

# UTOPIA AROUND THE CORNER AND COMING TO NORTH CAROLINA

### Country People Getting a New Idea of Their Own Possibilities

## MOVING TO GET MORE MONEY AND MORE THINGS

### Building Good Roads All Over State and That Calls For Other Things, Including As Good Schools For Rural Sections As Towns and Cities Already Have

By BION H. BUTLER.

One day, years ago, with the rest of the bunch of thirty or more of us who were in the lumber camp, we were discussing the important events of the day, and we had veered around to the subject of money. One old father, who has long ago been gathered to the mists, looked us over and ventured the remark that probably no man is altogether sane, or at least, he had never seen one of that kind. May be there is such a thing as absolute sanity. It seems to me it must be a tame condition of existence, for if there is such a thing how can we account for all the varieties of thought that overtake us? Is the anarchist sane? Or is the man who opposes him sane? Is the man who crowds ahead of his time sane? Was Henry Ford sane when he put up wages to five dollars a day in his ships a few years ago, saying that no man ought to work for less than that? Are the rest of the fools sane who are now arguing that an eight-hour day at five or six dollars a day is little enough, or that a woman should be paid the same as a man for the same sort of work?

Is a man sane who says the school teacher ought to be paid five dollars a day, and that the job should go on all the year? If a man in a rolling mill should get fifteen dollars a day as some of them do, why should a teacher get less than fifteen dollars a week? Is that just foolishness? What wages should a teacher get? Why should she get any less than any one else? Why should the preacher not get as much money as a locomotive engineer? Why should a lawyer get a fee of \$500 for a case and a preacher five dollars, if the man who gives it to him is liberal? To be truthful, there isn't any why.

One Thing Calls for Another. We are starting to build roads all over North Carolina. That is going to make us clamor for some other things. The man in the country has already got a buzz wagon and the boys and girls get out of town and see other folks live. There is the thing that makes trouble. We can live down in our country like we have been accustomed to until some other fellow lives a different way, and then the excitement begins. If all the neighbors are content with Ford, but the minute some infernal hound comes into the community with a Hudson or an Essex or something that costs more money we have to fix around and mortgage next fall cotton to get one like it. Now you think that is foolishness, but is it? Then, listen. When Frank Page comes down our way with a new road and we can all get out and see what the folks are doing elsewhere, we are going to do that way too. We are going to see that in town the folks have better schools, so we are going to have better schools. We are going to have our boys and girls doing like boys and girls elsewhere, and we are going to insist on getting enough money from somewhere to pay the bills. We are going to see that the teachers who teach our schools are paid enough that we get as good teachers as any place gets, and we are going to pay our preacher enough so that the thieving hounds over on Walnut ridge will not offer him more money and take him away from us.

Ever think it out? It is not necessary. It works itself without much thinking. It may be some time before Henry Ford will see everybody earning five dollars a day, but it is not hard to guess that the old time wages of a dozen years will never be seen again by anybody. When it comes to pay bands on the roads the farmers will see that seventy-five cents a day is tradition. It is far enough back into the past to be strictly classical. The farmer is going to figure on that high wage business henceforth. His hands have raised the wages and are going to keep them raised. The farmer is going to pay higher wages, and for himself get

better wages. He is not going to buy so much side meat. He will sell that kind of stuff. He will buy gasoline and phonograph records, and paint rugs and a lighting system. Folks down the road are getting these things, so he will have to have more money so he can get them, and if he does not get more money he will go to Pennsylvania and work in the mills, or to Ohio and work in the mines, or over into the next county and take his mules along and work in the lumber woods. Or he will set out a peach orchard, or take to raising hogs, or join up with a cream route on a dairy proposition.

### Not Stacking Money Away.

The new road is the beginning of uneasiness. That thing has started all over the United States. It has set the country people to talking and thinking along lines that are liable to affect the United States more than any arguments started by the J. W. W. will, for the farmer thinks logically, and there are so many of them. The farmer is not stacking away money like some folks seem to think. He is just beginning to get enough to pull his head above water, and keep it there in reasonable safety, and having seen what it is like to get it there he is going to keep it there.

