STATE CAN TAKE CARE OF HER INSTITUTIONS, WHY NOT DO IT?

Must Graham, Foust, McBrayer, Ray and the Rest Keep On Wasting Their Time Holding Out Their Hat to the Legislature? Utilization of Talent Will Solve the Problem

BION H. BUTLER.

Montrose, March 6.—"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal." So wrote Paul to the Corinthians, and his doctrine has been repeated many a time, for it is creditable to him. But I have discovered another prophet who is worthy of being heard. A few days ago in the Yarborough House in Raleigh Dr. L. B. McBrayer passed out through the lobby and as he went out a bunch of men fell to discussing the State Sanatorium at Montrose, and Senator J. W. Johnson, of Hoke county, gave us a new idea. Said he, "Some of these things you call charity are strictly business. Now, I am in favor of giving that man enough money to make that hospital an emphatic success, or of shutting it up right now without any more debate. It is the climax of folly to ask a man like Dr. McBrayer to leave his work up at Asheville, where he was well established, and come down here to Montrose unless we mean as a State to profit by the ability and professional knowledge he puts at the disposal of that institution. He can't afford to waste his time fiddling with that thing the way it has been going on, and unless we mean to do something that will make it possible for him to do something I see no sense in running the place another day. That is one of the best business institutions in North Carolina, and the sooner we insist emphatically that the Montrose Sanatorium is one of the best business projects of this State the sooner we will deal with it sensibly."

"Charity" a Misnomer.

There was more talk along that line, but Senator Johnson had cut into the jugular. We had quite a little heart to heart talk on the subject of charities, and by the time we were ready to turn to something else the meeting was pretty well agreed that charity was all right in the days of St. Paul, but that what most of us call charity in these days is strictly punk. Since that night in the Yarborough House I have seen this thing from three points of view, and it is all the same, charity is simply a misnomer.

At the Yarborough the night we were discussing the Sanatorium I fell in with Dr. Graham, of Chapel Hill, at the supper table. He was over at Raleigh on an errand similar to that which brought Dr. McBrayer up from Montrose, the effort to secure as big an appropriation as possible for the State University. I stopped at the University not long ago, and to my mind came this one question—why must a man of the caliber of Dr. Graham waste his energy in going over to Raleigh to hold out his hat to the Legislature and ask for funds to carry on this work of training our young men?

Within the last few days I wandered over the campus at the Greensboro Normal College with Dr. Foust, and there it was the same thing. This man is an educator. He is doing a great work in training young men to undertake the task of developing the boys and girls who are to be the men and women into whose hands is to be put the future of North Carolina, a North Carolina that is to be much more pretentious and important than the North Carolina of today. Yet he is constantly hampered by the necessity of standing out with his hand open asking for largess.

I happened in Col. Pogue's office at Raleigh within the last few days and in came John E. Ray, the man who is fighting the battle for the blind, and the burden of his song was the same. Funds. John E. Ray is a broad and sympathetic man, whose heart is in his work, but instead of being at the work he is concerned in you see him wasting his time trying to get money to carry on his institution.

A Mere Matter of Business.

Then I got back to Senator Johnson again, for while I cannot recall his words exactly, yet in his complaint there at the Yarborough House he shattered down the whole house of cards by insisting that it is folly to look on these things as charity, for there are never any results when we try to make a charity of what is really a simple business matter. To analyze Senator Johnson's idea would be to take one of the inmates of the sanatorium and consider what that inmate signifies. Say it is the mother of a family of 4 children. If she had stayed at home and suffered a fatal sickness it would have meant a bill of two or three hundred dollars, which would include doctor's charges, nursing, funeral, etc. It would mean leaving the family to the charity of friends and neighbors, and that would be actual charity, not the charity we talk of when we pay money to the State institutions. The loss of the one mother is a loss to the community and the State. In slavery days an able negro woman was rated as worth probably a thousand dollars. A white woman is worth fully as much. We try to attract settles to the State from other sections. A settler brought here from Iowa is not worth as much as a citizen raised on the ground, for the home raised product is familiar with his surroundings. You can go further than that and say that the whole value of the entire State of North Carolina lies solely in the two and a half million people of the State. Take them away and North Carolina would have no more value than the same area in the middle of the sea.

Exhibit A.

