

# Many Self-Made Men Who Never Had Chance To Enter College

### Nebraska Educator Shows That Ability Is Not Always Governed By College Course.

During the past few years F. J. Vogltance, superintendent of public instruction of Colfax county, Neb., has searched the records of some 2,000 men and women whose names appear in the Harvard Classics, Diderot's Library of Universal Literature, the Encyclopaedia Britannica and other noted works to prove his argument—in agreeing with Cicero—that "natural ability without education has often raised man to glory and virtue than education without natural ability." He reports the result of his research for the benefit of other Pathfinder readers.

Explaining that the 2,000 biographies investigated represent 40 different countries and many different professions, Mr. Vogltance says he found that 1,465 had college education. Of the latter number 65 were successful in the profession for which they prepared themselves in college—the Mayo brothers, Dr. Charles W. Elliott, Longfellow and Verpanck included.

The remaining 810 abandoned their college profession for something else. As examples, Julian Hawthorne and Herbert Spencer gave up engineering for literature. "Bill" Nye, Petrarch, James Russell Lowell, Washington Irving and Oswald preferred writing to law. John Van Herder and John Keats gave up surgery. Immanuel Kant failed as a preacher. Emerson abandoned the pulpit for the platform and Lessing found the stage more alluring than the church. Thus, more than half the number of college men who abandoned their first profession became successful in another.

About one-fourth, or 495, of these 2,000 were self-made, or homemade, or self-educated. Alice and Phoebe Cary were educated at home. John Chrysotom retired to a desert where he spent six years in an ascetic and studious life. It is said that he spent two years in a damp, unwholesome cavern in committing the Bible to memory, later recognized as the foremost pulpit orator of the day, greatest of the Greek fathers. Heinrich Conscience, Robert Milder, Vanbrey, never went to college until they went to teach. Thomas Cooper, apprenticed to a shoemaker, master of Latin, Greek, Hebrew, and French languages. William Lloyd Garrison, William Gifford, Jacob Mohme, Andrew J. Davis were shoemakers.

Frederick Douglas whose mother was a negro, father unknown, learned to write on board fences, sidewalks, sides of houses, became a slave, later became editor of a newspaper, member of territorial council of the District of Columbia, presidential elector from New York, U. S. Minister to Haiti. Thomas Ellwood, expelled from school, was given the position of reader to Milton, later became a poet. Patrick Henry at 24 decided to become a lawyer, and in six weeks prepared himself for the bar and passed the examination. Sir William Herschel taught music, played the organ in a church at Bath, studied astronomy by himself, made himself a six-foot telescope, and became an authority on astronomy. Elbert Hubbard had only a common school education, worked on a farm and in a printing shop, studied and traveled. Theodore Parker entered Harvard college, but studied at home, only being present at college for examinations.

Alfred Tenyson left college before graduating. Emanuel Swedenborg was assessor of mines until he was 55 years old, resigned, devoted himself to reading and study, and became one of the leading philosophers and writers of all times. Tolstoi had only two years of college. John Throbridge had only a rural school education. Isaac Walton, father of angling, was a lre-draper. He retired at 50, and the remaining 40 years he spent in reading, study and writing. Isaac Watt never attended a college. John O. Whittier worked on a farm until he was 18, then attended an academy for only two years. James Whitcomb Riley, St. Simon, Savonarola, Mitchell Faraday, Clemence Isauré, Elihu Burritt, Luther Burbank, Thomas Edison, and about 475 others were "homemade."

Charles M. Schwab says, "The only education worth while is self-education." He, Henry Ford, John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, Judge Gray, Loyd George, Lord Northcliffe, Geo. Washington, never attended college.

Suggesting that teachers should encourage their pupils to make the lives of the great their own examples, Mr. Vogltance says he doesn't know of any literature that will put more real "heroism" into a live pupil than will the reading of the lives of men who stood fast and suffered long, who dared while others fled. He concludes: "According to some authorities the seven classics are: The Pilgrim's Progress, Book of Job, Odyssey, Divine Comedy, Faust, Arabian Nights and Don Quixote. Each one of these teaches "heroism" in one form or another, and has been translated into many languages. But pupils in elementary schools cannot read these classics with as much profit and interest as they can the life of some of their heroes. Let a pupil

become interested, and learning becomes a pleasure to him, and teaching a mere assignment of lessons. Anything a pupil studies with interest, he learns without conscious effort.

## Wood Products May Mean Coin W. N. C.

Rutherfordton.—The announcement that the Farmers' Federation would develop the wood products market in Western North Carolina was received with much interest by the people of this section. They realize, especially the farmers, that it means new wealth in a constant stream coming to them.

