

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

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Editorial Board: E. C. Branson, J. G. deR. Hamilton, L. R. Wilson, Z. V. Judd, S. R. Winters.

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CAROLINA CLUB NOTES

Soil Experts For North Carolina

Since 1895, the University of North Carolina has sent 60 trained experts into the field of mining, geological surveys and scientific soil surveys in the different states, North Carolina included.

Encouraging Co-Operative Effort

Three bills introduced in the legislature of North Carolina last week are hopeful signs of progress. They authorize (1) Co-operative Enterprise (2) Co-operative Credit Unions, and (3) charge the State Department of Agriculture with the duty of campaigning, organizing, and supervising such efforts among people of all occupations and classes in the State. Texas led the South in such legislation in 1913, but North Carolina can greatly improve on the Texas laws. Only three other states have such laws at present—Wisconsin, New York, and Massachusetts.

So far in the United States, the only Rural Credit Unions in active operation are some 20 odd among the Jewish farmers in four Northern states. When the Jew goes into an enterprise it is sure to

be sane, safe, sound, and practicable. These bills call for no appropriations and levy no additional tax burden upon the state.

Farm Homes in North Carolina

In the census year, there were 224,526 farm homes in N. C., or a third more than in 1900; and 195,808 other homes, an increase of nearly three-fifths or 57 per cent. These last figures indicate the more rapid increase of dwellings in towns and mill villages.

But 140,480 of the farm homes were occupied by their owners; while only 63,072 other homes were occupied by their owners.

Moreover, 115,549 or nearly half, 47.7 per cent, of the farm homes are free from mortgage debt. On the other hand, two-thirds of all other homes are occupied by renters, while nearly three-fourths of the home-owners were burdened with mortgages.

It is easy to own a country home and to own it free of encumbrance. It is hard to own a home in our cities and to own it free from mortgage debt.

Farming and Home-Ownership

Farmers in this country are home-owners as a rule; nearly two-thirds or

GREED FOR A MONEY CROP

Henry W. Grady

No one crop will make a people prosperous. If cotton holds a monopoly under conditions that make other crops impossible, or under allurements that make other crops exceptional, its dominion will be despotism.

Whenever the greed for a money crop unbalances the wisdom of husbandry, the money crop is a curse. When it stimulates the general economy of the farm, it is the profit of farming.

In an unprosperous strip of Carolina, when asked the cause of their poverty, the people say, "Tobacco—for it is our only cash crop."

In Lancaster, Pa., the richest farm county in America according to the census, when asked the cause of their prosperity, the farmers say, "Tobacco—for it is the golden crown of a diversified agriculture."

62.8 per cent of them in North Carolina.

People engaged in other occupations in our cities or elsewhere are tenants and renters as a rule, nearly two-thirds of them both in North Carolina and in the country-at-large.

That is to say, the chances of home-ownership are nearly exactly two to one in favor of farmers in the open country.

For the sake of owning the roof-tree over your head, stick to the country.

If you want to dwell under your own vine and fig tree unmolested and unafraid, stay on the farm.

If you want to call your soul your own, and be an unrentable, unrented, free American citizen, live upon your own farm and in your own farm home.

Almost everybody else on earth to-day must consult his interests; but the home-owning farmer can afford to entertain and to utter robust opinions of his very own.

SCHOOL NEWS

School Exhibits

Under the direction of the University School of Education a leaflet has been prepared containing suggestions and hints on the work of the exhibit committee at County Commencements.

Write to the Bureau of Extension, Chapel Hill, for a free copy.

Is Randolph First?

It is reported that during the fall term, five new rural school libraries were established in Randolph county.

If any county has a better record than this we wish it might be reported to the UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER.

Under A Bushel

Is a candle bought to be set under a bushel, and not to be set on a candlestick?

Is the University a candle? Is it worth setting on a candlestick?

If anybody in North Carolina really wants to know, let him read the December number of the University Record. Send a post card request for it, if you have not seen it.

Help For The Rural School Teacher

The Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C. is preparing a bulletin on methods of organizing agricultural clubs among children in the rural schools. It is of particular value to North Carolina teachers since it will help to vitalize the teaching of the common school branches in the rural districts.

Write to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and ask for Bulletin No. 132.

Real Community Service

Tugman District, Meat Camp Township, Watauga County, organized a moonlight school Dec. 7, as a result of Community Service Week, writes Roy M. Brown, Secretary of the Conference of the People of Watauga County, to the University School of Education. The teacher is Mr. W. A. Tugman, of Sands. It is the first school of its kind in the County.

