

The news in this publication is released for the press on the date indicated below.

# THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

Published weekly by the University of North Carolina for its Bureau of Extension.

DECEMBER 8, 1915

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

VOL. II, NO. 4

Editorial Board: E. C. Branson, J. G. deR. Hamilton, L. R. Wilson, L. A. Williams, R. H. Thornton.

Entered as second-class matter November 14, 1914, at the postoffice at Chapel Hill, N. C., under the act of August 24, 1913.

## NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

### HONORS FOR UNIVERSITY MEN

The other day Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws upon President Edward Kidder Graham.

President Graham, Dr. Charles H. Herty and Dr. Charles Lee Raper have been invited to address the second Pan-American Scientific Congress in Washington City, Christmas week.

### BIG SCALE EDUCATION

The Wisconsin Legislature has just voted \$7,080,000 for popular education and enlightenment; for public schools, normal schools, technical schools, public libraries, and the University.

It is nearly a three-fold increase in ten years. It is more than the state expenditures in North Carolina for all purposes whatsoever, although the two states have almost the same population.

The University gets \$2,800,000; the stenographers alone receive \$87,000 a year. In the University of North Carolina they receive less than \$1,800.

Liberal investment of public money in public education puts a community on the safe side of the deadline. Wisconsin really believes in public education.

### UNIVERSITY ALUMNI HELP

The November number of the Alumni Review directs the attention of the alumni to the University News Letter, for two reasons:

1. They can give it their hearty support as a medium through which the University is most effectively reaching the people of North Carolina.

Our publishing fund at present limits the weekly edition to 7,000. It could easily be 20,000 a week. One alumnus sends \$100; another writes to know if contributions are in order. It goes free of charge to those who write for it, so far as we are able to meet the demand.

2. They can aid the University by placing it locally throughout the state where it will render the greatest service. The thoughtful people who read and lead in every community ought to be on our mailing list. The Alumni can tell us who they are. Write us about them.

### ENTRANCE CREDITS IN VOCATIONAL SUBJECTS

The faculty of the University of North Carolina after careful consideration, extending over several months of investigation and discussion, has adopted the following regulations concerning entrance credits in vocational subjects:

The Committee on Entrance certificates recommends that the University accept, as elective units, for entrance credit, work in the vocational subjects as indicated below.

We recommend that not more than two units from this list be accepted for entrance to the College of Liberal Arts, and not more than three units for entrance to the School of Applied Science.

The acceptance of these units shall be contingent upon a special investigation of each case by the Entrance Committee as to the merits of the work done.

Vocational subjects for entrance: General Agriculture, .5 or 1 unit; Commercial Geography, .5 or 1 unit; Manual Training, 1 or 2 units; Bookkeeping, 1 unit; Commercial Arithmetic, 1 unit; Stenography and Typewriting, 1 unit.

### OUR LIVESTOCK POSSIBILITIES

At the last fortnightly meeting of the North Carolina Club, Mr. D. N. Edwards, of Wilkes county, discussed the Advantages of Livestock Farming in North Carolina.

#### Poultry and Eggs

1. Speaking of poultry, he said that in 1910 we had 5,000,000 fowls, Wisconsin, 9,000,000 and Iowa 23,000,000; but our hens showed an egg-producing power equal to that of these western fowls, while in poultry production we ran far ahead. Wisconsin, for instance, produced during the year 10,000,000 fowls, while North Carolina produced 15,000,000. A little more attention to the breed and care of fowls would make North Carolina the greatest poultry state in the Union. As it is, we produce neither

poultry nor eggs equal to the demands of home consumption in North Carolina.