The federation plans to tap some of the many resources in Western North Carolina. Wood pulp, extract of wood, locust for insulating pins, dogwood for cotton mill shuttles, all kinds of logs for veneering and saw mill purposes will be used. Telegraph and telephone poles, also poles for the highway commission take a large amount of wood products each year.

This move on the part of the Farmers' Federation will bring new industries to Western North Carolina such as wood-working plants of various kinds, rolling pin and clothes pin factories, and manufacture of chairs, tables and the like.

The four high priced trees, poplar, walnut, locust and white pine, thrive in Western North Carolina. They represent untold wealth to mountain farmers, and will help vacant lots to produce wealth for farmers and timber growers. Walnut will be assembled in carlots so each individual farmer can get the benefit of the carlot prices.

The demand for poles by railroads light and power companies, state highway commissions, telegraph and telephone companies is growing rapidly. The total number used in this country now amounts to over 4,000,000 poles and averaging them at \$2.50 each means \$10,000,000 spent annually for this item.

Development of this new industry by the Farmers' Federation means that the 20,885 idle acres of land in Buncombe county will go to producing wealth. Buncombe has more idle acres than any of the other 23 Western North Carolina counties: Wilkes is second with 17,319 acres; Burke third with 15,369 acres; Madison, fourth with 15,404 acres; Cherokee next with 12,453 while Rutherford has 9,886 idle acres. Polk 5, 412, Henderson 3,640 and Jackson, 6,888. The 23 Western North Carolina counties have a total of 183,230 idle acres that should be producing steady wealth to the owners.

There are 1,811,818 farm woodland acres in the 23 most Western North Carolina counties that are producing an annual growth equivalent to 1,359,000 cords of wood, based on an average of three-fourths of a cord per acre per year. The average mountain farm burns as fuel fourteen cords annually. Thus, the fuel requirements for the farms alone annually amounts to about 700,000 cords of wood. Since the low-grade timber can be used for local consumption on the farms, there is still left about 659,000 cords of wood to be marketed in these 23 counties annually. The total value of this wood (in poles, pulpwood, logs and fuel) is about \$8 per cord, or a total of \$5,472,000 annually.

Farm woodland of the 23 mountain counties can produce an annual income, above the requirements of the home, of about \$235,000 per county per year.

**"The Dragon."**  
The time was midnight, and the man was leg weary and thirsty as he trudged along the country road. At last he came to a public-house by the roadside called the George and Dragon. He knocked loudly on door.

Presently the head of a fierce-looking woman appeared at a window, and she demanded what he meant by disturbing her at that time of night. It was long after closing time, and he would never get a drink out of her.

Go away, she shouted, before I set the dog on you.  
Well, said the man, will you please tell George I'd like a word with him?  
On Broadway, New York City.  
You'd never think this street used to be a cowpath, would you?  
Oh, I dunno; look at all the calves.

# Around Our TOWN Shelby SIDELIGHTS

By RENN DRUM

SEVERAL CONTRIBUTORS are handing in lists of "remember whens" about old Shelby. The majority of them, however, came in after today's spasm was in print and will be produced later. These include some interesting memories by Mrs. George Blanton and others, and some Shelby documents dating back to the days before the American Independence found among the old documents in the possession of J. A. Wilson. Those in a reminiscent mood today may have their memories stirred by a few recollections on the part of Mr. Ernest Hoey.

**ONE OF THE THINGS OUT OF** past recalled by Mr. Hoey back in the days of the old Methodist church, which stood where the Webb theatre is located now, and the time was prior to the remodeling of the church which was replaced by the movie house.

"Along in front of each pew," he recalls, "there were three boxes filled with saw dust to be used as spiltions for the tobacco users so that they might not be forced to do without their Brown's Mule during services. When the church was being remodelled and with all the pews carried out one could still tell where they had been by the stains on the walls at the sides of the building made by the fellows whose aims were high while expectorating their amber."

**THEN IT IS, ALSO, RECALLED** that two of Shelby's best known business men nowadays got their start in the business world by operating Beck's Fountain, the landmark which was removed from the northeast corner of the court square not so many years back. T. W. Hamrick, the jeweler and student of municipal government, got his first business experience there, and so did Claude Webb, the theatre man.

**A CONTRIBUTOR, WHO PERHAPS** has tired of superlative men and women but still wishes to keep his identity secret, writes in to inform that after making a search of the U. S. Postal Guide he finds that there are 10 Shelybs and eight Shelyvilles. Those of you who have been to the big town and wondered why people asked "what state?" when you gave your home as Shelby may not be puzzled any longer. But we'll wager the amount of our last overdraft that not a one of the 'en is better known than our own Shelby, because Shelby, North Carolina, is the largest Shelby or Shelyville listed.

