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# THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

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## NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

### NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES, 1916-17

Wealth and Weal in North Carolina. Peabody Hall, Room No. 8

#### I. Production of Primary Wealth

1. By Agriculture.—Oct. 9.
2. By Manufacture.—Oct. 9.
3. By Forest and Wood Lots.—Oct. 23.
4. By Fisheries, Mines and Quarries.—Oct. 23.

#### II. Wealth Retention

5. Our Wealth, Total and Per Capita.—Nov. 6.
6. Factors in Accumulating Farm Wealth.—Nov. 20.
7. Our Manufacturing Capital.—Dec. 4.
8. Our Banking Capital.—Dec. 18.
9. Our Bank Savings.—Jan. 8.

#### III. Taxation and the Common Weal

10. Our Taxable Wealth, Total and Per Capita.—Jan. 29.
11. Our State Revenue and the Per Capita Cost of Government.—Feb. 12.
12. State Department Earnings and Costs.—Feb. 26.
13. The General Property Tax Burden in North Carolina.—Mar. 12.
14. What the State Does with the Tax Payer's Dollar.—Mar. 12.
15. State Aid to Agriculture.—Mar. 26.
16. Our Investment in Public School Property.—April 9.
17. Our Support of Public Education.—April 23.
18. Public Health Work in North Carolina.—May 7.
19. Charities and Corrections in North Carolina.—May 21.

#### LARGER THAN EVER

The students registered at the University of North Carolina the first week of the new session numbered 1107. The number upon even date last year was 1041.

#### POOR MEAT ANIMALS

The food animals inspected for slaughter in Wilmington in July numbered only 459. The rejected animals were more than 5 per cent of the total.

This rate is more than three times the per cent of rejections by the Federal Inspectors.

It means that the meat animals are badly diseased and below grade, or that the inspectors are unskilled.

It is worth looking into.

#### TOO BAD

The law in many states and cities condemns milk that is found to have more than a hundred thousand bacteria per cubic centimeter. More than half the Wilmington dairies exceeded this count in July. Three of them went beyond the million, and one of them reached three millions.

There is nothing more important than this in Wilmington, the lives of babies considered.

#### CAROLINA CLUB YEAR-BOOK

The investigations, reports, and discussions of the Club last year concerned North Carolina: (1) Resources, Advantages, Opportunities, and Possibilities, and (2) Ways and Means of Advertising the State.

A compact report of the year's studies will soon be ready for the printers, and will be issued as an Extension Bulletin if there be any large demand for it. If you want it, drop us a post card at once.

#### COVERS A BIG FIELD

Of real influence in North Carolina communities and of wide significance in progressive educational methods is the county club system at work in the University of North Carolina. The students from each county in the University are organized under expert direction in the study of conditions, problems and present facts of their particular town and county life, with the view of making the needs of the county known not only to

the University but also to the folks at home. The amount of home grown and imported meat, the bane of the crop-lien, the shortsightedness of the single crop, the proportion of automobile and school expenditures, rural recreation, farm-life schools, moonlight schools, taxation, good roads, child labor, and other vital rural and municipal what-nots, are the intelligent and crusading concern of these study clubs.

#### Results Published in The News Letter

The results of the intensive research are published not only in the local newspapers, but also in The University News Letter, which is sent weekly to the public-minded citizens of the state. This News Letter is a little one-page sheet distinct from the usual college publications and is known on the work desk of editors of New York dailies. Its squibs, statistics, and comments frequently break into the news and editorial matter of papers in the East and West.

#### Covers Whole of State

The county club studies and The News Letter are but incidental expressions of the community spirit which is making the State University, oldest in tradition and years of service, alertly young and fresh in its response to the needs of a whole people. It is a dominant idea of its youthfully forward-minded president that the campus of the State University should be "co-extensive with the boundaries of the state." Correspondence courses; library books by mail; extension lectures over the state; university conferences in matters of farms, roads, schools, negro life, and the rest; annual state wide high school debates, involving over 1,500 debaters and an audience of over 100,000 people, on such issues as woman suffrage and national defense; state-wide interscholastic athletic contests in football, baseball, basketball and tennis; promotion of county surveys; cooperation with state and county boards of health—these are some of the channels of commonwealth-being through which the new University is helping to release the abundant life of the people of a state.

Withal a place of hard work and aggressive tolerance, the University of North Carolina with its wholesome social-mindedness is making a quiet but distinct and practical contribution to the state-university idea in American public education.—Columbia University Spectator, N. Y.

#### SHORT: \$99,000,000

The Columbia Record in a recent issue gives the following details of a ninety-nine million dollar bill for food and feed, horses and mules imported into South Carolina in 1915:

Canned goods \$13,937,282, horses and mules \$11,350,000, flour \$10,851,913, pork \$10,677,000, grits \$10,160,692, beef \$9,021,000, lard \$8,263,000, butter \$6,400,000, corn \$6,000,000, oats \$3,000,000, hay \$2,351,789, cheese \$2,000,000, milk \$1,000,000, eggs \$600,000, cabbage \$500,000, potatoes \$450,000, turnips \$300,000, onions \$240,000, milled feed stuffs \$1,945,811; total \$99,058,563.

