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## ROAD AND SCHOOL MILLIONS

### MILLIONS FOR SCHOOLS

In 1914 it was our job to field-survey the extension activities and reach of the agricultural college of the University of Wisconsin for the State Board of Public Control. The work took us into almost every county and community of that great state. Everywhere we marveled at the schools—city schools, country schools, farm life schools, high schools, vocational schools, continuation schools, the colleges, and the great university—the millions expended for public education of every type and grade—thirteen millions for public elementary schools alone!

At that time North Carolina was spending only a little more than four millions on her elementary public schools.

It looked at that time as though we were hopelessly out-classed and out-distanced.

But behold North Carolina in 1921-22, just eight years later! Common school support \$16,000,000; support of institutions of liberal learning and technical training \$1,274,000; new buildings, equipments and repairs for state educational institutions \$4,000,000; local funds voted and expended for school building in nine months from September, 1921, to June, 1922, close to \$12,000,000; local school bonds sold, January to June, 1922, close to \$9,000,000.

Right around \$42,000,000 voted and expended on public education in a single year in North Carolina, and a hard year at that.

North Carolina has been slow to make up her mind in whole-hearted ways about common school and college culture. We started late, but we have started at last.

He knows little about this state who does not know that the people of North Carolina are bent on building a great commonwealth on public education, public highways, and public health.

Think of \$25,000,000 spent on roads in two years.

And close to \$75,000,000 on public education for building and maintenance during the same period.

These are staggering totals. But the plain people of this state are finally and firmly convinced that the more they spend on roads and schools the richer everybody has a chance to be; that roads, schools, and health are the best investment any state can make in itself.

North Carolina is not the richest state in the Union. But she is the richest state in the South, and among the ten or twelve richest states in America.

We are neither poor in purse nor poverty-stricken in spirit as once we were.

The Old North State has started at last, and she will be as hard to stop in the nineteen twenties in commonwealth building as she was in the eighteen sixties on the battle fields of Virginia.

### SCHOOL HOUSES AND BONDS

The school buildings under contract, completed or in process of erection in North Carolina from September, 1921, to the end of May, 1922, number 107 costing nearly exactly twelve million dollars, no building counted that cost less than ten thousand dollars. In addition the school bond issues sold number 42 and total nine million dollars.

Twenty-one millions in school buildings and school bonds in less than one year. In both particulars North Carolina far and away leads the South.

The school building details, in part, are as follows:

Charlotte: a Central High School building costing \$424,000; a Vocational Public School, \$125,000.

Elizabeth City: a negro Normal and Industrial School, \$175,000; two city public schools, each \$350,000.

Fayetteville: a High School, \$250,000; a public school, \$158,000.

Gastonia: a High School, \$350,000.

Greensboro: State College for Women, three dormitories \$406,000, a wing to the Science Building \$75,000, an Economics Building \$25,000; Bennett's College, a negro school, a dormitory \$100,000 and a dining hall \$100,000.

High Point: three public school buildings \$90,000.

Lenoir, a public school building \$125,000.

Raleigh: a High School \$500,000; two elementary public schools, \$100,000 and \$135,000; a colored Junior Industrial High School \$400,000, repairs and additions old buildings \$110,000; School for the Blind \$350,000; State College of Agriculture and Engineering, new buildings, extensions and repairs \$600,000.

The University at Chapel Hill: four dormitories, and a Social Science building costing \$675,000, the entire building expansion of \$1,450,000 to be completed January, 1923.

Washington: public school buildings \$300,000.

Wilson: a High School building \$200,000.

Winston-Salem: a unit of the Reynolds High School \$450,000—to cost when completed \$1,500,000; an auditorium on a 30-acre site \$250,000; a Technical High School \$700,000; five white and three colored school buildings \$1,100,000.

During this year and next approximately \$2,300,000 will be spent on school improvement. Winston-Salem leads the state in manufacture, also in school building and support.—Briefed from Manufacturers Record, July 29, 1922.

### SCHOOL BUILDING IN SOUTH

Nine months from Sept., 1921, to May, 1922, inclusive

Covering buildings completed or in process of erection costing \$10,000 or more each. Based on the Manufacturers Record, June 29, 1922.

Rank	State	Total Cost	No. Bldgs.
1	N. Carolina	\$11,998,453	107
2	Missouri	10,141,800	60
3	Texas	10,016,450	113
4	Georgia	9,968,715	41
5	Maryland	9,216,000	24
6	Oklahoma	5,362,480	40
7	Virginia	4,124,887	48
8	Louisiana	3,836,690	37
9	Tennessee	3,349,632	49
10	Alabama	3,144,750	38
11	Florida	2,966,400	35
12	Kentucky	2,773,711	36
13	S. Carolina	2,138,730	47
14	Mississippi	1,726,300	29
15	Arkansas	307,500	9

