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NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

AN INCREDIBLE DEATH ROLL

The annual death roll of little children under two years old in the United States is around 300,000. We have reasons to believe that three-fifths of them die from preventable causes—causes which it is your duty and mine to prevent.

This loss of 180,000 little lives each year seems incredible and inexcusable. The fault lies in the homes of American fathers and mothers.—Dr. Frances Sage Bradley.

IGNORANCE AND DEATH

In six years San Francisco has decreased the death rate in a group of foundlings (the most difficult of all babies to save) from 58.5 per cent to 2.8 per cent. This fact shows how children's lives can be saved by intelligent, faithful care and attention.

The infant death rate in American cities has been greatly lowered, but not so in the United States as a whole; which shows that the high death rate of infants in the country regions remains unaffected.—Dr. Frances Sage Bradley.

EXPENSIVE MARKETING

The fact that pigs sold on foot demand nearly stockyards was well illustrated by the experience of Mr. George A. Holderness, who shipped 93 young hogs the other day from Warrenton to Richmond.

Seven died on the way. The others lost in weight an average of 12 pounds each. The total loss in weight was around 2,220 lbs.

The expense of marketing, to say nothing of freight charges, was around \$220. Unlike cattle, hogs cannot be safely shipped over long distances to far-away stock markets. They quickly get overheated in car load lots, and if a stupid trainman cools them off with a hose they die in large numbers.

IT TENDETH TO POVERTY

While thinking of our small per capita investment in all public school property (only \$3.88 according to the last report), our small expenditure upon the education of all the children of all the people (only \$2.88 per inhabitant in 1913-14), our appalling total illiteracy rate (18.5 per cent in 1910), our meagre per capita country wealth in farm properties (only \$322 in the census year), and our low rank in per capita wealth, all properties considered in 1912 (Only Mississippi was poorer)—

We are reminded of these words: There is that scattereth and yet hath increase; there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

And of Hosea's curse. My people, said he, are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

WHY MEAT PRICES SOAR

Since 1900 between two and three million cattle have died each year from disease and exposure. The annual loss of sheep has been relatively even greater. The annual loss of hogs from disease and other causes has ranged from two and a fifth million in 1904 to seven million in 1914.

During the last two years cattle on farms and ranges have been increasing. On the first of last January they numbered 61,441,000, but they were eleven million fewer than in 1907, and our sheep were three million fewer than in 1910.

Meat production falls behind the increase of population in the United States. Meanwhile there is an increasing demand for meat products in the markets of the world. During the year ending with last June, we shipped abroad meat animals, meat and dairy products amounting to nearly \$443,000,000. These details appear in a recent report of the Federal Agricultural Department.

Of course meat prices to consumers at home have skyrocketed into the upper ether. And equally of course livestock producers ought to be getting better prices.

But are they? And if not, why not? These are the things the western farmers are demanding to know.

ON THE ONE HAND

The total deaths from infantile paralysis in Greater New York are at this writing 1,260. And the city is profoundly exercised about this dread scourge. The public schools will not be opened on time in September. Their doors have been shut in the faces of 600,000 pupils and teachers.

Here is a tragedy—massive, mysterious, spectacular, and appealing. Everybody's attention is arrested by it.

On The Other Hand

On the other hand, the death roll of little children under two years of age in North Carolina in 1914 from various causes was 8,311, and in 1915 the number that died under one year of age was 6,807.

The stroke of the clock every hour of the day and night tolls the death of a helpless little child in North Carolina.

And the horrible thing about it is that three-fifths of these children died from preventable causes or from diseases that could have been cured by prompt, intelligent care and attention.

The blood of these children cries against the ignorance of devoted but untrained mothers and fathers in loving homes.