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LETTER SERIES NO. 14

Home and School

Exactly how to correlate school work with the home and bring the two into unity of effort is often a problem for the teacher. The UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER has just received from the Federal Department of Agriculture some very specific hints as to how this sort of thing can be done.

Some or all of the following projects may be followed up by teachers as a means of interesting boys and girls in useful tasks about the home and farm. These projects can well be correlated with the work of such organizations as the Community Life Clubs now in successful operation throughout Johnston County:

The Projects

1. Rope tying and splicing.
2. Making seed testers (box, blotter, and rag-doll testers.)
3. Making a hen coop and brooder.
4. Fruit tree grafting and tree surgery.
5. Making a fly trap.
6. Making wood box for kitchen or sitting room.
7. Making a bird house and watering trough.
8. Making a hot bed or cold frame.
9. Making a step ladder or handy ladder for farm and home.
10. Making one dozen vegetable market crates.
11. Sharpening saw, pair of scissors.
12. Making a medicine cabinet.
13. Making and laying a cement walk or floor.
14. Making a bookcase or library file.
15. First aid to farm implements: (a) Repair whittle tree, (b) Pair shafts, (c) Fork handle, (d) Repair gate.
16. Drawing plan of 80-acre farmstead.
17. Forging—2 kinds, practical, related to farm work.
18. Welding—2 kinds, practical, related to farm work.
19. Horseshoe making.
20. First aid to household furniture. (a)

Chair, (b) Table, (c) Picture frame, (d) Door lock or hinge.

21. Pressing and cleaning a suit of clothes.
22. Papering a room.
23. Painting, staining, or treating floor.
24. Making a farm door-yard gate.
25. Making a home-made fireless cooker, one of 2 methods.
26. Making a home canner, one of 2 methods.
27. Making a kitchen shelf or kitchen work chair for mother.
28. Get out a set of plans and specifications for model farm home.
29. Show how to give first aid to school furniture and equipment; such as the repair of a seat, window, fence, broken gate, blackboard, steps, and sidewalk.
30. Show how to repair the cover or broken back of a book.
31. Art metal work for household.
32. Modeling in clay and plaster.
33. Leather work: repair of leather goods or art work.
34. Fabric dyeing and printing.
35. Pottery for use in the home.
36. Basketry for use in gathering and marketing vegetables and fruit.
37. Making a milk stool.
38. Home-made fruit juice and cider mill.
39. Hall hat and coat rack.

Using The Results

The results of such pupil activities may well form a part of the school exhibit at the County Commencement or at the County Fair. The very best pieces of work of certain types might be kept at school as a permanent exhibit; other products might be sold for the maker's profit or the pupil might be willing to donate the proceeds of such sale to the school for purchasing books, pictures, etc.

More detailed information can be secured by writing to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

A DEBATE OUTLINE

Vocational Training

The old debate between the theoretical and the practical, or perhaps better, between the remote and the immediate benefit, rises again in the question of the curriculum of our public schools. Shall the schools train for particular occupations or shall they give general culture?

The following points for a debate on: **Resolved, That vocational training shall be introduced into the public schools of North Carolina,** were supplied by the class in Public Speaking 3 in the University of North Carolina.

Affirmative Arguments

I. True would be saved, for
A. The rudiments of vocational education and of general education would be learned as the same time.

II. All children would be given an equal chance, for

A. They would get their training for their life work in school, whereas now many, because they go no higher than the public school, have to go without special training.

III. It would benefit the State, for
A. It would provide a more efficient body of citizens, for

1. Men and women who begin their training early and thus form habits of careful, scientific workmanship are more efficient.

IV. Pupils in the public schools are not too young for vocational training, for
A. Only the rudiments would be given in the lower grades, and the rudiments of vocations are not more difficult to learn than the rudiments of general education.

V. It would not be too expensive, for
A. The proposed system is not an elaborate, complete system, but only a system of training in the rudiments of vocations so that children may learn in what lines their tastes and abilities lie and may get a good start in training in those lines.

B. Schools in which the plan has been tried have found the results worth the small extra expense.

VII. The proposition is a recognition of a general movement in education, for
A. The subject is being agitated in every state.

B. Several cities in North Carolina have adopted the plan.

Negative Arguments

I. The proposed system would be bad for the State educationally, for

A. It would tend to shorten the period of education for the children, for

1. It provides a quick and early preparation for making a living, which many children would avail themselves of.

2. Many parents would force their children out in the necessity of self-support as soon as that support became possible.

B. It would tend to lower the standard of education, for

1. The children, attracted by the novelty and by the fact that the purpose is immediate and easily seen, would put most of their time on the studies, for

a. Owing to the fact that the purpose of a general education is more remote, children do not see the value of it.