### SOUTHERN SCHOOL BONDS SOLD

First five Months of 1922

Based on the Manufacturers Record, June 29, 1922

Rank	State	Value	No. Bond issues
1	N. Carolina	\$9,043,000	42
2	Georgia	4,798,500	9
3	Texas	4,156,500	50
4	Oklahoma	1,668,000	9
5	Louisiana	1,615,000	11
6	Kentucky	1,382,000	8
7	Florida	1,284,000	11
8	S. Carolina	1,051,000	10
9	Tennessee	1,010,000	10
10	Alabama	865,000	5
11	Virginia	637,000	7
12	Missouri	636,600	6
13	Mississippi	459,000	10
14	Maryland	415,000	2
15	Arkansas	273,000	7

### A GIFT TO THE UNIVERSITY

Dr. I. C. White, the West Virginia state geologist and president of the American Geologic Society, has just announced a gift to the State University and the city of Morgantown, of 1,900 acres of coal land in Marion county, worth, when developed, between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000.—Associated Press Dispatch.

The day of great gifts to colleges and universities is just beginning in the South. Witness the million or more given last year to the University of Virginia, the million given by loyal alumni to the University of Georgia, the one and a half millions given by Bostwick to Wake Forest the other day, the one and a half millions given to the University of North Carolina by Mrs. Flagler, the twenty-five thousand dollars given by Mrs. Kenan to found a Scholarship in Philosophy at Chapel Hill, the forty thousand dollars in cash and property given by Mr. John Sprunt

### KNOW NORTH CAROLINA Country-Life Decay

In a general way the flow to the cities is normal and inevitable. Cheap transportation provides the denizens of great cities with food at moderate prices. Hundreds of articles that two generations ago were home made are now factory made and these factories are in cities. Power-driven machinery on the farm releases a part of the rural population for other pursuits. The state of affairs has stimulated the exodus of the young people from the hard work and penny-pinching of the farms to the prospering, easy-going cities.

The country has not been keeping a fair share of its brighter boys and girls. It has been the young people with spirit and initiative who have responded to the call of the distant city. Had they stayed on the farm, this spirit of initiative would have shown itself along rural lines.

In certain older parts of the country which have been losing their young people to the West and to the cities for two generations, there is a visible moral decline. The roads are neglected so there is less social intercourse and a smaller turnout to school, to church and public events. School buildings and grounds have deteriorated. The church is in a rut or has even disappeared. Frivolity engrosses the young because no one organizes singing schools, literary societies, or debating clubs. The next generation, having missed the benefits of these communal institutions, shows itself coarse, sensual, and irresponsible. There is a marked decline in the standards of individual and family morality. This is an explanation of the degeneracy that one finds in certain rural parts of New England and the Middle states.

The remedy is to make life on the farms more attractive. There is need of re-directing rural education, re-inspiring the rural church, multiplying societies of recreative opportunities and dispelling the false glamour of the distant city. The young people need to be shown that farming can be made to pay if one puts brains and energy to it.—Dr. E. A. Ross, University of Wisconsin.

Hill for the Carolina Inn at the University, and other gifts by generous alumni like General Julian Carr, Eugene Holt, and others in a long list.

Men die but social institutions and civic structures live on forever. These rich men are not only investing in established agencies of usefulness, they are investing in immortality as well. The Kenan Fund at Chapel Hill, the Harkness Dormitories at Yale, Pratt Hall at Amherst, the Carr dormitory at the University of North Carolina, will perpetuate the names of these men for a thousand years.

Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Cornell, Hopkins, and Princeton are great monuments to generous lovers of their kind.

The fashion is old in the North and East. It is already established in California. Stanford, Hearst, and Doe will live on college campuses as long as California is on the map. It is recent in the South, but as we grow in wealth it will become more and more the fashion of rich men to live forever in gifts to the social order.

### A STUDENT UNION CENTER

The Graham Memorial, a student-union building, will soon be under way on the campus of the University of North Carolina, for use by all students. A similar building is now being erected at the University of California. And now Cornell follows suit. All these buildings are private gifts, in the first two in-

stances by loyal alumni.

In donating a million dollars to Cornell University to be utilized for a center of social and recreational life among the students, Mrs. Willard D. Straight, says the New York Sun, is making an interesting attempt to solve one of the most perplexing problems in American education.

The college fraternity or club, for those fortunate enough to be members, serves a useful and excellent purpose, but the so-called barbarian, the non-frat, has every right to regard it with distrust and hostility. For him it dries up the social and political life, and deprives him of many pleasures which should be the inherent right of every undergraduate.

In the past attempts have been made to remedy this situation by destroying the clubs themselves, and certain colleges still place such letter fraternities under the ban. At Princeton former President Woodrow Wilson exerted every effort to abolish the upper class eating clubs, on the ground that their privileges were not open to all undergraduates alike.