#### Pork Production

2. In pork production we again have everything in our favor—short, mild winters, abundant water everywhere, winter pastures, peanuts, potatoes and corn. Pork can be produced in North Carolina at any time at a third less per pound than in the Middle West. Our brood sows have more litters in a year, larger litters as a rule, and a smaller per cent of pigs lost. Nevertheless in 1910 we had only 39 pigs per 1,000 acres; while Iowa had 212. We had barely more than half a swine per person; and Iowa more than three porkers per person. We had 70,000,000 pounds of pork to buy abroad; they had nearly a billion pounds to sell. In 1910 only 26 counties were raising enough pork for home consumption.

#### Cattle Possibilities

3. Beef production under frontier conditions on free ranges is ended, and the nation's meat supply must now be produced on the farms of the country. North Carolina with her twenty-two million wilderness acres is ready for the new era; and the South with two hundred million acres of uncultivated land ought now to take the lead in beef, milk, and butter production. Our soils and seasons offer mild winters, well watered grazing areas, permanent pastures, winter cover crops, silage crops, feed and forage crops in abundance—all these actually, or possibly with proper skill and attention.

We need big beef sires, more and better breeds of dairy cows, and riddance of the cattle tick. We need cash livestock markets within possible reach of our farmers; and railroad arrangements, conveniences, facilities and rates that will tempt our farmers into livestock farming and reward them for the venture. Local butchering, packing and refrigerating plants, and well managed city markets are also indispensable. Our beef supply will be locally raised when the farmers have an assured profit in the business; and not before.

At present we have only 31 cattle of all sorts per 1,000 acres. Forty-five counties have only 20 or fewer; and six counties have fewer than 10 each. We could easily have 61 per 1,000 acres—the average for the country-at-large. But the change will come slowly. Successful livestock farming is bred into a people only by generations of education and experience.

#### Colt Raising

4. As for colts, said he, we raise fewer and fewer of them year by year in North Carolina—only 13,778 in the census year. Our annual need for new work animals is around 45,000—due to old age, service, exposure, and disease. At the lowest estimate we must import around 30,000 horses and mules per year, and send out of the state some six million dollars of cash for work animals.

Colts can be raised at a profit. The farmers in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Missouri do it. Our need is permanent pastures, hay and forage, interest, attention and skill far more than we have at present.

North Carolina is still on the lowest rung of the ladder as an agricultural state; that is to say, her farm income is from crop sales merely or mainly. When we rise into livestock farming and our farm income is mainly from the sale of livestock and livestock products, we will be worth from \$3,000 to \$3,300 apiece in the country regions, as in the western states, and not \$322 apiece; or even less as in Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana.

### THE PROFESSOR SAYS

I have often wondered why children are always so eager to attend school,—until they have been going for two or three years! Can it be possible that the system and the teachers are to blame? I wonder!

How shall we provide equal opportunity for all the children of all the people in education so long as counties report that only from 50 to 70 per cent of the children of school age are enrolled in school?

The school without a daily plan of work is like a railroad system without a timetable.

## NORTH CAROLINA

Dr. Clarence Poe

I believe in North Carolina, in her coming awakening, in the glory of her destiny; I believe that whatever of good or beauty or nobleness men in any other land or era have wrought, we men and women of North Carolina today and tomorrow, in the providence of God, may here and now achieve.

I am persuaded that with a stock so sturdy and capable, and with natural and social conditions so auspicious, such an ultimate flowering of the genius of our people is inevitable; that not only shall we develop a civilization whose average level will be high, but that even as one generation in Virginia produced a Washington, a Jefferson, a Marshall, a Madison, a Henry, and a Monroe, so there will arise from some generation of our own people a group of North Carolinians who will greatly and yet more variously enrich the annals of our race.

## HOMICIDES IN NORTH CAROLINA

Homicides in the 24 states of the registration area of the United States were exhibited by Mr. J. H. Lassiter of Northampton county in the University News Letter, number 50, vol. 1. (Nov. 23). These rates were based on the 1913 volume of mortality statistics of the Federal Census Bureau.

North Carolina stood first, with an urban rate of 274 homicides per million of population, and a rural rate of 173; against an average homicide rate of 72 in the registration area.

