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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

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NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

PELAGRA AND FAKE CURES

Pelagra has taken the place of tuberculosis as the greatest cause of death in the Georgia State hospital. The increase of this dread disease in the South is alarming.

It is produced by defective diet, says Dr. Joseph Goldberger, the pelagra expert of the U. S. Public Health Service; by too much grits, molasses, corn meal and other starchy foods, and not enough lean meat, beans, peas, milk and eggs.

Beware of fake cures. The remedy does not lie in medicines, he says, but in an abundant, well-balanced, nourishing diet.

It is a comfort to know that this dreadful disease is not contagious, infectious, or in any way communicable.

A CHEAP SANITARY CLOSET

Mr. W. T. Cutchin of Chapel Hill has a satisfactory house toilet, built at a cost of about \$5.00 as follows:

For a liquifying tank, a molasses hogshead, 90 cents; for an effluent tank, a galvanized wash tub, 75 cents; a connecting pipe, 40 cents; for ventilation, a 6-inch stove pipe; lumber and labor about \$2.00.

The toilet room is upon a rear porch. The tanks are below the porch floor. The liquifying tank sits on brick supports convenient for disinfection by heat, and for emptying once a week or so.

Odors are scarcely noticeable, he says, and the attention needed by the effluent tank from time to time is not distressing to the senses.

Send for Description of the L. R. S. Closet.

Drawings and full descriptions of this closet are given in the U. S. Public Health Bulletin No. 68. With the help of this little pamphlet any home owner can have convenient, inexpensive and safe toilet arrangements and facilities.

Drop us a post card and this bulletin will be mailed to you promptly.

ANOTHER MODERN COMMERCIAL CLUB

The Durham Commercial Club and the Durham county farmers are getting together trying to solve the local market problem. It is a big problem worth solving.

In the census year, all farm property in Durham county was valued at \$3,591,000; and in the same year the food and feed consumed by man and beast in the county amounted to \$2,559,000 more than the Durham county farmers produced.

It is easy figuring to prove that if all or even a reasonable portion of this large sum could be held down in Durham the farm wealth of the county would be doubled in a couple of years.

When two and a half million dollars that might have been kept at home disappears out of a community, everybody is poorer, farmers, traders, bankers all alike.

The local market problem is always a complicated, difficult problem; but its solution would be worth more to Durham than any one or a half dozen new industrial enterprises.

THE NATIONAL MEAT PROBLEM

During the year ending with last June we shipped abroad 178,000,000 lbs of fresh beef or nearly 30 times the amount exported the year before; and 75,000,000 lbs. of canned beef, a twenty-two fold increase in a single year.

In addition we exported 562,000,000 lbs. of bacon, hams and shoulders, an increase over last year amounting to 58 per cent.

It is no secret that the live stock of the country-at-large has not kept pace with the increase of population; that for many years the live stock supply has actually decreased, except a slight increase last year; that the price of meat to consumers has steadily risen; and that the future meat supply of the country is a matter of grave concern, says the Federal Department of Agriculture.

It is a wise farmer who has plenty of meat to sell and none to buy this year and for many years to come.

PROVING THE PUDDING IN CATAWBA

A thousand co-operating farmers in Catawba did a \$245,505 business in cream, butter, poultry and eggs during the year ending the first of last June.

The year's sale of eggs was 228,700 doz. and the butter business amounted to nearly 600,000 lbs.

They started this business five years ago with a capital of only \$1,500.

Last session 150 farmers in Catawba sold 25 car loads of sweet potatoes and received therefor \$2.67 per crate clear of all expenses.

The association charged its members \$1.00 membership fee and 10 cents per crate plus 10 cents more per 100 lbs. for handling.

The unorganized are always at the mercy of organized big business.

If farmers will not pull together here on earth, neither shall they dwell together in Heaven, according to Timothy ten sixteen.

MOVING AHEAD IN FOOD CROPS

In 1914 our per acre production of crops was as follows:

Corn 20.3 bu., an increase of 67 per cent since 1880; wheat 12 bu., an increase of 126 per cent; oats 17.5 bu., an increase of 127 per cent; hay and forage 1.15 tons, an increase of 30 per cent.

In total production we moved up from 28,000,000 bushels of corn in 1880 to 56,389,000 bushels in 1915. Our wheat crop last year was 7,332,000 bushels, and this year it is 11,300,000 bushels or more than treble the crop of 1880. Our hay and forage crop in 1915 was 459,000 tons, or more than five times the crop of 1880. And as for peanuts, our crop in 1910 was nearly 6 million bushels or more than fourteen times the crop of 1890.

Still Less Than in 1860

Except in case of peanuts, hay and forage, our per capita production of food and feed crops is still less than it was in 1860. Our population today is nearly exactly two and a third times that of 1860. Mouths have multiplied in North Carolina faster than the wherewithal to fill them.

Wiping Out Deficits

But we wiped out our wheat deficit this year, and we can also sponge out our deficits in corn, oats, hay and forage in the next year or two.