If I should ever get to the legislature and not forget about it the first thing I would do would be to introduce a bill to make the minimum salary for a teacher of the lowest grade not less than seventy-five dollars a month. Yes, I have heard that old cry about not being able to do certain things, but I have also heard that if you make a fellow pump or drown he will pump. If we should decide to pay the teachers not less than seventy-five dollars a month the whole State would have a succession of various kinds of fits, and then would recover and profit, because when we were finding out that we can do the things we have to do we would also find that we can do other things we do not have to do, and we would be pumping more than the occasion required.

So with the good roads is coming some wisdom. We can't sell cotton any more for the old prices, for we must have money to buy tires and georgette crepe waists and ice cream cones when we go to town, and movie tickets. Eggs fifty cents and butter seventy-five, take it or leave it, for it is no longer necessary to sell it to buy wheat when wheat is made on the place. Of course you take it, for what are you going to do without it? That is what you got your wages raised for, so you could buy these things.

I have been looking over the school scheme proposed by the Federation of Labor and have a notion that some of those things are going to be grafted on our school system. Here are some of them: Complete systems of modern physical education under competent instructors. Ample playground facilities as a part of the school system. Continued medical and dental inspection. Better enforcement of the compulsory laws up to sixteen years of age. Free text books. Drastic reduction in the size of the classes. Revision upwards of the salaries of teachers, and liberal increase of school revenues. Tenure of position of teacher if efficient.

Illiteracy Must Go. What do you think of them? The American Federation of Labor is a rather influential organization, and because it is big and these things are right they stand a right good chance to be put through. The Federation says that illiteracy is wrong, being unjust to the illiterate and unjust to society because the illiterate is not so useful as he could be if he had been taught. Society must search out the illiterate and make of him a better educated individual, for ignorance is incompetency and society cannot afford anything of that kind that can be remedied.

Some years ago George Westinghouse set up in Pittsburg an interesting little shop that has since grown until the Westinghouse electrical works are the outcome. The man undertook to utilize the alternating current, and he was

opposed by the advocates of the direct current which had made some little headway. Luckily Westinghouse paid no attention, and the alternating current made the electrical industry. When he found that thing and that it would work nothing could stop it. Nothing can stop any new idea that any man points out if that idea is a good one. When Elias Howe made his first sewing machine that would work the tailors were going to mob him because they said it would destroy their occupation. But nothing could stop the machine, for it had shown that it would work.

So when the good roads bring the folks in contact with the things that are going on elsewhere the things that are seen elsewhere are going to be adopted in the country and it is in the country where wages have been low. Then the country people are going to have high wages. The man and the woman who work on the farm will have more of an income. The boys and girls are going to school more, and the income of the farmer is to be increased by proper prices so the boys and girls can put in their time at school instead of in the field at twenty-five cents a day or for just nothing at all. The country folks will insist that they shall have the same things the town folks have, and will get the same things because they have that other people can get those things, and the more people go to school the more they understand that the advantages of life are not entirely for a certain restricted class depending on where you live.

We are heading toward Utopia. I like the looks of that statement because it is so thoroughly ridiculed that the mere assertion of it is a new idea. Think of five million horse power of water energy running down the rivers constantly in North Carolina with nothing to do, and people using muscle force to do physical work. That is the most absurd thing on earth. Think of water running at the top floor of the highest building in the city, and folks in the country carrying water from the spring in buckets. Carrying water is folly. It is the folly ignorance. Every human creature can have running water, and electric lights, and electric irons and fans, and electricity to do three-fourths of the work. George Westinghouse found that out with his alternating current, and gradually everybody is learning it. At the little factory town of High Falls, away from any railroad or town, a live man saw that he could provide electric facilities and water and a good school and things of that kind for the people of the village and he provided them. It can be done for every other rural community as soon as a live man realizes the possibilities and the uses of moving into Utopia.

### Good Roads Make Vision Better.

The children are going to school more now. Good roads will make it easier for the old folks to see across the borders of Utopia. People riding down the road in the big expensive super-sizes and sights and twelves will help to show the way. The county commissioners will appropriate more money and the tax payers will kick, for that is what a tax payer is for, just to kick, and incidentally dig up more money. But the schools and the roads will get the money and the tax payer will save in one week's hauling more than he will pay in a year, and his growl never hurts anything any way.

