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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

NEWS LETTER

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HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES

SOURCE OF MUCH REVENUE

Elsewhere appears a table which shows the amount of state revenue derived from hunting and fishing licenses issued for the year 1925. It will be noted that three states, North Carolina, Mississippi and Nevada, derived no state revenue from this source. The state income from hunting and fishing licenses for the other states ranged from more than nine hundred thousand dollars in Pennsylvania to only two hundred and thirty-three dollars in Florida. All told the state governments derived nearly eight million dollars from hunting and fishing licenses. The net income to the various state governments from this source was around three and a quarter million dollars.

Pennsylvania, for instance, received \$906,334 from hunting and fishing licenses, and spent \$247,069 on fish and game conservation, deriving a net income of \$699,265 from hunting and fishing licenses. Several northern and western states netted more than one hundred thousand dollars each from their state-wide fish and game laws. Virginia derived a net income from hunting and fishing licenses of more than seventy thousand dollars; West Virginia one hundred and twenty-two thousand; South Carolina seventy-four thousand, and Alabama fifty-one thousand. Thus it appears that North Carolina has been passing up a rather important source of state revenue.

Locally Regulated

Throughout the history of the state hunting and fishing, when and where they have been regulated at all, have been regulated by public-local laws. Literally thousands of such laws have been enacted, amended, repealed, and reenacted. The will of the local representative has been the law for his county during his tenure of office.

Our State-Wide Law

The 1927 Legislature gave us our first state-wide fish and game law, and placed the administration of the law in the hands of the Department of Conservation and Development. We do not know how much has been appropriated to be spent on the conservation and development of our fish and game resources, nor how much revenue is anticipated from hunting and fishing licenses. What we do know is that many states with poorer hunting and fishing resources and possibilities than ours, spend large sums annually on the conservation and development of their fish and game resources, and that hunting and fishing licenses bring in large sums to many state treasuries. Most of the states net neat sums annually from hunting and fishing licenses.

Our Natural Resources

North Carolina might easily become one of the nation's chief fishing and hunting states. We have the natural resources. In fact few spots on earth are so favorably endowed with possibilities for fish and game as North Carolina, from the points of view both of variety and volume. To the east we have three hundred miles of frontage on the Atlantic ocean. Between the mainland and the ocean lie the greatest bodies of inland coastal waters on earth, with unlimited possibilities for fish, oysters, and game. Emptying into these sounds are many broad rivers with enormous fishing possibilities. The entire state is well covered by rivers and streams capable of being developed into attractive fishing grounds. The mountain streams, famous for brook trout, offer their special appeal. Only one-fifth of our enormous land area is under the plow. Our climate and other natural resources are ideal for the conservation and development of bird and other game life. We doubt if any other state could offer the variety and volume of fish and game within so compact an area were our natural resources properly conserved and developed. North Carolina could become a hunting and fishing paradise. Our resources might easily be developed to the point where hunting and fishing licenses would not only repay the state for expenditures on fish and game conservation and development, but would net the state treasury a considerable amount of

revenue. It is done by other states. We hope the recent state-wide fish and game law inaugurated a new day in fishing, oystering, and hunting in North Carolina.—S. H. H., Jr.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Optional Forms Provided

The new county government act which deals with organization recognizes two forms of county government, the County Commissioner form, which is the existing form, and the Manager form. The present form is already well understood.

The second plan permits the board of county commissioners to appoint a county manager who shall be the administrative head of the county government, and responsible for the administration of all the departments that the board of county commissioners has the authority to control. He shall be appointed with regard to merit only and he need not be a resident of the county at the time of his appointment. In lieu of the appointment of a county manager, the board may impose and confer upon the chairman of the board the duties and powers of a manager, and under such circumstances he would become a whole-time officer. Or the board may impose and confer the powers and duties of manager upon any other officer or agent of the county who may be sufficiently qualified to perform such duties, adjusting the compensation accordingly.

According to the act, "It shall be the duty of the county manager: (1) to be the administrative head of the county government for the board of commissioners; (2) to see that all the orders, resolutions, and regulations of the board of commissioners are faithfully executed; (3) to attend all the meetings of the board and recommend such measures for adoption as he may deem expedient; (4) to make reports to the board from time to time upon the affairs of the county, and to keep the board fully advised as to the financial condition of the county and its future financial needs; (5) to appoint, with the approval of the county commissioners, such subordinate officers, agents, and employees for the general administration of county affairs as the board may consider necessary, except such officers as are required to be elected by popular vote, or whose appointment is otherwise provided by law; (6) to perform such other duties as may be required of him by the board of commissioners."

If the board of county commissioners does not exercise its discretion to appoint or designate a county manager, a petition may be filed with the board, signed by at least ten percent of the voters, asking for adoption of the manager form of county government. Whereupon an election shall be held and, if a majority of the votes cast favor a manager, the board shall proceed to appoint one. Not more than one election may be held within a period of twenty-three months.

