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# THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA NEWS LETTER

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## THE STATE AND COUNTY COUNCIL

### THE WELFARE COUNCIL

The spectacle of 32 state and federal officials sitting in with 233 county welfare officers and their volunteer social allies is a brand new thing in North Carolina. Nothing else like the State and County Council on the University campus ever happened in this state, or so far as we know in any other state of the Union.

All told, the registered attendants upon the Council numbered 265, with perhaps a half-hundred more people who were present without formal enrollment. They represented seven states including North Carolina, and 76 of the 100 counties of the state; all but Alleghany, Cherokee, Clay, and Graham of the 17 mountain counties, all but Yadkin, Burke, Lincoln, Cleveland, and Henderson of the foot-hill counties, all but Tyrrell of the Pamlico counties, all but Hertford, Martin, Craven, Jones, and Pender of the tidewater counties, and all but Vance, Greene, Sampson, Harnett, and Hoke of the cotton belt.

Wake led with 43 councillors, followed by Durham with 12, Guilford with 11, and Perquimans with 10. The other 72 counties represented had each from one to nine delegates present.

The county delegations included 95 school and public welfare superintendents, 11 county health officers, 22 other court-house officers—the juvenile court judges leading, 53 volunteer social allies and related social agents—including 7 representatives of welfare institutions, 7 city welfare officials, and 41 county board members concerned with county finance, health, education, highways, and public welfare problems.

### New Under the Sun

Whenever before in North Carolina has there been such a body of people gathered together as these 300 public welfare servants, official and unofficial? Here are what President Graham loved to call "real people"—people with their hearts and hands steeped in real problems, and busy with the realities of human well-being in North Carolina—education, health, highways, social adjustment, and taxation.

And they were bunched up together in six sessions daily for four days, with round-table conferences and informal discussions between times. They lived together in the college dormitories and had their meals together in Swain Hall at \$1.25 a day. They formed intimate acquaintances in the shade of a university campus, in the comforting quiet of a little country college town, far removed from the distracting confusions of a big city center.

Most of these social servants for the first time in their lives were brought to a keen realization of their mutual dependences, and the foundational necessity for social solidarity if we are to get ahead at a lively gait in North Carolina. They are sure to have hereafter a keener sympathy and a deeper respect for the most heroic public servants in this or any other state—the court-house officials who serve without pay and whose reward for the most part is criticism alone, the county commissioners! And on the other hand the county commissioners present have a better understanding of the public welfare necessities of their counties and will be readier hereafter to finance schools, health, highways, and the like, to the full limits of possibility.

### A Great Lesson

But it was a state official who stumbled on perhaps the largest lesson of this Council.

"Quite without realizing it," said he, "my real name all these years has been Jackie Horner, who, you may remember, sat in a corner, eating his Christmas pie, who put in his thumb and pulled out a plum and said, What a big boy am I. Hereafter I shall be sitting down with the plain folks around a common table, passing along good things to my fellow workers in a common cause, and saying, What a big job you've got! What can I do to help you? What a big boy are you! I've learned that the work is everything—far bigger than the worker; that it will last on and on after I'm dead and gone; and so I want to know, What can I do to help you along in your job today."

It was the one great outstanding lesson of this first State and County Council, and many were the people who learned it.

### A WELFARE AGENCY

The University of North Carolina with its weekly News Letter and other agencies of public service is freely at the command of the people of this state in all the fields of public welfare progress that engaged the mind of the recent State and County Council. Every issue of the News Letter these five years has focused attention upon some economic, social, or civic problem and puzzle of North Carolina.

We should like to have on our regular mailing list every juvenile court judge, every public welfare superintendent, every school board member, every public health official, every minister, and every legislator in the state—these especially. But also the thoughtful farmers, bankers, mill owners, and merchants in general, and the civic-minded women of the state in particular.

