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## NORTH CAROLINA HOSPITALS

### THE BARE FACTS

North Carolina in 1925 had 153 hospitals in 59 counties, with 11,997 beds for 2,812,000 people. The count covers hospitals public, private, semi-public, and institutional—88 general hospitals, 11 nervous and mental hospitals, 25 tuberculosis hospitals, and 29 others.

Included in this count are 9 negro hospitals with 353 beds for a population of 763,400 negroes. These negro hospitals are located in Asheville, Durham, Gastonia, Charlotte, Wilmington, Henderson, Monroe, and Raleigh (2).

The counties having no hospitals for either race are 41, as follows: Alexander, Alleghany, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Caswell, Chatham, Clay, Columbus, Currituck, Dare, Davie, Duplin, Franklin, Gates, Graham, Haywood, Hertford, Hoke, Hyde, Jackson, Jones, Mitchell, Montgomery, Northampton, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Perquimans, Person, Sampson, Scotland, Stokes, Swain, Tyrrell, Warren, Washington, Watauga, Yadkin, and Yancey.

The law allows county-group hospitals wherever two or more counties can agree on co-partnership terms. So far there is no county-group hospital in North Carolina.

### Looking Backward

The first public hospital in North Carolina was founded as a gracious charity—the Rex Hospital in Raleigh in 1839. Thirty years ago a far sighted North Carolinian, George W. Watts, gave a hospital to his county and then spent four more years wondering if people were going to use it. He had reason to wonder for during the first nine months only sixty-eight patients came to this hospital. It could have served twice as many more. This county was not ungrateful; its attitude was that of the general public which thought of hospitals at that time simply as places where people went to die.

Since that time public opinion has changed to such an extent that North Carolina now provides one hospital bed to every 496 inhabitants, a decided improvement over the ratio of 1920 which was one bed to every 761 inhabitants. Despite the progress, North Carolina ranks thirty-ninth among the forty-eight states, and fourth among the Southern states in number of inhabitants per hospital bed. The first twenty-four states in the Union range from 154 to 297 inhabitants per hospital bed. Thus half the states provide two hospital beds where North Carolina provides only one.

### Urban Location

The need of hospital facilities is brought even closer home when we realize that North Carolina ranks twenty-eighth according to the percentage of counties without hospitals. In this respect North Carolina with 41 counties without hospitals stands first among the Southern states. Georgia ranks forty-eighth with 68.3 percent of the counties without hospitals. Three states, Connecticut, Maine, and New Hampshire, have hospitals in every county.

The tendency toward concentration in urban areas is revealed by the fact that nearly three-fourths of North Carolina hospitals are located in sixty-five towns, of which thirty-one have less than 2,500 inhabitants. More than half the hospitals are located in towns of 5,000 or more inhabitants. All the nine negro hospitals in the state are located in towns of 9,000 or more inhabitants. These hospitals provide one bed for every 2,163 negroes in North Carolina. This rather startling ratio is decreased by the free beds available to negroes in general hospitals, but the reduction is not large according to the latest report.

### The Present Situation

North Carolinians are quite proud of what the state has done in public health work, but they do not seem to realize that our hospital facilities bear directly upon public health. Do they realize that forty-one counties have no hospitals, that only thirty-six have county health departments and that half the doctors are located in towns of 2,500 or more inhabitants? Do they realize that two-thirds of the rural counties have only one hospital bed per thousand

inhabitants where at least five are needed?

With the number of country doctors decreasing the health needs of the rural sections are pressing. It is true that the state has made laws which facilitate the construction of hospitals by counties, but only the most advanced counties are willing or able to finance these institutions. The extreme eastern and western counties do not fall in this group, and many of them have great need for hospital facilities.

### The Duke Endowment

It seems then as though help must come from other sources. Within the last year a new source has been found, the Duke Foundation. This foundation offers one dollar per day for every bed occupied by a charity patient in hospitals which are not run solely for private gain. The real value of this gift is apparent, when we realize that two-thirds of the patients in this state fall in the charity group, a proportion slightly higher than that of the whole country.

The Duke Foundation proposes to help the state still more by arousing community interest in these problems, by studying hospital needs thoroughly and by helping to establish a system of rural and regional hospitals centering around a large hospital and medical school. Thus another North Carolinian has looked ahead offering rural North Carolina a gift of untold proportions. Shall we accept this gift in the spirit of the giver, or shall we fall back on the hospital facilities provided by the taxpayers and private institutions?—Margaret Bridgers.

### WHAT A COLLEGE SHOULD BE

Hamilton Holt, recently elected president of Rollins College, Winter Park, Fla., in an address before the Alumni Association, outlined some of the things which he hopes to see Rollins College do. A few striking sentences, well worthy of consideration by the educational interests of this country, were as follows:

"If I should be asked to name the chief fault of the American college today, I would unhesitatingly say that it is the insatiable impulse to expand materially. Expansion may be not without justification as a means to some end, but as the end itself it is, I believe, a delusion. The passion for expansion, we must admit, is an American failing not confined solely to our educational institutions.