#### A Pretty Kettle of Fish

If the figures were correctly printed in the Record, they are a valid bill of indictment of the people of South Carolina; not the farmers alone, but also the bankers and supply-merchants who finance a farm system of this sort. This shortage could not exist without their support, and they could change it as easily as Napoleon said that Pitt governed Europe—by lifting or lowering their eyebrows. They could, for instance, refuse to finance the crop-lien system in vogue in the state in spite of the law against it.

Think of a state's sending out of its borders year by year a King's ransom of this sort, for bread and meat supplies that could have been raised at home with comparative advantage.

Gross advantage considered, the balance lies in favor of cotton farming in South Carolina; but net advantage considered, the balance lies in favor of a live-at-home farm system—at least so far as the standard, staple food crops are concerned.

#### A Bad Economic System

This bill for imported supplies in 1915 was \$2,700,000 larger than the value of

## STAR DUST AND COMMON CLAY

President E. K. Graham

There is in every college man something of the Prodigal, of Esau, and of Saul—of the man who sells out for the price he can clutch—who swaps his star dust for common clay; there is something also of the Prodigal and Paul—of the man who claims his birth-right back, who comes to himself and comes back.

Every young man's life is an unprecipitated solution of all biography; of Nero, Benedict Arnold, and Jess Willard; but no less of Socrates, Shakespeare, Newton, Washington, Lincoln, Lee, Pasteur. Every college man recognizes these two clear calls to him, and most men feel that in the ordinary life of everyday that there is a sharp contradiction between them; that there must be a surrender of one of them, that college life at best must be a compromise between his youth and his maturity, what he is now and what he wants to be fifteen years from now—a truce between his happiness and his ambition.

the cotton crop reported in the 1910 census. It is thirty-one million dollars bigger than the value of the cotton crop last year.

At this rate, how can the country people of South Carolina accumulate any great wealth in farm properties under a system of this sort?

The answer is simple: They can't and don't.

In the census year their per capita country wealth in farm properties was \$337, against \$994 in the country-at-large. Only seven states were poorer. The per capita wealth of the state, all properties considered, in 1912 was only \$869; and only two states were poorer. Such are the figures of a 1915 Census Bureau Bulletin.

But South Carolina is not a sinner beyond all the sinners upon whom the walls of Siloam fell. Oklahoma alone excepted, all the cotton-belt states are in the same sorry plight.

#### Twenty-Seven Million Gains

South Carolina did pretty well last year. Reports from the Federal Agricultural Department show that the state in 1915 gained \$27,000,000 in farm animals, food and feed crops over the figures of the census year. If the farmers of South Carolina will go on at this rate during the next fifteen years, they will sponge out their enormous food deficit; and if they can hold their cotton and tobacco money as a clear surplus for four year handrunning, as the boys say, the farm wealth of the state will be more than doubled.

#### Giving the Folks the Facts

But we are saying nothing new. Mr. E. J. Watson, the capable and courageous State Commissioner of Agriculture, has long been rubbing public consciousness raw with these and similar facts. He has been utterly fearless. He has never been willing to cozen his country cousins.

And Mr. W. W. Long, State Farm Demonstrator, is a good running mate for the Commissioner of Agriculture. Just now he is campaigning local packing plants, with the hope of encouraging livestock industries and diversified cropping. Orangeburg has already established a packing plant, and Greenville is considering it.

#### BANKERS AID CATTLE INDUSTRY

The part that banks can play in promoting the local cattle industry is illustrated by the action taken recently by a group of southern bankers. A few farmers in Gibson County, Tenn., started a movement looking toward diversification of crops by raising less cotton and increasing the number and quality of cattle. The movement was encouraged by the beef-cattle extension agents of the State college and the United States Department of Agriculture. All the banks in the county grew interested, and as

## UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION LETTER SERIES NO. 92

### THE RURAL SCHOOL TERM

The deplorable conditions existing in the rural schools of Arkansas on account of the short term of school were pointed out in our previous talk. Let us hope, however, that a better day is dawning for the rural schools in Arkansas. There is a state-wide campaign now on in Arkansas to amend the Constitution so as to make the maximum school tax 12 mills, instead of 7 mills as at present. Dr. Charles H. Brough, the newly nominated candidate of the Democratic party for Governor, pledged himself before the State Teachers' Association at Little Rock in April to tour the entire State in a campaign in favor of this amendment for a higher school tax. There is now a well organized campaign on in Arkansas among educators, business and professional men in favor of the amendment.

### More Comparisons

As we have noted regarding the length of the school term, there are rural school districts in California with only a 50-day term; in Colorado, with only a 55-day school term; in Florida, with only a 30-day school term; in Georgia, with only a 25-day school term; in Illinois, with only a 44-day school term; in Iowa, with only a 40-day school term; in North Dakota with only a 20-day school term; in South

Dakota, with only a 50-day school term; in Tennessee, with only a 55-day school term; and in Texas, with only a 30-day school term. And there are other States in which the campaign for a longer rural school term should be waged in season and out of season.