I hope John E. Ray, Dr. Graham, Dr. Foust and Dr. McBrayer will not object to serving as an exhibit for this story. Let us take them, willing or unwilling. Seriatim, Mr. Ray is trying his best to make of the blind population of the State a self-supporting self-dependent force. He is making of helpless individuals helpful individuals. Of burdens he is making assets. He is converting inefficient persons into creators of value. He is not a charity, but he is puttin necessary charity aside, and in its place developing a creative power, and his work is one of the most profitable to encourage. We can't afford to have people helpless because they are blind. To sustain them that way is charity and unprofitable. We cannot kill them, and dispose of them. Common fairness as well as common business sense says help them to become self-dependent, and that is strictly business. It is not charity, any more than it is charity to take a saw log and spend money making it into fine lumber.

Graham First.

I told Dr. Graham I thought his institution ought to have about a million dollars and he laughed. I told Dr. Foust he ought to have a million and he laughed. I told Dr. McBrayer he ought to have about a million and he laughed, and Mr. Ray laughed at the same suggestion. Now why did they laugh? Every one of these men knows he should have at least that much money, and we all know that the results would pay in the product that is turned out of these and similar State institutions. So why do they laugh at what they know is the sober truth? Simply because the money is not available.

What's The Matter?

That brings up a right serious question. Why is it not available? Why is a State as big as North Carolina compelled to weigh so plain a problem as caring for her sick, and her blind and her boys and girls in school? If a horse is sick we figure that it has a value of a hundred and fifty dollars and we send for Pad Kelly to come out and give it some boiled tobacco or some laudanum and linseed oil, or if a cow is sick it has a value of fifty dollars and we write to Raleigh to the State Veterinarian, and we try to avoid the loss of the animal. But men and women and boys and girls have no selling value for cash, so we have not yet learned to rate them as cash assets, although that is where they are entitled to be ranked.

The trouble is that men and women are not private property. They are state property. They are part of the general resources, and therefore the individual is not so keen to put money into them unless it is one he is interested in directly. So we shove thes things off on the State, and then we fight against anything that involves taxes, and there we are.

Ever been at Montrose? It is worth while for two or three reasons. From the summit here at the sanatorium you can look out over the country for a distance of I should guess ten to thirty miles. Call it twenty for the sake of easy figuring. It is not hard to believe that within the vision from the high points herecan be seen 750,000 acres of land, and it is probably safe to say that within that range is half a million acres of land that is not in cultivation, and which could easily yield a product of $25 to the acre. Here in sigth, if we had the people, we could make a product worth ten to fifteen hundred dollars on a single acre. A single square mile of that kind of land intensely cultivated would give over half a million dollars, and in sight of us is a lot of ground that will make fifty dollars to the acre, and that does make it year after year. Within the range of vision can be found enough water power to drive a lot of wheels, and supply a power big enough for a great factory. Within sight of Montrose sanatorium are resources enough if they were developed to provide from ordinary taxation on their developed product plenty of revenue to care for this institution without effort, and the same thing could be done at a hundred different points in the State.

Example of What Can Be Done.

Coming over from Greensboro to Raleigh last week this same thing was impressing itself on me all the way. On the route are five magnificent counties—Guilford, Alamance, Orange, Durham, and Wake. Out north of Greensboro is the Revolution, Proximity and White Oak group of cotton mills controlled by the Cone interest. They are among the big industries of the world. A run out that way showed just one thing that is needed to tell us what North Carolina can do with her public institutions, and that one thing is that now when everybody is complaining of dull trade a big mill of this group of big mills is pouring thousands of dollars into enlargement. The new walls and the new roof on an enormous building signifies that in that particular part of the State North Carolina is adding to its industrial power. It is needless to dwell on the resources of Guilford county except to say that they may be developed to an extent that we can not now comprehend. Eleven acres of floor space they said is in use at the White Oak Mill. Why that development? Because men like Moses and Caesar Cone realized the value of the opportunity in Guilford county, and they have created there the greatest denim factory in the world. White Oak, Proximity and Revolution afford a study of one of the great social problems. It was a tremendous misfortune when Moses Cone died a few years ago. But think what a misfortune if he had died before he opened the road for these great improvements, which exist after him and leave their influence as long as men are engaged in industrial lines.

The Opportunities In Alamance.

Out through Alamance the opportunities are staring the traveler in the face all the way. Water power exists from the north to the south boundary and the farm possibilities are just as big as the county. Alamance, Orange and Durham, and little more than half way from Greensboro to Raleigh is the Occoneechee farm of General J. S. Carr.

