

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

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NORTH CAROLINA CLUB STUDIES

THE SECOND GIFT

The other day the hearts of the editors were lightened by a check for \$100, sent in by a generous University alumnus upon University News Letter account.

It is the second gift for this amount from this source. We do not mention his name because the giver objects to publicity. However, he lives in Durham—a center of very unusual public spirit and private generosity in a score or more directions.

It is now costing around 25 cents to send The News Letter to a reader for a year. The gift enables us to add 400 new names to our mailing list.

SAFER THAN LEGISLATION

The general level of things in any democracy is raised by the folks themselves, mainly by tugging at their own bootstraps. Salvation by education—of the sort that really educates, mind you—is safer than salvation by legislation. And this proposition is just as true for organized big business as it is for producers and consumers of all economic classes.

Until the democratic multitudes know far more than they know at present about all the problems proposed for study in our Home-County Club-Study Bulletin, capital and business will be menaced by periodic frenzies, and the people themselves will be honeyed and hounded, flattered and hoodwinked, and at one and the same time, by clever tricksters.

The North Carolina Home-County studies are an attempt to set our people at work upon large economic and social problems within small familiar areas. If we cannot distinguish and interpret the forces at work at home under our very noses, how can we hope to whittle a stick and regulate the whole universe?

LOCAL SCHOOL TAXES

In 1900 there were in North Carolina only eighteen local-tax school districts; at present there are sixteen hundred. Fourteen hundred of these are rural districts or incorporated villages of not more than five or six hundred inhabitants. All the cities, larger towns, and most of the larger villages of this state have adopted local taxation. These local-tax districts are scattered from the seashore to the mountains, and are to be found in every county of the state.

No town or district, after having given local taxation a fair trial, has, so far as we know, ever abandoned it permanently. A few that abandoned it temporarily re-adopted it after a few years. The communities that have adopted it will be found to be as a rule the most progressive and prosperous.

These progressive communities, some of which have been bearing this additional burden of taxation for more than twenty years, would not continue voluntarily to bear it if they had not found that it paid financially, intellectually and morally. Local taxation would not have spread so rapidly among a conservative people like ours if the success of it had not been demonstrated by the communities that have adopted it.

A LUMBER SALE

A woodlot owner in Maryland received an offer of \$1,500 for a tract of timber, which he was inclined to accept as a fair price. Before the sale was made however, he requested the advice of the State forester as to the amount and value of the timber. As a result the State forester made an examination of the tract, estimated the market value of the timber, and furnished the owner a list of timber operators who might be prospective buyers. The timber was then publicly advertised, with the result that the man who had previously made the \$1,500 offer raised his bid to \$4,500, and the sale was finally made to another person for about \$5,500. Only three months elapsed between the date of the first offer and the final sale.

More Too

Not only was the original offer increased by nearly 270 per cent, but the woodlot was also left in excellent condition. This was accomplished by having the trees to be cut selected and marked by the State forester with a view to leav-

ing the young timber on the ground, together with sufficient seed trees to restock the open places. The contract further called for close utilization by cutting the stumps low and using the trunks to small diameters in the tops, the lopping of tops for cordwood and the scattering of the remaining brush.

—U. S. Farmers' Bulletin, 715.

How About You?

Mr. Farmer, how do you sell your lumber? Are you getting full value for your lumber lot? Can you afford not to ask someone who knows? Do your cedar logs and your cross-ties bring you in a reasonable price? Better ask someone and find out for sure!

WHAT CAROLINA FARMERS EAT

Upon 55 farms in Gaston county in 1913, the food consumed per person in the run of a year averaged as follows, according to a report of the Federal Department of Agriculture:

Coffee	6.8 lbs	worth	\$1.77
Sugar	62. lbs	"	3.37
Flour	313.0 lbs	"	8.80
Pork raised	122.0 lbs	"	13.44
Beef raised	2.0 lbs	"	.20
Meat bought	"	"	1.12
Poultry	11.5	"	2.87
Milk	33.5 gal	"	8.36
Buttermilk	85.8 gal	"	8.58
Butter	41.0 lbs	"	8.26
Eggs	27.0 doz	"	5.50
Apples	3.0 bu	"	2.66
Peaches	"	"	2.16
Irish Potatoes	1.8 bu	"	2.13
Sw't Potatoes	3.8 bu	"	3.85
		Total	\$73.47

These figures show that the Carolina farmer is abundantly fed, but also that his diet is ill-balanced. There is too much pork and too little beef. Also his consumption of butter is below the average in the United States.

Fortunately he consumes more vegetables and fruits than the Iowa farmer, say. Indeed, in Gaston county nearly a full fourth of the food of farmers comes from their gardens and orchards.

OCCUPATIONAL DEATHS: WHITE MALES

In 1913, the deaths of whites, from tuberculosis of the lungs, in towns and cities in North Carolina having a thousand or more inhabitants, were ten per cent of the total deaths.

In the same area the same year, the same disease caused 13 per cent of the negro deaths.

