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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

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NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

INTELLIGENT CO-OPERATION IN ALAMANCE

The State Health Board and the Alamance School Board have co-operated to have a sanitary inspection of the schools and a medical examination of the school children of the county.

The state furnishes the medical experts and the county pays the cost, at the rate of \$10 per school.

The teachers advise the parents of the results and the family physicians treat the cases.

Many of the failures in school and in life are due to physical ailments and defects that parents know nothing about and that are easily treated at a small cost.

Other counties need to follow suit in rapid order, for the children's sake.

TELESCOPIC STUDIES

Mark Twain, you may remember, once made the perilous ascent of Mont Blanc, some 16,000 feet upward over ice and snow—by proxy, through a telescope!

In quite the same way and with about the same degree of peril, we have been accustomed in our college careers to mount the heights of doing and being, endeavor and achievement, business and life. In the world of reality it cannot be done with a telescope. In college it can, and we reward these telescopic studies with degrees of one sort and another.

Mark Twain wanted his ascent crowned with a certificate and was mortally affronted because he did not get it; but we frequently get academic diplomas and degrees for quite similar telescopic courses.

LIVESTOCK AND BANK DEPOSITS

We traveled 33 miles over the mountains the other day to Boone, the capital of Watauga, a region of cattle, cabbages and kings, a land of peace and plenty, overflowing with milk and honey in luscious abundance.

In the three little banks at Blowing Rock, Boone and Valley Crucis we found \$255,000 in surpluses, undivided profits, time deposits, and open accounts.

The farmers own these banks, and this snug little fortune has been accumulated out of livestock sales for the most part.

The average is nearly \$20 apiece counting men, women and children in Watauga. It compares very well with the \$14.50 in one of our cotton and tobacco growing counties.

But the most striking difference lies in the fact that in one case the farmers own the banks and skim the cream of the bank business; in the other, the banks are owned and operated by the merchants and the mill men. The farmers own little of the capital stock and still less of the dividends. They do the borrowing, by proxy through the time-merchants.

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

The largest asset of any county lies in the souls of her men—not in her soils and seasons, barns or bank books, but in the faith and vision, courage and capability of her leaders.

The most inspiring thing in Watauga is the Appalachian Training School and its leadership in the development of this mountain region; not in education alone, but in agricultural and industrial fields as well.

The third annual conference of the people of Watauga met in the auditorium of this school the other day, and the big, upstanding leaders are the Doughertys, Stringfellow, Brown, Grier, and Haganman; not all of them connected with the school, but all actively interested in the Watauga that is to be.

Legislators can afford to deal generously with this school—or so it seemed to us.

BOWERS OF ABUNDANCE

Watauga is full of surprises for the Carolina lowlander. Rich meadows and countless haystacks; slopes green with grass and thick with corn to the mountain tops in every direction. Here are cattle upon a thousand hills, and sheep in swelling numbers. The apple and

pear trees are a feast for the eye and the inner man.

It is a land of sugar maples, buckwheat, and honey bees; chickens and turkeys; milk and butter, cream and cheeses more than Dives himself ever dreamed of. A land of cosy country homes thickly set in bowers of abundance along the valleys and in the coves—nine out of every ten of them shining with the pride of paint!

Here are hardwood treasures almost untouched, and undeveloped water-powers for ten thousand wheels and lathes in wood-working industries.

A Little Mountain Paradise

Here is a little mountain paradise of resources and possibilities; but they are possibilities that can hardly be realized until Watauga sponges out an undue illiteracy with more effective public schools.

Better schools, better highways, easy access to markets, or satisfactory market prices are not likely to come without organization and co-operative enterprise of every sort.

The people of Watauga know all these things far better than any University visitor can tell them. For three years they have been getting ready to gird up their loins for a mighty effort in all these directions; and then we can well believe that the hub of the universe will stick visibly out in the dead center of Watauga.

THE BREAD LINE

Mr. R. F. Beasley, editor of the Monroe Journal, believes with all his heart that a fundamental source of social ill in all its modern variety lies in holding land out of productive uses for speculative purposes.

He wants to bring all land, used and unused, on the tax books at its sale price and to take off all taxes on improvements put upon land by the man that works.

It would double our population, says he, and multiply our wealth ten times over in the next ten years.

A Banker Agrees With Him

The other day in Chattanooga, an Alabama banker, who owns two square miles of ancestral land, startled the Southern Education Conference by charging the tragedy of poverty upon land monopoly and absentee landlordism.

Exempt the first forty acres from taxation, said he, and impose a progressive super-tax upon all holdings above 40 acres.

New Zealand's Way

New Zealand has had a progressive land tax in force for twenty odd years. Anybody interested in learning the effects of such a law ought to read Henry Demarest Loyd's volume on New Zealand, and Parsons' Story of New Zealand.

ADVERTISING NORTH CAROLINA

The purpose of the North Carolina Club at the University is to cultivate familiar loving acquaintance with the mother state; with North Carolina as she was and is and is to be.