The Worth of Occoneechee.

A stranger on the seat behind me on that trip was taken with the appearance of General Carr's farm as we were passing it. After making some remarks about it he asked what I supposed it was worth. I told him that to the State of North Carolina it was worth probably five million dollars, for it has set an example of what can be done in various ways, and while the example had not yet been followed to its ultimate conclusion it would be in the course of time, and probably he would find that five millions would be too low a figure.

"Must be a pretty big farm," said the stranger.

I answered him that I did not know the acreage, but I did not imagine the price I put on it would run over ten thousand dollars an acre, although it might, but if it did I would still hang to my estimate, not simply on the land value, but on the farm value. He might as well have asked me what Chapel Hill is worth, for I would have told him that we could only figure that in one way, and that is by the annual return. There are about a thousand husky young chaps at Chapel Hill this year, and if a fourth of them come away with a thousand dollars worth of education that means $250,000, which is interest on several millions at five per cent.

Investments Not Charities.

Montrose is not a charity. The blind asylum is not a charity. The various institutions of the State are not charities. They are investments. What is Montrose worth a year to the State? I would say that Dr. McBrayer alone is worth more than the State appropriation to his institution, for he is carrying on a training school which is carrying war against tuberculosis, and that war has been met in various ways, and is proving effective. The people of this State are backing this man, and if he is given the chance to do the work he has planned to do, he will be helped by a thousand agencies. Caesar Cone is figuring on a department that shall be a hospital ward and a school. The fraternal orders are contemplating the endowment of special wards or wings. A training school for nurses to go out over the State is another. Every patient who goes away from Montrose carries along a knowledge of how to combat the plague, and in that way a few hundred fighters can arouse every section of the State and scatter information from the sea to the mountains. Getting back to the Cones Caesar Cone is a big man in cotton manufacturing. He is a bigger man there than many a man is in fields that are ranked as bigger than cotton manufacturing. He has taken up a line of work in a section of the State and made that work and that section prominent all over the world. In that same manner Dr. McBrayer has shown himself a big man. To be the successful head of a gigantic work such is possible at Montrose is greater than to be Governor of the State. Dr. McBrayer's ambition is to make at Montrose a headquarters of health and of knowledge of health that will make North Carolina healthful and famous if his work can be carried out.

What's Needed? Why, To Get Busy.

And what is necessary? Simply that we all turn in and make North Carolina resources produce the funds necessary to take care of the State institutions. Perhaps we want a lot more people to develop the resources. If we do why not let us get the people? If we will make it a State task to fill this State full as it will hold with people, and to make every acre as productive as it can be made, and to bring North Carolina to the front as it can be brought we will look back to laugh at the idea that the men who are at the head of the State institutions ever had to go to Raleigh with their hats in their hands held out to ask for a few thousand dollars to carry on their work.

At every institution that I know of in the State of North Carolina for which State aid is asked the same argument presents itself right in the vicinity. The Occoneechee farm tells us beyond peradventure that Orange county alone, were it producing to the limit that it could produce, could make a few hundred thousand dollars a year for the State University look like a little sum. One of the most tragic things I ever saw is the big Ravenwood plantation down in Jones county, capable of making two million bushels of corn a year, and actually making a few thousand for want of men to plow and cultivate. A plantation capable of making two million bushels of corn a year and at a time when men of the highest intelligence in our State are wasting their time in a constant struggle to coax from the Legislature enough money to run their institutions, not because the Legislature is not generously inclined, but because we as a people are not producing it.

Resources Ample.

Only one thing needs to be offered here as a suggestion in this respect. Half a dozen years ago we thought all over North Carolina that we could not afford to build good roads. Today we laugh at that foolishness. The township that boldly undertook the job of building two or thre miles of good road is insistent now on building more. It has found out that it can do anything that is worth while as soon as it finds out that the thing pays. You can not argue with a township that has a few miles of good roads or a school district that has a special tax. Those two individuals are the most obstinate creations under the sun. You may let a district cripple along for forty years with its one teacher in a four months' term of school, but the first year that it votes special tax and increases its school term and adds another teacher you could not more get it to go back to the old way than you could get the sun to shift its course and rise in the west. The resources of North Carolina are ample for all these things we want to do. Right along here past the sanitorium is one of the best roads in the world. It is built here in a township that has little cultivated land, and a wilderness of undeveloped land, yet it is ambitious enough to build miles of good roads, and a man from Pennsylvania riding by in an automobile said that the thing that surprised and interested him most in North Carolina is these marvelous roads. Five years ago when this road system was planned the people said this is a poor district. It has no money, and cannot build good roads. Today these same people would tell you that under no possible circumstances could they get along with the roads they had five years ago.