The problem is now being attacked in another way, and university presidents and far-seeing benefactors are attempting to bring the non-fraternity students some of the privileges and advantages of their more fortunate fellows. It is with this purpose in view that the donation for Cornell social center was made. The building will contain a large memorial hall, reading and billiard rooms, a large dining room or cafeteria, office facilities for student organizations and activities, and bed-rooms for alumni. In other words, what the club-house is to the fraternity men it is hoped the Cornell union will be to the entire student body.

The experiment will be watched with the greatest interest by all interested in American undergraduate life. If the plan works well at Cornell, if it aids materially in solving the social problem confronting the college, its adoption by other universities will be but a matter of time.—New York Sun.

### OUR BEST MARKET

We agree with the Greensboro Daily News that the world's best market for North Carolina products is North Carolina. We have, as that paper points out, a population of 2,600,000 whose buying power is practically unimpaired, largely because of the state's road-building program having made unemployment non-existent among us. But we are not cashing in on this remarkable situation because the state is not economically organized to trade within its own boundaries. For instance, our cotton mills and furniture factories are selling to China and South Africa the same kind of stuff our people import from Massachusetts and Grand Rapids.

Our fundamental weakness, however, lies in the fact that our farmers are not properly organized. They are not sufficiently assured of home markets to be encouraged to grow foodstuffs for North Carolina consumption. It is folly to lay all the blame for this on the farmers. As soon as they see that the towns and cities offer them reliable marketing opportunities, they will grow the things that can be sold in those markets. Farmers are as anxious as anybody else to make money. And like everybody else, they hesitate to put their money into a forlorn gamble.

All of which is another way of saying: It's up to the merchants and bankers. It is impossible to estimate the dollars-and-cents value of the work that can be done for the Old North State just now by her merchants and particularly her bankers.

North Carolina is an empire. She manufactures more than 3,000 different kinds of articles. Her natural resources outnumber those of any other state in the Union. In her resources above and under the ground, in the wealth-producing variety of her climate, and in her water power, she is a mighty kingdom. She is a kingdom today in which no man need go without money, an empire in which every man can earn a day's wages.

But North Carolina is the world's best market for North Carolina products only when her farmers, organized cooperatively, grow such diversified crops and have such home markets and supply such home demands as insure

them the financial plenty that means ease and comfort. The merchants and bankers of the towns, going half-way, or more than half-way, to the assistance of such men as James G. K. McClure and such cooperative organizations as he has formed among the farmers, can hasten the day when North Carolina, by intelligent selling and buying within her own confines, will be able to retain among her own people most of the vast wealth that she produces.—Asheville Citizen.

### CURB MARKETS

Lumberton is another North Carolina town that has recently opened a curb market similar to that operated in Chapel Hill and Gastonia. It is open only one day in the week, however. At that it has filled a needed want with Lumberton housewives, and the Robesonian says:

"This curb market will relieve farmers of the piddling business of peddling produce from house to house and will be more satisfactory to housewives, who under the former plan sometimes got the offer of more than they could buy and at other times failed to get what they needed. It will tend too, toward standardizing quality and prices, and will encourage farmers to produce a surplus for the market. Farmers cannot be expected to produce a surplus for market unless they are sure of being able to market that surplus profitably.

"As the University News Letter remarked some time ago in connection with a discussion of curb marketing, that town serves itself best that best serves its farming community, and providing a market for whatever farmers in a town's trading community produce is certainly one way of serving those farmers."

### EDUCATION PAYS

Does it pay to go to school? We mean from a monetary standpoint. Most emphatically, it does. If you ever hear of a boy or girl who wants to quit school, when it is unnecessary; if you ever hear of parents who are thinking of putting their children to work when it is unnecessary, just bring these figures to their attention:

Every day spent in school pays the child \$3.

Here is the proof, based on the wage scale of 1913.

Uneducated laborers earn on the average of \$500 per year for forty years, a total of \$20,000.

High school graduates earn on the average \$1,000 per year for forty years, a total of \$40,000.

This education requires 12 years of school of 180 days each, a total of 2,160 days in the school.

If 2,160 days at school add \$20,000 to the income for life, then each day at school adds \$9.25.

The child that stays out of school to earn less than \$9 a day is losing money—not making money.

These figures are based on an investigation made by Dr. A. Caswell Ellis of the University of Texas, Bulletin of the U. S. Bureau of Education.

### TIME TO LOOK FOR CROWS

Hon. Baxter Durham, the State Auditor, is nearly ready to give to the public the complete statement of local bond indebtedness in North Carolina, as authorized by a recent legislature.

His report is delayed by two counties where the officials do not know what the total bonded debts are—the dates and amounts of the various issues, the dates of maturity, the interest rates and dates, the bond holders, and so on and on; do not know and cannot find out, or are loafing on their jobs, or have run into puzzles and have not yet had time to spell them out in detail.

Whatever be the reason for the delay in these two counties, it is a significant comment on county government in North Carolina.

Thirty million dollars is what county government is costing us this year. It is more than twice as much as our state government ever cost. If we cannot have better book-keeping in county offices, this state will go into bankruptcy.

The names of these two counties—we are sorely tempted to publish them!