"But it seems to be more reprehensible in the case of a college or university, because they ought to know better. As a result, we see presidents of colleges and universities making unedifying spectacles of themselves as beggars in the lobbies of legislative halls and the secretarial anterooms of millionaires.

"Instead of students seeking the college for its reputation in this or that subject, the collegés employ super-salesmen to drum up students. While no effort is spared to increase the student roster or to pile up brick and mortar, little or nothing is done to raise the quality of those who teach or those who are taught. Nearly every institution pays its professors salaries that could be discharged without difficulty in postage stamps. Nearly every institution permits a ten-dollar boy to attempt to get a thousand-dollar education."

In further discussion of the subject President Holt took the ground that he would not be permanently connected with any institution of learning that underpaid its professors or president. We hope Mr. Holt will be able to carry that out as to Rollins College, but if he does that institution will stand unique among the colleges of the country. Speaking further on this subject, he said:

"And when I say we expect to raise salaries, I mean not merely that the salaries shall be good, but also that they shall eventually be better salaries than are likely to be obtained elsewhere. If we adopt this policy, we shall be able to get nine professors out of every ten we seek."

These are words of wisdom which should sink deep into the hearts of the trustees of every educational institution in America. Good salaries for professors in colleges and universities are

### TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

You are the most important people in the whole civilized universe. The schoolmaster's place is not only important, but supremely important. That is my thesis. I want to put it with boldness, shamelessness, arrogance, and aggression. I want to suggest that they should up and take hold of the world. I shall tell you nothing new if I betray a consciousness that arrogance in taking hold of the world is not a characteristic of all schoolmasters. It is extraordinary what a lot of schoolmasters seem to be unconscious not of the importance but of the range of their functions.—H. G. Wells, in the Manchester (England) Guardian Weekly.

rare, almost unheard of, as compared with the value of the work they do. Possibly in this may be found one of the reasons why in so many colleges there is a trend to socialistic teachings, because the professors are able to see from the financial standpoint so little of the other side of life. Like ministers of the Gospel, educators are underpaid.—Manufacturers Record.

### SCHOOLS AND A NEW RACE

"A new race will be developed in this part of the United States. It will be a nearly one hundred percent pure American race, whatever that means, unless there should be an influx of new blood from other regions. And it will be the most intelligent race America has ever known." William Shaeffer, a Connecticut manufacturer, passed through this town last night in a big touring car and said North Carolina interested him only vaguely but its people and its schools interested him tremendously.

"Every crossroad I come to, I pass a Boston-style school stuck at the fork of the roads, with a lot of independent-looking characters swaggering around it—chaps who look at me without any reason whatever in a 'so's your old man' manner. These grim-looking people are not sour by nature; speak to one and he smiles all over his mug," said Shaeffer. "I never intended to come to North Carolina to live. I have no interests here. They tell me the state was backward in the past. A people who put monumental schools by the side of every cow path will achieve miracles in the future. The roads are good. Other states have good roads. The schools here are amazing."—Greensboro Daily News.

### EDUCATION THAT HELPS

The campaign to persuade boys and girls to continue in school would not be necessary if it were not for the mistaken impression so many persons have that education is not essential in the commercial field. Men who have made money and have achieved leadership without having much schooling are pointed out in support of the idea that the 'practical mind' does not need, and is actually handicapped by, book-learning.

But education is obviously useful and practical. Some of the branches of higher education supply the means of bettering the most 'practical' conditions under which men and women and children live. Education has purified the milk supply through the work of Pasteur. Education through the researches of Lister and his following have made possible the wonderful work of the surgical room. The same line of thought carries the mind through the school-room to the laboratory and the experiment station. Education enriches the farmers' land and reaches down into the mine to make safer the life of the delver.

The 'practical mind' sees nothing in the study of astronomy. But it was an educated mind that went to the rim of the sun and at the tips of flames 80,000 miles high discovered helium and gave that discovery to the practical heroes who go aloft in the great dirigibles. The gift is practical in that with helium to support it the huge ships of the air will never horrify the world by bursting into flame and dropping like molten plummets.

The uneducated man goes through existence scorning the things that are denied him through his blindness. To him the wisdom, the philosophy, the

beauty and the art of the ages are subjects for scoffing. But the scorn is but a protective covering. It is assumed for defensive purposes. It is a confession of envy and of deep regret.

Success in life is relative. It is not money and it is not power. It is in what man makes of himself as he sees himself as no one else can. Education will clarify that view.—Courier-Journal

### SOUTHERN RISORGIMENTO

The Italians have a word, risorgimento, which means the revitalization or re-invigoration of a race. There is nothing in the English language equally colorful to express what is now taking place in the South. Renaissance is a pale substitute, which carries artistic and literary implications, and fails to convey the surging, vital quality of such a national springtime. A. F. Pollard said, in 1921: "It is useless simply to know things as they are; we want to know what they will be; and we have no means of guessing what their future will be unless we know what they were, whence they came, how they travelled and why they moved."

Walter S. Case, in a recent conversation, said: "We should judge the South not solely by its past, but by the direction in which it seems to be moving. Thus, the most significant fact to be noted is not the enormous growth of the South during the past two decades, but the rate of its growth as compared with the rest of the country. It is this that indicates more clearly than anything else its prospects for the future. A few figures taken at random will serve to bring out my point.