Profit in Development.

Development pays. An improved man is just as valuable as an improved road. What we want in this State is to make up our minds that where Nature has been so lavish we can meet practically any calls that can be made on us within reason, and then let the heads of the various institutions, and every other thing that should be fostered by the State tell us what they want and feel sure that while the money is not on hand to be given just now it will be when we wake up the old State from end to end and set it to producing everything that can be asked for. North Carolina is not a poor State. It is one of the richly endowed members of the Federal Union, and all that is necessary is to whirl in and dig up the riches that abound on all sides and find for our people and our institutions ample means for every legitimate public and private need.

The Sanatorium is merely an incident. So is the University, and the Blind Asylum and the Normal College. The main question is that North Carolina has in latent form enough for all who are here and for the millions who should be here, and that we should all be getting that enough in available shape.

Sore Teeth Foul Breath

Discolored, Sore Teeth, Gum Disease and Foul Breath Yield Quickly to This Home Treatment

You can save the teeth nature gave you, make your mouth healthy and escape the tortures of the dental chair by following this new treatment at home. It is simple, easy and pleasant. Besides it is painless and cannot possibly harm you in any way.

Thousands of mouths like this are seen every day. The trouble is known as Pyorrhea or Riggs Disease. These soft, discolored bleeding, foul-smelling and receding gums, loosened and sensitive teeth can be made firm, strong and healthy by this simple Home Method.

FREE BOOK TELLS HOW

Stop Despairing! Don't Give Up Hope of Saving Your Teeth

A simple home treatment which we are placing before the public will bring you the relief and comfort you desire. Stop spending money with dentists who do not help you. Don't waste your money on drug store remedies that are invariably as you know disappointing.

Write to us today, and learn more about this painless, speedy, inexpensive remedy that you can use at home, so there will be no further need for you to undergo the long, painful and expensive dental treatment. Bridges, Crowns and False Teeth are unsightly and rarely satisfactory, and through this treatment of the causes of bad and sensitive teeth, gum disease and foul breath they should be unnecessary.

If you are suffering with Pyorrhea or Riggs Disease, gingivitis, receding gums, elongated or loose teeth, soft, sloughed-at spongy gums, if your breath is foul, if your teeth pain while eating, if you are subject to bad tastes—then, for your own sake, send for Dr. Willard's book and learn how easy the method is—how painless and speedy—how this disease remedy quickly and permanently gives sound, healthy teeth.

Just sit down NOW and write us for this free book. A few minutes will convince you that Dr. Willard's commonsense, simple Home Remedy is what you are looking for. Don't wait. There is no pain connected with it. We have received scores of letters from people saying they would have given scores of dollars had they known of Dr. Willard's Home Treatment in time. Address Dr. F. W. WILLARD, G487, Powers Bldg., Chicago.

"TIZ" FOR ACHING, SORE, TIRED FEET

"TIZ" for tender, puffed-up, burning, calloused feet and corns.

People who are forced to stand on their feet all day know what sore, tender, sweaty, burning feet mean. They use "TIZ" and "TIZ" cures their feet right up. It keeps feet in perfect condition. "TIZ" is the only remedy in the world that draws out all the poisonous exudations which puff up the feet and cause tender, sore, tired, aching feet. It instantly stops the pain in corns, callouses, and bunions. It's simply glorious. Ah! how comfortable your feet feel after using "TIZ." You'll never limp or draw up your face in pain. Your shoes won't tighten and hurt your feet.

Get a 25 cent box of "TIZ" now from any druggist, department or general store. Just think! a whole year's foot comfort for only 25 cents.

TOBACCO HABIT Conquered quickly in 3 days! Improve health, prolong your life. Relieve stomach or kidney trouble, hoarseness, headaches, irritability, nervous worry, heart weakness. Avoid blindness! Gain lasting vigor, calm nerves, brain memory, clear eyes, superior mental strength. Banish spells of melancholy; avoid collapse. If you chew, dip snuff or smoke pipe, cigarettes, cigars, get my interesting free book. Just what you have been looking for. Proved worth weight in gold to others: why not you? Overcome similar habit, start anew and be genially happy. Book mailed free. **EDW. J. WOODS,** 534 Sixth Avenue, 25 A, New York, N. Y.

