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NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

A BANKER STATESMAN

The Pig Club Boys in eleven counties of Georgia own 2,000 registered hogs, and 11,000,000 lbs. of pork have been produced in these counties during the last season. Good work for Mr. James E. Downing, the Pig Club agent in Georgia.

The Pig Club Work is also getting well under way in North Carolina. A few such men as George A. Holderness, the whole-souled banker in Tarboro, could easily put North Carolina in the lead in pork production. Any boy in Edgecombe can get a pure bred sow from Mr. Holderness upon his own note without endorsement. Mr. Holderness not only leads in banking, but also in livestock farming, and agricultural statesmanship.

WONDERFUL GAINS

For many long years southern agriculture has been weak in livestock farming. But during the last year nearly 3,000 silos have been built in the 15 southern states, 13,000 pure-bred animals have been imported for breeding purposes, 37,255 square miles have been freed from the cattle tick, and 2,000 vats built, says Secretary Houston in his last report.

Our State Commissioner of Agriculture, Major W. A. Graham, reports 115 silos built in North Carolina during the last year. In 71 counties in which the farm demonstration agents have been at work, 45,730 acres of land have been improved or brought into cultivation by drainage, 32,837 acres of new land have been brought into productive use during the last year. In the last five years 2,897 renters have risen into farm ownership, while only 102 former owners have fallen into tenancy.

These are gains of fundamental significance.

EXTENSION LECTURES

Extension lectures are being delivered in various parts of the State at regular intervals by members of the University faculty.

Dr. J. M. Booker lectured before the Woman's Club of Wilson on Jan. 24th.

Dr. E. A. Harrington gave an illustrated lecture on "Color Photography" in the high school auditorium of Henderson, Jan. 28th, under the auspices of the local Woman's Club.

Prof. E. C. Branson gave an address on "Robert E. Lee, Gentleman," in Goldsboro, on Jan. 19th, under the auspices of the local chapter of the U. D. C. On Jan. 25th he will address the Conference for Social Service in Charlotte, and on Feb. 12th, he will speak in Statesville before the teachers and farmers of Iredell County.

HIGH SCHOOL DEBATES

Very satisfactory progress is being reported from all parts of the State by the 312 high schools which are enrolled for the approaching spring debates of the High School Debating Union.

Preliminaries for choosing speakers will be held in all of the schools. The number of contestants who are trying for the honor of representing their schools ranges from 7 in some instances and 15 in other instances, to the whole high school enrollment in still other instances.

Supt. S. W. Rabb, of Laurinburg, reports that all of the students of the Laurinburg High School are going through a series of elimination contests to decide which four shall represent Laurinburg in the debates.

The people of North Carolina will have an opportunity of getting full information on all sides of the question of the Enlargement of the Navy when the triangular debates occur in the 312 communities on March 31st. The high school students are hard at work in preparation and may be counted on to produce some intensely interesting arguments.

NEW YORK CALLS HIM

Dr. Charles Lee Raper, head of the department of economics in the University of North Carolina, and rural investigator for the United States Department of Agriculture, has accepted an invitation to

confer in framing a new taxation system for New York.

Dr. Raper is ranked as one of the taxation experts of the country. He is author of a book on taxation and a book on railway transportation. He has studied the system of taxation abroad and extensively in the United States.—New York World.

MODERN BOARDS OF TRADE

Chambers of Commerce no longer confine their activities within city limits; to increasing their population, their trade and their real estate values; to more factories and larger weekly pay rolls. The new keynote of auto-booster parties was sounded the other day in Walworth county, Wisconsin. The business men stood up in their machines and said to their country cousins everywhere in the surrounding trade territory:

"We are not asking you to come and buy from us, but to come and sell to us. We offer you for your products the best markets and fairest prices to be found in our end of Wisconsin.

"Our library and high school advantages are freely yours. We have no ordinance against the peddling of farm products. Our open market spaces are free. Our hitching grounds and camping sheds are ample and comfortable. They are yours without charge. Daily market information can be had from our city headquarters over your telephone lines. No membership fee is necessary.

"Our rest-rooms are equipped with books and lounges, tables and chairs, toilet and lavatory facilities. You and your wives will find the latch-string on the outside."

A NINE MILLION INCREASE

The farmers of North Carolina on January 1, 1916, were nearly nine million dollars richer in horses, mules, milk cows and swine than in 1910 when the census was taken. They had 16,000 more horses, 25,000 more mules, 11,000 more milk cows, and 372,000 more swine.

Our rates of increase during this five year period were 9.6 per cent in horses or nearly two and a half times the rate of the country at large; mules 14 per cent or nearly 3 times the general rate; and swine a 30 per cent increase against a 3.6 per cent increase in the United States.

Our increase in milk cows is not up to the mark; 3.5 per cent against 5.6 in the country at large. Also we had 4000 fewer cattle of other sorts, and 45,000 fewer sheep.