These tuberculosis death ratios cover all occupations; but the average ratio of deaths in certain specified occupations ran up to nearly 21 per cent for white males, to 23 per cent for white females; to nearly 24 per cent for negro males and to 28 per cent for negro females.

Note that in these indoor occupations, the ratio of deaths from tuberculosis of the lungs is higher (1) for negroes than for whites and (2) for females than for males.

Now note the ratios of deaths of white males in North Carolina in these occupations in 1913:

Average all occupations named	21%
Mill and factory operatives (textile)	39
Personal service	33 1/2
Professional	33 1/2
Merchants and dealers	28
Agriculture, transportation, outdoor	26
Clerical and official	24
Manufacturing and mechanical	24
Cigar makers and tobacco workers	22
Mercantile and trading	20
Public entertainment	20
Book-keepers, clerks, stenographers	19
Draymen, hackmen, and teamsters	18
Carpenters and joiners	16
Farmers and farm laborers	15
Laborers and servants	13
No occupation stated	11

When conditions of indoor toil increase the ratio of deaths from tuberculosis of the lungs nearly four-fold for white males and nearly seven-fold for white females, it is time to ring alarm bells.

Studies in the 1913-14 Report of the State Health Board by Mr. G. H. Cooper of Rowan County, in the University of North Carolina.

A SOUND PLATFORM

J. E. Edgerton, Nashville, Tenn.

There is no interest in this country that should be looked after with more zeal than that of the manufacturing industry. It produces more wealth for the country than does any other industry and is more vital to the conservation and development of all other interests. About eight millions of men, women and children feed directly from the hand of the manufacturer, and many are disposed to feed upon it. Other millions are directly dependent upon those. Twenty per cent of our population is a conservative estimate of the number which traces its subsistence to our industry.

The Only Safe Policy

Under all the circumstances, there is only one safe policy for a manufacturer to pursue, and that is the policy of absolute honesty with himself, his employes, the government and the public. When he does this, he is fortified against everything except industrial extinction, and that is insignificant in comparison with self-respect and other things which constitute the summum bonum of life. Then when he is called on to fight, he can fight with a courage generated only by the consciousness of a righteous cause, a courage that knows no defeat and counts no cost. When even a majority of the patriotic, honest manufacturers in our country get solidly together upon a platform of this kind and thus present an unbroken front to the forces of discord and destruction, they will soon come into the inheritance to which enterprise and virtue entitle them; and can lie down without fear of the world, the flesh, or the Devil. —President Tennessee Manufacturers Association.

PLENTY TO DO

Some time ago, an intelligent citizen of this state, a physician by the way, said to me, I am opposed to whole-time county health officials; there is too little for them to do.

When a doctor has a notion of this sort it indicates that the popular mind has still a long way to go in its thinking.

June Activities in Sampson

Dr. E. R. Harden, the efficient health officer in Sampson seems to find plenty to do. Here are the details for June:

People receiving first inoculation against typhoid	28
People receiving second inoculation against typhoid	41
People receiving third inoculation against typhoid	27
People vaccinated against small pox	12
Visits made to cases with other doctors for diagnosis	3
Visits made to small pox patients	4
Cases of small pox reported	1
Hookworm treatments given free	17
Physical examinations made	15
Public health letters written	40
Pamphlets distributed on typhoid fever and babies	155
Baby Clinics in different communities	3
Diet Lists on baby feeding given to mothers in Baby Clinics	120
Dressings (surgical), done at office	3
Lectures given in Baby clinics and elsewhere	4
Microscopic examinations made	2
Complete urinalyses made	2
Examination and commitments of insane	1
Public Health articles for the local papers	3
Visits to the County Home	6
Visits to the County Jail	7
Miles traveled	410

During the month I have put into practice the idea of holding free Baby Clinics in the different communities of the County, to teach the mothers how to feed and care for their babies, to prevent the dreaded summer complaints or infectious diarrhoeas, and other unnecessary diseases. The Clinics I have held thus far have been a success, the mothers showing great interest in the lectures.

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

LETTER SERIES NO. 93

THE RURAL SCHOOL TERM

Not a Square Deal

One thing to be remembered in connection with the rural school term, as concerns the country at large, is that farm boys and farm girls have a school term of 46.6 days shorter than that of their city consins. In every section of the United States there is a discrimination in our public school policy against farm boys and farm girls. For example, this discrimination costs the country pupils of the South Atlantic States 59.2 days, of the South Central States 56.4, of the North Central States 31.4, of the Western States 35.7, and of the North Atlantic Division 28.8 days. In the language of O. W. Neale, Professor of Rural Education, State Normal School, Stevens Point, Wis., "The further we go into the study of the rural school term the more evident it becomes that the country pupils are not given a square deal in free school privileges."

Rural Indifference

In effect and for the country at large the rural school term may be increased without voting another day of school or levying another mill of school tax. How can this be done? Improve the average

daily attendance of the pupils actually enrolled in school by a better enforcement of the compulsory attendance laws in those states having such laws, and by securing compulsory attendance laws at the next session of the legislature in those states without such statutes, and by arousing public sentiment throughout the country for a better average daily attendance in our rural schools.