C. Vocational training is too narrow, for

1. Instead of being an education for life, it is merely a training for a job.

II. Vocational training in the schools will be bad for the State socially, for

A. It would produce a body of badly trained workers for most of them would be satisfied with the rudiments taught in the public schools.

B. It would be responsible for much dissatisfaction and for many misdirected lives, for

1. Children of public school age are not old enough to choose their vocations.

III. It would be bad for the State financially, for

A. On account of the great variety of vocations there would have to have to be many more teachers in each school, and laboratories for many of the subjects would be necessary.

CAROLINA CLUB STUDY

Improved Public Roads in N. C.

In the table which follows, Mr. W. J. Hardesty of the Carteret-Pamlico Club at the University gives the miles of improved public roads in each county, the percent of the total public road mileage improved, and ranks the counties accordingly. The report covers the record to Jan. 1, 1914.

All told, the public roads of North Carolina total 48,991 miles; 6,667 miles, or 13 per cent of which were improved.

Behind the Procession

Twenty-one counties with 7,905 miles of public roads had no mileage. Some of them, however, caught the good roads fever last year.

Twenty-two in 1913 made a start, and had at the end of the year 5 per cent or less of their roads improved.

Eighteen counties had more than 5 and less than 10 per cent improved; and 17 had between 10 and 20 per cent improved.

GOOD ROADS IN NORTH CAROLINA 1913

W. J. HARDESTY, Carteret-Pamlico County Club.

Rank	County	Per Cent Improved	Miles Improved	Rank	County	Per Cent Improved	Miles Improved
1	Scotland	88	266 miles	39	Catawba	8	35 miles
2	New Hanover	76	95 miles	39	Martin	8	33 miles
3	Franklin	70	346 miles	39	Robeson	8	75 miles
4	Hoke	70	140 miles	39	Surry	8	31 miles
5	Richmond	60	263 miles	43	Alleghany	7	20 miles
6	Iredell	57	231 miles	43	Cleveland	7	41 miles
7	Moore	53	320 miles	43	Craven	7	38 miles
8	Bertie	49	411 miles	43	Duplin	7	65 miles
9	Rowan	44	200 miles	43	Harnett	7	55 miles
10	Mecklenburg	39	393 miles	43	Lenoir	7	35 miles
11	Wake	34	343 miles	43	Pitt	7	77 miles
12	McDowell	30	106 miles	43	Rutherford	7	54 miles
13	Guilford	30	219 miles	43	Washington	7	11 miles
14	Buncombe	28	157 miles	52	Cherokee	6	25 miles
15	Johnston	27	215 miles	52	Edgecombe	6	43 miles
16	Haywood	24	29 miles	52	Sylvania	6	12 miles
17	Cabarrus	23	82 miles	55	Caldwell	5	35 miles
18	Gaston	23	116 miles	55	Camden	5	10 miles
19	Anson	21	119 miles	55	Henderson	5	52 miles
20	Durham	20	144 miles	55	Madison	5	16 miles
21	Lee	19	45 miles	55	Randolph	5	20 miles
22	Granville	17	124 miles	55	Rockingham	5	35 miles
23	Cumberland	16	65 miles	61	Burke	4	11 miles
23	Halifax	16	95 miles	62	Avery	3	19 miles
24	Alamance	15	93 miles	62	Caswell	3	13 miles
24	Nash	15	129 miles	62	Northampton	3	18 miles
26	Carteret	14	128 miles	62	Yancey	3	5 miles
26	Currituck	14	15 miles	66	Beaufort	2	8 miles
26	Forsyth	14	138 miles	66	Davidson	2	15 miles
26	Polk	14	43 miles	66	Graham	2	5 miles
26	Sampson	14	130 miles	69	Bladen	11-2	3 miles
31	Brunswick	12	43 miles	70	Chowan	1	3 miles
31	Vance	12	35 miles	70	Stanley	1	7 miles
31	Wilson	12	86 miles	70	Swain	1	4 miles
34	Lincoln	11	45 miles	70	Union	1	12 miles
34	Montgomery	11	50 miles	74	Stokes	5	4 miles
34	Orange	11	34 miles	74	Wilkes	5	4 miles
37	Davie	9	28 miles	76	Mitchell	4	2 miles
37	Jones	9	39 miles	77	Columbus	2	2 miles

The following have no improved public roads that were reported up to Jan. 1, 1914—all told, 7,903 miles of unimproved roads in these 21 counties:

Alexander, Ashe, Chatham, Clay, Dare, Gates, Greene, Hertford, Hyde, Jackson, Macon, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Person, Tyrrell, Warren, Watauga, and Yadkin.