WIPING OUT ADULT ILLITERACY IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Address of Supt. J. Y. Joyner

Realizing that the press is the most potent of all agencies in moulding sentiment, in shaping public policies, and in promoting all movements for public welfare, I count it not only a pleasure and an honor, but a great opportunity as well, to speak to the members of the North Carolina Press Association.

In my opinion, with the exception of the teachers and others actively engaged in educational work, the editors of North Carolina have contributed more for less pay than any others to the educational progress of this State during the thirteen years of my administration. With the exception of the public school, the public press is perhaps the greatest instrumentality for public education. Appreciating your activity and assistance in this great work in the past, I shall take the liberty of talking to you today informally, as to friends and co-workers in a great cause for the common good, about some of the most important parts of our educational program.

If time permitted, I should like to discuss with you three big problems that now hold important places on our program of educational work in this State:

1. **Rural Education.**—Its adaptation to rural life, to the every day needs of the country that constitute 82 per cent. of our population, preparing them to make the most and to get the most out of all that is about them—soil, plant, and animal, the three great sources of wealth—and to use what they make and get in the best way to enrich, sweeten, beautify and uplift country life, socially, morally, intellectually, spiritually, making it the ideal life that men will seek and love to live. The development of a type of country school by reasonable consolidation and local taxation of not less than three teachers adequately equipped in all respects to give such preparation, vocational and cultural, to country boys and girls, and to become the social, intellectual, industrial, and civic center of the whole community.

We have been working on this problem for some years and we are beginning to have some encouraging success in the establishment in a number of counties of farm-life schools, rural high schools, and consolidated rural district or community schools prepared to give instruction and training in rural life subjects. You are acquainted with this work and have given your hearty support in the past and I bespeak the same in the future.

2. **More Efficient Teaching and Supervision.**—Increased compensation, increased qualification, professional preparation, and professional protection for teachers and superintendents of schools, raising the most delicate and difficult of all work committed to man and to dignity of a profession requiring reasonable special preparation.

3. **Adult Illiteracy and Its Elimination.**—The limitation of the time, however compels me to content myself with the briefest statement of the first two problems, with which you are already familiar, and to devote the remainder of my time to the third problem, with which you are less familiar.

With 12.3 per cent. of the total white population over ten years of age and 14 per cent. of the white population unable to read or write, according to the last census, the editors of North Carolina will agree with the teachers and all other patriotic citizens that the reduction and final elimination of illiteracy is one of the first and most urgent educational duties—a duty already too long neglected. The recent decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Oklahoma Suffrage Amendment case adds new emphasis to this question of adult white illiteracy in North Carolina. In the enactment and enforcement of the compulsory attendance law for children between the ages of 8 and 12, conservatively strengthened later, will be found a most effective means for the elimination of illiteracy in the rising generation and its prevention in future generations. The present crop of adult illiterates, already beyond the reach of the regular public schools, must be reached by some means. They constitute an army of 132,189 native white illiterates, of which 49,110 are native white illiterates of voting age. 140 out of every thousand white voters are unable even to read their ballots. An army marching under the black banner of ignorance, a foe to all the blessings that follow in the wake of intelligence, a menace to the State, a weakness in a democracy, doomed to darkness, inefficiency, intellectual poverty, political bondage, ambitionless and industrial bondage, ambitionless and hopeless, helpless unless some effective means be found and found quickly for their relief and liberation.

This army of adult illiterates is an inheritance from former generations, from slavery, from an aristrocratic instead of a democratic civilization, from civil war and devastation, the poverty, and the destruction of our school system and institutions that followed. It must inevitably handicap the progress of the State, discourage immigration of the desirable sort, and in the future, as in the past, invite the sneers of the scorner and the defamation of the witling to the shame and injury of the State for the next two generations, unless we find and put into immediate effective means of reducing, and if possible, eliminating adult illiteracy during this generation. It is our duty to the State and to these illiterates who are bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh, and who are not responsible for their illiteracy, to seek and find a way to reach and teach them without further delay.

These are tragic facts about white illiteracy in North Carolina. Let them speak for themselves—speak to the hearts of men, to the love of humanity in men, to the sense of duty in men, to the judgment and the patriotism of men, to the desire for safety and self-preservation in men!