WASHINGTON LETTER IN THE KEEPING OF NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

By R. D. W. CONNOR.

Washington, D. C., March 7.—Among the manuscripts in possession of the North Carolina Historical Commission is an interesting letter yellow with age, bearing the autograph of George Washington, who had but recently taken the oath of office as President of the United States. The letter is dated June 19, 1789, and is addressed "To the Governor and Council of the State of North Carolina," and has several interesting and significant points. The circumstances from which it originated are interesting.

The State of North Carolina at that time was not a member of the Union of States known as the "United States of America." A convention of the State during the previous year had refused to ratify the newly proposed Constitution of the United States, and the new Federal government had been organized and launched upon its career without the help of North Carolina. But a new convention had been called and was soon to convene for the purpose of reconsidering the ratification of the Constitution, and under the circumstances the Governor and his Council thought it advisable to address a communication to the President of the United States stating the sentiments of the State of North Carolina with respect to the United States. The Governor was Samuel Johnston, a strong Federalist, and the members of his Council were John Skinner, of Perquimans; James Iredell, of Chowan; John Kinchen, of Orange; James Armstrong, of Pitt; Josiah Collins, of Tyrrell; Whitmel Hill, of Martin, and Demsey Conner, of Pasquotank. Of these Johnston, Skinner, Iredell, Collins and Hill had all been members of the Convention of 1788 and had voted for the ratification of the Federal Constitution. At a meeting of the Council of State, held at Edenton, May 10, 1789, the following entry was made in the Journal:

"The Governor and Council considering that it may be of great moment to the Interests of this State, that the Sentiments of the People in respect to the new Form of Government for the United States should not be misrepresented, and by that means the harmony between the different States be in any danger of interruption, think proper that the following address should be presented to General Washington; the said address to be signed by the Governor and by the President in behalf of the Council:"

"To His Excellency George Washington, Esquire, President of the United States.

"Sir:

"Amidst the congratulations which surround you from all quarters. We, the Governor and Council of the State of North Carolina, beg leave to offer ours with equal Sincerity and fervency with any which can be presented to you. Though this State be not yet a member of the Union under the new form of Government, we look forward with the pleasing hope of its shortly becoming such, and in the meantime consider ourselves bound in a Common Interest and Affection with the other States, waiting only for the happy event of such alterations being proposed, as will remove the Apprehensions of many of the good Citizens of this State for those Liberties for which they have fought and suffered in common with others. This happy event we doubt not will be accellerated by your Excellency's appointment to the first office in the Union, since we are well assured the same greatness of mind, which in all scenes has so eminently characterized Your Excellency, will induce you to advise every measure calculated to compose Party Divisions, and to abate any animosity that may be excited by a mere difference in Opinion. Your Excellency will consider (however others may forget) how extremely difficult it is to Unite all the People of a great Country in one common Sentiment, upon almost any political Subject, much less upon a new form of Government, materially different from one they have been accustomed to, and will therefore rather be disposed to rejoice that so much has been effected, than regret that more could not all at once be accomplished. We sincerely believe America is the only country in the world where such a deliberate change of government could take place under any circumstances whatever.

"We hope your Excellency will pardon the liberty we take in writing so particularly on this Subject, but this State, however it may differ in any Political opinions with the other States, cordially joins with them in Sentiments of the utmost gratitude and veneration for those distinguished talents and that illustrious Virtue, which we feel a pride in saying we believe under God Have been the principal means of preserving the Liberty and procuring the Independence of Your Country. We cannot help considering you Sir in some measure as the Father of it, and hope to experience the good effects of that confidence you so justly have acquired, in an abatement of the party spirit which so much endangers a Union on which the safety and happiness of America can alone be founded. May that Union, at a short distance of time, be as perfect and more safe than ever, and in the mean while may the State of North Carolina be considered, as it truly deserves to be, attached with equal warmth with any State in the Union, to the true Interest Prosperity and Glory of America, differing only in some particulars in opinion as to the means of promoting them."

To this address, President Washington, in the letter referred to above, replied as follows:

"To the Governor and Council of the State of North Carolina:

Gentlemen:

"It was scarcely possible for any Address to have given me greater pleasure, than that which I have just received from you; because I consider it not only demonstrative of your approbation of my conduct in accepting the first office in the Union, but also indicative of the good dispositions of the citizens of your State, towards their Sister States, and of the probability of their speedily acceding to the new general Government.

