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OUR RANK IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

A VICIOUS SYSTEM

The North Carolina Club at the University has not limited its study of farm tenancy to the United States, but has extended it to Europe in a determined search for all the facts. The latest move of the Club has been to study farm tenancy conditions in the British Isles and continental Europe and to compare these conditions with those under which the American tenant lives, which was done by Miss Eugenia Bryant, who led the discussion at the last Club meeting.

Miss Bryant's report shows that the European peasant lives on lower levels of life and with less chances to rise out of tenancy into farm ownership, but in greater security, because of the prevailing long-term lease systems of the old world countries. Settled customs, laws, and land courts protect both peasants and landlords in France, England, and Scotland in particular. The long-term lease offers inducement to the European tenant to improve his surroundings and to manage his farm with very much of the pride that a land-owner feels. As a consequence the tenant is generally satisfied to remain from year to year on the same farm, and to improve its properties and its productivity—something which is seldom seen in North Carolina where a large part of the tenants move from place to place every year. The tenant in Europe receives the full benefit of all the improvements he makes, while at the same time the landlord is fully protected against neglect and damage. At the expiration of the lease in Great Britain, France, and Belgium, the tenant receives in the settlement the full value of all improvements he has put upon the farm and farm buildings, including even the manure used in soil improvement or an additional pane of glass put into the house. The landlord on his side is also protected against deterioration of soils and buildings, neglect, abuse, and damage of every sort.

The principal drawback of this system is the extreme difficulty a tenant must overcome in acquiring the ownership of a farm, except in Denmark and Ireland, and also in Russia and the Balkan states, where the land was restored to the peasant farmers as a result of the World War. The European tenant is also handicapped by rigid class distinctions. But with even these disadvantages the tenancy system in Europe is better than the short-term rent contracts in American tenancy areas. Our American tenancy system was condemned by James Wilson and Henry Wallace as being the most vicious tenancy system anywhere on earth.

Miss Bryant's paper, along with all the other Club studies, will appear in the North Carolina Club Year-Book for 1921-22.

WHERE WE FALL DOWN

North Carolina farmers have been slow to adopt modern conveniences for their homes and farms. It is a sad fact that many of them take better care of their stock than they do of their families. Many of them have magnificent barns for their roughage and stock, but their families, usually the women, have to draw water from a deep well or carry it from a spring; use ordinary kerosene lamps for their artificial light; do the family washing over an old-time tub with a corrugated washboard; in fact, the most crude methods of housekeeping are still in use in a majority of the farm houses in this state. The state ranks high in crop production, but stands low in making life more bearable for the families of the farmer.

In the matter of light this state is way down the list. Only about eight thousand farms, or three percent, are equipped with gas or electric light, thirty-eight states in the Union standing higher than North Carolina in that respect. There is no reason for the farmer not having his home lighted by electricity or gas and running water in the house. Modern conveniences make the farm more attractive, and prevent the boys and girls from leaving that life to work in the factory or office in the city, where they can never expect to render the service to themselves or the country that they could if they re-

mained on the farm.

Make the farm as attractive as possible, and keep there the young men and women who have the makings of great citizens, but who will, in a majority of cases, make a failure if transplanted to the city.—It's the truth, Brother.—Durham Herald.

REAL EDUCATION

What is an education? It is the right development, in the right direction, all the time, of the whole being, for the purpose of giving one as much life as possible for himself, and to share with others.

This means that the whole person must be taken into account.

Education means more than a one-sided development of one talent or ability. It means symmetrical and many-sided growth. The reason why there are no more interesting people in the world is because so many people are content with a one-sided development. They are willing to be musicians and nothing but musicians. They are willing to be newspaper men and nothing but newspaper men. They are willing to be lawyers and nothing but lawyers; teachers and nothing but teachers; ministers and nothing but ministers. And so their range of thinking, of conversation, and of action is limited. True education takes into account a whole being, with many possibilities—a life which has in it the elements of surprise and an eagerness to know everything that can be known about a very great world, in order to sympathize with and enter into the thought, so far as possible, of all sorts and conditions of men.—Rev. Charles M. Sheldon in The Christian Herald.

I AM YOUR TOWN

Make of me what you will—I shall reflect you as clearly as a mirror throws back a candle beam.

If I am pleasing to the eye of the stranger within my gates; if I am such a sight as, having seen me, he will remember me all his days as a thing of beauty, the credit is yours.

Ambition and opportunity call some of my sons and daughters to high tasks and mighty privileges, to my greater honor and to my good repute in far places, but it is not chiefly these who are my strength. My strength is in those who remain, who are content with what I can offer them, and with what they can offer me. It was the greatest of all Romans who said: "Better be first in a little Iberian village than be second in Rome."

I am more than wood and brick and stone, more even than flesh and blood—I am the composite soul of all who call me Home.

I am your town.—Exchange.

