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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

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CAROLINA CLUB NOTES

Who Said Hard Times?

The other day a small country bank in one of our leading cotton counties declared a 10 per cent cash dividend.

Since 1907, this bank has declared cash and stock dividends amounting to 315 per cent.

Who said hard times? Not this bank anyway. Who said eight per cent? Not this bank surely.

The Citizen-Banker

The Citizens Bank of Warrenton is distributing monthly folders to the farmers of Warren on diversification, proper crop rotations, maximum yields, increased soil fertility, larger farm revenues, permanent farm prosperity and the like, says The Record.

If the farmers of Warren heed this capital counsel and raise enough bread and meat, grain and hay for home consumption year by year it will mean permanent, not merely seasonal, prosperity. It will also mean more and safer business for the merchants and bankers.

The Spider-Banker

Here is the advertisement of another kind of banker in North Carolina; or apparently another kind:

"In the olden times the Ravens fed Elijah—this is gospel.

"In these times the only Bird that can be relied upon to feed you in your old age is The Eagle on the American Dollar—this is also Gospel."

The moral is, Save your dollars. The point is, Deposit them in our bank.

Here is a frank religious creed: Worship the Golden Calf; bow the knee to Rimmon; have faith in Mammon—

And above all: Walk into our parlor. It is the spider's spiel for spoil.

Names Worth Mentioning

Forty-four Corn Club boys in Watauga raised 2,445 bushels of corn last year. They captured one of the three scholarship prizes, and two of the district cash prizes, says the Lenoir Topic.

These promising young farmers are Clyde May, Lester Flowers, and Hamilton Steele.

Slaughtering the Innocents

Nearly one-fifth of all the deaths in the registration area in 1913 were of babes less than a year old.

And more than a fourth were of children less than five years old.

King Ignorance slaughters more children in many a community every year than ever King Herod did in Bethlehem.

What will the Health Survey of Orange county disclose? The best index of any civilization is the death rate of helpless children.

Equipped for Efficiency

The University of Wisconsin is asking the legislature now in session for \$5,150,979.32 to cover university purposes during the next two years.

During the last two years the University of Wisconsin had from the state \$4,347,774.41.

If North Carolina could or would give her University even a tenth of such sums as these, President Graham's visions of state-wide service might be realized in large measure.

We Need More of Them

Mr. John Wilhoit of Chatham county is a one-horse farmer of the right sort. He has beef cattle to sell, some 1913 corn still left in his crib, 55 gallons of syrup, 75 bushels of potatoes, 25 bushels of peas, 150 bushels of oats, plenty of vegetables, chickens, hogs and cows, and three bales of cotton lying by for better prices, says the Sandhill Citizen.

This type of live-at-home farmer is fairly rare in any Southern state; but there are more of his sort in North Carolina, far more, than in any other state of the cotton belt, Oklahoma perhaps excepted. May his tribe increase.

One Dozen Fresh Eggs

We captured in a hotel restaurant in Raleigh some time ago, a cheap pasteboard container used for moving country eggs direct from producer to consumer.

The cover read: One dozen fresh eggs sold by the Farmers Union Co., Enfield,

N. C., and guaranteed by the producer, J. W. Hardee. The container was marked, Self-Locking Carton Co., 465 E. Illinois St., Chicago.

The buyer in Raleigh paid 24 cents a dozen for these eggs. At a little country store, on our way home, we picked up 4 dozen eggs at 25 cents a dozen. The producer got 20 cents in trade.

Cents and Per Cents

In one case, the producer got 25 per cent more and the buyer paid 4 per cent less; in the other, the producer got 16-23 per cent less and the buyer paid 41-6 per cent more. See!

When farmers and the consumers of farmer's products begin to reckon in per cents as business people do, they will both quit throwing pennies away. Pennies are per cents as certainly as pounds and shillings.

Our First Belgian Colony

Twelve Belgian farmers have been settled at Helen, in Pender county by Mr. Hugh McKee of the Carolina Trucking and Development Co. in Wilmington. They found neat cottages and small farms lined and fertilized, plowed and harrowed all ready for them upon arrival.

The lack of farm labor in the South explains out two hundred million wilderness acres; our twenty two million in North Carolina, and the million six hundred thousand acres, or nine-tenths of the land, in New Hanover, Pender, Bladen and Brunswick counties.

Exploring Orange County

We are indeed fortunate in having the State and Federal experts explore the resources of Orange county.

We look upon these surveys of our educational interests, activities, resources, and deficiencies as being one of the best things handed to the county in many years.

Last Monday the County Board of Education and the Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved the idea of a whole-time county health officer.

We should all lend a hand, attend the meetings, and support the movement in every way possible.—W. B. Thompson, Editor Chapel Hill News.

About Their Father's Business

The ministerial association has just taken a religious census of Gastonia. In Kinston and Mooresville, the ministerial associations are preparing to do so.

