

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

The news in this publication is released for the press on receipt.

Published Weekly by the University of North Carolina for the University Extension Division.

DECEMBER 7, 1927

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS

VOL. XIV, No. 6

Editorial Board: E. C. Branson, S. H. Hobbs, Jr., P. W. Wager, L. R. Wilson, E. W. Knight, D. D. Carroll, H. W. Odum. Entered as second-class matter November 14, 1914, at the Postoffice at Chapel Hill, N. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

SAVINGS DEPOSITS IN U. S.

BANK SAVINGS

We are presenting a table this week showing the amount of savings deposits in banks and trust companies in each of the states. The total amount of savings deposits in the national banks, trust companies, and mutual savings banks of the United States on June 30, 1926, was \$24,696,192,000. This was equivalent to \$211 for every person in the United States. The number of depositors was 46,762,240, hence the average deposit was \$528. In New York alone this form of savings amounted to nearly six billion dollars. Of course, not all of this belonged to citizens of that state, for it represents savings of \$1,919,974 depositors.

The states are ranked according to deposits per capita. This is not to be confused with deposits per depositor. While not all of the money in the banks of a state belong to the citizens of that state, it is nevertheless available for use in the state where the banks are located. And, except in a few states where there are big cities, the savings deposits are to a large extent the savings of the state's citizens. Thus a per capita ranking probably measures fairly accurately the financial reserve of each state's population.

Thrifty New England

The people of New England are noted for their thrift, and it will be noticed that these six New England states are among the eight high-ranking states. Savings deposits in Massachusetts amount to \$542 per capita, and in Maine, the lowest-ranking of the New England states, \$365. This means that New England families have, on the average, from \$1,500 to \$2,500 of bank savings deposits—to say nothing of other forms of savings. The Middle Atlantic states rank next, ranging from \$524 in New York to \$223 in Delaware. As already suggested, the big banks of New England and New York no doubt draw a large amount of deposits from outside the states in which they are located. California ranks high because its banks are depositories for the whole Pacific and Mountain area, and because so many of its people have come with their savings from other states. California is furthermore a state with a great diversity of industries, diversity of agriculture, and high average prosperity.

The great agricultural states of the Middle West range from Michigan with \$234 per capita to Missouri with \$110.

South Ranks Low

The Southern states rank low. Except for Florida, where bank deposits are swelled by tourists, no Southern state averages as much as \$100 of savings per capita. Virginia and West Virginia come nearest to reaching this goal. North Carolina ranks fortieth among the states, with only \$52 per capita. The number of depositors in 1926 was 204,472. Of the twelve lowest-ranking states nine are states in the cotton belt. The other three—New Mexico, Arizona, and Idaho—are frontier states still in the process of development, debtor states for the time being. In a sense the same thing can be said of the Southern states. They are not young states but they nevertheless represent a new frontier in industrial development and to some extent in agricultural development.

The relatively small amount of savings in the South must be attributed largely, however, to the presence of the negroes, farm tenancy, cash crop farming, a faulty credit system, and a rather large number of thriftless people—black and white. It must be remembered that the South was left at the end of the Civil War with several million landless, propertyless negroes to be supported, with its banks, railroads and industries prostrate, and with its agricultural system over-turned and demoralized. In sixty years it has not been able to catch up materially with the other sections of the country but in a few years more the situation may be different. Much wealth is now being created and retained in the South. Industry and agriculture are getting more balanced. Nevertheless, so long as agriculture is rooted in farm tenancy, supply merchants and croplands it will not be in a healthy condition. The reorganization of its agricultural life remains the South's biggest problem

and until it is perfected we can never have widespread prosperity and a general high level of culture.

