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BETTERMENT OF RURAL CONDITIONS IS URGED

1925 Social Service Conference Also Stresses Prison Reform and Work Among Negroes.

A study of rural life in North Carolina with a view to bettering conditions was the task before the recent Conference for Social Service held at Asheville early in July. The farmer with his social and financial problems; the agricultural background of the State; the various agencies dealing with rural life problems; plans for beautifying town and country—each received the attention of the delegates, led by competent authorities.

"In North Carolina," Roy M. Brown declared at one of the meetings, "the farmer is a neighbor to his neighbor. He is rarely without interest in his neighbor. Three primary calamities may befall a man; his wife may die, his only cow may die, or his house may be burned. In the first instance the good women of the neighborhood after a few weeks set about trying to help him supply his loss by advising him in the selection of a new wife. In either of the last two, the neighbors often contribute materially toward buying a new cow or building a new house. In other sections the emphasis as to primary calamities may shift, but the spirit everywhere, I have no doubt, is the same. His neighbor aids him in periods of financial distress; he nurses him when he is sick—not infrequently nurses him to death, but his intentions are good; he buries him when he is dead. He knows his neighbors. Sometimes he knows too much about his affairs. His contacts with him are intimate. We often hear that one of the defects of country life is lonesomeness. And there are those who having once strayed from the country lanes and tasted the artificial stimuli of Main Street are not more content in the country, just as there is an occasional countryman who must have his apple cider distilled; but to one who loves the country, country life is not lonesome. The average family in Watauga has more intimate contacts with his neighbors than the average family in Raleigh."

It was upon this essential quality of helpfulness that the whole program of rural betterment was built. Cooperation in buying farm materials and in marketing crops, increased home ownership, better recreational, religious and educational facilities; extensive country planting of trees and flowers; rotation and variation of crops were among the plans advanced.

With the exception of the prison reform conference on Thursday morning, the most interesting meeting was that on the subject of social service work done among the negro people. Dr. Newbold, the presiding officer, called on Mrs. Johnson to tell of the growth of the welfare work among the negroes. Mrs. Johnson told of the work which has been done by Lieut. Oxley, Director of the Bureau of Work among the Negroes of the State Board of Public Welfare.

Dr. W. L. Poteat stated that "our problem in dealing with the negro race is only a small detail of the general problem, for the main problem of human life is that of living together amicably and peacefully. America has been called the melting pot, but there cannot be a blending of race characteristics; that would be a case of biological ungodliness. Our individuality consists of our peculiarities. Yet one must subordinate one's interests to those of the community. It is our duty to exercise the mind and spirit of Christ."

Details of an excellent piece of educational work done among the negroes in Halifax County, where they form 60 per cent of the population, were explained by Mr. A. E. Akers, who has increased the face value of the negro school building from \$10,000 to \$125,000 in the ten years that he has worked there.

Addresses by Dr. Ashby Jones, of Atlanta; Gutzon Borglum and Mr. Paul Lindley, of Greensboro, completed the program. Many courtesies were extended members of the conference by the people of Asheville.

"Now, Bobby!" said his mother sternly, "did you ask Mrs. White for that cookie?" "No, mother, I didn't. I jes' saw a plate full of cookies in her kitchen and I said, 'You is sure some cook, Mrs. White, if I's any judge.' An' she gimme one to see was I."—Boston Transcript.

ATTENTION BUILDERS—We have a full line of Lime and Cement and are ready to fill your orders for that Spring building program you have mapped out. Don't build until you have consulted us about your Lime and Cement. Flack Hardware Co., Forest City. 43-4t

SPINDALE-ALEXANDER M. E. CHURCH NEWS

(Methodist News-Herald)
Miss Evelyn Waddell is at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, taking a six weeks course in recreational leadership. In addition to her other duties Miss Waddell will be the head resident worker at the community house which is now under construction in Spindale.

The following new members have been received by letter during the month of July: Mrs. Russell Morgan, Miss Dora Potts, Mrs. Brackett, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur W. Lavender, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hair, Leonard Hair, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Stacey, Cordie Stacey, Boyd Stacey, Fred Stacey (Spindale); Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Davis (Alexander) and Lawrence and Ethel Sisk. It is a pleasure to extend a cordial welcome to these new-comers.

On Sunday, August 16th, a revival meeting will begin at Alexander. Rev. J. O. Ervin, of Rutherfordton, will do the preaching during this week of special intensive effort. It will be a delight to have Brother Ervin with us. On Sunday morning, July 26th, following the sermon, the entire official board pledged to pray daily and use their personal influence otherwise to the end that we may have a genuine revival. All other members are urged to follow their example.

Through an inadvertence, the announcement of the birth of William Carver Johnson, son of Mr. W. A. Johnson and Mrs. Johnson, of Alexander, was omitted from the last issue of the News-Herald. The young gentleman was born May 21st.

Mrs. Jake Yelton, of Spindale, who was seriously injured in an automobile accident several weeks ago, has been brought home from the Rutherford hospital and is reported resting comfortably. The good ladies of the community remembered her with a linen shower one evening this week.

The Wesley Bible classes of Spindale are having a get-together meeting Saturday night at the school building. All members are invited to be present and to bring their friends. A pleasant evening is assured.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT—In the early ages of Christianity a profound change in the life of Europe was effected by an amount of propaganda quite small in comparison with that which pours from our press and pulpit. How is it that the idealisms of our time leave us morally about where we were? Are we less in earnest than before? Are our energies used up in talking, with none left for action? Do we accept the discussion of ideals as a substitute for the effort to act up to them? Whoever answers these questions will throw light on one of the most perplexing phenomena of our time.—L. P. Jacks, English religious editor and thinker.

Soon Felt Improvement
"The first time I took Cardui I was in an awful bad way," says Mrs. Ora Carille, R. F. D. 5, Troup, Texas. "I went fishing one day. A heavy storm came up and I got soaking wet in the rain. I was afflicted with awful smothering spells. I could not get my breath. My mother had some
CARDUI
For Female Troubles
in the house that she was taking, so she immediately began giving it to me. In a few days I got all right. "Last fall I got run-down in health. I was weak and puny and I began to suffer. I would get so I could hardly walk. Having taken Cardui before, I sent to the store for a bottle of it. Almost from the first dose I could feel an improvement. "Cardui has helped me a lot and I am glad to recommend it. I don't feel like the same woman I was last fall. My appetite is good now, and I'm sure it's Cardui that's made it pick up."
All Druggists' E-113

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