The enrollment of pupils in the rural schools, according to the latest available data (1910) on rural school enrollment, was 11,100,553, with an average daily attendance therein of 7,509,558, making the average daily absences in the rural schools alone 3,590,995. These figures are appalling. The average daily attendance in rural schools for the country at large is only 67.6 per cent—an average daily attendance of 11.7 per cent lower than that in urban schools.

It is evident that rural pupils are penalized in this matter of free school privileges not only by the general policy of the various States but also by indifferent, ignorant or selfish parents who fail to do their duty by their own children in allowing them to remain out of school while school is in session.—J. L. McBrien, School Extension Agent, Federal Education Bureau.

DEBATE SUBJECTS

We are constantly being importuned for debate subjects by high school pupils and teachers.

The following subjects have been suggested by the discussions that are constantly appearing in the papers of the state.

1. Women should be given the right to vote on an equality with men.
2. Municipalities should own and operate their own water and light plants.
3. The crop-lien law should be repealed.
4. In land ownership the races should be segregated by law.
5. The tax system in North Carolina lays unjust burdens on the small tax payer.
6. Our tax system discourages industrial development.
7. There should be a progressive land tax in North Carolina.
8. Rural communities should be incorporated by law.
9. North Carolina should adopt the legislative initiative and referendum.
10. North Carolina ought to adopt the short ballot law for state and county offices.
11. School books should be furnished free in our public schools.
12. Papers advertising patent medicines do not deserve confidence or support.
13. The state should derive larger revenues from inheritance taxes.
14. Capital punishment should be abolished.
15. Stock laws are desirable.
16. There is more money in live stock farming than in crop farming mainly.
17. The absentee-landlord is a menace to community development.
18. The high cost of living is mainly the cost of high living.
19. Commission government is preferable to government by city councils.
20. There should be closer censorship of moving picture shows.
21. City managers are preferable to Council government.
22. The commission form of government should be adopted by counties.
23. Rural schools should be consolidated.
24. Foreign immigration should be restricted by an illiteracy test.
25. County accounts and annual statements should be uniform.
24. County finances should be audited by state accountants.
27. Military training should be required by law in the United States.
28. The state ought to have a pardon board.
29. Farm tenancy is the greatest hindrance to country civilization in the South.
30. The state-wide 20 cent tax for schools should be doubled.
31. North Carolina ought to have stronger compulsory education law.
32. The church ought to be a social as well as a religious center.

A CO-OPERATIVE PLAN

Realizing the ever-broadening interests of the women in the Women's Clubs of the state and in a desire to help direct those interests into channels of constructive influence, the Bureau of Extension at the State University is co-operating with the Federation of Women's Clubs by offering Club Study Courses in the study of Latin-America, Browning, and the Nineteenth Century Novel.

These Club Study Courses are arranged specifically to help meet the needs of the programs for the Women's Clubs and are made into divisions and sub-divisions for papers and reports.

Method of Work

The University furnishes study outlines, questions and aid in answering difficult questions as they arise. Reports on the work are desired from the clubs which will serve the University as a guide in knowing how to aid the members still further in their work. The intention is to serve the needs of each club individually and not in the mass.

Through correspondence with the several secretaries, assistance is rendered in making out yearly programs as well as in studying any one of the particular topics as given above.

Approved and Adopted

The work has the approval of Mrs. Thomas Lingle, President, and of the other officers and leaders in the Federation. Several clubs have chosen one or another of these Club Study Courses and are at work with the University planning their year's program. There is a small fee of ten dollars required to help pay postage and stenographic assistance. Fuller information may be secured by writing to Miss Nellie Roberson, Secretary, Chapel Hill, N. C.

FIRST IN HISTORY AND INVENTION

From a most interesting bulletin called What the South May Claim or Where the South Leads, by Miss Mildred L. Rutherford, Athens, Ga., we copy the following North Carolina items:

- First blood shed in the American Revolution—Alamance, 1771.
- First declaration of independence—Mecklenburg, May, 1775.
- First Woman's Patriotic Society—The Daughters of Liberty, Edenton.
- First victory of the Revolution—Moore's Creek Bridge, Feb. 27, 1776.
- First to suggest wireless telegraphy—Joseph Henry.
- First to make practical use of the X-Ray—Dr. Henry Louis Smith.
- First to suggest the type-setter—Fenton B. Foster.
- First to invent a machine gun—Richard Gatling.
- First armed resistance to British authority—refusal for The Diligence and The Viper to land in 1765.
- First to have public schools at the State's expense, 1776.
- The only state to have hiddenite and monazite—Alexander county.
- First to invent the acetylene light—Dr. F. P. Venable, Chapel Hill.
- The list for North Carolina was sent in by Miss Georgia Hicks of Faison, and Madames J. W. Faison and J. A. Fore of Charlotte.