers who, like the good servants in the parable of the talents, have taken what the Master has given them and by brains, industry, and business efficiency have multiplied it many fold. They have thrown off the shackles of the nobles, reduced the great estates to small holdings, and by scientific farming and stock raising have made every one of their 250,000 farms produce exports which average \$50 a month all the year through. This is so although more than half of the farms average only thirteen acres apiece. The land not only supports the farmers themselves and gives the country its food, but it yields also exports equal to seventeen dollars per annum for every farm acre.

This the Danes have done by teamwork in which the whole nation has gone into the harness and labored together. They have studied their land and the markets and raised only the things they could produce at a profit. When Denmark found that its soil and limited area were such that it could not compete with the United States and other lands in the production of oats, wheat, rye, barley and such crops, she did not sit down and whine and ask other countries to help her, but only buckled in her waist belt to make her stomach the smaller, counted her assets, and figured out what she could do. She did not even ask her government to help her by protective tariffs but every one did his part, and all worked together. She had several great thinkers among her people, and with them in time she she planned out a scheme of agricultural production that has made the whole country rich.—Frank G. Carpenter, News and Observer.

THE SMALL FARM

The Observer has been inclined to favor the passage of the Giles bill because it has believed this bill would operate to the development of farm work in a manner so successfully demonstrated in the systems prosecuted by Mr. Hugh MacRae and Senator Joe Brown, in New Hanover, Columbus and adjacent counties, where thrifty colonization has been established. The foundation upon which this work has been built is the small farm, and means provided by which the farmer may finance himself into ownership. It was to have been anticipated that the legislative committee sent on a mission of personal observation of the working of this system, would return to Raleigh measurably impressed with the great possibil-

ities in an extension of the MacRae and Brown ideas. Its report will unquestionably give strength to the prospect for the Giles bill, for that measure will make it possible to do in each of the one hundred counties of the state what has been done by these enterprising pioneers in a nest of eastern counties. There is an abundance of idle acres, and for these the need is not for tenants, but for farm-owners. The idea of the Giles bill is to help the industrious to ownership of a small farm under a plan which would establish the fewest hardships, and if the Legislature can catch the idea from what has been done in the vicinity of Wilmington, it will find its way to doing the state a service of inestimable value.—Charlotte Observer.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

A study just made of the records of the Bureau of Correspondence Instruction of the University shows that this bureau is giving formal instruction by mail in all but twenty-one counties of the state. Modern developments in educational work now make it possible for those who cannot go to college to receive some instruction and training by means of the correspondence method.

This bureau at the University has one young man taking courses by mail, who, because he is crippled, has been confined in his bed for years. He is studying English Composition and Business English and writes that these courses are helping him in an advertising business which he has started.

There are now 288 students taking correspondence instruction in various subjects. These students are distributed in 79 counties of the state as follows: Alamance 8, Alleghany 1, Anson 1, Ashe 2, Avery 1, Beaufort 2, Bladen 2, Brunswick 1, Buncombe 11, Burke 4, Cabarrus 6, Caldwell 2, Carteret 1, Catawba 4, Chatham 2, Cherokee 3, Chowan 1, Cleveland 1, Columbus 2, Craven 2, Cumberland 1, Davidson 4, Davie 1, Duplin 1, Durham 13, Edgecombe 5, Forsyth 6, Franklin 2, Gaston 10, Granville 17, Guilford 15, Halifax 3, Harnett 1, Haywood 1, Henderson 1, Hoke 2, Hyde 1, Iredell 5, Johnston 3, Lee 1, Lenoir 1, Lincoln 3, Madison 2, Martin 4, McDowell 2, Mecklenburg 12, Moore 2, Nash 2, New Hanover 5, Northampton 2, Orange 17, Pasquotank 2, Perquimans 1, Person 4, Pitt 3, Polk 1, Randolph 6, Richmond 2, Robeson 2, Rockingham 5, Rowan 7, Rutherford 4, Sampson 2, Stanly 1, Surry 2, Swain 4, Transylvania 1, Tyrrell 1, Union 2, Vance 1, Wake 14, Warren 3, Washington 2, Wayne 7, Wilkes 2, Wilson 6, Yadkin 1, Yancey 1.—Press Item, University Extension Division.

