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ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES OF N. C.

TELLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

The human element has played a far greater part in North Carolina's recent development than its material resources, great though they are. We have not built roads, schools, factories and other monuments to our substantial prosperity simply for the sake of seeing what could be accomplished with concrete, steel and stone, when backed by dollars. Our growth though necessarily the result of money available, indicates something deeper than material prosperity. We regard this remarkable growth as an effect rather than a cause, for the real cause is hidden in the hearts of our citizenry, which, I firmly believe, places spiritual values above material success.

North Carolina has had the foresight to properly coordinate its resources and direct its activities. Our advancement has not been along haphazard lines, but with definite purposes in view, chief among which has been service to humanity. Our program has been a balanced program. We have built roads, to be sure, but we did not neglect education to do this. At the same time, there was no cessation in our activities in behalf of the weak and unfortunate.

Education, in its broadest sense, has done more than any other factor to bring our state to the forefront, and the external evidences of education are based upon something deeper than that which appears on the surface. True enlightenment goes further than the erection of school houses and the employment of competent teachers. It inspires a will to serve humanity as a whole.

North Carolina's chief aim has not been to outdo any neighbor states, but to improve its own opportunities and, therefore, to help others. Our interests are diversified. Not only do we believe in and strive to encourage diversified farming, but diversified industry as well, and diversified education.

Agriculture

In agriculture we are no longer dependent on any one crop. In 1927, our agricultural products, including live stock, were worth \$441,168,000, and we ranked seventh in the value of all crops and sixth in the value of 22 leading crops. Between 1920 and 1925, when there was a terrific slump in the number of farms throughout the United States, North Carolina showed a net gain in the number of its farms of something like 13,000 and was elevated to the rank of second state in the Union, with only Texas leading. From corn last year our farmers realized \$45,871,000; from wheat, \$7,344,000; from peanuts, \$4,872,000; from Irish potatoes, \$4,747,000; from sweet potatoes, \$9,944,000; and so on. During the last five years our farmers have shipped, in cooperation with the State Department of Agriculture and the county agents, 10,000,000 pounds of live poultry, at good prices, in carlots, while we are looking toward a material increase in the dairy cow industry.

Aside from educational advancement, North Carolina's greatest progress has been marked by the building of dependable highways, for which \$115,000,000 has been authorized by the state since 1921. Through this and federal aid, our state system now extends between 7,000 and 8,000 miles, and the financing system calls for no tax on real estate or personal property. Besides the state system, there are approximately 66,000 miles of county roadways.

Industry

We have in North Carolina more cotton mills than any other state in the Union, and the output from them ranks second in value. They consume about 1,500,000 bales of cotton annually, which is considerably more than we produce. As compared with \$68,000,000 in 1900, the manufacturing establishments of North Carolina now represent a total investment of considerably more than \$1,000,000,000, compared with \$669,000,000 in 1920. The aggregate annual output from these factories equals the amount invested. These factories employ approximately 185,000 workers, whose income is, in

round figures, \$135,000,000 yearly. There are more debt-free homes in North Carolina than in any other state in the Union.

Another distinction enjoyed by North Carolina is in value added to raw materials by manufactures, which runs to \$499,727,125. Ten leading industries show outputs for 1927 as follows: Textiles and their products, other than knit goods, \$425,233,596; tobacco, \$413,274,114; lumber, including planing mills, \$54,062,615; furniture, \$53,551,221; fertilizer, \$18,293,687; flour and meal, \$18,201,542; cottonseed oil, cake and meal, \$17,612,879; leather, tanned and cured, \$16,405,354; car construction and repairs, \$14,447,443; printing and publishing, \$12,259,226.

North Carolina's rank in water power development among the states of the Union is fourth. The output of its power plants is 1,730,861,590 kilowatt hours and its output by water-power is 1,625,278,570 kilowatt hours.

The state ranks first in the number of native minerals, with 289, and in the value and quantity of scrap mica, 43 percent of the United States, and feldspar 44 percent of the United States, produced in residual kaolin clay.

While the entire South produces 50 percent of the nation's lumber, North Carolina's forest products amount annually in value to \$100,000,000. This is well in keeping with the total amount received for its cotton or tobacco, the two major crops. Western North Carolina's hardwood and Eastern North Carolina's pine and gum are among the state's richest assets.

Wealth Gains

Tremendous increase in per capita wealth has been noted in the state during the last two decades. Taking the 1912-1922 period as an example, this increase was 238 percent, as compared with 61 percent for the nation as a whole. The state's property value is placed in excess of \$5,000,000,000, as compared with \$681,000,000 in 1900 and \$4,500,000,000 in 1926, while federal tax collections for the year ending June 30, 1928, totaled \$225,315,303. Bank resources increased from \$150,000,000 in 1914 to over \$500,000,000 in 1927, a gain of 230 percent in about a dozen years, while the banking resources of the United States increased slightly more than 100 percent in the last 20 years.

