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LIVESTOCK LEVELS IN THE U. S.

OUR LIVESTOCK LEVEL

North Carolina has less than one-third of the farm animals she ought to have in order to be even a lightly stocked farm area. A lightly stocked farm area, we may say, supports one animal-unit on every five acres of land; and an animal-unit is one work-animal or one dairy cow, or two other cattle, five hogs or ten pigs, or one hundred fowls—so considered because they consume about the same amount of feed as a work-animal or a dairy cow.

Livestock units and farm acreage considered, we were on a 31 percent instead of a one hundred percent level in 1920. Our livestock ought to be trebled in number and greatly improved in quality. It would take increases of this sort to rank North Carolina with Iowa and Wisconsin as a livestock state.

The livestock ratios range from 21 percent in New Mexico to 91 percent in Iowa. See the table elsewhere in this issue.

Forty-three states make a better livestock showing than North Carolina, and only four make a poorer showing.

Among the cotton-belt states that outrank us are Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina—all of them boll-weevil states.

The boll weevil is famous for revising farm systems. We'd have starved in Mississippi, said a Jackson banker in 1915, but for cattle and pigs, grain, hay, and forage crops, truck farming, and cooperative market associations.

Mississippi is still producing cotton—813,000 bales last season; but Mississippi farmers are now producing it on a home-raised bread-and-meat basis—not entirely so but in larger measure year by year, and the state is more prosperous today than ever before in her entire history.

Horses and mules are one-third of the total animal-units of North Carolina; meat and milk animals—beef cattle, dairy cows, sheep, pigs, and poultry—are barely two-thirds of the total. In the number of work-animals we are far above the average of the country-at-large; but in meat and milk animals we are far below it. In consequence imported beef, pork, mutton and poultry, butter and eggs, cheese and condensed milk and the like take millions of dollars out of the state every year.

Since 1850 we have doubled our corn crop, but we have halved our production per inhabitant; and we have trebled our wheat crop, but the mouths to be filled have also trebled. Meantime our cotton crop has increased 2,000 percent and our tobacco crop 2,500 percent. Which explains in a word why we had fewer cattle other than milk cows in 1920 than we had seventy years ago, fewer by 78,000; and fewer swine, fewer by 221,000; and fewer sheep, fewer by 451,000. When compared with the population to be fed in North Carolina in 1920, the decreases are as follows: milk cows, 50 percent decrease; other cattle, 70 percent decrease; swine, 69 percent decrease; and sheep, 92 percent decrease. Our meat and milk animals are greatly improved in quality but they are greatly decreased in number as compared with our population in 1920.

Three Steps Up

Live-at-home farming in North Carolina means three things in an ascending scale: (1) bread-and-meat production sufficient to feed the farmer's family and the farm animals—at least in the standard, staple farm and garden products, (2) surpluses of these sufficient to feed the 740 thousand town and city dwellers of the state, and (3) still larger surpluses for the markets of the world-at-large.

1. Many or most of the land-owning farmers in the sixty counties outside the cotton and tobacco belt of North Carolina are already feeding the farm family and the farm animals first. They handle little money, but they live well. Low prices for cotton and tobacco have not bankrupted them. Not so with the average farm owner and the run of farm tenants in the eastern cotton and tobacco belt. Here hard times have hurt land owning farmers, farm tenants, and absentee landlords, because they are cotton or tobacco farmers mainly or merely, and food farmers

incidentally or accidentally—or so as a rule.

And their distress is shared by the merchants and bankers. For two years now the towns and the countryside of Eastern Carolina have faced bankruptcy together. But the boll weevil will change this system of farming—just as certainly in this state as in the states south of us.

The Local Market Problem

2. As for producing ample surpluses of bread and meat for the nearby town dwellers, our farmers will never do it under present conditions. Peddling food products from door to door is piddling business and the stomach of robust farmers rebels at it. Our towns and cities must provide local market arrangements, conveniences, and facilities for home-raised food products, just as for cotton and tobacco. The local market means regional stockyards, shipping facilities and advantageous freight rates; abattoirs, chilling and packing plants; warehouses, warehouse certificates, and bank loans on these certificates; open-air curb markets, and well managed free public market houses in the larger cities; camping yards and sheds, rest-rooms, and so on and on. But even more it means the marketing habit on part of housewives and merchants, along with fair prices and profits for the farmers. It means town-and-country cooperation, and the lack of such cooperation spells inevitable failure.

Unless farmers are willing to take the first step up, and unless farmers and local city consumers can together take the second step up, the state will continue to send around 200 million dollars out of its borders year by year for food products we ought to raise at home. The bills for imported food and feed in 1920 will be given county by county in an early issue of the University News Letter.

3. The first two steps taken, the third is easy. But easy or not, we'll take all these steps up when the boll weevil gets busy in North Carolina. Boll-weevil logic is dynamite logic. In countryside Georgia, Hobson's choice is "Produce what you consume or the farmer starve," and in Georgia cities it is "Encourage and reward farmers in diversified farming or go into bankruptcy."