Make Banks Safer

One other consideration deserves attention. Thousands of southern people send their savings into the North for deposit, especially those who come into the South from the North. They do this because there are too many bank failures in the South. The South cannot attract new wealth nor retain the wealth which it creates unless it can offer safety to the investor. The South has too many small, unsound banks, too few strong national banks, and practically no savings banks. Postal savings are insignificant in the South. The building and loan associations are growing in favor, though still underdeveloped. There are a few credit unions, but the number is not increasing. Safe depositories for the small investor should be provided in greater numbers. Commercial banks, or many of them, are too risky for the families whose limited savings are the product of toil and sacrifice.

Too often we see people deprived of their life savings through investment in fraudulent or highly speculative stocks. The rural regions of the South have been the favorite hunting grounds of the blue-sky stock vender. With so many sources of safe and profitable investment, what a pity that our thrifty but uninformed citizens cannot be spared the losses and heartaches to which bank failures and stock manipulations subject them!—Paul W. Wager.

IMMIGRATION IN 1927.

Secretary of Labor James J. Davis in his analysis of immigration statistics finds that in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1927, a total of 538,001 aliens were admitted to the United States, as compared with a total of 496,106 aliens for the previous year. As compared with 1926, 253,608 aliens departed during 1927, against 227,755 departures for the previous year. Therefore, for the last fiscal year there were 284,493 aliens admitted in excess of departures, as compared with 268,351 for the preceding year.

Of the 538,001 aliens admitted in the last fiscal year, 385,175 were immigrants, or newcomers for permanent residence, and 202,826 were nonimmigrants returning from a temporary visit abroad or coming here for a visit. Of the 253,608 aliens who departed, 180,142 left the United States with the intention of returning, while 73,366 departed without expressing an intention of returning.

Practically one-half of the immigrants admitted during the last year came from countries in the Western Hemisphere, the quota restrictions not applying to these countries. Canada and Mexico furnished the greatest number of immigrants, 81,506 coming from Canada, and 67,721 from Mexico, or about 45 percent of the entire number of immigrants for the year. Europe sent 168,368, the largest contributors being Germany, 48,513; the Irish Free State, 28,054; Great Britain, 23,669; the Scandinavian countries, 16,860; Italy, 17,297; and the rest of the European countries contributing 39,976. As compared with figures of the previous year, Canadian immigration to the United States decreased 10.5 percent, Mexico increased 56.3 percent, and European immigration increased 8.2 percent.

THE RURAL CHURCH

The future of the rural church in the United States depends largely upon population and economic changes. The farm population is now just about one-fourth of the total population. If the use of machinery and science in farm production continues, we will need still fewer people to produce the farm products of the United States. One famous agricultural editor stated to me recently that, within five or six decades, the farm population might be only one-tenth of the total. If, instead of 27,000,000 farm population, we shall have within fifty years only about 15,000,000 and a total population of 150,000,000, one can well imagine what will happen to most of the churches in the open country. They

CITIZENSHIP DEFINED

The obligations of citizenship do not rest solely or chiefly in the exercise of the privileges of voting, or in conducting campaigns, or in holding offices.

Important as are all these duties their performance will amount to nothing unless our citizens are imbued with the spirit of our institutions, which means respect for a government of law, a sincere desire to better in every practical way the conditions of human life, loyalty in all relations of life, and the disposition to be kindly and fair in all dealings with one's fellow man.—Charles E. Hughes.

will either disappear, as more than a thousand have in Ohio within the last fifteen years, or they will be in an impoverished condition. The country church will then no longer send its stream of candidates for the ministry, or its large numbers of recruits for the city church.

And the city church administrator, or should be, as much concerned about this matter as the one responsible for the rural churches. Go into a typical church in Peoria on a Sunday morning and ask how many there were born on the farm. Probably three-fourths, or more will raise their hands.

If these population and economic trends continue, they will also make themselves felt in the treasuries of the religious bodies, large and small. It is rural migration that is largely sustaining the church in the small and the middle-sized city, and even to some extent in the metropolitan centers, though admittedly the latter have special conditions. When the rural migration ceases to come in such large numbers, many city churches are going to lose ground.