By the accident of birth, the fortune of environment, the love of our fellow-men, expressed in private and public school for us, here sit we snugly in the light yonder at our doors are our brothers, thousands of them, in the shadow of the world, in the bitterness of darkness, in the bondage of illiteracy—mature men and women, old men and women, but children still—

"Children crying for the light,
Children crying for the light
And with no language but a cry."

That cry, from the depths of some divine despair, rising from mountain-top and cove, from plain and valley, ringing in the ears of men, ascending to the courts of heaven—shall we not heed it? Duty points the way, conscience lights the path. Shall we not go down to them, these grown up children, these lame ones—lame of mind, lame of soul, lame, so many of them, from their mother's womb; lame most of them, because, in the language of one of them, they "hain't never had no chance?" Shall we not go down to them, and bid them in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazereth, "Rise up and walk?" Shall we not take them by the hand and lift them up, that they may gather strength to stand alone, to walk alone, to live in the light, to dwell in the darkness no more forever?

Editors of North Carolina, you have it in your power more than any others to get these facts before the people, to hammer them into their minds and souls until they are aroused to their manifest duty to these less fortunate brethren of theirs, to help in the presentation and the successful execution of the plans for the elimination of illiteracy in North Carolina.

I do not need to remind you that you would be great gainers in the increased circulation, the appreciation, and the influence of your papers from the elimination of illiteracy and the dissemination of intelligence. I make my appeal on higher grounds to this body of men, confident that now, as in the past, they will respond promptly and enthusiastically to the high call for the betterment of their fellowmen and the honor and safety of their State.

I do not need to say more, then, simply in conclusion to outline in brief our plan for the elimination of illiteracy and indicate how you may help, through your papers, in the successful execution of these plans.

We have now in press for general distribution through the State Department of Public Instruction a bulletin of information giving the facts about illiteracy in the State and in each county, containing short arguments and appeals from the heads of a number of professional, civic, social, industrial, and agricultural organizations and others of the State that have pledged their enthusiastic cooperation in this work. This bulletin will be used for carrying on the publicity campaign for getting the facts before the people and arousing them to action. It will, of course, be sent to every newspaper in the State first, the contents to be used by the editors as they see fit, supplemented, of course, by editorials from editors on the facts and conditions herein set forth.

This bulletin will be followed by another that will be a Reader for the teachers and workers. This will contain twelve lessons, three a week for four weeks, in reading, writing, and arithmetic for adult illiterates, together with suggestions to the teachers. By an amendment to the school law, the names of all adults as well as non-adult illiterates in each school district are required to be reported in the school census of the district. Personal invitations and solicitation from friends, neighbors, associates in lodges and other organizations, and all other tactful means will be used to induce these illiterates to enroll in the "Moonlight Schools," which are simply night schools, conducted on moonlight nights, if possible, for the convenience of the country people in reaching school.

These schools will be conducted in the school house or, if more convenient, in some other place, at least three nights a week for four weeks. Of course, we shall have to rely mainly upon the public school teachers to volunteer for the teaching. Many of them have already indicated their willingness to do this. Others will be given opportunity to volunteer at summer schools and teachers' institutes this summer and later at county teachers' associations. The teachers can always be relied upon to do their part in every altruistic movement for community improvement and civic betterment. This part of the work will necessarily be largely under the direction of the county superintendent, the teachers, the county board of education and committeemen, as it is distinctly educational.

The "Moonlight Schools" have proved successful in dealing with this problem of adult illiteracy in other places, notably in Kentucky, where they were first inaugurated about three years ago, in Rowan county, by Mrs. Cora Wilson Stewart, at that time superintendent of schools of that county. The story of the movement in that State under her wonderful leadership is inspiring and the results have been marvelous. Largely as the result of the discussion of this subject at the annual meeting of the State Association of County Superintendents, at the Teachers' Assembly last November, eighty-two "Moonlight Schools" were conducted in twenty-nine counties in this State last year, enrolling sixteen hundred illiterates, of an average age of forty-five, most of whom learned to read and write. The forthcoming bulletin contains an exact reproduction of a letter written by an adult illiterate on the fourth night of his attendance upon one of these schools in Columbus county. These schools have, therefore, passed beyond the experimental stage.

Adult illiteracy will be one of the principal subjects emphasized this year during "Community Service" week early in October, and immediately following that week these "Moonlight Schools" will be opened and conducted for at least a month in all parts of the State.