The University is preparing to increase the News Letter mailing list from 15 to 20 thousand readers weekly; but—mark this—this little sheet goes to nobody without direct application for it. It goes to everybody in North Carolina free of charge, but we must be cocksure that we do not waste a single copy on anybody that does not want it. This is why we do not broadcast it aimlessly.

The University News Letter is not a college gossip sheet. It is not advertising the University. The University is not thinking first and most about itself but first and most about North Carolina, and the News Letter is convincing proof of it.

If you want it, write for it at once, and advise us promptly whenever you change your mailing address—that is, if you do not wish to be stricken off our mailing list.

The next issue will carry lists of social welfare books and bulletins that can be had for the asking or borrowed from the University Library.

### WOMEN AT THE COUNCIL

A significant feature of the State and County Council was the large number of women present—forty of them formally registered and nearly as many more in constant attendance. Women have always done welfare work. They have rarely ever had an opportunity to become thoroughly trained to do it in the South. A new era starts on the day when Carolina women say, We wish to help, and then add, And we wish to know our job down to the last detail, and help to the fullest advantage of everybody concerned. At a meeting held in the University Y. M. C. A., an invitation was extended by the University to the State Federation of Women's Clubs to meet on the University campus as often as they may deem wise. The acceptance of this invitation would necessitate a change of meeting date for the Federation from spring to late in August or early September. The advantages would be many. The University would entertain the convention in its dormitories and Swain Hall at minimum cost to the visitors, around \$1.25 a day. The burden of private entertaining would be eliminated. So would questions of dress and other matters of expense.

### They Make Suggestions

It was suggested that the State Nurses Association might well be invited to meet at the same time and place for mutual reinforcement in social enthusiasm and effectiveness. The women of the clubs who wish to help along in the state health campaigns and the nurses who do the actual work need to know one another better.

Another suggestion was a meeting of the State Press Association and the Newspaper Institute at the University the same week. Here are prime agencies of public welfare, every one of which needs the help of the others.

The women present at the meeting accepted these suggestions with alacrity. Mrs. M. H. Stacy, Adviser to Women at the University, presided. She appointed as committee to take these matters under consideration: Mrs. R. E. Little, Wadesboro, Chairman, Mrs. Clarence A. Johnson, Raleigh, Miss Elizabeth Kelly, Raleigh, and Miss Ernestine Noa, Chapel Hill. Mrs. Walter F. Woodward, Wilson, and Miss M. Pearl Weaver, Asheville, were also called into conference with the committee.

President Chase stated that the University could be amply ready to entertain such a joint meeting by September, 1921.—E. N.

### THE HUMAN EQUATION

We are accustomed to believe without argument that American institutions will endure forever, but it is not always easy in these troublous times to give reason for the faith that is in us. If republican America is established on surer foundations than was Rome, it is because of a different spirit breathed into the forms of government. Mere excellence of material fabric of which the political state is constructed will not transform human nature. Material progress can go apace with moral degeneration. Germany showed how it can be done on a grand scale.

At the University of North Carolina there is this week in session a conference whose purpose furnishes one of the reasons why democratic government can survive the wrecks of time. In opening the conference Governor Bickett declared that the greatest factor in modern society is the human equation, the welfare of the individual. Various are the explanations given why Rome, Nineveh, and Tyre reeled to their fall, but any account of their life story shows that they sinned against the worth of the individual and denied to men, women, and children the opportunity of expanding all their powers. They disregarded the human equation.

At Chapel Hill this week 300 county and state officials are seeking better methods of promoting human welfare in city and country. The men and women in session for the state and county council meet with the conviction that it is a civic crime to spend millions for roads and a bagatelle for the protection of childhood against ignorance, disease, and crime. Roads, tax reform, and like matters have their place on the program, as they should. But the university council includes in its platform the doctrine that moral, healthy, happy, economically independent citizens are the state's greatest asset.—Asheville Citizen.

