

AT THE UNIVERSITY.

Chapel Hill, Mar. 15.—The North Carolina Club at the State University has abolished the crop lien and the time-credit business of the supply-merchants. Or such was the verdict of the popular vote after weighing the affirmative arguments advanced by N. C. Shuford, of Buncombe county, and R. E. Price, of Cleveland county. The negative arguments were produced by E. G. Joyner and M. J. Davis, of Warren County.

The affirmative speakers admitted that the crop lien was a necessity in the days of land-poverty and labor-penury just after the war; but contended that the crutch of those days had now become a cross. First, the crop lien aided poverty, then it thrived upon poverty and perpetuated poverty, said the affirmative. It kept the victim poor by exacting long profits and high interest rates for accommodation. It encouraged extravagance, wastefulness and irresponsibility; it discouraged the raising of home supplies and the development of thrift.

It is the mainstay of the one-crop, farm tenancy, supply-merchant system of farming, which allows the farmer to create great wealth year by year in cotton and tobacco but makes it impossible for him to retain it. It gives negro tenants an advantage over white tenants; as evidenced by the fact that more than half the farm owners in Warren county are negroes. Negro tenants live upon a lower level, and the hardships better, and rise out of tenancy into farm ownership oftener than white tenants.

The negative speakers contended that abolishing the crop lien affected more than half the farmers of the State, all the tenant farmers and most of the small farm owners; that it meant chaos and confusion in the business of 41 counties, mainly the cotton and tobacco counties of eastern North Carolina, where negro population and tenancy farming are main features in agriculture; that the landlords were not able to finance their tenants directly and without the crop lien farm tenants could not live. Farm labor would therefore be compelled to desert this region; and land value would be destroyed; that farming as a business would dwindle; that the cultivated area would decrease; that seventy-five million dollars of annual wealth in cotton and tobacco crops would be jeopardized, and that the commerce and trade of these counties would be thrown into a hopeless tangle.

It was admitted that the system was unwise, but, until the proper substitute can be found, rural credit associations are everywhere slow in developing strength and power. They could not be a mainstay for landless farmers within the next quarter of a century.

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THE VANISHED COUNTRY.

(Re-entered at the request of the Gentleman From Texas.)

Back to the Vanished Country. There's a cabin in the line, Across the yellow sunshine And the silver of the rain; A cabin, summer-shaded, Where the maples whispered low Dream stories of the southland That a fellow used to know, And it's queer that, turning gray, Still a fellow looks away To a dream he knows has vanished Down the Path of Yesterday.

Back in the Vanished Country There's an old-time swinging gate Through the early dusk of summer Where a girl had come to wait; And her hair was like the sun-drift From the heart of summer skies While the blue of God's wide heaven Crowned the splendor of her eyes; And it's queer that, turning gray, Still a fellow looks away To a dream he knows has vanished Down the Path of yesterday.

Back in the Vanished Country There's a dream that used to be. Of Fame within the city And a name beyond the sea; A dream of laurel wreathings That came singing through the night The story of the glory Of the victor in the fight; And it's queer that, worn and gray, Still a fellow looks away To a dream he knows has vanished Down the Path of Yesterday.

TOUGH ON THE GENERAL.

General Thompson had a wife who was possessed of both a tongue and a temper of her own. Their French gardener had his own ideas of what to plant in the garden and when to plant it, and he was especially averse to taking directions from a woman. One day he flatly refused to obey the orders of Mrs. Thompson, whereupon she discharged him and gave him a note to the general directing the amount to be paid him.

The general was counting out the money when Antoine exclaimed: "Ah mon general, I could stay vis you forever. But your wife, ah, mon dieu! your wife is a terror!" The general could not permit the domestic disposition of Mrs. Thompson to be discussed, so he pushed the money toward Antoine and exclaimed: "There, that will do, my man. There is your money. You can go."

Antoine shrugged his shoulders and replied: "Ah, mon general, I am sorry for you. As for me, as you say, I can go; but you? Ah, you must stay."

REAL HUMOR.

A report from Olympia, Wash., states that the following signatures appear on a petition requesting that the question of State-wide prohibition be placed on the ballot for the coming election: Ethelwyn Casebeer, Thomas Beers, Ada Rann, Leonora Sourwine, Francis Ale, Elizabeth Boose and T. C. Stew.

Congress having adjourned, the chautauquus begin to take on a Washingtonian spect.

Our Secretary of State, the great and mighty, W. J. Bryan, who was largely responsible for the draft of the National Democratic platform, had these words incorporated in it:

"The Constitutional rights of American citizens should protect them on our borders and go with them throughout the world, and every American citizen residing or having property in any foreign country is entitled to and must be given the full protection of the United States Government both for himself and his property."

Now, Mr. Bryan meant it or did not mean it, the presumption is that he did not care a ding which way you took it, the facts are that he manifest but slight interest in Americans in Mexico. He's tried to keep close to Villa. Now really would not Bryan make a helovz of a president. No more Bryan in ours. If this sentiment offends a number of his worshippers it will not worry us.—Mebane Lezier.

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POOR