"In justification of the opinion which you are pleased to express, of my readiness "to advise every measure calculated to compose party divisions, and to abate any animosity that may be excited by mere difference of opinion," I take the liberty of referring you to the sentiments communicated by me to the two Houses of Congress. On this occasion, I am likewise happy in being able to add the strongest assurances, that I entertain a well-grounded expectation, that nothing will be wanting on the part of the different branches of the general Government to render the Union as perfect, and more safe than ever it has been.

"A difference of opinion on political points is not to be imputed to Freemen as a fault, since it is to be presumed that they are all actuated by an equally laudable and sacred regard for the liberties of their Country. If the mind is so formed in different persons as to consider the same object to be somewhat different in its nature and consequences, as it happens to be placed in different points of view, and if the oldest, the ablest and the most virtuous Statesmen have often differed in judgment as to the best forms of Government, we ought, indeed, rather to rejoice that so much has been effected, than to regret that more could not all at once be accomplished.

"Gratified by the favourable sentiments which are evinced in your address to me, and impressed with an idea that the Citizens of your State are sincerely attached to the Interests, the Prosperity and the Glory of America, I most earnestly implore the Divine benediction and guidance in the councils, which are shortly to be taken by their Delegates on a subject of the most momentous consequences. I mean, the political relation which is to subsist hereafter, between the State of North Carolina and the States now in Union under the new general Government.

"GEO. WASHINGTON.

New York,
June 19th, 1789.

CURSE MAKES THREE BLIND.

Children Born Sightless After Malediction on Mother.

Greensburg (Pa.) Special to Washington Post.

After a curse pronounced on his wife had been followed by blindness of his three children, George Yusko, a paper hanger and painter of Mount Pleasant, left his wife and children, it is alleged, refusing longer to support them. Yusko was arrested on a charge of desertion, and before Justice of Peace L. S. Rhodes Yusko told an amazing story.

When a girl of sixteen Mrs. Annie Yusko, if was testified, put out the eyes of seven ducks owned by a neighbor, using a wire to perform the act. Finding her blinded ducks, the enraged neighbor hurled maledictions on the girl, expressing the hope that God would punish her likewise.

Mr. and Mrs. Yusko are the parents of three children, each of whom is almost totally blind. Terrified by what seemed to be a fulfillment of the neighbor's curse, Yusko urged his wife to ask for forgiveness of the neighbor and beg that the spell of the curse be broken. This Mrs. Yusko refused to do. Then Yusko left home.

He produced his three children in the office of the justice as evidence of the truth of his words. Physicians present at the hearing said that the curse had preyed so upon Mrs. Yusko's mind that her children were influenced prenatally and blindness resulted.

Lead pencil manufacture in the United States is consuming 73,000,000 feet of lumber annually, of which about one-half is estimated to be wasted in sharpening or throwing away short ends.

DONALD LOWRIE

Former Convict, Now Assistant to Warden Osborne, of Sing Sing.

At the recent meeting of the North Carolina Social Service Conference, Mr. Donald Lowrie, assistant to Mr. Thomas Mott Osborne, warden of Sing Sing Prison, made an address which was one of the features of the Conference. Warden Osborne himself was billed to speak, but on account of sickness could not come, Mr. Lowrie coming in his stead.

Donald Lowrie is a man with a unique career. After serving a term in the California penitentiary he joined the staff of the San Francisco Bulletin, where his articles and stories, chiefly about prison life, performed a great public service and won for him the respect of the people of California.

The American Magazine of October, 1912, carried an article on Donald Lowrie written by John D. Barry. The News and Observer is indebted to Mr. Erwin A. Holt, of Burlington, for a copy of the magazine and to the publishers of the American for permission to reproduce Mr. Barry's article, which follows:

A little more than a year ago Fremont Older, Managing Editor of the San Francisco Bulletin, was making one of his many visits to San Quentin Prison. While he was calling on Warden Hoyle the Warden remarked: "There's a manuscript in my desk that may interest you. It was written by one of the prisoners."

During the next few minutes Mr. Older was absorbed in reading the article. It dealt with the indeterminate sentence. "This fellow can write," he said. "I should like to meet him."