King Herod and King Ignorance

Doctors Rankin, Cooper and Booker in Raleigh, and Miss Lathrop and Dr. Bradley of the Children's Bureau are fighting like fighting fire to center attention upon the needless death of little children; but this heart-breaking tragedy in North Carolina and the country at large fails to be massive and spectacular like the sinking of the Titanic or the Eastland in Chicago or the epidemic now raging in Greater New York. They die, one here and one there, in the lapse of the year; that's all. The public mind is quite undisturbed about it.

King Herod slaughtered fewer than twenty infants in Bethlehem, and the world is still shivering with the horror of it.

But King Ignorance slaughters some six thousand little children under two years of age every year in North Carolina.

The Lord took them, we say. Yes, but, We sent them, says Crosby.

ADAM SMITH SAID IT

Nearly a century and a half ago Adam Smith said in the Wealth of Nations:

A man must live by his work and his wages must be at least sufficient to sustain him. They must be even more on occasion; otherwise it would be impossible for him to bring up a family, and the race of such workmen would not last beyond the first generation.

COTTON AND BREAD STUFFS

This year's cotton crop in North Carolina was estimated on August 8th by the Federal Department of Agriculture at 698,000 bales; or some 1,500 bales fewer than the 1915 crop.

These figures mean that we are now producing only about 5 per cent more cotton than in 1909. Also, that we are producing less raw cotton than is now consumed by our own textile mills.

In the half century between 1860 and 1910, our cotton crop increased in a six fold ratio, while our food and feed crops fell off sadly. But since the census year our cotton increase has been small, while our gains in food crops and farm animals in 1915 amounted to \$49,000,000.

Seven Fruitful Years

Our most significant gains in agriculture have been made during the last seven years; due to economic pressure largely, but also to the services rendered by our State Agricultural Department, the A. and M. College, the Boys' and Girls' Clubs, the Home and Farm Demonstration Work, and the State Experiment Station.

In the table presented this week Mr. G. W. Mann, a University student from Macon, ranks the counties according to the cotton produced in 1915, and shows the per cents of increase or decrease since 1909.

Only sixty counties appear in the table. Forty counties raised less than a thousand bales each, or no cotton at all. They raised all told less than 10,000 bales last year.

LONG-TAW PASTORS Dr. Archibald Johnson

No country pastor can do his work at long taw. He must be on the spot not twelve times a year but all the time. A pastor is said to be a shepherd, but who ever heard of a shepherd living forty miles from the sheepfold, and going to look after his sheep once a month!

The pioneers who rode from county to county and from state to state sowing the seed of truth deserve our everlasting gratitude. They did the best they could, and in their day it was the proper thing to do. They were established, and with fidelity they did their work. But we are living in another day. Our pastors now are not established, for that work has been done. They are trainers. Their business is to nurse the tender plants. To watch, counsel, guard, defend. Can a man do this who lives in another county?

The trouble with our country churches is the lack of vision. They are blind to the beauty of Christian service and deaf to its imperious call. They have neither been watched nor tended. They have never known the joy and exceeding value of pastoral oversight and visitation. They have missed the things of highest value and deepest meaning in church life. They will never have the vision and never respond to the call until some man of God stands by their side day by day and points the way.

SIX-YEAR INCREASES IN COTTON

Thirty-eight of our counties show gains in cotton production between 1909 and 1915. These increases range from 1.2 per cent in Vance to 60.7 per cent in Bertie.

Thirteen of these counties increased their cotton crop by more than a third; six of the thirteen by more than a half; and Bertie by more than three-fifths, during this six-year period.

Except Moore, all of the counties showing increase are in the tidewater region, and all except Northampton raised fewer than 10,000 bales in the census year. They lie alongside the 25 counties that produce nearly three-fourths of the total crop of the state and that constitute our main Cotton Belt area.

These increases show the steady march of cotton culture eastward and southward into new cotton territory—a territory in which cotton has always been grown, to be sure, but where it now becomes a prominent and important crop.