But all told, here is a most wonderful increase in livestock in five years! It keeps pace with our increases in crop production as noted in the University News Letter, January 12th.

Barring only sheep, milk cows, and other cattle the increases show well against the increases during the census period. We are improving the breed of our dairy and beef animals, but the Federal Livestock Report of January 18 indicates that we are failing to gain in numbers as fast as we ought to do.

BEYOND RIDICULE

The Office of Markets and Rural Organization in the Department of Agriculture at Washington has on record more than 8,500 co-operative marketing associations among the farmers of the United States.

The recent report of this office estimates that the co-operative buying and selling of these farm organizations amounts to nearly one and a half billion dollars a year.

Farm co-operation in this country has passed beyond the stage of doubt and ridicule. Unorganized, non-co-operating farmers are still a large majority, but they are the sorry jest of organized big business and the joke is now on them as they are learning these days.

BANKS A-PLENTY

Since 1900 our banks have increased in number two and a half times faster than our population, says B. F. Harris in The Banker-Farmer; and we now average one bank for every 250 farmers, or about 7 1-2 banks for every agricultural county

CAN DEMOCRACY BE EFFICIENT

Dr. Edwin Alderman

How can a people devoted to individualism and freedom retain that individualism which guarantees freedom and yet engraft upon their social order that genius for co-operation which alone insures power and progress?

These are the final interrogatories of democracy as a sane vision glimpses it robbed of its earlier illusions.

in the United States.

Is this a measure of the necessity for agricultural credit in these days when not even the most remote farmer can escape increasing commercialism? He used to live on farm products; now he must live on farm profits. Whether he will or not, he cannot now escape the big world of markets and credits.

But also, can commercial banks depending on short-time loans, maximum interest rates, and fluid assets serve the farmers who need long-time loans, with minimum interest rates, on collateral not readily convertible?

Can farm business ever depend on commercial money for the credit it needs? It seems clear that farm credit must be based on the investment money of the country, if only our statesmen can puzzle out a simple, safe plan.

THINGS TO BE PROUD OF IN PASQUOTANK

1. A brisk and beautiful little capital city of 10,000 people. More than half of the population of the county is in this one city, which grew at a 32 per cent rate during the decade, or two and a half times faster than the country population.

2. A high level of culture and small illiteracy rates. Only three counties have smaller ratios of illiterate whites, 10 years old and over; and only four counties make a better showing in the literacy of white voters. However, 353 illiterate whites 10 years old and older, and 152 illiterate white voters give ratios that are nearly twice the rates of the country-at-large. The moonlight school has work to do in Pasquotank.

3. A high rate of church membership, 58 per cent of the total population. It is 18 per cent above the average for the state. Nevertheless, 3,100 people in the county, 10 years of age and older, were not on the church rolls of any denomination in 1906.

4. The willingness of the people to bear local school tax burdens. In 1913-14, the rate was \$2.63 per thousand of assessed valuation; and in this particular Pasquotank stood ahead of 94 counties in the state.

5. In per capita country wealth, Pasquotank with \$351 ranked 17th among the counties of the state in the census year. It is not a large amount, it is barely a third of the average for the country people of the United States, and about a tenth that of the food and feed farmers of Iowa; but it is beyond the average of 83 counties in North Carolina.

6. The wealth in automobiles. In June 1915, there were 147 machines in the county, or one for every 22 families. In this particular Pasquotank ranks 23rd. The county in 1913-14 had nearly \$90,000 invested in public school property, and in 1915 about the same amount invested in motor cars. We are rich in the same comparative way all over the state.

7. Livestock wealth. In the census year the county had 32 cattle per thousand acres and a rank of 22nd; but the number of hogs was 74 or nearly twice the average for the state. In this particular only 12 counties made a better showing. It may be interesting to know that the county had 5,000 fewer hogs in 1910 than in 1860. Pasquotank is also one of the 17 counties that gained instead of losing in sheep during the last census period. Her sheep more than trebled in number in the ten years, and her gain of 205 per cent puts the county first in this detail.

However, livestock farming in a free-range, tick-infested area is at a great disadvantage. Grades and breeds count for more than mere numbers.

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LETTER SERIES NO 60

BIG BUSINESS

In the United States the investment capital for the public schools for 1912-13 amounted to over \$2,000,000,000. Of this total \$293,093,879, was found in permanent school funds; the value of unsold school lands was estimated at \$266,132,679; public property used for school purposes was valued at \$1,347,066,909. Read these figures aloud and note the sound of the amounts. Surely public school work is a big business.

Details

There is a wide variation in the amount of this investment capital in the various states. Minnesota leads them all with over \$240,000,000 credited to this item. Five states, Minnesota, New York, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Washington report over \$100,000,000 for this item. A little state like Rhode Island reports over \$9,000,000 and even Arizona with the smallest amount reports over \$2,500,000 worth of investment capital in her school business. North Carolina ranks 39th in this respect with a reported \$9,099,823 as her share of the \$2,000,000,000 national investment capital in public schools.