Whether the manager form of county government is adopted or the existing form retained, the act makes it the duty of the commissioners to designate some competent person, either a member of the board or some other officer or agent of the county, as purchasing agent. If there is a county manager he would very likely be given these duties. Likewise the board is required to designate some member of the board or some other officer or agent of the county to make a regular inspection of the county property and report the condition of the same to the commissioners.

Advisory Commission

There is created a county government advisory commission of five members, appointed by the Governor, and "qualified by knowledge and experience to advise and assist the county officials in the proper administration of the county government." At least three of the members of the commission must be county commissioners.

The commission is authorized to appoint a competent person to be known as the executive secretary of the commission, and he is to be a salaried official devoting his entire time to the work. The members of the commis-

FARM PROSPERITY

The agricultural problem promises to play an important part in the politics of the future.

It seems to me that it will be unfortunate if the farmers of America depend too much on the politicians.

The problem of permanent farm prosperity in America will never, in my judgment, be solved by government subsidy, by legislation, or by ready-made organizations planned by professors of agricultural economics or promoted either by professional organizers or by men whose main interest in the organized activity of farmers is to be used as a stepping stone to a personal career in local politics.

The problem of permanent farm prosperity in America will, as I see it, be solved if and when the farmers of America achieve both the willingness and the ability to take into their own hands and to manage effectively the distribution as well as the production of their agricultural products.

The problem of permanent farm prosperity in America must be solved from the bottom up, not from the top down.

The farmers of America must do for themselves what the farmers of Denmark have done for themselves.

Sixty years ago—and sixty years are only a split second in the life of a nation—the Danish farmer was a peasant, practicing agricultural methods that had changed but little since the dawn of history.

Today the Danish farmer is the complete master of his own cultural, political and economic destiny, in striking contrast to the farmer of other lands who is so often the plaything of controlled markets and the pawn of middlemen.

What has happened thus to lift a whole people from poverty to prosperity, from peasantry to independence, in the brief span of sixty years? Two obvious answers lie on the surface of the situation:

First, the Danish farmer has become a scientist in production.

Second, the Danish farmer has become a co-operator in distribution.

The average Danish farmer is today practicing agriculture with a perfection of scientific technique to be seen rarely in America save on our prize experimental farms, and he is marketing his products through his own co-operative sales agencies, the size and success of which are the legitimate envy of our biggest big business men.

They have worked out their own salvation, not with fear and trembling, but with courage and steadfastness.

They have not depended upon any economic Messiah to bring them a free salvation.

Tomorrow I shall describe in detail what the Danish farmers have done in order to gain control of their own economic destiny. To me it is one of the great stories of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.—Dr. Glenn Frank, McClure Newspaper syndicate, by permission.

sion serve without compensation except their actual expenses.

It is the duty of the executive secretary to act as secretary to the commission; to visit the counties in the state, and to advise and assist the county commissioners and other county officers in providing a competent, economical and efficient administration; to suggest approved methods for levying and collecting taxes and other revenues, and for keeping the accounts of the various officers and departments of the county government; to prepare a manual of forms and recommendations for the guidance of the county officers in making reports and keeping account of the receipts and expenditures of the public money; and to perform such other duties as may be required of him by the commission. The commission may employ such assistants to the executive secretary as it may consider necessary.

For the purposes of meeting the expenses of the county advisory commission and the executive secretary and assistants the legislature appropriated \$15,000 for the biennium 1927-1929.

The commission has had three meetings, at the last two calling into conference with it several of the county auditors of the state and the university men who have been engaged in county government research. An effort is being made at the outset to devise uniform blanks for the use of the county accountants. A standard classification of accounts with a common nomenclature is also essential.—Paul W. Wager.

VANCE COUNTY HOME

The Vance county home, constructed in 1923, is a perfect gem according to a study of county almshouses made for the state of Virginia which has just come from the press.

The Vance county home is serving as a model for the first district hospital home in America to be constructed at Manassas, Va., to serve six counties. The hospital was organized in January 1926.

"Along with 24 other states," said Miss Lucy Lay, publicity chief of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, "Virginia has been working on the idea that care for the aged and infirm can be given most effectively and economically through a district plan.

In advocating consolidation, the Virginia Board of Public Welfare picked out the Vance county, N. C., plan after much study, and it is considered a distinct compliment to the county and to the state.

"Mrs. W. B. Waddill, superintendent of welfare in Vance county, directed the planning and building of the Vance county hospital, as she calls it, since her plan has been to turn it gradually into a hospital and to care for the aged in some of the homes of the county. The home has a capacity of 50 inmates. It cost the county \$31,000, furnished.