HELPING THE SCHOOLS

Eight schools scattered throughout the state were aided during the last ten weeks by the Extension Bureau of Design and Improvement of School Grounds, according to the report of Dr. W. C. Coker, head of the Department of Botany at the State University. The schools visited by Mrs. W. J. Matherly, field agent for the Bureau, were Salem, Morehead City, Gray's Creek, Holly Springs, Haw River, Daniels's Chapel, Black Creek, and Louisburg College.

Besides his scientific research work in Botany, for which he is widely known, and in addition to the regular teaching program of the department, Dr. Coker finds time to apply some of his expert knowledge to the needs of the state. This he does by taking charge of the activities of the Bureau of Design and Improvement of School Grounds. All designs and planting plans are made by Dr. Coker himself with the assistance of Mrs. Matherly, who then inks in the designs. From these ink sketches blue prints are made and furnished to the schools free of charge. Before the design can be made, the school must be visited by the field agent who makes notes on the size and shape of the area, kind of soil, general topography, position of the school house and of all the other permanent objects as trees, wells, other houses, etc., and collects pictures of the campus. These notes are then used when the plans are drawn up at Chapel Hill.

The report shows that, at the request of the Black Creek school board which indicated that it would provide

the money needed to improve the school grounds, the agent visited the school. She found a very fine up-to-date new school building. She made notes as usual on local conditions and these were used in drawing up the plans which the local authorities are now carrying out.

Just after the town of Selma had completed her excellent school building, replacing the new one which burned two years ago, a study and plan of the grounds was made. This plan was submitted on October 20 and the work of improvement started.

The report makes it clear, that the rural and small-town schools were not neglected by this Bureau, for the field agent made visits to Gray's Creek School located in Cumberland county and Daniels's Chapel School in Wayne County. Gray's Creek has a new school located in a fine grove of trees with six acres of cleared land back of the building for playgrounds. Besides the plan submitted for the beautification of the school grounds, Professor H. D. Meyer was called upon and prepared a plan for a playground to be laid out in the cleared space. At Daniels's Chapel, Mrs. Matherly attended a community meeting and made a talk on the subject of Community Development. She made a study of both the school and church grounds and later presented a plan for their development.

Other schools for which plans for beautifying the surroundings were made according to Dr. Coker's report are: Haw River, Morehead City, Holly Springs, and Louisburg College.

In addition to the regular services, special services, such as bulletins furnished and letters of advice written, were rendered to a number of schools, among them being Winston-Salem, Ivy, Rose Hill, and Edenton.—Press Item, University Extension Division.

FOLK PLAYS IN CAROLINA

According to the quarterly report just made by Miss Elizabeth Taylor, field agent for the Bureau of Community Drama, the bureau rendered field service to five communities, sent out upon request 136 play books and 61 packages, and gave direction for producing 13 home-talent plays by correspondence.

The report mentions five communities in which Miss Taylor made visits upon request in order to give assistance in putting on pageants and home-talent plays. At Henrietta and Coreleen she taught folk plays and at the former place made two talks at the high school on amateur play production.

The school teachers of Franklin county under the direction of Professor Frederick H. Koch, head of the community drama bureau, wrote and produced a pageant of Franklin county. Miss Taylor took complete charge of the production.

The reports show that Miss Taylor was called on and took charge of producing the Christmas community pageant at Draper and assisted in the St. Mary's pageant at Raleigh. The total number of days spent in coaching during the fall quarter in the various communities was 27.

The report is concluded with a statement that it is thought that a native folk drama is gradually being produced in North Carolina through the efforts of the Carolina Playmakers who have just returned to Chapel Hill from another successful tour of cities in the eastern part of the state.—Press Item, University Extension Division.

YOUR HOME TOWN FIRST

Work for your own town. Beautify it. Improve it. Make it attractive.

The world war and the Treaty of Peace, the Protective Tariff and all such things, are important subjects, but what's the good of cleaning up the world unless you sweep your own door steps?

The best advertisement of your business is the town you live in.

Towns get reputations, as well as men. Make your town talk all over the state. It will thus draw people. And where the people come there is prosperity.

Rid your town of one eyesore after another. Clean up the vacant lots and plant them in gardens. Make a cluttered yard a disgrace. Make public opinion too hot for those who will not help.—The Franklin Times.