Our sad pre-eminence in the first table was so distressing that Mr. Lassiter has spent another month in a study of this difficult subject, before presenting further figures upon homicides in North Carolina.

### Excessive Homicide Rates

During four years beginning with the fall term of the 1910 courts and ending with the spring terms of 1914, the homicide cases that came to trial in North Carolina were 889, or an average of 222 per year; as shown by the reports of the Attorney-General of the State. Our population of 1914 as estimated by the Census Bureau was 2,339,452; and supposing that all homicide cases reached the courts, our average annual rate would be 95 per million of population. The rate is closer to the average in the registration states, but it is still excessive and humiliating.

In the First Annual Report of the State Bureau of Vital Statistics, pp. 47, 133, the deaths by homicide in 1914 were 215; on which basis our homicide rate is 91.5 per million.

### City Homicide Rates Highest

Eighty-eight of these homicide deaths occurred in 63 towns of the State having 1,000 or more inhabitants; which means that the town rate of homicides in North Carolina was 248 against a country rate of 68.

The figures of Dr. J. R. Gordon, deputy registrar of vital statistics for the State, show that the homicide problem in N. C. concerns the town population in largest part. Barely more than a fifth, 21 per cent, of our people live in incorporated towns of any size whatsoever; but they commit two-fifths of all the homicides. Seventy-seven of the 88 town homicides were committed with firearms; and 63 of the killed were negroes.

### No Homicides in Three Counties

Three counties, Hyde, Pamlico, and Randolph, had no homicide cases in court during these four years.

Six counties had between 20 and 30 cases—Guilford, Buncombe, Union, Forsyth, Pitt, Haywood; and three counties had 30 or more—Robeson, 30, Wake, 36, and Mecklenburg 45. More than a fourth, 28 per cent, of all the homicides of the State during this period occurred in these nine counties.

During the last two years, 13 people have been tried for homicide in Hay-

## UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LETTER SERIES NO 54

### THE WORK OF THE HIGH SCHOOL

The High School has a most difficult work to perform. It not only has to give instruction in all of the advanced subjects in the rapidly lengthening course of study but it also has to make every effort

#### To Hold Its Pupils

who have come to it from the lower schools. There are two courses of action open to the teacher in the High School. He may imitate what he regards as the method of the instructor in whose lecture room he pursued his college studies, and in this way unconsciously so toughen the course that many of his students will soon become discouraged and drop out; or he may endeavor to teach so that his

#### Students Will Like Every Subject

in the course and hence heartily and diligently apply themselves to the work in hand. It is sometimes claimed that a teacher has done the best work only when a goodly number of his

#### Students Fail to Pass.

But is this true? Has a teacher taught successfully when a student of average capacity and average application fails to pass? What is the trouble when a boy or a girl of average capacity and application becomes discouraged and asks to be

#### Allowed To Drop A Study?

A girl who wore a bunch of violets at her throat asked to be permitted to stop

studying botany. She gave as her reason that the botany was so

#### Hard And Uninteresting

that she hated it; and that, too, in spite of the fact, that she did like violets and was making fine progress in her other studies. What was the trouble in her case? Do you think her teacher could have found the trouble and cured it? Why is it that sometimes a boy or a girl in a few weeks after the term opens says, I am getting along well in everything except Latin, or Greek, or French, or German, or algebra, or geometry, or some other subject?

#### A Lack of Progress

is sometimes attributed to the pupil's inability to do the work, sometimes it is attributed to the difficulty of the subject, and sometimes it may be attributed to the teacher's

#### Method Of Teaching

The first great question the High School teacher, or any other teacher, should ask himself when a pupil fails to keep up with the class is, "Is there anything that might be the cause of my pupil's failure?" Our State High Schools are improving every day and doing work of which we all are proud. One great thing for them to do is to

#### Find Out The Cause

for the falling off in numbers from the Freshman to the Senior year. This falling off is common to all schools, but it is believed that a remedy can be found.

wood county alone, thus presenting the worst record in North Carolina, says the Waynesville Courier in a recent issue.