This infernal good roads folly is worse than the seventeen year locusts. You get a good road into the township and every blame fool wants another one to run from it out to his neighborhood. Oh, yes, he is willing to pay taxes if the road goes his way. So they never quit until they get roads all over the township, and that leads to more high taxes, for one extravagance always suggests another, and that calls for new schools all over the township, and what the taxes are going to do with us all the seven wise men alone can tell.

A fool truck will haul more cotton to town in an hour than a man and team of mules would haul in a day. You notice them coming everywhere?

The flying machine has moved Europe over half way across the ocean to America. Gasoline engine will cut more wood in a day than all the hands on the place could cut in a week a few years ago. Hand power is too slow and too unproductive and therefore too costly. In Utopia we will touch a button and let the machine do the work, and the amount of work will be so much that as the machine does not have to buy an automobile the man who touches the button can be paid what the machine earns, and he can buy two automobiles, a knock-about for himself for week days and a limousine for his wife and the girls and for Sunday, and if he needs it he can buy one for the boys to go to picnics

without taking the family car. Ever hear so much nonsense? Well, think it over. You will see that it is not half so foolish as working the way we have been doing when the running water would do the work if we had sent the boys and girls to school enough to learn how to fix the button so the water could be controlled. We are going to spend an awful lot of money to emancipate folks in North Carolina in the next twenty years. And then Utopia is just around the corner.

### PRICES OF SUPPLIES TO BE RELEASED FIXED.

Washington, July 13.—Prices at which surplus supplies of cured and

canned held by the War Department will be sold to municipalities were announced today as follows:

Corn beef from \$3.60 per dozen cans to \$24, depending upon sizes and grades.

Roast beef from \$3.45 per dozen cans of one pound each to \$26.40 for six pound cans.

Beacon in crates, 34c a pound; in twelve pound tins 36c a pound. These prices are about 20 per cent less than the cost to the government.

Proposals must be for a minimum of one carload.

### LADIES CAN WEAR SHOES

One size smaller and shoes last longer after using Allen's Foot-Ease, the antiseptic powder for the feet. Rubbed into the shoes and sprinkled in the foot-bath, Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight or new shoes just what you need. Instant relief to corns and bunions, prevents Blisters, Callous and Horns. Keeps the feet cool and comfortable all day long. Try it today. Sold everywhere.—(Ad.)

### PAVED HIGHWAYS

Sealed proposals will be received by the Beaufort County Road Commission at the City Hall in Washington, N. C., until 2 p. m., August 12th, 1919, for paving highways.

The work will consist of about: 270,000 sq. yds. of asphalt, bitulithic concrete, brick, or other pavement. 150,000 cu. yds. of grading and ditching.

5,000 lineal feet of pipe drains. 1,500 lineal feet of box culverts. 800 cu. yds. of bridge concrete. 150,000 pounds reinforcing bars.

Proposals must be marked, "Proposals for Paved Roads."

All bids must be upon blank forms provided in the proposal and contract and specifications.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check for \$10,000 as evidence of good faith.

Plans and specifications will be on file at the engineer's office in Washington, and at the office of the Engineer in Durham, N. C.; and copies of the specifications, form of proposals, etc., will be mailed upon application to the Engineer at Durham, N. C.

The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

F. C. KUGLER, Chairman. J. D. BULLOCK, Secretary. Engineer: GILBERT C. WHITE, Durham, N. C.

### NOTICE OF SALE OF PROPERTY OF ROANOKE RIVER RAILWAY COMPANY.

In the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina—At Raleigh. Virginia Trust Company and American National Bank, Complainants.

Roanoke River Railway Company, Defendant.