Local organizations like the Farmers' Union, Junion Order, Women's Clubs, School Improvement Leagues churches, Sunday schools, etc., will be asked to co-operate with teachers and school authorities in securing attendance, in meeting any necessary incidental expense, and in providing short social entertainments of various sorts to make the pupils of these schools feel at home and comfortable and to make it pleasant and interesting for them.

The county papers will be asked to publish in their columns or in a little supplement each week's lessons a week in advance. That names and postoffice addresses of the illiterates enrolled in the schools will be furnished the paper, with the request to send a copy of the paper containing the week's lessons to each pupil, who will be directed to bring it to school with him each night. The paper will be his text book. As he learns to read, he will of course have the balance of the paper for additional practice in reading.

Short news items from each district, some of them about happenings in these schools, in words and sentences comprehensible to adult beginners in reading, will be sent to the paper weekly. In this way they can be interested and encouraged from the start. If the county papers will co-operate with us in this plan, I believe that it will prove the most successful plan yet devised for teaching adult illiterates.

The printing of the lessons and the books and the extra copies of the paper could not cost much. In addition to the sweet reward of an approving conscience for a valuable service rendered, the editors would, I believe, soon reap a financial reward in advertisement and increased subscription lists. A very large majority of those whom the paper was sent, as soon as they learned to read, would become permanent subscribers and grateful friends to the paper.

The editors and the teachers of North Carolina study the strategic position in this plan. Without their voluntary service, imposing work and sacrifices on their part these plans cannot be successfully carried out. This work will fail, thousands of men and women, some of whom offered their lives for us in the time that tried men's souls, will be doomed to stumble on in darkness to the end of a joyless journey.

I know I can speak for the teachers of North Carolina. They never yet have turned a deaf ear to any worthy call of humanity; they never yet have at any reasonable sacrifice demanded therefor. They'll do their part!

Editors of North Carolins, I have seen your mettle tried before and often. I've learned of what fine, sturdy stuff these Tar Heel editors are made. I know you'll do your part!

All together, then, for the elimination of illiteracy in North Carolina. For the emancipation of illiteracy in North Carolina, for the emancipation of every man, woman, and child from its tragic limitations!

Jo ano.

Rand McNally's pocket maps of different States 15 and 25 cents. Standard Drug Co.

ARE BOOZE AND TOBACCO IN THE SAME CLASS?

A newspaper man, representing one of the prominent dailies of Philadelphia, came into the office of The Sunday School Times to obtain some information about cigarette-smoking. He was gathering material for an article condemning the reported order placed in the United States for five million cigarettes to be delivered to the armies of the Allies. Before they parted, the Times' representative had an opportunity to ask the newspaper man if he was a Christian.

"I'm not much of a Christian, I'm afraid," was his answer. "For one thing I'm an awful heavy smoker. And don't go to church much."

Not a word had been said about his plainly evident smoking habits. Why do men of the world, who are pathetically ignorant of what it really means to be a Christian, feel that in some way tobacco does not quite link up with a true Christian?

Another interesting testimony from the "outside" is found in the newspaper report of the annual convention of the Wholesale Liquor Dealears' Association, held last June in Cincinnati. One of the speakers, an editor, of New York, urged a closer alliance between liquor and tobacco men. "Nation-wide prohibition," he said, "will leave the tobacco industry next in line for attack by the agitators." In the mind of that convention this was no slur on tobacco, for "the liquor business," as one of the prominent speakers pointed out, "is on a par with banks and railroads."

In answer to the call in the last Temperance Number of The Sunday School Times for testimonies from those who had given up tobacco, Al Saunders, of Scranton, wrote a letter that goes to the heart of the tobacco and liquor question. And it goes to the heart, too, of how to live victoriously. The inspiring story of "When Al Saunders Hit the Trail" was told in The Sunday School Times of June 26 and July 3, and will probably be reprinted in pamphlet form. Mr. Saunders writes:

In three months, in different parts of the country, I have personally come in contact with nine men who have fallen off the water wagon—that is, have fallen from Grace. Seven of those men did not give up pipe or cigarette when they hit the trail. Each one tried to hold on to something that would not work in harmony with the spirit of Jesus Christ. The other two went back to smoking before they started to dring again. What this proves you can see for yourself.