Crop Farmers Mainly

The table of livestock levels shows that on the whole we are crop-farmers mainly or merely and that meat and milk animals are an incident or an accident; so (1) because cotton and tobacco mean ready cash—enormous ready cash in good years, (2) because more than two-fifths of our farmers are tenants, croppers for the most part, and southern tenant farmers as a rule lack the disposition or the opportunity to own or to care for meat and milk animals, and (3) because under present conditions there is too little money in food crops, livestock, and livestock products.

Cash-crop farming based on tenancy and supported by supply-merchant credit is a success in wealth production, but it fails in wealth retention. The farmers produce it and somebody else gets it. North Carolina produces it and the Middle West gets it. Our farmers will never be self-financing until they are self-feeding.

The Way Up and Out

1. A few food animals on every farm; (1) at least one milk cow, two hogs, and fifty laying hens, (2) along with food and feed crops sufficient to support the farm family and the farm animals, and (3) uniform refusal by Carolina banks to discount crop-lien paper that does not specify these details of self-support. Note this last condition. The banks of the state could, if they would, force the supply-merchants to force the farmers to feed themselves, and thereby save millions of cotton and tobacco dollars in this state every year.

2. Effective attention by city chambers of commerce to the local market food problem, to the specific end of bringing city consumers and local food producers together, and rewarding the farmers with more money for their products, and city consumers with more products for their money.

Released week beginning June 5 KNOW NORTH CAROLINA In the Sandhills

The great asset of the Sandhills is the climate. This permits a wide variety of farming, and particularly the production of peaches, of which in quality the Sandhill country excels probably any other area on earth, while in quantity the output is already large and growing so fast that 1922 will see 1,500 carloads sent to market. The peach orchard is an opportunity in the Sandhills. So is the tobacco farm, for the Sandhills bright leaf brings a premium. Cotton, grain and general farming respond to the stimulation of the climate and the light soil, while produce and poultry bring the farmer much money from the winter resort towns of the region.

But it is the winter visitor and winter home-maker of the Sandhills that gives the greatest activity to this section of the state. Pinehurst, Southern Pines, Knollwood, Lakeview and other resort-towns are the product of the climate, and it is likely that in a few years the area embraced in the boundaries of these villages will widen into one big community of perhaps more people than in any other single community of the state. Pinehurst is already the foremost golf center of the United States, and thousands of people are attracted to the Sandhills in the winter from all the states, and even from abroad. This is developing a busy activity in all the lines that go to make up a populous center.

The opportunities found in such a place are the opportunities found in every center of many people. Skilled workers, professional and business men, clerks and superintendents, farmers, orchard and livestock men, almost every occupation, is called on for help in the Sandhills. Opportunities for the individual who will build for himself a business are on all sides, depending largely on the man himself, for where there are thousands of people as in the Sandhills, and a large proportion of them people of means, money awaits production or service in practically every line. It is a reasonable guess that a few years will see in the Sandhills a permanent population of probably 50,000. The building of such a community, the expansion of farms and orchards, and the sundry functions that go with all these tell plainly enough of opportunity.

Opportunity in the Sandhills is limited exactly by the ability of the man looking for the opportunity.—Bion H. Butler.

It is a hard problem; but the solution of it is not impossible. The lack of such attention to local food production costs Mecklenburg \$9,866,000 a year, Forsyth \$9,293,000, and Guilford \$9,255,000—or so it was in 1920. The bill for imported food supplies in these three counties in 1920 was nearly thirty million dollars. And these thirty millions went out of these counties for standard, staple farm and garden products; not for extras, dainties, and luxuries, but for beef, pork, mutton, poultry, butter and eggs, grain, hay and forage, that their farmers could have produced at home—and didn't produce because under present conditions there is little or nothing in it for food-producing farmers with surpluses for sale. And nobody knows it any better than the farmers.

Poor City Finance

Think of it—in seventy-five years, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, and Greensboro have managed to accumulate bank capital, surpluses and undivided profits amounting to thirteen million dollars all told, and in a single year thirty mil-

lions go out of Mecklenburg, Forsyth, and Guilford for imported food supplies.

If these three counties were self-feeding, the banking capital of their capital cities could be doubled and their business in loans and discounts twenty times multiplied in a single year.

The local market for home-raised food and feed supplies is the biggest economic problem that our growing cities have to solve. And the commercial club secretary who is not working at town-and-country interdependencies and mutual prosperity has not even begun to learn the abc's of his job.

He serves his city's business best who best serves the farmers in the trade territory.

GOOD WORK IN IREDELL

Here are the results of the school and farm home demonstration officials in Iredell county, N. C., during the school year 1921-22. Has your county done better? If so send us the facts. We want to advertise your county also.

231 debates in the school for the year.
931 children debated in the schools of the county.