Cotton and Accumulated Wealth

In 1860 Edgecombe and Halifax were our leading cotton counties. Anson stood third and alone of all the counties bordering South Carolina raised any great amount of cotton. But a half century or so later the 44 counties that now raise more than nine-tenths of our crop, reach from Cleveland to Robeson along the South Carolina line and from Robeson to Northampton in an area along the falls line and east of it.

If now, the farmers that are raising more and more cotton in thirty-eight counties are also raising more and more bread and meat, they are headed towards prosperity. If otherwise, they are fooled by fox-fire prosperity during the market months, when they handle large sums of money, only to find that they have little or nothing left when the year's balance sheet is struck.

If counties could accumulate farm wealth by buying farm supplies with cotton money, Edgecombe, Halifax and Anson could have done it. In 1860 they were our three leading cotton growing counties, and in 1915 they stood as follows: Halifax 7th, Edgecombe 8th and Anson 11th in this particular.

But in per capita country wealth in farm properties in 1910 they ranked Edgecombe 14th, Anson 57th, and Halifax 83rd.

SIX-YEAR DECREASES IN COTTON

Cotton is of decreasing importance in 22 counties. They produced fewer bales

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THE CASE OF STOVALL

A little town is never too little to do its best for its public school, and it never knows how much it can do till it tries.

Some little towns in North Carolina do things for the education of their children that might well be imitated by many of the larger towns in the state.

The little town of Stovall in Granville county is a splendid example of progress, of earnestness, and of action in the cause of education.

Although its public school is not one of the state high schools, it has a two-year high school course that meets the requirements of the public high school laws.

Inadequate Equipment

The population of Stovall is about 300 and last year it enrolled 106 children, 34 of whom were in the high school department.

At the beginning of last session the equipment was inadequate, and it was necessary to seat two high school pupils in each of the single desks. And more—there was no money at hand with which to buy additional desks, chairs, a coal scuttle, an axe, charts, and many other necessary articles of equipment.

But better than money, the school had for its principal a man of tact and initiative, and the town had in it some men and women who wanted the children of Stovall to have an equal chance with the children of any other town.

Ways and Means

An oyster supper for the benefit of the

school was given at Thanksgiving, and although it was poorly attended yet the sum of three dollars and fifty cents was cleared. The oyster supper was soon followed by an entertainment gotten up by the teacher and the children, and in the place of an admission fee a collection was taken up with the result that about ten dollars was made for the school.

In a few weeks a box party was given at the school and fourteen dollars was realized.

Making Friends

A wealthy friend of education who owned some moving pictures contributed to the pleasure of the town by giving a free show after which a collection for the benefit of the school was taken up and twenty-seven dollars was realized.

By this time other friends came to the help of the school and contributed amounts ranging from five or six dollars up to twenty-five dollars.

Net Results

At the close of the session a final entertainment was given and the sum of twenty dollars was cleared. Thus by persistent effort more than one hundred dollars was raised for school equipment in a little town where many had thought that it was impossible to do such a thing. But better than the money is the spirit that has come into Stovall and will stay in Stovall till its children shall have a chance equal to the best in the land. How about your community? Is there anything for it to learn from Stovall?

in 1915 than in 1909. These decreases range from seven-tenths of one per cent in Iredell to 36.4 per cent in Granville.

Fourteen counties produced more than half the cotton of the state last year, with crops ranging from 20,182 bales in Cleveland to 45,535 bales in Robeson. Six of these counties decreased their cotton crop during these six years, the decreases ranging from 1.1 per cent in Anson, 7 per cent in Edgecombe, 8.5 per cent in Halifax, to 14 per cent in Robeson, Cumberland and Hoke.

Other large decreases in our main Cotton Belt counties during this period were Johnston, 3.6 per cent, Mecklenburg, 4.6 per cent, Franklin, 14.7 per cent, Gaston, 26 per cent, and Wake 28.4 per cent.