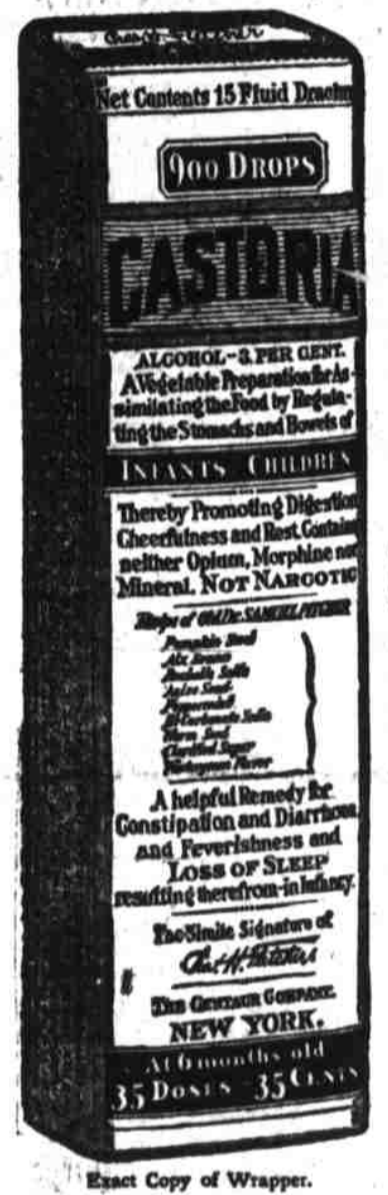
Pursuant to an order entered in the above entitled cause, J. H. Bridgers, Receiver of the Roanoke River Railway Company, and Commissioner, appointed by the Court, will, on July 26, 1919, at 12:00 o'clock M., at the Court House door in the town of Henderson, North Carolina, offer for sale to the highest bidder, subject to confirmation by the Court, the line of railroad of the Roanoke River Railway Company extending from Manson, Warren County, N. C., to Townsville, Vance County, N. C., together with all lands acquired and used by said railroad and all the rights of way, easements, roadbeds, tracks, bridges, culverts, switches, side tracks, station houses, warehouses and erections and fixtures of every kind and all such real and personal property, rights of way, easements and appurtenances as may be germane to or necessary to the construction, operation or maintenance of said railroad, also all engines, cars, rolling stock of every kind, tools, machinery of every kind, rails, spikes, joint fastenings, timbers, ties, superstructure, and material of every kind now owned and possessed by said railroad company, also all furniture, safes, books, accounts, maps, surveys, charts and office equipment belonging to said railroad company, also all materials and supplies of every character owned by said railroad company together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereto belonging or in any wise appurtenant and also all the rights and powers, privileges and franchises of or belonging to said railroad company.

J. H. BRIDGERS, Receiver of Roanoke River Railway Company and Commissioner.

## The Kind You Have Always Bought.

THIS is the caution applied to the public announcement of Castoria that has been manufactured under the supervision of Chas. H. Fletcher for over 30 years—the genuine Castoria. We respectfully call the attention of fathers and mothers when purchasing Castoria to see that the wrapper bears his signature in black. When the wrapper is removed the same signature appears in red on both sides of the bottle. Parents who have used Castoria for their little ones in the past years need no warning against counterfeits and imitations, but our present duty is to call the attention of the younger generation to the great danger of introducing spurious medicines into their families.

It is to be regretted that there are people who are now engaged in the nefarious business of putting up and selling all sorts of substitutes, or what should more properly be termed counterfeits, for medicinal preparations not only for adults, but worse yet, for children's medicines. It therefore devolves on the mother to scrutinize closely what she gives her child. Adults can do that for themselves but the child has to rely on the mother's watchfulness.



## Children Cry For Fletcher's CASTORIA

### Your Friend, the Physician.

The history of all medicines carries with it the story of battles against popular beliefs: fights against prejudice: even differences of opinion among scientists and men devoting their lives to research work; laboring always for the betterment of mankind. This information is at the hand of all physicians. He is with you at a moments call be the trouble trifling or great. He is your friend, your household counselor. He is the one to whom you can always look for advice even though it might not be a case of sickness. He is not just a doctor. He is a student to his last and final call. His patients are his family and to lose one is little less than losing one of his own flesh and blood.

Believe him when he tells you—as he will—that Fletcher's Castoria has never harmed the slightest babe, and that it is a good thing to keep in the house. He knows.

MOTHERS SHOULD READ THE BOOKLET THAT IS AROUND EVERY BOTTLE OF FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

### GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS Bears the Signature of

*Chas. H. Fletcher*

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

## BRINGING UP FATHER



## MUTT AND JEFF—The Little Fellow Has An Eye on the Future

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