We will be wise to do it, the steadily rising value of food stuffs considered. We will be foolish not to do it.

It is not likely that ever again in the life time of any farmer in the state he can buy any of these crops more cheaply than he can raise them at home.

LIVESTOCK IN THE SIXTIES AND NOW

Since 1860 we have brought 2,300,000 acres more of land under cultivation in North Carolina. Our farms are three and a third times as many, and upon an average about one-fourth the size of the old plantations. Our population is a little more than two and a third times that of 1860.

Our Gains in Work Stock

Our 36 per cent increase in cultivated acreage has been accompanied by an 86 per cent increase in work animals, mainly mules. Our increase in horses has been only 20 per cent; but in mules our increase has been 278 per cent.

These wonderful increases have been mainly in the cotton-belt counties, where our cotton crop has been multiplied eight times over since 1860.

Our Live-Stock Increases

On January 1st, 1915, we had 315,000 milk cows on farms and ranges in North Carolina, or 86,000 more than in 1860. But in 1860 we had a milk cow for every 4 1-3 inhabitants; while in 1915, a milk cow has to supply 7 1-3 inhabitants.

Since 1880, we have nearly doubled our number of poultry; but in 1910 we had more than three million fewer fowls than in 1890.

Our Heavy Losses

Although our population is two and a

THE ESSENCE OF OWNERSHIP

The essence of ownership lies not so much in the enjoyment of the thing owned as in the legal power of excluding others from its enjoyment. So wrote Thomas Erskine Holland of Oxford in his Jurisprudence.

This is based upon the Roman conception of ownership which we have adopted. If Tullius owned a horse the test of ownership was not in his right to ride or enjoy the horse; it was in his power to prevent Marcus from riding the horse without the consent of Tullius.

This is the test of ownership today. The test of man's ownership of a million dollars is not his ability to use, hoard or enjoy the million, which he may or may not do as his nature and taste may require. But the test of his ownership is the power to prevent any one else from using or enjoying or possessing it. The test of ownership in law is the power to prevent, to hinder, to exclude.

Think then of the responsibility a man takes upon himself when by right of ownership he will not use belongings worth fifty thousand dollars, say, for the good of others, for his own betterment or for the glory of God, and hinders, prevents, excludes any one else from so using them.—The Christian Sun.

third times that of 1860, we have this year 96,000 fewer cattle, 358,000 fewer hogs and 396,000 fewer sheep.

We have nearly 300,000 pigs more than we had in 1910, but we are producing far less beef, pork and mutton than our forefathers did.

And considering the increasing deficiency in the nation's meat supply, and the increased shipment of beef and pork abroad due to the high prices offered by the countries at war, we will be wise to raise at home what meat we need in North Carolina.

Otherwise we must soon pay exorbitant prices for it, or go without it altogether.

Signs of Promise

Western North Carolina is gaining in cattle, dairy farming, and dairy industries. Eastern North Carolina has had a most wonderful increase in pigs, and in pork production.

The coastal plain counties are developing the advantages that lie in peanuts and sweet potatoes; and pigs fattened on these crops yield larger profits than the crops themselves will do when sold as peanuts and potatoes on four wheels.

OUR PROGRESS IN IMPROVED HIGHWAYS

During 1914, we spent \$5,190,000 in building improved public highways in North Carolina, as follows:

Special county and township road tax levies,	\$1,500,000
Receipts from the sale of road bonds,	2,430,000
The labor of 1800 short-term convicts,	360,000
Free labor,	800,000
Private subscriptions,	100,000

What We Got for Our Money

With these five million dollars we built during the year 2,553 miles of improved roadway (graded 1058 miles, and surfaced mainly with sand-clay or top-soil, 1495 miles.)

The roads surfaced with macadam, asphalt, bituminous macadam, gravel and the like were only 263 miles in all.

The average cost of our 2553 miles of improved roads was around \$2,000 per mile. And it is money wasted, unless there is constant inspection and repairs.

How we do it in North Carolina

Some two years ago, the Wisconsin Legislature voted five million dollars for building good roads, and laid the burden upon the state tax rate. It raised the general tax rate, increased property assessments, and raised a storm of protest that largely contributed to the overthrow of the party long in control.

What Wisconsin could not do by state-wide legislation, North Carolina is doing upon the principle of local option.

Local Option in Road Building

The various counties and townships of the state have created by local elections a

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LETTER SERIES NO. 42

SUMMER SCHOOLS FOR TEACHERS

During July and August of this year there have been summer sessions for teachers at the University, the State Normal, the East Carolina Training School, the Appalachian Training School, and Cullowhee.

More than 2,000 Teachers

attended these summer sessions with a patient yet enthusiastic devotion to classroom duties. Each of the Summer School teachers will have more than twenty-five pupils in her school next session, and even at this low estimate of twenty-five pupils for one teacher, at least

50,000 Children

will be reached and benefitted by these summer school teachers during the coming fall and winter.