North Carolina has the oldest state university in America, located at Chapel Hill and founded in 1789, while other institutions for higher learning included five colleges for white students and six for colored; also there are 32 privately operated colleges for white and seven for colored students.

North Carolina is more than 99½ percent pure American stock, these people having as their background some of the finest sections of Anglo-Saxon Europe. The foreign influx has been slow and at no time has it proved threatening to home industries. Such foreigners as we have are orderly and industrious and have not given any cause for concern.

Briefly, I have endeavored to point out several outstanding facts, which I believe are easily substantiated: First, that North Carolina has been impelled by proper motives; second, that it has utilized its natural resources to the best advantage with a view to spiritual as well as material values; and, third, that the spirit which pervades North Carolina is not one of selfishness. So long as these conditions prevail, we shall continue our forward march.—Gov. A. W. McLean, in Manufacturers Record.

GEOGRAPHIC ADVANTAGES

The Geographic Advantages of North Carolina were discussed by Prof. S. H. Hobbs, Jr., at the first meeting of the North Carolina Club. The Club, composed of faculty members and students at the University who are interested in the economic and social conditions of the state, is beginning its fifteenth year of bi-weekly meetings. This year the Club is devoting its attention to the rural end of North Carolina's civilization. The initial paper was designed to show the physical background of our state's civilization. The paper in full, along with thirteen

A COUNTY LIBRARY

What is a county library? It is a free lending library, maintained by the county, with books and magazines for everybody in the county.

How is the library supported? The county library is usually supported by a small tax, sometimes by an appropriation from the general funds.

How is it managed? It is managed by experienced librarians, whose knowledge of books is at the service of all who care to use it. Also by a county library board, serving without pay, or directly by the county commissioners.

How is it established? In most states, by the county commissioners, or other governing bodies, in some states by popular vote, as provided by the state law.

How does it work? Headquarters and central library are usually maintained at the county seat, or in some other large town. Branch libraries, which are equipped to meet the needs of readers and students, are maintained in all important towns and villages.

How does it distribute books? By mail service on all rural routes, book collections in all rural schools, possibly a book truck, branch libraries on wheels for the smallest communities.

What kind of books? All kinds of books, stories, biographies, plays and magazines, books that help with school or farm work.—The Enterprise.

others, will appear in the Club Year-Book. The following are a few of the points developed.

Geographic Divisions

The state is about evenly divided into two great regions, the western half being of igneous origin, the eastern half being of sedimentary origin. These two geologic regions in turn are each divided into two geographic areas: the tidewater, and western coastal plains of the east, and the piedmont and Carolina highlands of the west.

As a result of our wide range in elevation from below sea level to 6,711 feet above, the wide range of geologic formations, and the great variety of soils, the state has a varied economic foundation, a great variety of plant life, and a great variety of minerals. It is said that only Florida has a larger variety of plants, and perhaps no state a larger variety of minerals. North Carolina is a state of variety. The claim is often made that she could be as self-contained as any state in the Union.

Temperature and Rainfall

The mean average temperature of the state varies from sixty-three degrees in the southeastern part to fifty degrees in the northwestern corner. The bulk of the state has a mean average annual temperature of from fifty-seven to sixty degrees, and no part suffers from extreme heat or cold. Our average temperature is about fifteen degrees above that of the Pennsylvania-Massachusetts section. Our July normal is about the same as the July normal for New York, while our January normal is around fifteen to twenty degrees above the New York normal. Our warmer winters give us great economic advantages, among which are cheaper living costs and unhampered transportation.

Sunshine and Rainfall

In the number of fair days North Carolina compares very favorably with any other state. Our winter resorts are the products of Carolina sunshine. An unfamiliar advantage of North Carolina is that in the winter our days are about fifty minutes longer than in the Pennsylvania-Massachusetts section, while in the summer when the sun's rays are enervating, and too much sunshine is a liability, the sun shines about fifty minutes less in North Carolina than in the section referred to above.

In the volume and distribution of rainfall, North Carolina is particularly favored. Our average annual precipitation is about fifty inches a year, and is fairly evenly distributed both by geographic areas and by seasons. This is highly important, not only agriculturally, but industrially, since our

great industrial development is based on water power, and it is important that our rivers have a fairly constant flow.

The above and additional facts prove that North Carolina is favorably located in a geographic area that is hardly surpassed on earth when all the climatic factors combined are considered in terms of their economic values.

Availability

Within a six-hundred-mile radius from the center of North Carolina lie nearly all of the chief cities of eastern United States. A study recently made by the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau shows that a circle with a radius of six hundred miles from central Carolina contains 66.8 percent of the nation's purchasing power, while a similar area centered on New York City contains only 44.5 percent of the nation's purchasing power.

In other words, any part of North Carolina is less than one day's railroad travel from the nation's chief centers of population and industry—a consideration which according to the Duke Power Company counts heavily in the distribution and marketing of manufactured goods.