In keeping with this purpose the club has entered upon the work of 1915-16 with the following program:

I. What We Have To Advertise.

1. Mineral Resources. Joseph Henry Allred, Surry County, Sept. 27
2. Timber Resources; (1) Wood lots, (2) Forests. J. H. Lassiter, Northampton County, Sept. 27
3. Water Powers; (1) Available, (2) Developed. D. E. Eagle, Iredell county, Oct. 25
4. Prominence in Manufacture. H. M. Smith, Henderson County, Oct. 11
5. Our Soils and Seasons
 - (1) Variety and Adaptability M. H. Randolph, Mecklenburg County, Oct. 11
 - (2) Diversity of Products, Oct. 25
 - (3) Per Acre Yields: Comparisons, Nov. 8
 - (4) Per Capita Yields: Comparisons, Nov. 8
 - (5) Total Yields: Comparisons, Nov. 8

THE TRUE TEACHER MUST BE A LEADER

Walter A. Ingram

The true teacher has the gift of leadership—of generalship. He has a personality which demands and commands the respect of all. He is the commander-in-chief of the educational forces—the forces of progress in his community, but withal in a tactful, discerning manner.

He fully understands that, in rural communities, the school building is, and of right ought to be, the center of social and literary life and he makes it such by organizing his people into school and civic betterment clubs, mother's clubs, agricultural societies, etc., and he is prepared to take a leading part in it all. He manipulates and controls the entire social life of the young people, without seeming to do so, and sees to it that all social intercourse is of a high order. He is deeply interested and a leader in all movements which tend to better the conditions of living among his people. Highways and neighborhood roads, running water in the homes, screens against flies, grassy lawns, flowers and shrubbery in the yards, find in him an earnest advocate in season and out of season. He encourages his boys and girls to join the corn clubs and canning clubs. He takes a great interest in agriculture, stock raising, gardening and fruit growing and everything that concerns his people. It goes without saying that he is a church and Sunday school man and teaches religion by precept and example.

The true teacher always pursues a constructive policy—he is a master builder, and leaves behind him a chain of new buildings, new furnishings, laboratory equipment and libraries.

- sons, Nov. 22
- (6) Livestock Farming: Advantages, Nov. 22
- (7) Agricultural Industries, Dec. 6
- (8) Co-operative Enterprise, Dec. 6
- 6. Our Economic Freedom, Dec. 20

II. Why We Need to Advertise

1. Elbow-room for Home-Seekers: Why We Need More People in North Carolina, Dec. 20
 - (1) Our Twenty-two Million Wilderness Acres: Economic and Social Effects.
 - (2) Our Need for Greater Accumulations of Wealth.
 - (3) Our Need for Larger Tax Revenues.
 - (4) Our Need for Tax Reforms.

III. Ways and Means of Effective Advertising.

1. A State Publicity Bureau: (1) Privately Supported, (2) As a Permanent Department of State.
2. A State-wide Board of Trade.
3. County-wide Boards of Trade.
4. School Fairs, County Fairs, The State Fair.
5. How the Railroads Can Help.
6. What the Banks Can Do.
7. Local Newspaper Publicity.
8. Community Booklets.
9. Local Exhibits of Resources and Products.
10. Picture Post Cards, Moving Pictures, etc.

DIRECTED STUDY

Many of the teachers in the State will soon be contemplating the question of the Reading Circle Work. The really earnest teacher is anxious to grow in her profession and in her knowledge of its technique.

To such teachers the bureau of extension at the University offers help through its Correspondence Division. Upon the completion of a course there laid down a certificate is granted to the student and recognized by the State Department as sufficient evidence to warrant the issuance of the regular Reading Circle diploma therefor.

The work is carried on by the professors in the School of Education and the teachers are carefully guided in their study of the books for the year.

Write to the Bureau of Extension, Chapel Hill, N. C., for complete information.

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LETTER SERIES NO. 45

GREETINGS

The School of Education at the University herewith sends greetings and best wishes to the teachers of the State. May the year bring pleasure, profit, and success to every man and woman engaged in the work of educating North Carolinians.

Prospects

Never before in the educational history of the State has the popular interest in education been so great as it is this fall. Never have we teachers had so much with which to work; new buildings, better and more ample material, larger salaries and hearty co-operation. Many of us were privileged to attend the summer sessions and revive our lagging interest while resting our tired nerves. We may well rejoice at the prospects for the year.

Forecasts

The boys and girls in our schools will look to us for great things. We must

not disappoint them. They are our special care and our joy. To us is given the inestimable privilege of making every one of these children the most valuable and worthy personality possible, and we shall prove ourselves equal to the task. Our registrations will be larger than ever, our hours of school work longer, our interest in the children and the community greater. We welcome the increased opportunity to serve.

