

NORTH CAROLINA NEEDS IMMIGRATION.

Extracts From Address of Clarence Poe, Editor of The Progressive Farmer and Gazette, Before the North Carolina Press Association, Wrightsville, N. C., June 9, 1910.

North Carolina needs and must have a larger proportion of white people. The whole South, in fact, is still too sparsely settled. Our eleven Southern States, excluding Texas, support only 16,000,000 people of both races, and only 10,000,000 white people, while the same area in Europe supports over 160,000,000 white people. And it must be remembered that up to a certain point which we shall not reach for centuries yet, and other things being equal, prosperity depends upon density of population. If you owned the continent of North America, but lived on it alone, or if a hundred or a thousand men owned the continent and lived on it alone, it would be worth practically nothing to them. Population makes wealth, provided that it is normally intelligent and efficient.

The Sort of Immigrants We Need.

Of course, we do not want the lower-class European immigration. If we can get immigration from England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Holland, Sweden, etc.—the countries whose blood has gone to make up our vigorous American stock—it would be of great help to us. We are all of us such immigrants. From some countries of Southern and Eastern Europe, on the other hand, immigration is of a decidedly lower order and objectionable because of a low standard of intelligence and efficiency.

On the very same principle, however, immigration of a normal or high standard of intelligence and efficiency is desirable. Such immigration can be had, and ought to be had—in some measure perhaps from our English, Scotch, Dutch, and Irish kinsfolk across the sea—but chiefly from our Northern and Western states. For years now hundreds of thousands of the most enterprising and progressive farmers of the Middle West have been going into Canada with its long hard winters and bitter climate, not only giving up American citizenship, but actually paying two or three times as much for land in that inhospitable region as land of the same fertility commands in the South. We ought to have brought these men to the South. They know our institutions, our language, they are industrious, thrifty, wide-awake, and many of them are of Southern ancestry who should naturally come back home. Let's bring them back.

Immigration to Solve the Race Problem.

If there were no other reason for advocating such immigration from the North and West, I should favor it as our surest deliverance from our race problem. The proportion of negroes to whites is too large in every Southern State, and my hope is that ultimately the tides of migration and immigration will equalize population until the proportion of negroes in no State will exceed 20 per cent. We must train the negro—the more ignorant he is the greater the burden on the South—but at best the process will be slow, and at present it would probably not be too much to say that in considering our whole population, including our great constructive leaders and captains of industry, the average negro in North Carolina in economic worth and efficiency is only half as useful as the average white man. In other words, in rating general average of efficiency we should put the white man at 100 and the negro at 50, so that a county half white and half negro would have an average efficiency of 75, or a handicap of 25 per cent as compared with a county with an exclusive white population of a normal degree of efficiency.

Whether or not the difference is as much as I have indicated, certain it is that the larger the proportion of whites, the higher the average of efficiency, the more prosperous will be our every industry, and the better it will be for every individual citizen, including the negroes themselves.

Two Ways to Build Up North Carolina.

There are just two great ways to build up North Carolina. First and of paramount importance is the way which Governor Aycock emphasized unceasingly in his administration—the Education of all our people; and I should only supplement this by putting more earnest emphasis upon practical education, education that trains for efficiency, not education suited to the great urban centers of Europe and the North, but education suited to the needs of a great, awakening agricultural Commonwealth such as ours is and must be.

And second only to education which Governor Aycock emphasized, is immigration which Governor Glenn set out to further, but to which the State did not respond because it was not

made clear that the immigration was to be of the right sort.

4,000,000 instead of 1,200,000 White People.

Now let us start right—not by seeking immigrants from Southern Europe, but by advertising our resources to the thrifty, enterprising and progressive farmers of the North and West—men of our own stock who now only need an invitation to make them come. Emerson was right when he said that "every man who comes into a city with any purchasable talent or skill in him gives to every man's labor in the city a new worth," and if an ignorant negro slave in the old days was worth \$1,000, certainly we may assume that a thrifty and intelligent white Westerner, bringing not only himself, but in most cases substantial accumulations as well, should be worth many times as much as an asset to the State.