### Forty Counties Make a Good Showing

But when homicide rates, not totals, are considered, 38 counties in the State make a better showing than the average for the registration area of the United States, 72 per cent. These are the first 38 counties in the table that follows.

Fifteen counties at the bottom of the list have homicide rates more than twice

the average for the registration area; 8 of them, more than three times, 6 of them more than four times, and Robeson more than five times this average!

Ten of the counties making a showing worse than the State average are in the mountain regions; twelve are in the piedmont region; and 22 are in the coastal plain and tide water country where negro populations are largest.

One hundred and seventy-seven or four-fifths of the homicides in North Carolina were committed with firearms. This single fact provokes earnest thinking.

## HOMICIDES IN NORTH CAROLINA: 1913-1914

J. H. LASSITER, Northampton County, North Carolina Club.  
Average Annual Rates per million inhabitants; and four-year homicide totals.

Rank	County	Rates	4-year totals	Rank	County	Rates	4-year totals
1	Hyde	0	0	50	Beaufort	89	11
1	Pamlico	0	0	51	Northampton	90	8
1	Randolph	0	0	51	Vance	90	7
4	Hertford	16	1	53	Watauga	92	5
5	Brunswick	17	1	54	Greene	96	5
6	Catawba	18	2	54	Tyrrell	96	2
7	Perquimans	23	1	56	Rutherford	97	11
8	Bladen	28	2	57	Bertie	98	9
9	Jones	29	1	58	Stanly	100	8
9	Iredell	29	4	59	Dare	103	2
9	Person	29	2	60	Cumberland	106	15
12	Yadkin	32	2	61	Rowan	107	16
13	Alamance	35	4	62	Lenoir	110	10
14	Carteret	36	2	63	Granville	111	12
15	Davidson	37	4	64	Guilford	112	27
16	Macon	41	2	65	Pender	113	7
17	Durham	43	6	65	Harnett	113	10
18	Chatham	44	4	67	Buncombe	115	23
18	Chowan	44	2	68	Wilson	115	13
18	Lee	44	2	69	Orange	116	7
21	Washington	45	1	70	Cherokee	123	7
21	Duplin	45	5	71	Yancey	124	6
23	Gates	48	2	72	Columbus	125	14
24	Wilkes	49	6	73	Wayne	126	18
25	Ashe	52	4	74	Union	128	21
26	Halifax	60	9	75	Currituck	110	4
26	Cleveland	60	7	75	Forsyth	130	25
26	Johnston	60	10	77	Davie	131	7
26	Lincoln	60	4	78	Camden	113	3
30	Stokes	62	5	79	Craven	137	14
30	Edgecombe	62	8	80	Martin	140	10
32	Alleghany	64	2	80	New Hanover	140	18
32	Clay	64	1	82	Nash	141	19
34	Caswell	67	4	83	Wake	142	36
34	Montgomery	67	4	84	Moore	147	10
36	Burke	70	6	85	Franklin	152	15
36	Transylvania	70	2	86	Mecklenburg	168	45
38	Onslow	71	4	87	Madison	174	14
39	Caldwell	72	6	88	Pitt	183	27
39	Mitchell	72	5	89	Polk	196	6
41	McDowell	74	4	90	Richmond	204	16
42	Rockingham	75	11	91	Henderson	215	14
42	Pasquotank	75	5	92	Swain	217	9
44	Cabarrus	76	8	93	Anson	235	6
45	Jackson	80	4	94	Alexander	237	11
46	Surry	84	10	95	Haywood	238	20
47	Warren	86	7	96	Graham	242	5
48	Sampson	87	10	97	Scotland	277	17
49	Gaston	88	13	98	Robeson	408	30