Already the economic status of the countryside is given as one reason for declining income for some church boards.

These things mean that churches serving farmers will increasingly be located in villages, towns and smaller cities, instead of the open country. They also mean that questions of relationships between religious bodies are going to become more acute, and that cooperation will be one of the necessary techniques to find a way out.—Benson Y. Landis in Federal Council Bulletin.

JUNIOR RED CROSS

Members of the Junior Red Cross proved a new capacity for service during the Mississippi flood, according to reports to Red Cross National Headquarters covering their work.

This group of enthusiastic school children responded spontaneously and generously to the needs of the flood victims. An indication of the importance of this help is contained in the report that Juniors in Boston alone contributed \$7,500 to the relief fund.

Junior Red Cross members shared in reconstruction work in the Mid-west tornado several years ago, after the Florida storm, and are in the post-flood operations of the Red Cross among the people in the Mississippi Valley.

Junior Red Cross has 5,822,767 members, an increase of 273,329 in the last year.

More than a million of the Junior Red Cross membership is distributed in the Philippines, Hawaii, Guam, Porto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Alaska, and includes Indian and Eskimo children. Through the medium of the Junior Red Cross in the United States, and similar groups abroad, children all over the world are being brought into closer understanding by international correspondence carried on by classes in the schools.

The Juniors at present have nearly twice the membership of the senior organization, but in the forthcoming membership enrollment of the Red Cross, from November 11 to 24, the goal of the adult membership is 5,000,000.—Oxford Public Ledger.

OUR FUR RESOURCES

According to the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, the fur resources of the United States are steadily and rapidly diminishing. The raw fur catch during 1925-26 was approximately twenty percent less than in the previous year and the

decrease for 1926-27 has been even greater. Of course, the Mississippi flood has affected the catch this year but the important causes of the decline in the supply of fur animals are stated to be out-of-season trapping, over-trapping, the general tendency in many sections to class fur-bearing animals as vermin to be killed on sight, a great reduction of fur-producing areas, unwise drainage of swamps and marshes, and needless destruction of forests and cover.

Decline in the fur supply is taking place contemporaneously with the increasing demand for furs of all kinds. Of course, this increased demand is in part responsible for some of the practices which are leading to the diminishing of our fur resources. Unless wise fur-conservation laws are enacted and enforced the Biological Survey declares that the public and private benefits from the fur resources will diminish to a vanishing point in the not distant future. It is incumbent upon the states to give fur animals better protection than they now have if the processes of extermination in progress are to be checked.—Asheville Citizen.

COMMUNITY ALMSHOUSES

Substitution of community almshouses for the old system of a separate institution for the poor in each county is being tried out by five Virginia counties. The experiment will be watched with interest throughout the nation. It is the first step in the new economy, the consolidation of county activities to effect a saving of cost to the taxpayer, and—it is to be hoped—to enhance efficiency of operation.

It has long been contended that the majority of persons committed to almshouses need hospital treatment or should be in homes for incurables. Many feeble-minded patients are sent to poorhouses instead of to institutions where they might receive treatment.

There has been vast waste, and also many human derelicts who might have been reclaimed have been sent to the almshouse, losing what hope was left to them in life. The joint operation of these institutions may correct this situation.—Gastonia Gazette.

KNOW NORTH CAROLINA

How all the seventh grade school children in Craven county put on a project, "Made in North Carolina," is told by Mrs. Carl Bartling in a report, just made, to the North Carolina Education Association.

The first aim was to find out the names of articles made in the Tar Heel state and then the leaders decided to secure the actual object as a permanent exhibit. Manufacturing concerns were solicited and industries were located and the younger generation began to learn its "North Carolina First" first-hand.

Letters were written to secretaries of chambers of commerce, which resulted in a large amount of literature, read in class and studied. The children of Craven were knowing North Carolina first, to paraphrase and localize the "America First" expression of touring agencies.