They are concerned about their Father's business. And this is a kind of business that has been overlooked long enough by our church people everywhere. It is the business man's yearly business of stock-taking.

It is time we were all finding out in some business-like way where our churches stand and which way they are moving.

What counties of North Carolina have county-wide ministerial associations? And what are they doing?—What might they be doing?

What Orange Needs

As Mr. R. P. Blackwood sees it:

Better roads, better schools, more farm telephones, better preparation of land and better culture of crops, more and better cattle and hogs, more home-bred horse and mule colts, more hay and forage, and bigger grain crops.

Above all things, a plan to educate country-bred boys and girls that will send them back to the country when they are educated.

What are your ideas about our needs in Orange?

Up and Down in Orange

During the last census period the increases in live stock in Orange were as follows, says Mr. J. M. Johnston of the Orange County Club at the University:

Cattle increase, 4.6 per cent; mules, 9 per cent; horses, 17 per cent; milk cows, 23 per cent; and poultry, 30 per cent.

On the other hand our losses are serious during this period:

Horse colts decrease, 19 per cent; mule colts, 40 per cent; hogs, 22 per cent; and sheep, 67 per cent.

In ten years our sheep decreased from 2,434 to 900. Here is loss amounting to some \$700 a year in sheep alone. A \$7,000 loss of property in ten years is worth investigating.

GENUINE LEADERSHIP

Down in North Carolina they have a State University which doesn't believe it is doing its duty to the commonwealth merely by educating the chosen few who are fortunate enough to enter its halls. The university has said that if its learning does not mean a leaning to the toilers in the mills and factories, in the shops and on the farm, with a longing to serve them, it does not deserve support by the taxpayers. So you find running through its utterances a continual current of inspiration to the people of its state. It is not afraid to swing a stick at child labor, to chronicle the number of illiterates within the borders of the state.

But it is easy enough to scold instead of offering constructive criticism. The university does not err this way. For it has put into practice its ideals, ranging from Home-County study courses to "Community Service Week" which was taken up by the state from a suggestion by President Graham. On another page read the story of this great idea to enlist a whole commonwealth in the movement for the common good. "Know thyself" applies to communities equally as well as to individuals.

The first step towards better things is to find out exact conditions. It is a thrilling thought that in so many communities the people forewent their daily tasks and gathered to make plans for betterment.

Why shouldn't every county in every state have a "Community Service Week," if not by state decree, then by local initiative?

—The Banker-Farmer

SCHOOL NEWS

A Worthy Attitude

The members of the Moonlight school in the Old Mill School, Edgecombe county, as announced in the University News Letter, have given an entertainment, the proceeds of which were to go to the teachers in the school. From the newspaper accounts, it was a most decided success. From far and near the folks came and enjoyed the play representing an old fashioned corn-busking.

The proceeds amounted to nearly \$50, which the teachers did not accept for themselves but asked that with this sum the term of the Old Mill School be increased. More than this, the Moonlight school will continue as long as the teachers are in the community. These teachers are Miss Nina Corbett and Miss Mary Bryan. The attitude taken by them towards the proceeds explains the attitude of the pupils in the Moonlight school. It is a worthy attitude on the part of both teachers and pupils.

Gaining in Power

The war on illiteracy is gaining in power and momentum every day. The teachers and committee of Buncombe county have allied themselves with the forces already in the field for the struggle by pledging themselves to work for the establishment of Moonlight schools in the county.

At a recent meeting, the teachers of Rowan county adopted a resolution to wage an immediate and aggressive warfare on the 543 white illiterates of the county.

In Johnston county the school officers are using not only the Moonlight schools but the Community-Life Clubs as well to carry the campaign into the enemy's territory. The one and only Holy War, the war against illiteracy, is gaining in power.

Hind-Sight, Not Fore-Sight

Through the efforts of Rev. Sidney Love, Secretary of the N. C. Prisoners' Aid Society, every county and city jail in North Carolina will receive a large Bible. Presumably one purpose in view is to encourage the prisoners therein to lead a better life through learning the way by reading this master guide. The motive is a worthy one and Secretary Love is to be commended for his attention to this matter.

It is a known fact, provable by reliable statistics, that in those cities where the expense for schools is high there the police expenditure is low; in those cities

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A Good Idea

The County Supervisor in Johnston County, Miss Elizabeth Kelly, brings forward an idea for county teachers which is decidedly worth while. It is the idea of Group Meetings for Rural Teachers.

Method of Organization

The ninety-two rural schools are made into eleven groups. These groups will each work as a unit and all, together with the ten town schools, will make up the county group.

The teachers of each group as organized will meet on Saturday at some convenient place within their group territory. These groups in this way will work out their problems, and at the same time come to know more of each other, and by concentration and individual work do practical things that they have not done before.