"Between 1900 and 1925 southern production of coal increased from 42,607,000 tons to 216,628,000 tons, a gain of 403 percent; for the entire United States, the increase during this period was from 269,684,000 tons to 585,038,000 tons, a gain of only 117 percent. During this same twenty-five years the value of imports through the leading southern ports showed an increase of 1,053 percent, while the gain for the entire United States was 398 percent; southern exports gained 274 percent against 252 percent for the United States as a whole. The value of agricultural products in the ten southern states east of the Mississippi, including all crops and livestock products, increased 270 percent from 1900 to 1925, while the gain for the whole country was 287 percent. Mineral production in these same southern states showed a gain of 689 percent against a 380 percent gain for the United States as a whole.

"The comparison is even more striking if we examine the growth of railroad traffic. According to the reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the ton miles of revenue freight carried by the railroads of the Southern district showed an increase of 57.3 percent

for the year 1925 as compared with the year ended June 30, 1916. This compares with an increase of 27 percent for the Western district, only 6.2 percent for the Eastern district and a total of 21.8 percent for all the Class I roads. The growth of traffic in the South, therefore, has been more than twice as rapid as the growth in the Western district and over nine times as rapid as in the Eastern district. The Southern Railway in particular has shown a large expansion in traffic. Its revenue ton miles show an increase of 63.7 percent in the period from 1916 to 1925, which is a larger relative increase than shown by the roads of the Southern district as a whole.

"Another comparison of great interest is to be seen in the textile industry. Since 1922 there has been a net increase of 1,786,995 spindles in the South as against a net decrease of 847,061 in all other parts of the country.

"When I am confronted by facts such as these I can have no doubt as to the future prosperity of the South. It convinces me that money now invested in the South will yield greater returns in the future than that invested in any other part of the country. I became interested in the South and the Southern Railway because I thought I could foresee the direction in which they were moving and the speed with which they were getting there. At present I am convinced that this direction and this speed are still the same. That is why I am betting on the South."

The three great fundamentals of prosperity, it has been said, are population, raw materials, and satisfactory means of transportation. The South has the population, it has the raw materials, and such men as Walter Case are helping to give it the finest transportation system the world has ever seen. And, above all, it has an irresistible spirit of enthusiasm that cannot be denied. As one southern speaker told us: "If you like what you see in the South, come in and share in our prosperity. If you don't, stay out. But don't think that your coming in or staying out will make any difference to our future prosperity. We will be glad to have your assistance, but we can succeed without it. The South does not come to you as a mendicant begging alms. It stands on its own feet and offers you opportunities that cannot be equalled anywhere else on the face of the globe."—John F. Fennelly in Commerce and Finance.

### EDUCATION

A highly enlightened public policy must be adopted if the cause of education is not to break down. It is perfectly clear that the public schools must have the most liberal support, both moral and financial. Particularly must the people exalt the profession of the teacher. That profession must not be abandoned or be permitted to become a trade for those little fitted for it. It must remain the noblest profession. There are no pains too great, no cost too high, to prevent or diminish the duty of the people to maintain a vigorous program of popular education.—Calvin Coolidge.

### HOSPITALS IN THE UNITED STATES

In the table below the states are ranked according to the number of inhabitants per hospital bed in 1925. The table is based on the report of the Council in Medical Education of the American Medical Association as given in the Journal of the American Medical Association, April 3, 1926.

North Carolina's standing has been raised from that given in the Journal as a result of the hospital survey of the Duke Foundation in the fall of 1925.

Nevada with one hospital bed for every 54 inhabitants ranks highest and South Carolina with 797 beds the column of persons per hospital bed.

North Carolina stands 39th with 496 inhabitants per hospital bed. The ratio in 1920 was 761 to each hospital bed in the United States over.

Margaret Bridgers, Tarboro, N. C., Department Rural Social-Economics

Rank	State	Inhabitants per hospital bed	Rank	State	Inhabitants per hospital bed
1	Nevada	54	25	Iowa	332
2	California	174	26	Maine	362
3	New York	200	27	Indiana	366
4	New Jersey	207	28	Ohio	373
5	Colorado	209	29	Louisiana	378
6	Pennsylvania	214	30	Utah	396
7	Wisconsin	224	31	Kansas	410
8	Vermont	224	32	North Dakota	419
9	Connecticut	225	33	South Dakota	420
10	Minnesota	223	34	Idaho	432
11	Maryland	235	35	Tennessee	440
12	Oregon	248	36	Delaware	444
13	Rhode Island	250	37	West Virginia	447
14	Massachusetts	250	38	Texas	494
15	Arizona	251	39	North Carolina	496
16	Washington	253	40	Florida	511
17	New Mexico	259	41	Kentucky	548
18	New Hampshire	263	42	Alabama	646
19	Missouri	269	43	Virginia	651
20	Montana	274	44	Georgia	695
21	Illinois	275	45	Arkansas	696
22	Wyoming	289	46	Oklahoma	736
23	Michigan	297	47	Mississippi	778
24	Nebraska	307	48	South Carolina	797