Presently there entered a tall, slim, young man, with a clear-cut face and dark eyes. Mr. Older shook hands with him and expressed his interest. "If you can get out of here I will give you a job on my paper," he said.

"I'm eligible for parole," Lowrie replied.

"Well, I'll see if we can't have the matter brought up before the Board of Directors."

At once Mr. Older went to work. At the next meeting of the Board of Directors the case of Lowrie was favorably considered. Early in August he was out on parole. He took a week to adjust himself to the new conditions. Then he went to work on the staff of The Bulletin. He has been working there ever since.

Donald Lowrie had served two terms for burglary. He went to prison a foolish, rebellious, and reckless boy. He came out, in the early thirties, a grave man, sad-faced, slow of movement, his tall figure so lean that one might have fancied that he had been half starved for years. In prison he had made a fine record for good behavior and for intelligence and ability. He was one of the most accurate and painstaking of accountants. For years he had worked on the prison records. He knew the history of nearly every man in the institution during his time. Whatever leisure he had he spent in study. His quiet, gentle way won friends for him everywhere. His reading and studying developed in him a desire to write. In his cell by the oil lamp he made his first literary efforts. Some of these were published in Life, The Atlantic Monthly, and Sunset. No wonder he was a marked man among the prisoners and the favorite of the wardens. But in the world the situation was different. He had to make good. At first he was bewildered and depressed. The street noises troubled him. The multitude of impressions crowding on him caused him both physical and mental fatigue. His eyes ached. Used as he was to walking the flat spaces of San Quentin, he found climbing the hills of San Francisco a great strain on his muscles. In a few days, however, he was ready for work. Fremont Older had a place waiting for him on the staff of The Bulletin. His first contribution consisted of an instalment of his studies, "My Life in Prison." At once he attracted attention. As he went on from day to day the interest grew. In two weeks he was the sensation of San Francisco. In the street cars, on the ferries, in trains, everywhere in public, people were eagerly reading Donald Lowrie, and discussing his revelations. The work revealed fine observation and dramatic power. As it went on from week to week, without a break, the marvel grew. Here was a new writer that could publish an interesting article each day for six days in the week. In a few weeks Donald Lowrie printed more than one hundred thousand words.

The success of the articles made Donald Lowrie a notable figure not only in San Francisco but throughout California. Many requests were made to him for lectures. He declined them all. He had a dread of being stared at. After several months, however, he was persuaded to address a body of clergymen interested in hearing about prison conditions. To his surprise he found that he could speak. He even enjoyed speaking. Soon he was speaking here and there, before women's clubs and before organizations of business men, like the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, and before societies interested in prison reform. Meanwhile ex-prisoners were constantly seeking him out, asking for help. Most of his salary he was giving away in loans. As the demands increased, both on his time and on his resources, he realized that there was need for systematic work in behalf of prisoners. Backed by Mr. Older and The Bulletin, and by several women and men of prominence in San Francisco, he started a Prison Bureau for the purpose of securing work for ex-prisoners. The Bureau is now in operation and has already placed hundreds of men in jobs.

Donald Lowrie has made good. He is a successful and a useful citizen. In personal appearance he has greatly changed. The prison pallor has given place to a healthy glow. He is less grave than before, more animated. He lives in a little cottage in Mill Valley, near San Francisco. An old broken-down ex-prisoner takes care of the house and the garden. Lowrie does his writing in the open air, looking out on the mountains and the bay. Two or three times a week he publishes a story in The Bulletin, nearly always on some theme directly or indirectly related to prison life. He now gives promise of becoming a conspicuous figure both as a writer and as an advocate of wiser methods in dealing with prisoners. The publication of his articles in a volume will extend his influence all over the country.

GROWING PEACHES

(Weekly News Letter, U. S. Department of Agriculture.)

In at least 39 of our 48 States there are peach interests of commercial importance, according to a new Farmers' Bulletin (No. 631) of the department on "Growing Peaches." This bulletin is the first of three on the general subject of peach growing, which will treat of fundamental orchard operations. The questions of site, propagation, planting, tillage, and soil fertility are treated in the first bulletin now being issued.

In locating a peach as well as any other orchard other advantages must be considered besides the naturalness of climate and soil. If an orchard is too remote from a shipping station, too far away from a suitable market, or located where ice for refrigerator cars can not be conveniently supplied, it may not be possible to grow peaches there profitably.