How often do we see men standing on the steps of their church, taking the last few sucks of a cigar stump or a tail end of a cigarette, then throw it down on the lawn and go in! Are we clean Cristians—and do this? I can answer for myself. The Lord made it very clear to me. I had to throw it away out of my life with the booze, the bad stories, the lies, the jealousies,—it had to go with all the other unclean things of my life when I was converted.

Men who reserve the right, when they hit the trail, to take a little drink on the quiet, or a little when they have what we used to call whiskey cramps or keep a little in the house in case of sickness, or smoke a cigar at a banquet, or at a friend's home, I say such men are skating on thin ice, and are liable to go through over their heads any minute.

Personally I deserve no credit because I have quit all those things. I am free to admit I have never for a moment had the least desire to take a smoke, take a drink, swear, or do any of the old things I was so fond of. When Jesus came into my heart he, with the power of his wonderful saving grace, took all the desire away from me. He cleansd me up in his way, and I am going all the way clean. I shall not reserve the right in my heart to do anything contrary to his will and his teaching; then I feel I have the right to claim his promises.

"CHARACTER"

The crown and glory of life is character. It is the noblest possession of a man, constituting a rank in itself, and an estate in the general good will. It secures all the honor without the jealousies of fame. It carries with it an influence which always tells, for it is a result of proved honor, rectitude and consistency. Character is human nature in its best form. It is moral order embodied in the individual. Men of character are the State's best motive power; for it is the moral qualities in the man which rule the world. The strength, the industry and the civilization of nations, all depend upon individual character. Laws and institutions are but its outgrowth; and as effect finds its cause, so surely does quality of character among a people produce its fitting results.

Though a man have no culture, slender abilities, and but small wealth, yet, if his character be of sterling worth, he will always command an influence, whether it be in the workshop, the school room, the mill, or the President's office. Character creates confidence in men in high standing as well as in humble life. Truthfulness, integrity and goodness—qualities that hang not on any man's breath form the essence of manly character, or, as one of our old writers has it, "that inbred loyalty unto virtue which can serve her without a livery." He who possesses these qualities, united be what he seems or purposes to be, him a power irresistible. He is strong to do good, strong to resist evil, and strong to bear up under difficulty or misfortune. The boy who does not look up will look down. George Herbert said: "Pitch thy behavior low, thy projects high, so shall thou humble be, sink not in spirit: who aimeth at the sky shoots higher much than he that means a tree." He who has a high standard of living and thinking will certainly do better than he who has none at all. There is a truthfulness in action as well as in words, which is essential to uprightness of character. A man must really be what he seems or vurposes to be. A school teacher once told me this: "Always endeavor to be really what you would wish to appear." The true character acts rightly, whether in secret or in sight of men. And here it may be observed how greatly the character may be strenghtened and supported by the cultivation of good habits. Man, it has been said, is a bundle of habits; and habit is the second nature. Self-respect, self-help and industry all are of the nature of habits, not beliefs. It thus happens that as we grow older, a portion of our free activity and individuality becomes suspended in habit; our actions become of the nature of fate, and we are bound by the chains which we have woven around our selves. It is important to train the young to virtuous habits. In them they are the easiest formed, and when formed they last for life. The Bible says: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." The beginning holds with in it the end. The first start on the road of life determines the direction and the destination of the journey. A man must establish, before he is twenty-five a character that will serve him his whole life. As habit strengthens with age, and character becomes formed, any turning into a new path becomes more and more difficult. Even happiness itself may become habitual. There is a habit of looking at the bright side of things, and also of looking at the dark side. And we have the power, to a great extent, of so exercising the will as to direct the thoughts upon calculated to yield happiness and improvement rather than their opposites. In this way the habit of good thoughts may be made to spring up like any other habit. As day light can be seen through very small holes, so little things will illustrate a person's character. Every man or boy may, to a large extent, be a self-educator in good behavior, as in everything else; he can be civil and kind, if he will, though he have not a penny in his purse. Even a kind look will give pleasure and confer happiness. Just think, how cheaply happiness can be given. Good manners, as we call them, are neither more nor less than good behavior; consisting of courtesy and kindness. The true gentleman is one of whose nature has been fashioned after the highest models. To possess this character is a dignity of itself, his qualities depend not upon fashion nor manners, but upon moral worth.

LINDSAY LUTHER,
Franklinville, N. C.

Health and Happiness Depend Upon Your Liver.