### Does Not Mean More Money

As a rule, when we speak of lengthening the school term, it presupposes the need of more money. But we shall endeavor to show how the school term may be lengthened without voting another mill of school tax. It is due the tax-payer, as far as possible, that we increase the school term without increasing his tax, but where this is impossible, the tax-payer must be patriotic enough to be willing to pay the necessary increase of school tax. If the patriotism of the tax-payer will not prompt him to do this, he should do it for the sake of enlightened selfishness if for no higher purpose. He should know, with Edward Everett, that "Education is a better safeguard of liberty than a standing army," with Benjamin H. Hill that "No nation ever yet paid too much for the education of its people, and the more it pays for this purpose the richer and the more powerful it will become."—J. L. McBrien, School Extension Agent, Federal Education Bureau.

soon as the group was ready to bring in a car of pure-bred cattle the bankers agreed to lend up to \$15,000 to defray the cost.

### Pure-Bred Sires

Sixty-five head, including bulls, bred heifers, and cows with calves at foot, were delivered in the county, all in good condition, at an average cost of \$150 per head exclusive of calves. These were distributed to individual farmers, not more than three head going to any farm. The owners then either paid for the cattle or gave long-time notes at reduced interest to the banks. One bank acted as agent in the transaction for all the banks in the county.

The bankers figured that by helping the farmers to buy a large number of pure-bred cattle they not only would get interest on safe loans but would foster an industry the benefits of which would be accumulative and permanent in the locality. This is borne out by frequent experiments which have established that even a few good bulls introduced in a county soon have a marked influence on the size and quality of local cattle.—Federal News Letter.

### CHEAP BEEF IN THE SOUTH

The Federal Department of Agriculture has been investigating the cost of beef production in the Corn-Belt states and in the South. The final results are all in our favor.

"The average cost per hundred pounds of raising a calf to weaning time was \$9.10 in the corn belt and \$7.22 in Pennsylvania, as compared with \$3.53 in North Alabama and \$3.57 in West Alabama.

"The average cost per hundred pounds of raising a calf to 12 to 15 months old was \$11.79 in the corn belt and \$7.24 in Pennsylvania, as compared with \$4.41 in North Alabama and \$4.69 in West Alabama. The figures for the corn belt, Pennsylvania and North Alabama are based on raising a calf to the age of 12 months and those of West Alabama to the age of 15 months.

### Great Opportunities

"While the investigations of the department in the South were carried on in localities in North Alabama and West Alabama, conditions in other parts of the South, including the States of Mississippi, the whole of Alabama, Georgia, Northern Florida, South Carolina, and parts of Tennessee and North Carolina are so similar that the results that were obtained in the Alabama experiments are indicative of what may be done in the entire territory and demonstrate the great advantages of the South for the production of beef cattle.

"The figures compiled by Mr. Ward do not cover profits, but it is obvious that the profits are substantially larger in the South. As pointed out by President Harrison, even if the animals should be sold

at cost of production on the basis of Mr. Ward's figures, the farmer would have returned to him every possible expenditure of money, pay for his labor, and 6 per cent interest on his investment and his lands would be improved by the manure obtained from his herd."

### CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

The studies scheduled for the North Carolina Club at the University this year are concentrated upon (1) Wealth-Production, (2) Wealth-Retention, (3) Taxation and the Common Weal.

Nineteen research problems will be undertaken by the Club members and reports upon the same will be presented for discussion upon fortnightly Monday evenings during the club year, September 25--May 21.

Many or most of these studies call for sustained, prolonged investigation; hence the schedule of subjects, dates and assignments is marked up at the beginning of the year so as to give the volunteer members as much time as possible for thorough work.

The club studies this year are a part of the Laboratory Course, No. 9-10 in Rural Economics and Sociology, and work that reaches the level of laboratory standards will be credited accordingly.

### CHRISTIAN MINISTRATION

Wilmington supports a School and Infant Welfare Nurse; and a Babies' Hospital, maintained by private subscriptions.

The Ministering Circle of the King's Daughters and the Associated Charities also have a visiting nurse.

A lying-in and children's ward is being added to the Walker Memorial Hospital. An out-door midwife service is also being arranged for.

### MUNICIPAL HOUSE-KEEPING

The social activities of Wilmington women illustrate the value of women in civic life. There is a vast number of things that need attention in every community, that men by nature overlook and neglect.

And they have been overlooked and neglected for long centuries.

Men are not heartless and cruel; they are just stupid. The world will never have proper municipal housekeeping until the women get busy with it.

### A LOVELY CHARITY

The Sorosis in Wilmington is supporting an Infant Feeding Station, where the babies of the poor can be properly fed. Twenty-four babies were cared for in this way during July.

Here is Christian Charity of the loveliest kind. This enterprise is of a sort with the Crane Nursery of the Hull House settlement in Chicago.