"The General Assembly of 1915 passed a bill making possible the establishment of a district hospital home in the northeastern part of the state. In 1923 a similar bill, which was statewide, was passed but by mistake was placed among the public-local laws. The last Legislature reenacted the bill.

"As yet no group of counties has seen fit to consolidate the county homes. Virginia is leading the way in district homes, but the fact that a plan of a North Carolina home is used indicated that the problems of the two states are alike."—Asheville Citizen.

SAFE INVESTMENTS

How to make two dollars grow where one grew before is the master passion of Americans. The desire for investing is so strong in us that laws have to be passed to protect the "lamb" from the "wolves," the "suckers" from the "sharks," so to speak.

The last 10 years have proved,

especially to farmers, that all investments, even in real estate, are very uncertain things. Millions of our people have in their possession beautifully printed certificates which are now worth about a postage stamp per \$1,000.

I know, however, of some kinds of investments that are "dead sure" to produce good dividends. Here are a few.

1. Good Books.—The investment in a good book always pays. Where there are good books in a home, the growing children will clip intelligent coupons of moral and useful knowledge. An inspiring book is next to the voice of God.

I have seen homes with libraries such as this:

A mail order catalog.

A photograph album.

An agricultural report for 1886.

A little book of verse.

An unused Bible on the table in the back parlor.

Can you expect children to be either good or useful without a few of the great books of the world? It will pay well to invest in a few.

2. Community Building.—Some people are wise enough to invest time, energy, and money in community building. Perhaps we have too many committeees in modern life, and are in the position of the tired woman who looked at her baby and sighed, "Poor little girl, just to think that you will have to grow up and be on a committee!"

Communities are just as rich in the spiritual and intellectual life as the heart treasures that are poured into them. Someone has estimated that the inspirational work of each neighborhood is done by one-tenth of the people in it. We need more investors.

3. Spiritual Enrichment.—Much is being written about the country church. There are literally thousands of little chapels all over the country, standing unused and unpainted at lonely road corners. Meantime our crime bills mount higher and higher, and our criminals grow younger and younger. There is but one reason. People are ceasing to invest their prayers, their interest, and their money for the spiritual enrichment of life.

City people are more negligent of these duties than country residents, so we have mere boys and girls going through the juvenile courts. We need greatly more spiritual investments.

America needs to hear and heed, before it is too late, the great words uttered by our Lord, "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"

It is not too late if we will all invest!—Dr. J. W. Holland in Progressive Farmer.

STATE REVENUES FROM HUNTING AND FISHING

Licenses by States for the Year 1925

The following table, based on Financial Statistics of States, Federal Department of Commerce, shows the state government incomes from hunting and fishing licenses issued by states for the year 1925. The states are arranged alphabetically. Pennsylvania annually collects more than nine hundred thousand dollars from hunting and fishing licenses granted by the state. Three states, North Carolina, Mississippi and Nevada, derived no state income from such sources. The 1927 Legislature passed our first state-wide fish and game law.

U. S. total of state revenue from hunting and fishing licenses \$7,952,366. Total state expenditure on fish and game conservation and development \$4,732,748. Net income from hunting and fishing licenses \$3,219,618.

Department of Rural Social-Economics, University of North Carolina.

| States | State revenue, hunting and fishing licenses | States | State revenue, hunting and fishing licenses |
|---------------|---|----------------|---|
| Alabama | \$73,908 | Nebraska | \$144,727 |
| Arizona | 81,992 | Nevada | — |
| Arkansas | 51,469 | New Hampshire | 130,324 |
| California | 395,882 | New Jersey | 235,241 |
| Colorado | 242,555 | New Mexico | 43,434 |
| Connecticut | 93,463 | New York | 378,804 |
| Delaware | 17,911 | North Carolina | — |
| Florida | 233 | North Dakota | 54,766 |
| Georgia | 40,571 | Ohio | 368,545 |
| Idaho | 144,734 | Oklahoma | 95,732 |
| Illinois | 396,416 | Oregon | 376,840 |
| Indiana | 209,518 | Pennsylvania | 906,394 |
| Iowa | 151,818 | Rhode Island | 20,561 |
| Kansas | 126,478 | South Carolina | 80,927 |
| Kentucky | 74,026 | South Dakota | 107,169 |
| Louisiana | 120,310 | Tennessee | 52,725 |
| Maine | 120,577 | Texas | 158,304 |
| Maryland | 113,776 | Utah | 84,867 |
| Massachusetts | 168,712 | Vermont | 73,654 |
| Michigan | 568,433 | Virginia | 152,045 |
| Minnesota | 262,950 | Washington | 80,620 |
| Mississippi | — | West Virginia | 167,399 |
| Missouri | 288,050 | Wisconsin | 335,229 |
| Montana | 121,264 | Wyoming | 88,953 |