### A FEW STAR SHELLS

The welfare officers attending the State and County Council were learning something new about their jobs every minute of the time, during the daily sessions or in discussions on the campus. Many of these things were like star-shells and flares in the night along a battle front.

### Highway Maintenance

For instance, few of us knew that our county road authorities are compelled by law to levy a property tax for highway maintenance amounting to not less than \$50 nor more than \$120 per mile according to the mileage cost of the roads, for all roads built or to be built with bond moneys, such tax to be levied annually during the term of the bonds. Chapter 190, N. C. Laws 1919.

What counties have complied with this law? We should like to publish a list of them in the University News Letter for the information of the public.

If they are not obeying this law, then the question is, Why not?

The matter is important. During the last ten years, around 20 million dollars have been spent in public highway building in North Carolina; and before July of next year 10 million dollars more will be going into improved roads. They will be just so much more money wasted unless systematic road patrol and effective road repair safeguard these invested millions of public funds. Surely it will not take sheer bankruptcy to ballywhack into North Carolina some sense about the fundamental importance of road maintenance!

### Free Highway Machinery

And again, we wonder how many of those present knew that the State Highway Commission has already in use 87 army trucks worth something like \$250,000, and is in fair way of securing from the Federal Government additional road machinery valued at one and a half million dollars—all without costing the state a single cent?

Good work, Mr. Page.

### State-Wide Auditing

A good deal was said in the Council sessions about the necessity for the auditing of county accounts under a state-wide system, and a vast deal more ought to be said on this subject; but almost nobody knew that the state auditor already has a travelling accountant supported by a fund of \$7500 a year, and that the state treasurer has \$2500 a year with which to protect the state treasury in the prompt and proper collection of state taxes. The Revenue Act of 1919, Section 96.

The University News Letter would be glad to pass on to its readers detailed information in brief about how this \$10,000 is being expended.

### County Treasurers

Strange, but the Council was very much surprised to learn that up to 1915 forty-one counties had abolished the office of treasurer; that nevertheless all but six of these counties in 1915-16 tolled the school fund with commissions for handling it, in amounts ranging from \$86 in Granville to \$1717 in Madison; that all told nearly \$57,000 of the school money of the children of the state in that year went in commissions to city and county treasurers.

The treasurers' commissions for handling the school funds of North Carolina in 1915-16 were enough to pay the salaries of the school superintendent and all his teachers in a county like Alamance, Beaufort, Columbus, or Davidson; or any one of a score of our larger counties.

Treasurer or no treasurer, is there no way to protect the interest of the children in the school fund of these counties?

Fourteen counties did it in 1915-16, as follows: Avery, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Henderson, Hoke, Jones, Moore, Northampton, Pender, Rutherford, Swain, Union, and Wilkes. An honor-roll, this!

Why cannot the other 86 counties do it? What's the matter?

### It's a Local Job

County Government and County Affairs in North Carolina is the title of the 1917-18 Year-Book of the North Carolina Club at the University.

We found in the Council crowd a good many people who had received copies of it (it goes free of charge to any citizen of the state who wants it), but we found almost nobody who had thumbed it thoroughly from cover to cover.

That is to say, nobody but one man—a keen, public-spirited lawyer, who said: We'll not get far in this state in public welfare progress, which is a local job in the last analysis, until county government in North Carolina ceases to be clumsy, sprawling, unbusiness-like, irresponsible, and wasteful, and comes to be unified under responsible headship, with uniform county account keeping and reporting in the courthouse offices, under the compulsion of a state-wide system of county-account auditing. Your Carolina Club Bulletin tells the whole story of this necessity. If only a half dozen intelligent legislators would read it to some purpose, we'd quickly have two or three pieces of fundamental legislation that would bring order out of the present chaos of county government in this state. Then we'll make real headway in public welfare work. If only a half dozen thoughtful people in every county would read this bulletin, we'd have the needed legislation, or know why not, in short order. And much more to the same effect.