The Duke Power Company further says that this section possesses an enormous advantage in freight rates. Raw materials can be made up into finished products in central Carolina close to the source of supply and shipped from this section to all parts of the national market far more cheaply than when the raw materials are first hauled to New York and vicinity, and then, after manufacture, reshipped to the original areas.

The above contention appears to be amply substantiated by what is now happening in the textile industry. The South is rapidly pulling away from the North in textile leadership. Seventy-one percent of the nation's active spindle hours are now contributed by the South. North and South Carolina both lead Massachusetts, while Georgia now ranks alongside Massachusetts in active spindle hours. Ninety-six percent of North Carolina's spindles are in operation, while only half of the spindles in place in Massachusetts are actually in operation, and Massachusetts has lost two million spindles during the last four or five years.

The same principle largely explains why North Carolina has a big monopoly in the manufacture of pipe and cigarette smoking tobacco, and stands high in the manufacture of furniture, and also why the new rayon industry, already grown to giant proportions, is concentrating in this geographically favored region.

North Carolina suffers a severe handicap in the realm of availability, due to the lack of a deep-sea port and an east-west trunk-line railroad. Fortunately, however, this is a handicap that can be remedied by our state whenever it sees fit to act.

THE RURAL CHURCH

A survey of 179 counties in the United States made by the Social and Religious Institute of New York City led the Institute to make the statement that 1,600,000 farm children live in communities where there is no church or Sunday school of any de-

nomination, that 2,750,000 more do not go to any Sunday school, and that the trend is not improving but is going from bad to worse.

Here is a handful of sound facts on the same situation: Only one-fifth of the rural population goes to church. Two-fifths of the rural churches of the country are standing still or losing ground.

A quarter of all rural churches have no Sunday school. One-fifth of all rural churches are kept alive by home-mission aid. Of these subsidized churches, a large number are in active competition with churches of very similar doctrines.

Seven out of every ten rural churches have only a fraction of a pastor apiece.

One-third of all rural pastors receive so low a salary that they can live only by working at some other occupation. One-half of the rural churches of the country make an annual gain in membership of as much as 10 percent.—Urban-Rural Relations, by Kiwanis International.

RELIGIOUS BODIES PROSPER

The church people of the state should feel encouraged over the facts revealed by the 1926 census of religious bodies just released by the Census Bureau. The more important statistics for the year 1926 are reported below, along with the corresponding data for 1916.

There are now sixty-seven religious bodies in the state, compared with fifty-seven reported in 1916. Eight denominations reporting ten years ago are not reported in the recent census. Some of these have joined other denominations, while others are out of existence. There are eighteen new denominations not reported in 1926. Some of these denominations were created by divisions in denominations shown as units a decade ago.

There has been a marked gain in church membership, the increase being three hundred and twenty-six thousand or thirty percent, which is twice the percent gain in population for the same period.

The females outnumber the males in church membership by more than two hundred thousand. There are three female members for every two male members.

Churches, unlike schools, are not consolidating. There were three hundred and forty-eight more church buildings in 1926 than ten years earlier.

The value of church property showed a remarkable increase. Counting church buildings and parsonages the church property in the state is now valued at more than ninety million dollars. We have a larger investment in churches than we have in public schools—larger by six million dollars in 1926. Our annual investment in church buildings has just about kept pace with our annual investment in public schools.

The church debt is remarkably small compared with the total investment in church property. Church expenditures for the year 1926 were nearly eighteen million dollars. Our church expenditures were eight-tenths as much as the cost of operating the public schools of the state, notwithstanding the fact that much church work is done gratuitously while nearly all public school work is paid for.

It is interesting to note that the enrollment in Sunday schools outnumbers the enrollment in public schools by more than a hundred thousand. Another noteworthy fact is that there are a four-and-a-half times as many Sunday school teachers and officers in North Carolina as there are public school teachers, principals, and superintendents. Counting preachers, there are five times as many official church workers in the state as there are people on the public school payroll.

Churches may be declining or stagnant in other states, but not so in North Carolina.

RELIGIOUS STATISTICS FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Item	1926	1916
Churches (local organizations).....	10,297.....	9,713
Members.....	1,406,883.....	1,080,723
Male.....	555,821.....	424,674
Female.....	757,355.....	599,505
Sex not reported.....	93,707.....	65,544
Church edifices:		
Number.....	9,592.....	9,244
Value:		
Churches reporting.....	9,397.....	9,046
Amount reported.....	\$80,471,664.....	\$25,523,323
Debt:		
Churches reporting.....	1,625.....	1,382
Amount reported.....	\$7,714,936.....	\$1,306,437
Parsonages:		
Value:		
Churches reporting.....	1,850.....	1,322
Amount reported.....	\$9,738,530.....	\$3,077,203
Expenditures during year:		
Churches reporting.....	9,510.....	9,118
Amount reported.....	\$17,904,444.....	\$6,126,046
Sunday schools:		
Churches reporting.....	8,829.....	8,525
Officers and teachers.....	91,869.....	69,599
Scholars.....	953,153.....	739,215