Obligation

As we turn to our school work for the year let us solemnly vow within ourselves that we will not be petty in our handling of our children; that we will seek the best in every life and strive to bring it forth; that we will do the task we have to do with all our might, not asking for easier tasks but for greater might.

So shall our hours be too few, our burdens too light and our own lives rounded out to their fullness. May we all measure up this year to the fullness of our own stature.

OUR BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS

During the ten years from 1904 to 1914, the number of building and loan associations in North Carolina increased from 41 to 138; their assets rose from \$2,542,800 to \$12,703,300; and their loans from \$2,427,000 to \$12,292,900.

During the last eight years these associations have paid back to shareholders a little more than sixteen million dollars.

This is a remarkable showing; as Mr. James R. Young, the State Insurance says, it is second to that of no state in the Union.

Home-Ownership in North Carolina Cities

Sensible people in the towns and cities have long ago learned that the simplest, easiest, least expensive way of getting under ones own roof tree is to get into a well managed building and loan association.

They are a great benediction, and have everywhere promoted the ownership of homes. A wise man finds it out early in life.

It is well to remember that in general the more populous and prosperous communities become the fewer are the people that dwell under their own vines and fig trees, unmolested and unafraid.

Thus nearly two-thirds of the country dwellers, but only one-third of the city dwellers, are home owners in the United States.

Spokane with 51.3 per cent made the best showing in home ownership in the United States among the 50 cities having a 100,000 or more inhabitants in 1910; and Greater New York City with 11.7 per cent the poorest.

Greensboro Leads the State

In North Carolina, the best showing is made by Greensboro with 38 per cent; and Winston with 28 per cent made the poorest showing.

Our seven largest towns in 1910 show as follows in home ownership: Greensboro, 38 per cent; Charlotte, Asheville, and Wilmington, 34 per cent each; Raleigh, 30 per cent; Durham, 29 per cent; and Winston, 28 per cent.

In a growing community the average man's chance to own his own home decreases with every passing day.

FORTUNATE COUNTIES

The Washington-Atlanta Highway crosses Granville, Durham, Wake, Harnett, Johnston, Cumberland, Hoke, Moore, Montgomery, and Richmond counties. All told 255 miles of this highway are in North Carolina.

Two hundred and thirty-seven miles of it are under the supervision of Federal highway experts. So far they have expended \$28,381 of government money upon the highway in these counties, in construction and repair work.

With the money spent in this way (1) bridges have been relocated and rebuilt or repaired, (2) new roads laid out and graded, (3) earth roads surfaced with sand-clay or top soil, (4) grade crossings eliminated, (5) roads straightened or widened, (6) culverts located, built or

enlarged, all in preparation for maintenance.

The Cost of Maintenance

The amount set aside for maintenance is \$15,555 a year. That is to say, for every dollar spent in construction, they spend 54 cents upon maintenance by patrolmen and repair gangs; or \$66.50 a year per mile.

The sections inspected by patrolmen range from 6 to 29 miles. The sections average nearly 13 miles in North Carolina. The amount spent upon the annual up-keep of the average 13-mile section is \$764.50 a year.

Our Maintenance Fund in Orange

At this rate in Orange county—our 300 miles of public roads could be kept in repair year by year by 30 patrolmen and work-gangs at a cost of \$764.50 a year per section, or \$22,935. Unfortunately our road tax of 35 cents on the \$100 raised only \$18,078 in 1914. With the receipts from our dog license added, our total public roads fund was only \$18,778.

On the other hand, when the interest and sinking fund charges upon our \$250,000 issue of 5 per cent 40-year bonds were met, we had barely \$3,000 left for road work. When the superintendent's salary had been paid, we had less than \$2,500 with which to keep our 300 miles of public roads in repair.

The Federal government spends \$66 a year per mile to keep in repair the 239 miles of the Washington-Atlanta Highway in ten of our North Carolina counties.

Fortunate counties! Orange county has only 66 cents a mile for such purposes!

What Road Maintenance Means

Repair on earth and sand-clay roads means:

- Dragging persistently at every available opportunity.
- Using the grading machine when necessary.
- Filling depressions.
- Adding sand or clay as required.
- Removing all trash, tin cans, nails, old iron, bottles, etc., that accumulate in somewhat astonishing quantities.
- Replacing broken floor boards in culverts and bridges.
- Keeping culverts open.
- Clearing ditches and shoulders.
- Trimming brush and trees at curves.
- Cutting grass and weeds.
- Harrowing and dragging rough or irregular sections.
- Painting guard rails and culvert heads; and
- Posting roads.

WORK RESUMED

Every day sees new applications and registrations in the Correspondence Study Division of the Bureau of Extension.

Work will be resumed the first of October and continue for the year. Already the students of last year have been sending to the office for more lessons.

Interest is greatest in the courses in English, Education, Latin, and History. The students are doing good work and have expressed the appreciation of the opportunity thus offered by the University.

Write to the Bureau of Extension for full information.