The contributor was nice enough to continue by jotting down each Shelby listed and the population thereof. Here they are:

- Shelby, North Carolina, population 12,000.
- Shelby, Virginia, population 2.
- Shelby, Alabama, population 790.
- Shelby, Iowa, population 375.
- Shelby, Texas, population 248.
- Shelby, Michigan, population, 1,288.
- Shelby, Mississippi, population, 1,300.
- Shelby, Montana, population 337.
- Shelby, Nebraska, population 559.
- Shelby, Ohio, population 5,578.
- Shelbyville, Arkansas, population 62.
- Shelbyville, Illinois, population 3,568.
- Shelbyville, Indiana, population 9,773.
- Shelbyville, Kentucky, population 125.
- Shelbyville, Michigan, population 161.
- Shelbyville, Missouri, population, 2,912.
- Shelbyville, Tennessee, population,

## Cotton Growers Must Cut Their Acreage

Washington.—In a terse warning to cotton farmers to cut their acreage this spring if they expect the government to help market the 1930 crop, the federal farm board took its first decisive step to force a minimum agricultural surplus.

"Some cotton farmers," the board said, "think that because the federal farm board has been lending to co-operatives at an average of 16 cents a pound on middling seven-eighth inch staple of the 1929 crop, the board means to see to it that the price will be at least that much for the crop of 1930.

"This is not so. The federal farm board cannot protect farmers when they deliberately over-plant. What the board will do to help in marketing next year's crop will depend upon what farmers do at planting time."

"The advances we have made in cotton and wheat this year," said C. C. Teague, member of the board, "represent what we feel to be a safe margin guaranteed by present prices, current stock, supply and demand. We do not know that we could offer as much less, or more next year. Advances undoubtedly will vary from time to time, depending on the economic trend. Sudden expansion in any commodity producing a surplus might make it impossible to obtain a profitable price."

In no event, Teague said, would the farm board guarantee a price level for a crop in advance of planting.

The board based its warning on

its statement that last year's cotton acreage was too large. It was the largest planted acreage of any year in history, excepting 1925 and 1926. "If southern farmers should raise their own food and feed and in addition raise so far as the climate and soil will let them, the food that southern city people eat, there would be small danger of any cotton surplus or of an unprofitable price."

The board recommended that southern farmers plant no cotton next spring until they first have provided acres enough for a reasonable supply of food and feed, and that no land be planted to cotton which had not produced at least one-third of a bale an acre on the average for the last five years.

## Blood? Yes, But Whiskey, No, Never

Mocksville Enterprise.  
The many stories, going the round these days tending to establish mere man's fondness for that which some say is so scarce, are amusing. As one is quoted as having said, "I will trust you with my wife, but, brother, you don't get hold of the key to my cellar," shows how some look at it. So does a story told by Dr. Page Northinton, editor of Southern Medicine and Surgery. Here is the story as the famous "medico" tells it in the December number of his publication:

"Gentlemen," said the surgeon as he entered the lobby of the Gooding club, "I have a patient hovering between life and death. One thing will save him. Is there a gentleman here who will volunteer to

do a little for me? That's enough, doc. I'll do it!" "I'd not an athletic youth." "But it must be good, you know it must be pure. I shall have to make a careful examination." "Sure thing. Step right in here." They entered an adjoining anteroom and the sturdy man started to remove his coat.

"Here, here—what's the idea?" demanded the doctor. "Don't you want to examine me?" "Certainly not. Just let me see the whiskey?"

"Whiskey? Well, of all the nerve? Think I'd give up a quart of good whiskey for a guy I never saw in my life? I thought you only wanted blood." This reminds us of one which the late Carey Dowd, publisher of the Charlotte News, used to tell: "A Charlotte man so dry that his 'nards' rattled, stepped into a dark alley where he had an engagement with his bootlegger. Handing the said bootlegger the cellar bill, and snatching the pint, he shoved it into his hip pocket. Just at that time a cop rushed around the corner. The thirsty fellow, determined to make a getaway with his precious fluid, made a dash for a still darker place, and one a little further away from the shining presence of the said cop. "Halt," he commanded, a second time, and then a shot. The bullet passed in such close proximity to the pint on the man's hip that a chip was taken off from the lower left hand corner of the flask. But the man continued to run. Then feeling the fluid trickling down his leg and into his shoe, and knowing for a certainty that either his flask

or his anatomy had been pierced by the policeman's bullet, the Charlotte man said as he ran, "I hope to God that's blood."

## Still More Millions Treat Colds Direct

### Round-About Method of "Dosing" Gives Way To Modern Vaporizing Salve

More and more people each year are giving up the slow, indirect way of treating colds by "dosing" with internal medicines, and are adopting the modern direct treatment—Vicks VapoRub.

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The Coach . . . . .	\$565	Light Delivery Chassis . . . . .	\$365
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