The average expense incurred by each of these two thousand teachers was at the lowest

Twenty-Five Dollars

This is a big sum and means much for

bond indebtedness for good roads amounting to \$8,376,300 up to January 1st, 1915. We voted special local tax levies last year for roads amounting to \$1,800,000. We used 1800 short-term criminals and 140 state convicts in road building, and free labor to the amount of \$800,000.

In her willingness to assume tax burdens for better highways, in her mileage of improved roadways, and her rapid progress year by year, North Carolina is far beyond Wisconsin, Illinois, and some other states in the prosperous middle west.—Figures from the N. C. Geological and Economic Survey, circular No. 105.

DECREASING POPULATIONS

The natural increase of population due to the excess of births over deaths in the South is around 12 1-2 per cent or one-eighth during a ten-year period. Therefore, if a county gains at a rate smaller than this, it means that the native-born are moving out faster than strangers are moving in.

Orange Stands Still

During the last two census periods, Orange county increased in population just 116, or less than one per cent. This increase was absorbed by Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Hillsboro and Mebane. Every county district in the county lost population during these twenty years.

The farm-home surveys show that one in every eight country dwellings is unoccupied at present. In Chapel Hill township the vacant farm dwellings number 83 or one in every six.

What Loss of Population Means

The loss of population by a community menaces every business and social interest. Dwellings become vacant, land values decrease or fall behind other communities in wholesome increase, farm labor becomes scarce, land goes out of cultivation, tenants become restless and exacting, community leaders disappear, schools and churches dwindle, life and enterprise drop into stagnation and decay.

Orange, along with 45 other counties in North Carolina, needs more people to the square mile. Nine of our counties lost rural population, and forty-one counties gained at a rate less than the state average of 12 per cent. There is in these counties inevitable social stagnation and decay.

SKATING ON THIN ICE

A farmer who depends on any one crop is skating on thin ice. He is the same kind of a fool who carries all his eggs in one basket. When the disaster of low prices or failure of season in the staple hits him, he stands about as much show as the Belgians stood when Germany caught them by the napes of their necks.

Farmers raising nothing but ten cent tobacco, and eating \$2.00 wheat and \$1.50 corn bought at time-prices from a supply-store, can never own land, nor will they ever pay the merchant.

News reaching Danbury from every

teacher whose average salary in 1913-14 was only \$271.36. In other words, our teachers, every two years, spend their time and money in honest effort to prepare themselves to

Do Better Work

Is it right let their efforts go unrewarded? The logic of their zeal and expense is that these teachers should have better pay for better work. If a teacher is constantly spending money to learn how to do better work, it is but fair that the public should pay more for this better work. Some school officials appreciate this fact and show their appreciation by giving

An Increase of Salary

to those teachers in their schools who employ the summer in self-improvement. The time will soon come we believe when school committeemen will count money well spent if it is given to teachers to be used in meeting their expenses at a Summer School. In fact, as said above, this is now done in some districts, to their sound judgment and credit be it said; and, well—is this true of your district?

section of the county indicates that for the first time in the history of our people, they are making their supplies at home, and whether the new tobacco crop sells high or low, they will have something to eat.

The interesting part of the story is that as much or more tobacco is planted than last year, which proves that somebody has been loafing heretofore. This is certainly a 100 per cent increase in the corn crop.—Danbury Reporter.

COUNTRY DAMAGE TO COTTON

Cotton warehouses in the South are sufficient, if used, to take care of an ordinary crop; but few of them are properly located, many are poorly designed, the insurance rates and cost of handling are therefore unnecessarily high.

Insurance on cotton stored in standard warehouses equipped with automatic sprinklers can be carried for 25 cents a year on the \$100. In the buildings now in common use the rate is sometimes as high as \$2 a year on the \$100

At present our farmers are unable or unwilling to warehouse their cotton; or if forced to do so are punished by excessive charges. Much of the crop lies around the country homes exposed to the weather and as a result our farmers receive from thirty to seventy-five million dollars a year less for their cotton because of what the buyers call country damage.

The Federal Department of Agriculture is calling attention to this subject in bulletin No. 277 on Cotton Warehouse Construction.

BACK TO SCHOOL

In a few days now, all over the United States there will come up the question as to whether or not the boy or girl in the family shall go back to school.

In all reason there can be but one answer—of course boys and girls must go back to school. Whoever heard anyone complain of having had too much of an education? Certainly our children shall return to school this fall.

Early Returns

When the state provides free education why not get as much as possible of it? Why keep the children in the cotton or tobacco fields when school is in session? Lets make an effort to get all our children into school the first day the school opens and keep them there every day until it closes.

PULLING TOGETHER

During this current school year a correspondence course of reading for teachers will be offered by the George Peabody School of Education at the University. This course has been approved by the State Department of Education, and when completed will secure for the student the State Certificate.

Write to the Bureau of Extension, Chapel Hill, N. C. for an outline of the course and the conditions under which it is offered.