THIS GREAT STATE OF OURS

The South, says the Manufacturers Record, is the nation's greatest asset, and publishes a list of forty-seven crops and raw materials as instances of this section's rich and lordly contributions to the country's resources. Of the forty-seven listed, North Carolina produces forty-one. The Old North State is the South's greatest asset.

For example: the South produces 51 percent of the nation's mica, and North Carolina is first among all the states of the country in the production of mica; the South produces 40 percent of the nation's feldspar, and North Carolina leads the Union in feldspar production; the South furnishes 90 percent of the nation's early spring vegetables and North Carolina has the richest early truck-gardening section in the South; the South produces 90 percent of the nation's aluminum, and North Carolina has the biggest aluminum plant on the globe; the South produces 50 percent of the country's lumber, and in Western North Carolina's hardwood forests and in Eastern North Carolina's loblolly pine woods the Eastern half of the United States has its richest and biggest supplies of lumber; the South has water power capable of 9,000,000 horse-power development, and of this North Carolina's share is 1,000,000.

Our Primacy

So runs the list, every item printing the Old North State's Croesus-like

(Released for week beginning February 13.)

KNOW NORTH CAROLINA Libraries in North Carolina

Mary B. Palmer

Public library development in North Carolina has been rapid during the last two years, 11 public libraries having been opened in that period. Fifty-six of the 63 North Carolina towns of more than two thousand people, have public libraries. Forty of these are free and sixteen are subscription libraries. However, thirty-eight of the fifty-six libraries have annual incomes of less than one thousand dollars, and only five have more than five thousand annually.

On December 30th, the Council of the American Library Association passed a resolution stating its belief that one dollar per capita of the population of the community served is a reasonable minimum annual revenue for the library in a community desiring to maintain a good modern public library system with trained librarians.

Standards of service for this amount include a registration of card holders equal to at least thirty per cent of the population, and a considerable collection of the more expensive books of reference, with a home use of about five volumes per capita per year.

Judged by the financial standard of one dollar per capita, not one city library in North Carolina is prepared to serve the entire population. The libraries of the state have attempted adequate library service with annual incomes of from twenty to thirty cents per capita, and the result has been that not all people have had books brought to them.

The home use of books in North Carolina libraries is remarkable in view of the limited financial resources of these institutions. The Burlington Public Library was the only library in the state that reached the standard of five volumes per capita in 1921, though several circulated three volumes per capita.

It seems evident that public libraries cannot give complete service on thirty or thirty-five cents per capita, and that the average North Carolina city cannot spend one dollar per capita for library service without a revision of the revenue system. What we need is a new vision of the educational power of the public library.

When every town in North Carolina has a well-equipped library there will still be a rural population of two million without public library facilities. The people of Durham, Guilford, and Forsyth counties now have library privileges through appropriations from the county commissioners or county boards of education to the libraries in those counties. North Carolina's greatest library need is a strong county library with deposit stations and rural book delivery in every county.—Secretary N. C. State Library Commission.

wealth in the italics of wonder. The South produces nearly all the nation's cotton and 60 percent of the world's supply, and North Carolina heads the Union in the production of cotton per acre. The South grows the country's tobacco, and North Carolina gets more money for her tobacco crop than any other state, more than any similar area in the world. The South grows 100 percent of the nation's peanuts and 93 percent of the nation's sweet potatoes, and in both crops North Carolina is the third state in the Union. North Carolina has grown more corn to the acre than any other part of the country or the world. She is America's fifth state in the value of

all her agricultural crops.

Nor do such feats as those limit the field of her glories. In the percent of value added to her raw materials by manufacture, she leads all the manufacturing states. She is second only to Massachusetts in the manufacture of cotton goods. Her tobacco manufacturers lead the world. She has 333 more textile mills than her next best Southern competitor. She leads the South in mills dyeing and finishing their own products. She leads the South in the making of cheese and the manufacturing of furniture. She has the biggest hosiery mills and the biggest towel mills in the world; the biggest denim mills, damask mills, and underwear factory on the face of the civilized globe. And among the people who grow rich on the bigness of her blessings are the highest birth rate and the lowest death rate in America.

A great state, Tarheels! Get the thrill of her greatness into you. The Old North State is the richest, the loveliest, and the grandest piece of ground ever given to the hand and brain of man to enjoy.—James Hay, Jr., Asheville Citizen.

CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

North Carolina has generally accepted the principle of rural school consolidation, but we have not yet practically applied the principle as extensively and as wisely as the needs seem to require. It appears, however, that thoughtful school boards and superintendents are beginning to take seriously the subject of making the rural school more effective and to that end are looking to the consolidation of weak schools and the transportation of pupils as an outstanding means by which it can be done. To those officials who are planning to give attention to this important work, the suggestions given below are offered for whatever they may be worth.