What These Decreases Signify

Undoubtedly, intelligent, prosperous farmers in the main Cotton Belt area of North Carolina have always known the advantages of bread-and-meat farming along with cotton growing. They have always raised cotton, but their barns and bins, smoke-house and pantries have been kept well filled with home-grown farm supplies. The war prices of cotton

in 1914 convinced less alert farmers in this region that live-at-home farming was the only wise and safe farming. While sheer distress in this area forced stupid farmers to raise poultry, pigs, peanuts, potatoes, grain, hay and forage in larger abundance.

All told, the production of farm supplies in 10 of our largest Cotton Belt counties has tremendously increased since the census year, and the farm-system now in vogue is greatly in advance of the all-cotton plan of earlier days.

They Lead All the Rest

But the most significant group of counties showing six-year decreases in cotton production is composed of Davidson, Rowan, Iredell, Catawba, Lincoln, Gaston, and Mecklenburg. This is a region of lively interest in beef cattle, dairy farming, grains, hay and forage, winter cover crops, silos, creamery routes, butter factories, credit unions, and other cooperative farm enterprises. The three southern counties of this group are moving forward slowly in some of these essential matters; but the four northern counties are perhaps the most promising farm area in the state.

OUR 1915 COTTON CROP

G. W. MANN, Macon County
University Summer School 1916
State total 1915 crop 699,494 bales.

Rank	Counties	Bales	Pr Ct Inc.	Rank	Counties	Bales	Pr Ct Inc.
1	Robeson	45,535	—	31	Warren	8,383	-12.8
2	Johnston	33,538	- 3.6	32	Rutherford	8,215	22.8
3	Wayne	27,341	11.3	33	Bladen	7,829	46.1
4	Mecklenburg	26,183	- 4.6	34	Columbus	7,731	23.3
5	Scotland	26,162	- 8.5	35	Stanly	7,336	14.7
6	Union	25,575	14.4	36	Rowan	6,786	-14.7
7	Halifax	24,952	6.5	37	Jones	6,111	22.4
8	Edgecombe	24,891	- 7.	38	Perquimans	5,903	57.9
9	Pitt	23,636	30.8	39	Craven	5,888	52.3
10	Nash	23,186	29.9	40	Chatham	5,732	-19.2
11	Anson	23,126	- 1.1	41	Catawba	5,572	-12.2
12	Wilson	21,026	11.4	42	Lincoln	5,569	-13.9
13	Sampson	20,367	25.9	43	Paullico	5,508	11.4
14	Cleveland	20,182	29.6	44	Onslow	5,119	55.6
15	Wake	19,678	-28.4	45	Lee	4,920	14.9
16	Cumberland	15,729	—	46	Montgomery	4,211	14.8
17	Harnett	15,656	32.4	47	Pasquotank	3,938	35.8
18	Northampton	14,411	36.6	48	Chowan	3,865	48.6
19	Richmond	13,671	2.5	49	Hertford	3,508	- 6.2
20	Carroll	11,986	22.9	50	Gates	3,372	38.9
21	Lenoir	11,499	33.	51	Washington	2,851	11.8
22	Franklin	11,122	-14.7	52	Vance	2,790	1.2
23	Hoke	11,107	—	53	Camden	2,784	26.7
24	Greene	10,974	33.	54	Moore	2,700	59.3
25	Bertie	10,205	60.7	55	Pender	1,670	31.4
26	Duplin	9,408	49.1	56	Davidson	1,658	-30.4
27	Iredell	9,233	- .7	57	Davie	1,480	12.3
28	Martin	9,139	53.2	58	Carteret	1,442	5.2
29	Gaston	9,046	-26.2	59	Polk	1,140	-34.3
30	Beaufort	8,802	- 1.3	60	Granville	1,013	-36.4

Note: (1) The minus sign indicates decrease, and (2) Robeson and Cumberland in 1909 were Robeson, Hoke, and Cumberland in 1915. In this area the decrease in cotton production between 1909 and 1915 was 11,925 bales or 14 per cent.