58 schools observed Clean-up-Day.
618 homes observed Clean-up-Day.
\$3646.66 was raised in the schools for all purposes.

52 schools had school or community libraries.

\$270.75 was raised to purchase books.
\$62.98 was raised to purchase pictures.

45 traveling libraries were received in the county.

Iredell county leads the state in the number of traveling libraries used.

41 schools oiled the floors and used 438 gallons of oil.

8 schools bought maps or globes.
20 schools bought shades.

12 schools painted the outside or inside of school house.

25 schools bought curtains.
508 desks bought in the schools.

1330 square feet of blackboard purchased.

47 teachers encouraged children to drink more milk.

\$2077.10, amount of labor given by the patrons of the schools in improving schools and grounds.

157 entertainments have been given in the schools.

35 teachers announced their intention of having a commencement.

33 teachers encouraged athletics.

43 teachers had physical culture exercises in their schools.

19 teachers observed "Better Schools for Iredell County Day."

167 people read "Better Rural Schools" through the influence of the teachers.

9233 books read in the schools of the county by the children.

320 school children have savings accounts.

47 electric light plants have been in-

stalled in the school communities.

29 acetylene gas plants have been installed in community homes.—Miss Celeste Henckel, Home Demonstrator.

THE RURAL MINISTRY

Here and there in Indiana is to be found a young man with a big vision of the future of country life, who has consecrated his own life to the cause of his country church, and considers this field to be more worth his effort than any other. Two such have come to our notice recently and have been mentioned in these columns. They are Rev. Chas. Shake, of Vanderburg county, and Rev. J. C. Stamm, of Crawford county, Indiana. There are doubtless a few others to be found in the state.

We do not include here young ministers who are merely making their start in rural pastorates, expecting to use that as a stepping stone to a better pulp in some city parish, but young men who have accepted the rural field for a life work and are making an earnest study of all the peculiar needs of country folk and laying foundations for a broad program of rural uplift that includes every phase of country life. These two men are not merely preachers; they are ministers in the fullest sense of the term.

Their work includes much that ordinarily falls to the lot of the county agent and the county superintendent of schools. But they are in a position to do much that these two cannot touch. And with these services we believe lies the complete program of rural activity that is going to make over our community life.

The man who comes to your church once a week, or even once a month to preach, can do something for his people. But the man who moves in and lives with you, gives his time to organizing social activities along wholesome lines, to setting up recreational, musical, literary, and other organizations; who studies your children and helps you fit them into a useful place in the community, this man can do wonders, and will.

Where such a rural minister is found working in harmony with the county agent and the school superintendent, there we find a new conception of life beginning to make itself felt. Such a community is to be called blessed. And such a young man is to be respected and revered.—Indiana Farmers Guide.

MUSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY

The students and faculty at the University are anxious to build up next year a band and an orchestra that will represent the best musical talent in the State. In order that these groups may be organized promptly at the beginning of the fall term, it is requested that information about men of ability along these lines be sent to Mr. Paul J. Weaver, Chapel Hill. If you know any men who will be at the University next year, please send Mr. Weaver their names and a statement of what they do musically.

The University will offer next year private instruction in voice, piano, and practically all of the band and orchestral instruments.

LIVESTOCK LEVELS IN THE U. S.

Based on the 1920 Census

States ranked from high to low, in percents of a lightly stocked farm area. A lightly stocked farm area supports one animal-unit on every five acres of land in farms. An animal-unit is one work-animal or one dairy cow, or two other cattle, five hogs or ten pigs, or 100 poultry—so considered because they consume about the same amount of feed.

Average for the United States 44 percent; for North Carolina 31 percent. Rank of North Carolina 44th; only four states make a poorer showing, numbers alone considered.

Livestock levels in North Carolina counties, next issue.

L. D. Summey, Gaston County

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Rank	State	Percent	Rank	State	Percent
1	Iowa	91	24	Florida	49
2	Wisconsin	89	24	Tennessee	49
3	Illinois	71	27	Kentucky	45
4	New York	69	28	Nebraska	43
4	Ohio	69	29	Oklahoma	42
6	New Jersey	66	30	Alabama	41
6	Pennsylvania	66	30	California	41
8	Indiana	65	30	Washington	41
9	Nevada	63	33	Kansas	39
10	Michigan	62	33	Maine	39
10	Vermont	62	33	New Hampshire	39
12	Rhode Island	61	33	Oregon	39
13	Connecticut	59	33	South Dakota	39
14	Idaho	58	33	South Carolina	38
14	Massachusetts	58	39	West Virginia	37
14	Missouri	58	40	Georgia	36
17	Minnesota	56	40	Virginia	36
17	Utah	56	42	Colorado	34
19	Arizona	55	43	Wyoming	33
20	Louisiana	54	44	North Carolina	31
21	Maryland	53	45	Texas	29
22	Delaware	52	46	North Dakota	27
23	Mississippi	50	47	Montana	22
24	Arkansas	49	48	New Mexico	21