The interest of receiving packages and seeing what was in them spread over the whole school.

"We received gingham, outing, samples of silk, woolen samples of material used in making knit underwear, a chain, tobacco truck, axe handles, broom, child's top wagon, samples of rubber used in making an automobile tire, cigar, cigarettes, tobacco, urns for potted plants, tobacco flue scraper, samples of material used in making bedspreads, sheets, and pillowcases; pamphlets showing furniture of all descriptions, mattresses, stoves, etc.; samples of yarn, paper, belting, drapery, flour, and from the nearby mills samples of lumber," Mrs. Bartling said.

Demonstration lessons were held. The large map of North Carolina on the wall was connected with strings attached to the various cities and sections with the articles spread around the room.

Geography lessons were added to the project. By reading the literature sent them the pupils gained information not found in the text-books, about the cities of North Carolina.—Durham Herald.

SAVINGS DEPOSITS IN BANKS AND TRUST COMPANIES

The States Ranked According to Deposits per Capita, 1926

The following table shows the amount of savings deposits in banks and trust companies, by states on or about June 30, 1926. The first column shows aggregate amount of deposits, expressed in thousands of dollars. The second column shows the bank savings per capita in each state. This is not the average savings per depositor but the amount of savings for each person in the state's population. The states are ranked on this basis. The table is based on information contained in the Statistical Abstract of the United States for 1926.

The total amount of savings deposits in the national banks, state banks, trust companies, and mutual savings banks of the United States on June 30, 1926, was \$24,696,192,000. This was equivalent to \$211 for every person in the United States. The number of depositors was 46,762,240, hence the average deposit was \$528.

Ranked on the amount of deposits for each person in the state Massachusetts leads with \$542, and New York is second with \$524. Fifteen states exceed the average for the United States. This group includes all the New England states, all the Middle Atlantic states, California, Nevada, Michigan, and Iowa. North Carolina ranks fortieth among the states, with \$52 per capita.

Paul W. Wager

Department of Rural Social-Economics, University of North Carolina

Rank	State	Savings deposits (thousands of dollars)	Savings deposits per capita	Rank	State	Savings deposits (thousands of dollars)	Savings deposits per capita
1	Massachusetts	\$2,275,704	\$542	24	Utah	64,395	125
2	New York	5,918,682	524	26	Indiana	388,166	124
3	Vermont	182,272	518	26	South Dakota	85,568	124
4	Rhode Island	321,865	464	28	Missouri	384,756	110
5	Connecticut	739,038	460	29	Colorado	107,014	101
6	New Hampshire	201,723	444	30	West Virginia	154,822	98
7	California	1,679,146	389	31	Virginia	229,383	91
8	Maine	234,880	365	32	Wyoming	21,622	90
9	New Jersey	1,127,334	306	33	Montana	58,933	85
10	Maryland	399,889	253	34	Kentucky	179,677	71
11	Nevada	19,365	251	35	Louisiana	133,785	70
12	Pennsylvania	2,336,613	243	36	Kansas	126,263	69
13	Michigan	1,028,545	234	37	Tennessee	165,512	67
14	Delaware	53,634	223	38	North Carolina	109,694	57
15	Iowa	515,221	212	39	Idaho	27,793	63
16	Minnesota	531,918	200	40	North Carolina	148,802	52
17	Illinois	1,385,377	192	40	Mississippi	92,660	52
18	Ohio	1,252,637	190	42	Alabama	102,408	41
19	Wisconsin	489,951	170	43	Oklahoma	92,915	40
20	Nebraska	208,334	150	44	Arkansas	70,311	38
21	North Dakota	92,910	145	45	Georgia	150,597	34
22	Florida	178,488	135	45	Arizona	25,229	34
23	Oregon	113,776	130	47	Texas	164,924	31
24	Washington	192,423	125	48	New Mexico	7,485	19