### THE ROLL OF COUNCILLORS

Alamance: Rev. P. H. Fleming, M. C. Terrell, C. C. Haworth, C. C. Thompson, Miss Eula Dickson, D. J. Walker.  
Alexander: A. F. Sharpe.  
Anson: Mrs. R. E. Little, J. W. Cameron.  
Ashe: C. M. Dickson.  
Avery: F. A. Edmundson.  
Beaufort: H. B. Seawright, Miss M. Davis.  
Bertie: H. W. Early.  
Bladen: B. J. Cromartie.  
Brunswick: D. G. Robinson, Miss F. Doshier, Mrs. F. J. Stevens, M. C. Guthrie.  
Catawba: G. E. Long, C. E. Hefner, G. W. Ship, W. P. Speas, J. T. Setzer.  
Chatham: H. B. Norwood, J. B. Atwater, H. M. Kinsey, J. Norwood, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Nash.  
Columbus: M. K. Fuller.  
Cumberland: J. A. Martin.  
Currituck: W. D. Cox.

Dare: R. C. Evans, B. G. Crisp.  
Davidson: S. G. Hasty, C. W. Stokes, P. F. Feezor, J. C. Ripple, E. F. Long, M. L. Kesler.

Davie: W. M. Seaford.  
Duplin: M. H. Wooten, H. Stewart.  
Durham: John Sprunt Hill, A. P. Carlton, H. T. Carver, C. M. Crutchfield, H. A. Forester, Benahan Cameron, H. Holton, Miss S. Hood, Miss Josephine Minor, T. J. Pendergrass, F. E. Schnepfe, W. H. Young.

Edgecombe: W. S. Howard, J. Brake, Miss B. Savage, Miss M. Liles, Mrs. J. C. Powell, Miss Rose Ehrenfell.  
Forsyth: W. B. Speas, R. L. Carlton, A. S. McFarlane.

Franklin: J. C. Jones.  
Gaston: F. P. Hall, W. B. Hunter.  
Gates: L. Hodler, H. A. Harrel.  
Granville: J. A. Morris, J. E. Davis, J. E. Jackson, Mrs. M. C. Evans, Mrs. A. L. Capehart, Miss Mary Shotwell.

Guilford: W. L. Brewer, W. C. Boren, Mrs. B. B. Carr, T. R. Foust, H. A. Garret, G. W. Hiatt, W. C. Jackson, W. C. Jones, A. W. McAllister, S. B. Turrentine, Miss Pearl Wyche.

Halifax: A. E. Akers, R. D. Jenkins.  
Haywood: R. A. Sentell.  
Hyde: M. S. Credle, Z. T. Fortesque.  
Iredell: J. A. Steele, W. W. Holland, Miss F. Kossler.

Jackson: M. Buchanan.  
Johnston: G. T. Whitley, H. V. Rose, W. B. Crompton.  
Lee: E. M. Judd.

Lenoir: Dr. and Mrs. T. F. Wickliffe, Rev. G. B. Hanrahan, K. R. Curtis, Dr. C. B. McNairy, Miss Oettinger.

Macon: Mrs. F. L. Siler.  
McDowell: L. W. Gettys, Mrs. J. W. Pless.  
Mecklenburg: Miss A. Crutchfield, L. H. Ranson, J. M. Mathews, G. G. Scott, Montgomery: E. H. Wood.

Moore: A. B. Cameron, R. T. Hoke, J. R. Page, T. E. McLean.  
Nash: L. S. Incoe, J. A. Beale, Jr., G. R. King.  
New Hanover: W. A. McGirt, Dr. C. E. Low.

Northampton: D. A. Parker.  
Onslow: W. M. Thompson.  
Orange: R. H. Clayton, Rev. H. G. Dorsett, Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Uzzell, Charles Strayhorn, Miss Olive Whitmore, S. Browning, C. A. McDade, E. C. Branson.