The last census year North Carolina had only 1,200,000 white people. It should have 4,000,000. Consider for a moment how much more important every institution in the State would be, how much more would be our industries, how much better would be our schools and roads and railroads, how much more attractive would be country life in our thickly settled communities and how much easier it would be to get telephones and water-works and trolley lines and local libraries and all the advantages of twentieth century life!

Let us take as our watchword "Education and Immigration—Both of the Right Sort."

A Dream of North Carolina's Future.

For seventy years now North Carolinians have been going West to build up the new States of that great empire. Now let us welcome back their children and neighbors to help us build here a great, prosperous and populous Commonwealth, where the masses of the people trained to as high standards of efficiency as anywhere in the world, shall develop a symmetrical and wellrounded civilization; a splendid and forceful democracy; and trained, intelligent and thrifty homeowners from among whom shall come not only a Jefferson and a Marshall, not only a James J. Hill and a Thomas A. Edison and a Seaman A. Knapp, not only men whom all the nation shall know as leaders in industry and in public affairs, but poets and seers, sculptors and artists—if not a Titian at least a Reynolds or a Millet, if not a Michael Angelo at least a St. Gaudens or a Ward, if not a Shakespeare at least a Browning or a Tennyson, if not a Savonarola, at least some great religious leader who shall put the church into vital relations to modern thought and give it a new baptism spiritual power—all these until North Carolina shall stand forth as having developed the best-rounded civilization of which any American State can boast.

Better Medical Education.

If the agent of the Carnegie Foundation finds much to complain of in medical education now, what would he have said of the medical education imparted thirty or forty years ago? The Medical Practice act of Illinois was enacted only about thirty years ago, and at that time one medical college in Chicago was graduating students after a single course of lectures, occupying only a part of a year, and another more enterprising institution was graduating two classes a year.

The two high class and thoroughly orthodox medical colleges had but a single course of lectures each, and the two years' study consisted in taking the same course of lectures twice. The first year in the imaginary three years' course consisted of occasional contact between the aspirant for a degree and a medical practitioner.

When one of these two institutions graded its course so that the second year should not be a duplicate of the first, and insisted on a good high school education as a condition of entrance, it was regarded as revolutionary. In one town in Northern Illinois a little earlier than this nine men were practicing medicine, only two of whom had any degree at all; the rest picked up medicine in drug stores and army hospitals. The Medical Practice act drove fifteen hundred doctors out of Illinois to practice in other States or get a professional education.

All that is changed now everywhere.—Philadelphia Record.

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The Educational Bond Issue.

The proposition for a bond issue to fully equip the State Schools was sprung upon the last Legislature, as our readers will remember, but in view of the strong feeling against the movement it was speedily withdrawn. But its advocates have not been asleep. They never sleep, and never surrender. The other day at the alumni banquet at the University, Gov. Kitchin boldly advocated a bond issue for the purpose indicated. The Governor's favor, however, does not change the complexion of the measures in the least; it only puts behind it the power and influence of the administration, and thus calls for redoubled energy on the part of those who do not think it just. Not content with ready access to the treasury from which an ever widening stream of annual appropriations is flowing into the coffers of State schools, the advocates of this amazing proposition would saddle upon the tax-payers of coming ages the burden of furnishing luxurious appointments at the various and sundry State colleges, that will be of not the least practical benefit to five per cent of their children. Already these schools are being fed out of a silver spoon. They get what they ask for and they always ask for a plenty. The tax-payers of the State have been for years providing these institutions with a cudgel to crack the heads of their sister schools which furnish instruction as thorough as that in any State college and without asking for or receiving one dollar from the public funds. All in the world these denominational and private schools ask for is a chance to live; and North Carolina denies them even that poor boon. These denominational schools were built by the very men who furnish the money to the State schools which enables them to enter the field with free tuition in their hands and other advantages which ample resources allow them. This is bad enough, but to bleed the tax-payers of the present and burden those of the future for the benefit of twenty per cent of the young men and women who patronize our various colleges is monstrous to us. These college lobbyists are shrewd and strong. They know exactly how to frighten the timid, flatter the vain and dazzle the ambitious. The only hope for the overthrow of this bold demand is that the people will send enough strong, earnest and patriotic statesmen to Raleigh to guard their rights and save the public money from the clutches of the most avaricious and insatiate monopoly that has ever flourished in our State.—Charity and Children.