That sluggish liver with its sluggish flow of bile is what makes the world look so dark at times. Dr. King's New Life Pills go straight to the root of the difficulty by waking up the action of the liver and increasing the bile. Dr. King's New Life Pills cause the bowels to act more freely and drive away those "moody days." 25c. a bottle.

THAT WOODMEN CONVENTION

I wish to take this opportunity to again call attention to the convention of the "Woodmen of the Sandhills," which will be held in Pinehurst on the 7th of October. All Sovereigns are earnestly requested to attend on that day. The program includes addresses by Sovs. Geo. F. Wise, E. B. Dorton, and Gen. E. B. Royster. Sov. E. B. Lewis is expected to be present and deliver an address.

The Sand Hill Woodmen will be expected to take a part in the pageant, and will be represented by an emblematic float in the parade.

The program is in the hands of the printer, and will be distributed to camps in this section at an early date. All camps having them, will be expected to wear their parade badges or the evergreen. We also wish every Sov- with the undersigned. Registration booth will be on the fair grounds. Amvle facilities for accommodating Sovereigns who wish to remain over these two days of the fair have been provided.

Fraternally,
R. E. WICKER,
Cor. Secretary.

CAROLINA PEOPLE TELL OF STOMACH REMEDY

Sufferers Find Swift Relief by Use Remarkable Treatment.

Stomach sufferers in the Southwest and, in fact, all over the country have found remarkable and efficient results from the use of Mayr's Wonderful Remedy.

Many have taken this remedy and tell today of the benefits they received. Its effects come quickly—the first dose convinces. Here it what two Carolina folks have written:

W. R. DAVENPORT, Parker, N. C. —"For years I have suffered from a disease which puzzled doctors. I heard of your remedy and one bottle gave me relief. Your full treatment has about cured me."

J. E. ERWIN, Winston-Salem, N. C. —"I am satisfied through personal use of the powers of your remedy. You have saved my life."

Mayr's Wonderful Remedy gives permanent results for stomach, liver and intestinal ailments. Eat as much and whatever you like. No more distress after eating, pressure of gas in the stomach and around the heart. Get one bottle of your druggist now and try it on an absolute guarantee—if not satisfactory money will be returned.

TIME TO SEED WHEAT.

Farm Extension News.

As an average of two years results in sowing wheat at different dates at the Iredell Test Farm near Statesville it has been found that seedings made during the latter part of October yielded 52 per cent greater yield of grain than did seedings made during the first part of December when other conditions were made the same as nearly as posible. This percentage in yield was equivalent to an average increase of the two years tests of 3.7 bushels per acre. These results certainly emphasize the importance of seeding the wheat in the Piedmont section during the latter part of October or as soon as possible after a light frost has occurred.

AN ASHEBORO WOMAN'S EXPERIENCE

Results Tell the Tale.

Can you doubt the evidence of this Asheboro citizen.

You can verify Asheboro endorsement. Read this:

Mrs. Hugh J. Burns, N. Fayetteville St., Asheboro, says: "Kidney complaint began with pains across the small of my back and later, I had dull headaches and dizzy spells. The kidney secretions became disordered and irregular in passage. After I had used Doan's Kidney Pills a short time, I felt better. Six or eight boxes cured me of the attack and now I have little trouble from my kidneys." (Statement given January 2, 1908.)

OVER SEVEN YEARS LATER Mrs. Burns said: "Whenever my kidneys are the least disordered, a few doses of Doan's Kidney Pills give me quick relief."

Price 50c. at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Burns had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

FOR YOUR SCRAP-BOOK

George W. Cable.

It is impossible for any finite mind to fix the degree of criminality of any human act or of any human life. The Infinite One alone can know how much of our sin is chargable to us, and how much to our brothers or our fathers. We all participate in one another's sins. There is a community of responsibility attaching to every misdeed. No human since Adam—nay, nor Adam himself—ever sinned entirely to himself. And so I never am called upon to contemplate a conscience pointing at me as one crime or a criminal but I feel my part of the accessories.

Every Home Needs a Faithful Cough and Cold Remedy.

When seasons change and colds appear—when you first detect a cold after sitting next to one who has sneezed, then it is that a tried and tested remedy should be faithfully used. "I never wrote a testimonial before, but I know positively that for myself and family, Dr. King's New Discovery is the best cough remedy we ever used and we have tried them all." 50c. and $1.00.