Pamlico: J. C. Woodward, J. P. Jones, T. B. Attmore.  
Pasquotank: P. S. Vann.  
Perquimans: J. H. Miller, R. H. Welch, W. Mathews, T. C. Lane, Chas. Whedbee, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Fleetwood, A. R. Fleetwood, E. W. Joyner, Miss K. Fleetwood.

Person: D. W. Bradsher, J. A. Beam.  
Pitt: M. K. Blount, H. G. Swanson, S. B. Underwood, T. M. Hooker, T. Nixon, Robt. H. Wright.

Polk: W. P. Hume.  
Randolph: I. G. Hinshaw.  
Richmond: W. N. Everett, Jr., O. G. Reynolds.

Robeson: E. R. Harden, J. W. Ward.  
Rockingham: P. H. Gwynn, L. N. Hickerson, J. H. Allen, Rev. W. J. Gordon, Miss L. Spessard, P. L. Gwynn.  
Rowan: Mrs. E. R. Overman, Mrs. M. O. Linton, R. G. Kizer, C. P. Trexler, O. H. Boyden.

Rutherford: R. E. Price.  
Scotland: A. Hall.  
Stanly: C. A. Reap.  
Stokes: M. D. Phillips, J. C. Carson.  
Surry: W. Y. Davenport, L. M. Epps, J. H. Allen.

Swain: J. M. Smiley, G. I. Calhoun.  
Transylvania: F. T. Wilson, A. F. Mitchell, W. J. Wallis.  
Union: R. Funderburke, R. W. Allen.

Wake: A. T. Allen, B. Arendell, R. F. Beasley, Gov. T. W. Bickett, Mrs. C. P. Blalock, L. C. Brogden, T. E. Brown, E. F. Carter, R. N. Childress, O. J. Coffin, Dr. G. M. Cooper, P. H. Coor, Miss Daisy Denson, M. C. Duncan, Baxter Durham, F. H. Green, J. L. Harris, J. T. Harris, C. R. Hudson, Carey H. Hunter, F. H. Jeter, Mrs. Edgar Johnson, Mrs. Clarence A. Johnson, Rev. Livingston Johnson, Miss Elizabeth Kelly, S. J. Kirby, Dr. B. W. Kilgore, J. C. Lockhart, H. M. London, A. J. Maxwell, Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon, N. C. Newbold, Frank Page, Miss M. B. Palmer, Ex-Judge George P. Pell, W. G. Privette, Dr. W. S. Rankin, Dr. F. M. Register, P. E. Seagle, W. L. Spoon, J. S. Stell, Mrs. Kate B. Vaughn, Rev. R. T. Vann, Dr. B. E. Washburn, R. F. Williams.

Warren: R. R. Rodwell, W. Allen, Miss A. L. Rankin.  
Washington: T. H. Darden, J. W. Darden, C. V. W. Anshon.  
Watonga: R. M. Brown, O. L. Harden.

Wayne: A. E. Howell, Miss Estelle Smith, Miss A. P. Hallenback.  
Wilkes: S. E. Leonard, C. C. Wright, Miss Cleone Hobbs.

Wilson: H. B. Lane, L. J. Smith, Mrs. W. F. Woodard.  
Yancey: G. A. Anderson.

### Other States

Judge C. N. Feidelson, Savannah, Ga., W. M. Reinhardt, Baltimore, Md., R. K. Atkinson, Sag Harbor, N. Y., Lussie Kelly, Richmond, Va., C. F. Faucette, Atlanta, Ga., E. W. James, Washington, D. C., Dr. A. W. Freeman, Columbus, O.

### Counties Unrepresented

The following counties had no representatives in the State and County Council: Alleghany, Burke, Camden, Cherokee, Chowan, Clay, Cleveland, Craven, Graham, Greene, Harnett, Henderson, Hertford, Hoke, Jones, Lincoln, Madison, Martin, Mitchell, Pender, Sampson, Tyrrell, Vance, and Yadkin.