Peaches may do well on a wide range of soil types, including even some of the moderately heavy clay loams and clays. But whatever the type, a soil must be thoroughly well drained to be suitable for peaches. They will not succeed on poorly drained soils. It follows that the heavy clay types which are so hard and impervious that water does not percolate through them readily are to be avoided as a rule. Moreover, a soil should be moderately fertile (not very rich in nitrogen) as not to be desired as a general rule, since it is likely to induce an excessive growth of foliage. On the other hand, the impression which is somewhat common that a poor, infertile soil is "good enough for peaches" is erroneous.

In districts in which alkali soils occur, sites should be selected with a view to avoiding them. While the peach tree can be grown where there is a limited amount of the alkali salts, they cause disaster if present in large quantities. It is safer, therefore, to avoid them as far as possible.

Elevated Area Preferred.

As a general proposition, a site that is elevated considerably above the surrounding area is to be preferred for a peach orchard. Relative elevation is generally of greater importance than actual elevation above sea level.

It is a well-recognized fact, though one too often overlooked in selecting sites for orchards, that cold air settles to the lower levels. For this reason it is often colder at the lower elevations than it is at higher points in the same locality. This is what is meant by "atmospheric drainage." The occurrence of frost in low places when there is none on elevated areas is thus explained. For the same reason peach buds are often winterkilled or the blossoms are injured by frost in the spring in low places when nearby orchards on higher elevations are injured much less, or even escape entirely.

Where an orchard occupies a site that is adjacent to a large body of water, the importance of a relatively high elevation largely disappears. To be a factor in the matter, however, a body of water must be of sufficient size and depth to have an appreciable influence on the local climate. Because the water warms up in the spring more slowly than the atmosphere, it acts in effect as a refrigerator, making the temperature in its immediate vicinity colder than it is at points somewhat distant from it. For this reason, vegetation within the zone of this influence advances more slowly in the spring than it does outside of that zone. The tendency is for the blossoming of peach trees situated within the zone to be delayed until after the season of spring frosts is past.

In the fall frosts are delayed in a similar manner, except that the large body of water, having absorbed much heat during the summer, cools off in the fall more slowly than the atmosphere, and hence it tends to keep the temperature within its zone of influence warmer than it would otherwise be.

It is because of these reasons that peaches are grown with marked success and injury to the crops by adverse temperature conditions is comparatively infrequent in the portions of New York and the Province of Ontario that border Lake Ontario; in Ohio along Lake Erie; in southwestern Michigan on Lake Michigan; and in some other districts which are adjacent to large bodies of water. Aside from the zone of influence of bodies of water, such as those named, is rather narrow, usually not extending back from the shore more than a few miles.

As To The Slope.

The slope or exposure of a site is the point of the compass toward which the land inclines. A question very commonly asked is, "What slope is best?" It is one that admits of no direct answer. No one slope is preferable under all conditions and in all regions. In fact, the influence which a particular exposure may have in the success of an orchard is probably much overemphasized in the popular mind.

As a rule, it is doubtless safe to assume that a site having a moderate slope in some direction is to be preferred for orchard purposes, other things being equal, to one that is level. One having a slope will usually have better soil and atmospheric drainage than a level area.

The new bulletin shows how temperature is a limiting factor in peach growing. It also explains the general features of the propagation of peach trees which should be understood by peach growers, even though the average peach grower is not concerned directly with the subject. The bulletin then proceeds to give details regarding the planting and tillage of the orchard, as well as an explanation of methods of maintaining the fertility of the soil. There are a number of figures illustrating the new pamphlet which may be had by application to the department.

GAME OVERRUNS GERMANY.

Wild Animals Get a Respite While Hunters Are at War.

Frankfurter Zeitung.

Owing to the summoning of a large number of hunters to the colors, Germany is suffering from a decline in the market of game foods and an increase in the damage done by wild animals.

There are complaints in many districts about growing damage by wild animals at this time, in which all possibility of such a state of affairs should be avoided. Since the closed season is regulated in Germany by the various federated governments, a single regulation for all by the central government is not practicable. Several of the federated governments, however, have already extended the open season for the hunting of red deer, venison and rabbits. Thus, for example, the open season for the hunting of old deer and yearlings and fawn has been extended to January 30 and to January 31 for hunting of rabbits.

Sea fowls' eggs are almost conical in form, so that they will only roll in a circle. As many of them are laid on the bare ledges of high rocks, this provision of nature prevents their rolling off.