

ability.
The Advance considers the idea a good one—in fact we were about to suggest something of the same idea, in a local way, before Mr. Joyner's letter reached us.

Teachers are not expected to have a great deal of money, but they are expected to be leaders in every hour of public need and at every opportunity for public service. Moreover, from the fact that they work only eight or nine months in the year they are forced to the necessity of putting by, during the school months, enough to live on during vacation.

Teachers have not felt the weight of war's hand to the extent that farmers and business men are feeling it. They ought to help bear the burden of the present situation as far as they can. They can do so by putting their savings in cotton at ten cents.

Mr. Joyner's letter was dated October 1st. Probably the first teacher has not yet answered the appeal. Certainly no county association of teachers has done so. The Advance invited Elizabeth City to lead the State in the buy a bale movement. The suggestion was not followed. Where in the procession will Elizabeth City teachers march? When will the teachers of other counties in this section be heard from?

Teachers do more preaching than the men in any other walk of life. Here is a splendid opportunity for them to practice what they preach.

The State Superintendent of Education in addition to urging that clubs of teachers be formed to buy cotton at ten cents is suggesting that similar clubs of school children also may be organized.

But before Mr. Joyner made his suggestion to the public school teachers of this State the members of the senior class of Wake Forest College had already immortalized themselves by buying a bale of cotton at ten cents on their own initiative. The Advance feels that it may be pardoned for the degree of pride with which it speaks of this action on the part of the next set of young men whom its editor's Alma Mater will send out to help shape the future of North Carolina.

An official of the Federal Census Bureau, in discussing the report recently issued by the government, dealing with the term of occupancy of farmers in the United States, said:

"This frequency of moving from farm to farm, or instability of occupancy, very likely, forms one of the chief causes for the decline of rural prosperity, or it is a hindrance to greater progress. Frequency of removal of farmers results in general shiftlessness; the roads and bridges are generally in a poor condition because the farmers, moving at frequent periods, are not particularly interested in their upkeep. Farm buildings of such farms are not usually kept in good repair, as the farmer who is about to move will leave the repairs for the next tenant to make. The same reasons will apply for lack of interest by the 'unstable' farmer in the schools, churches, and general welfare of the community. They move frequently; they do not remain on a farm long enough to get the best results from it, consequently they are usually in a poor financial condition."

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It's the man who really counts in farming. There's more in the man than there is in the land—or in the times.

Good roads widen a people's sympathies, broaden their horizons and add to their usefulness. Let's have them.

PUT PREACHING INTO PRACTICE

The State Superintendent of Education has issued a letter to the teachers of North Carolina urging them to join in the buy a bale movement that is now attracting the attention of the whole country.

Mr. Joyner suggests that many a school superintendent can without great hardship buy a bale of cotton himself. A few teachers can do likewise.

But Mr. Joyner's letter is not merely an appeal to the comparatively small number of teachers who are in a position to do so without hardship to buy a bale of cotton at ten cents. He is urging the school superintendents to put the matter before those who work under them to the end that the teachers in every system of city schools shall form a club to purchase one or more bales at this price. He also wants the county superintendents to bring the matter to the attention of the country teachers and endeavor in each county to organize at least one buy-a-bale club among the teachers of the rural schools. This does not mean that the teachers are to raise this money with entertainments and suppers and socials but that they are to go down in to their pockets and contribute according to their individual

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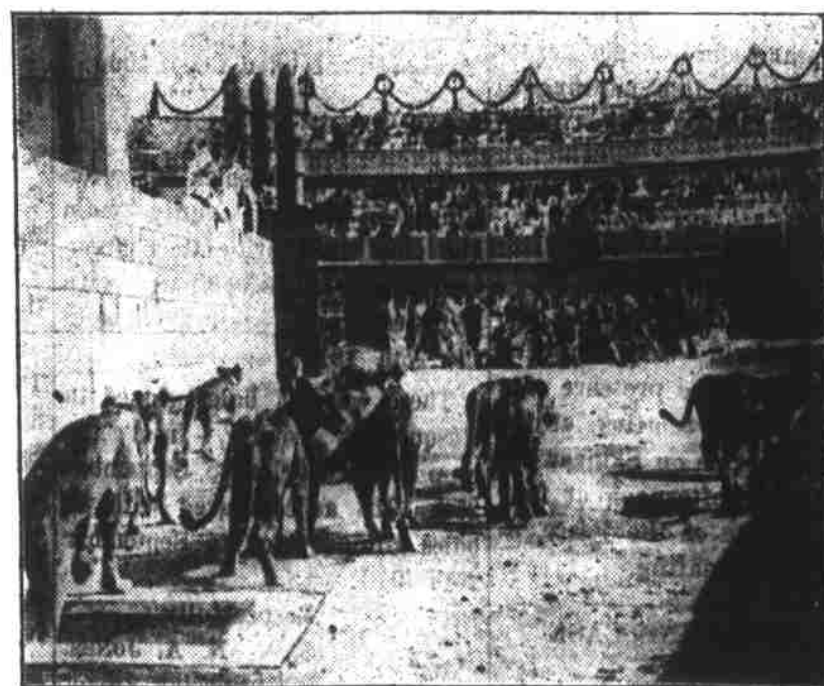
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