Too often we have been inclined to consolidate with reference to the desires of localities rather than with reference to the needs of the county at large. For that reason it appears necessary for the county board and the superintendent to look at the county as a whole rather than at its various parts or local districts, if intelligent consolidation is to be made throughout the entire county. By viewing the county as a whole the officials and the people are enabled to cooperate and to act more intelligently in re-districting the county and in planning for a permanent school system. To get such a view, adequate and complete, it would seem well that the board and the superintendent be in possession of information such as the following:

1. Information concerning the general external and internal school conditions of the entire county is needed. This can be had by an impartial, sympathetic, fair, and accurate statement of facts, both statistical and informational in character. Such a statement can of course be best prepared by the superintendent, though it may sometimes be necessary to have assistance with the details. The statement should be prepared in full and in writing and so made as to be easily and intelligently understood by

the board and by the average citizen of the county. Technical terms and the so-called survey terminology should be avoided, as well as the attitude that often appears in the so-called survey. The statement should above all be sympathetic rather than critical.

2. On such a statement, helpful, practical suggestions and recommendations for improvement should be made. These should also be in writing and so stated as to be easily and intelligently understood by both the board and the average citizen.

A Condition of Success

3. An adequate up-to-date map of the county should be prepared and used, because graphic illustration conveys definite ideas more readily and safely. On such a map information such as the following should be shown:

(a) The boundaries of the present school district.

(b) The location of each schoolhouse.

(c) The location of each home, with the number of school children in each.

(d) All roads should be shown. The present condition of the roads should also be indicated, and all road-building projects in process or in contemplation by the county and the state highway commission should be taken into account in this connection.

(e) All natural barriers such as rivers, creeks, swamps, mountains, etc., should be shown.

4. Information should be had concerning:

(a) The general school interests of each school district.

(b) The size of each school district and the number of children in it.

(c) The size of each school house.

(d) The school population, the enrollment, and the average daily attendance of each school district.

(e) The general attitude of the people of each school district on the subject of the consolidation of schools and the transportation of pupils. This can be gained only by tact, patience, and without undue agitation, and by innumerable personal interviews. In most cases it will be gained very slowly.

With the information called for above properly in hand and properly digested by the board and the superintendent, a tentative plan for re-districting the county can be made with a view to wise consolidation. After such a plan is worked out, another map could be prepared showing the proposed new districts, as well as the old districts to be retained. The board will of course be prepared to give sufficient reasons for any and all changes proposed and, if occasion should require, to set forth convincingly the advantages of the proposed changes and to meet the objections to them.

Meantime there should be carried on a systematic policy of intelligent publicity throughout the county, through the newspapers, the motion picture service, a county school newspaper, extension work through community meetings, or regular communications from the board and the superintendent to the people. For this purpose an up-to-date mailing list of the active citizens of the county should be kept in the superintendent's office.—E. W. Knight, University of North Carolina, in the Banker-Farmer.

BOOKS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN THE U. S.

Exhibiting (1) for each state the total number of bound volumes in all public libraries, including library societies, (2) the number of volumes per 1000 of population, and (3) the resulting rank of the states. Based on the figures compiled by G. M. Miller, University of Oklahoma, from the Educational Directory of the Federal Education Bureau 1920, and published in School and Society.

North Carolina ranks 47th and only Arkansas makes a poorer showing.

Rank	State	Vols. per 1000 pop.	Total vols.	Rank	State	Vols. per 1000 pop.	Total vols.
1	New Hampshire	1,978	861,662	25	Utah	420	188,847
2	Massachusetts	1,885	7,263,021	26	Maryland	371	537,392
3	Vermont	1,405	495,233	27	Missouri	326	1,109,706
4	Nevada	1,388	107,456	28	Pennsylvania	310	2,703,799
5	Connecticut	1,329	1,835,125	29	Nebraska	306	396,451
6	Rhode Island	1,166	704,583	30	Idaho	295	127,545
7	Maine	1,085	833,328	31	Kansas	279	494,417
8	California	957	3,282,014	32	Kentucky	213	514,727
9	Delaware	850	189,494	33	South Dakota	199	126,489
10	Oregon	694	543,622	34	Tennessee	183	428,745
11	New York	660	6,855,009	35	North Dakota	165	106,945
12	Montana	592	324,752	35	Louisiana	165	297,555
13	Michigan	583	2,137,611	37	West Virginia	152	221,962
14	New Jersey	577	1,821,159	38	Alabama	130	305,483
15	Illinois	548	3,554,666	39	Texas	112	521,768
16	Colorado	537	504,390	40	Florida	106	102,682
17	Arizona	535	178,591	41	Oklahoma	102	207,209
18	Wyoming	499	97,000	42	Georgia	95	274,480
19	Iowa	498	1,198,259	43	Virginia	90	207,837
20	Indiana	480	1,406,904	44	New Mexico	83	29,760
21	Ohio	467	2,688,115	45	Mississippi	82	147,130
22	Minnesota	455	1,086,925	46	South Carolina	76	127,715
23	Wisconsin	443	1,166,613	47	North Carolina	56	144,204
24	Washington	442	598,950	48	Arkansas	37	64,594