When Mark Twain Became Editor.

The late Mark Twain spent two years of his life in Buffalo, including the "honeymoon" period, for it was while he was editor of the Buffalo Express (1869-1870) that he married Miss Olivia Langdon of Elmira, N. Y.

On assuming the editorship of the Express on August 21, 1869, the man who was afterwards to become one of the world's greatest humorists, said editorially:

"I only wish to assure parties having a friendly interest in the prosperity of this journal that I am not going to hurt the paper deliberately and intentionally, at any time. I am not going to introduce any startling reform or in any way attempt to make trouble. I am simply going to do my plain, unpretending duty—when I cannot get out of it. I shall work diligently and honestly and faithfully at all times and upon all occasions, when privation and want shall compel me to do so. In writing I shall always confine myself strictly to the truth, except when it is attended with inconvenience. I shall witheringly rebuke all forms of crime and misconduct, except when committed by the party inhabiting my own vest. I shall not make any use of slang or vulgarity upon any occasion or in any circumstances, and shall never use profanity except in discussing house rent and taxes. Indeed, upon second thought, I will not even then, for it is inelegant, un-Christian and degrading. I shall not often meddle with politics, because we have a political editor who is already excellent and only needs a term in the penitentiary to be perfect. I shall not write any poetry, unless I conceive a spite against the subscribers."

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Chicago is to have a thirty-story hotel, which will contain more bathtubs than may be found anywhere else beneath one roof.

New York has discovered that it pays \$100,000 a year for the wooden skewers in the meat.

The Blind Alley of Protection.

As Congress draws to its close the Congressional Record comes freighted with more and more speeches, delivered and undelivered, having for their object to provide materials for the coming campaign. This is the custom with both parties, and it has degenerated into a grave abuse. A Michigan member for example, the other day exhibited an array of doctored statistics to prove that the prices of nearly all commodities are higher on the other side of the St. Lawrence than in Detroit. It was nothing to him that he is flatly contradicted by the daily market reports as well as by the experience of any one who visits the Canada side of the river. If he and his fellow-Protectionists were asked why they are so vehemently opposed, then, to free trade with Canada they would say that the duties are needed for revenue, or they would resort to some other subterfuge.

It pleases the reactionaries in Congress just now to fill their speeches with laudations of the Payne-Aldrich tariff, as in former years the system of which this is the latest, and last, edition was held up to the admiring people as the source of national and individual prosperity. But as is observed, the method has wholly changed with the occasion. Formerly the Protectionist war cry was that the wonder-working tariff caused high prices, and with high prices high wages for American workmen. Now statistics must be distorted and garbled to support the assertion that the tariff has nothing to do with the exorbitant advances in prices all along the line. Then it was said with a sneer by one of the pundits of protection that "a cheap coat implies a cheap man" under the cost. Now the breath of the reactionaries is exhausted in assertions that the tariff has no share in the high coat and shoddy of the clothing of the American people.

Thus the reactionary champions of the Payne-Aldrich act, find themselves driven into a blind alley on the very threshold of the Congressional campaign. When they assert on the stump that the tariff has nothing to do with the high prices of the necessities and comforts of living on which it is imposed they will be asked wherein lies the protection to American industries which the tariff is assumed to secure. What answer, if it be true that, after all, the tariff affords no protection, and that prices of commodities are wholly free from its influence?

Coming down to the concrete issues, the authors of the Payne-Aldrich act will be asked why they left untouched the brutal schedule of duties on wool and woolsens. President Taft has furnished the answer in the combination of Eastern manufacturers and Rocky Mountain sheep growers. Was this to maintain prices, or has the tariff nothing to do with the cost of the clothing and blankets of the American people? Why did Senator Oliver have inserted in the tariff the sneaking provision which increases the protective duty on building materials of steel if this way not to enable the Trust to ward off foreign competition and maintain prices? Finally, for what else did the senior statesman of Pennsylvania labor to maintain prices of gloves and hosiery, not to mention his zealous efforts in favor of high protective duties on Myrobolan plum trees, briar rose bushes and umbrella sticks? Why, gentle shepherds of protection? Tell us why.—Philadelphia Record.

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