DEBATE OUTLINE

Resolved: That the Monroe Doctrine should be abandoned.

An outline furnished by the Class in English, 15-16, University of North Carolina:

AFFIRMATIVE ARGUMENTS

- I. The Monroe Doctrine was good for its time, for
 - A. The South American republics needed the protection of a strong power.
 - B. The United States needed the trade of the independent nations of South America.
 - C. The South American countries were friendly and wanted our protection.
- II. Conditions have changed, for
 - A. The danger of South America is over.
 - B. Our trade relations can be improved as well without the Monroe Doctrine as with it.
 - C. South America looks with suspicion upon proposals of the United States to protect her.
- III. Under the Monroe Doctrine, Europe holds us responsible for the fair conduct of South American States.
- IV. If any political relationship is advisable, an alliance with South America for purpose of defense would be better than the Monroe Doctrine, for
 - A. Then the South American States would bear their part.

NEGATIVE ARGUMENTS

- I. The Monroe Doctrine is vital today, for
 - A. It has been ratified by every President having international disputes; Polk, Cleveland, Roosevelt, and Wilson.
 - B. Foreign nations have recognized it.
 - C. It has been praised by South American leaders.
- II. The Monroe Doctrine does not make the United States responsible for the behavior of South America, for
 - A. It simply warns against European colonization in South America.
 - B. It does not prevent the collection of just debts, for Hay and Taft have declared this.
- III. An alliance with South America would be undesirable, for
 - A. The United States would have to take part in a defensive war, however caused.
 - B. Many of the South American States are backward in civilization.
 - C. South America does not want such an alliance.

EXPENSIVE HELP

In 1909-10 the Treasurers of school funds received \$41,601 of the \$2,126,695

Comparisons

Only two of the eight states with a per capita country wealth of \$2,000 or over report a total investment capital of \$50,000,000 or more—Illinois and California.

While the per capita country wealth in New Jersey is only \$531, she nevertheless has an investment capital in the school business of nearly \$60,000,000.

South Dakota ranks third in her per capita country wealth (nearly \$3,000) and ranks 28th in the amount of her investment capital, with a little over \$14,000,000.

The country folks of North Carolina have on the average \$322 each for the year but the state as a whole, has investment capital in the school business to the amount of over \$9,000,000.

Sacred to Children

This mighty fund is a sacred trust. It is the children's money. It represents in a tangible form our belief in the education and development of child life. Such a trust needs careful, honest, conscientious and consecrated management. It is not a legitimate grab bag for the party politician.

spent for rural schools in North Carolina. In 1913-14 the Treasurers received \$51,183 of the \$3,622,510 spent for the same purpose.

For both years it represents nearly 2 per cent of the total expenditure for our rural schools. That means that of every \$100 of taxes raised to run our rural schools about \$1.50 of it went to pay the Treasurers in the county offices.

The actual amount thus expended was over \$1,000 more than was spent for supplies, libraries, insurance and rent, all combined!

THE PROFESSOR SAYS

Blessed is the teacher who knows when to smile, and does it.

It is a hundred-fold more efficient to say—You may—than to have to declare—Thou shalt not.

There is inexpressible joy in life when one finds oneself in one's daily tasks.

A 100 PER CENT COUNTY

All the teachers in the schools of Onslow County have enrolled in the Reading Circle study offered by the University through its Correspondence Division.

A special arrangement has been made by which the county is to pay the necessary fees and the teachers are to buy the books.

Onslow is the first 100 per cent enrollment county in this work.

A SORRY EXHIBIT

In Illinois there are nearly 10,000 one-room, ungraded schools. The majority of the country boys and girls receive their only instruction in these institutions. Large numbers of the schools are most unsatisfactory, standing in a dilapidated condition, with paint, plaster and windows gone. In their arrangement and construction the principles of lighting, ventilation and sanitation are unknown. Smoke and dirt take the place of pictures on the walls. The yards are without fences, trees, or shrubs of any kind. So says Prof. G. I. Christie of Perdue University.

It is a sorry exhibit for a state that spends 35 million dollars a year on public schools. It is nearly ten times the money we spend for this purpose in North Carolina.

Franklin's Saw-Dust Pudding

Dire as our need is for larger public school revenues, it is manifest that popular education is a problem that cannot be solved with money alone.

The spirit, the intelligence, the high level of culture, and the blazing enthusiasm of our teachers in the State Assembly at Raleigh on Thanksgiving Day is so far our largest asset.

And it is magnificent! But it is a pity that these noble public servants must live day by day on Ben Franklin's sawdust pudding: which is about the only fare they can afford on common-school salaries that average only \$271.36 a year!