A Sample Program

I. Brief opening exercise by President of Group. Roll call by Secretary.

II. Round-table conference on "The Teaching of Geography in the Elementary Schools."

In preparation for this let each teacher make a careful study of chapters I-VI in the text. This should enable the teacher to enter into a live and intelligent discussion based on subject matter in chapter VII. Let each teacher tell from actual experience some way in which she has related Geography to other subjects in school and to the life interests and

needs of her pupils in the home and on the farm.)

III. What specific efforts am I putting forth to make school life more interesting to my pupils?

(Each member of the Group is expected to answer this question by reading from a previously prepared paper, giving mere facts, or naming "efforts" tending toward answering this question. A general discussion would naturally follow the reading of each paper.)

IV. Are the results of Spelling as taught in my school satisfactory?

(Discuss purpose, ways and means of teaching; amount and manner of assignment; reviews, and results as shown by reviews and by pupil's ability to use words in every-day written and oral work.)

V. Discussion of plans for Group Day preliminary to County Commencement and Field Day.

1. Agreement on definite plans in regard to literary, musical, athletic, and all other events connected with the day.

2. Arrangements for tentative program for Group Day.

VI. Open period for anything desired by special Group.

A joint meeting of at least half an hour of the teachers and health officers of each group might be held at this same time and place, after which the health officers might meet in another room and discuss with each other the things each is doing and the things that need to be done in each community.

where the school expenditure is low the police expense is high. In other words, as the money spent for schools increases the necessary expense for public protection decreases.

According to the latest available comparative figures from the office of the U. S. Commissioner of Education, North Carolina spends less per capita of population for public education than any other state in the Union. Such a policy is hindsight not fore-sight.

More Power to Them

The County School Bulletin seems to have found a most useful place in our educational system. The University News Letter has just received a copy of one more from Superintendent Pittman of Edgecombe county. It is excellent in purpose, material and form.

One of the greatest values of such bulletins will rest in the regularity with which they appear. The teachers must come to expect them at some definite time—and they must not be disappointed.

The material for the papers must be live. It must be local and aimed to meet local needs. It must be cast into short paragraphs. The busy teacher will not take the time to read long dissertations.

This bulletin idea is a good one. We hope more counties will adopt it.

School Committeemen

In the North Carolina Public School system, school committeemen occupy a strategic position, making as they do the connecting link between the County Board of Education and the County Superintendent on the one hand and the people on the other. The rural school and the efficiency therein are in a large measure determined by the ideals and enthusiasms of the school committeemen.

Enlisting Support

Time and effort are therefore well spent in interesting the school committeemen, in acquainting them with the extent and character of the various school problems, and in enlisting their sympathy and cooperation in whatever undertaking may be determined upon by the county authorities.

The County Conference

To this end County Committee Conferences have been held in many counties of the State to which all committeemen are invited and at which problems of a practical and local nature are discussed.

Vitalized Supervision

The County Schools of North Carolina are having quantities of red blood transfused into their systems. Superintendent Matthews and his co-workers in Sampson are helping the problem of visitation by means of their County School Record. The January number is full of good

things from cover to cover. It considers the township teachers' meetings, county commencement, round-table conferences, news from the different schools, health work, club work, agriculture, good roads, the three-teacher school and the moonlight school movement.

Such work as this must vitalize the work of every teacher in the county.

Definite Work

Superintendent Paul J. Kiker of Anson county believes in giving his teachers very specific information about the county school work. He sends a letter to each one carefully outlining the plans for the County Commencement, stating exactly the time and place of the township teachers meetings, and details the necessary points to be looked for in the observation of lessons taught by other teachers.

By the way, this is a very valuable part of the township meetings. The mornings are spent visiting the rooms at work in the schools where the teachers meet. The afternoons are spent discussing the work seen and other necessary matters. Such work is bound to help every teacher who loyally participates.

1000 STUDENTS TO DEBATE

The biggest series of debates in the history of North Carolina will soon take place. March 26th is the date set for the State-wide triangular contest of the High School Debating Union.

At this time 1,000 boys and girls in 250 communities of the State will discuss the advisability of our Government's adopting a policy of ship subsidies. They will speak in 90 counties, to audiences numbering 50,000 people.

The winners in the triangular contests will compete in a final contest for the Aycock Memorial Cup at the University on April 9th.

CO-OPERATION IN CATAWBA

Extension series No. 8 of the University of North Carolina deals with Co-operative Institutions among the farmers of Catawba county. Much has been done for the welfare of Catawba county by its co-operative institutions, and the example is one that can be followed by other communities in the State.

A postal addressed to the Bureau of Extension will bring this bulletin to you.

A POPULAR BULLETIN

A big demand continues for Extension Series Bulletin No. 2 of the University of North Carolina. This bulletin contains Addresses on Education for use in Declaring, Essay Writing, and Reading.

It is being used as the source of material for the declamation contests in many of the approaching county commencements. A postal addressed to the Bureau of Extension will bring this Bulletin to you.