

Rutherford County: Economic and Social

By R^W E^{PRICE}

A Laboratory Study in the University of
North Carolina, Department of Rural
Economics and Sociology



The Expense of Publication is Generously Borne by
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AUTHOR'S NOTE

This booklet is the result of investigations made in the North Carolina Club Room at the University of North Carolina, along with particular studies of Rutherford by the author. The work has been done in addition to regular college work. Though the volume is small, its preparation has consumed a year or more. By its very nature, it called for an immense amount of work. The tables had to first be worked up very carefully, then checked up, and then interpreted. It was the desire of the author to give honor to whom honor was due, and to have all the facts as nearly correct as possible.

This work has been done with no idea or thought of financial reward, but solely with the idea of rendering some worth-while service to my native county. The purpose has been to put our county under the microscope, as it were, so that we could know more of the economic and social problems of the county, and to make clear just where we stood in comparison with other counties and the state at large. To know about the needs of one's own county and then to render some service in spreading knowledge where there is ignorance, plenty where there is poverty and morality where there is vice, is the author's idea of education. If some of the farmers in the county realize their situation and become a live-at-home, home-owning, happy class of people the efforts put forth in getting out this booklet will not have been in vain.

The author is greatly indebted to Prof. E. C. Branson, head of the Department of Rural Economics and Sociology in the University, for suggestions and aid. The work was greatly aided by Mr. Chas. H. Haynes, President of Cliffside Mills, Cliffside, N. C., and other loyal citizens for giving aid in the form of advertising matter. Mr. Kenneth S. Tanner, of Rutherfordton, made the booklet possible by generously standing responsible for the cost of publication. He has worked faithfully to see that it was paid for, despite the high cost of paper and other print shop bills. The Rutherfordton *Sun* has been generous in giving it publicity. All these have rendered valuable service to the county.

R. E. PRICE.

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C., May, 1918.

FOREWORD

This work, *Rutherford County: Economic and Social*, is the result of the efforts of Mr. R. E. Price, a student in the University of North Carolina and a loyal son of Rutherford, in the headquarters of the North Carolina Club. It is the fourth of its kind to be issued in America. The first, *Sampson County: Economic and Social*, issued in April, 1917; the second, *Durham County: Economic and Social*, issued in May, 1918; the third, *Wake County: Economic and Social*, issued in June, 1918; all being the work of students in the University of North Carolina.

It is a vital and interpretative study of a North Carolina county, and it throws a flood of light upon conditions and problems that people have known too little about, and which they have had little opportunity to learn of. It purposes to picture Rutherford county; to point out where she leads, where she lags, and the way out. It should go far to stimulate a county consciousness, which is the greatest need in North Carolina counties today.

The value of this bulletin to Rutherford county does not lie solely in the information concerning conditions and the interpretation of forces at work which it gives to the people of the county, though that value more than justifies its publication; but also in the fact that the man who wrote it has, in the very process of its preparation, received an invaluable training in affairs which call for an enlightened interest and a constructive citizenship.

In the two-fold value of this bulletin is symbolized a forward movement in education which the University of North Carolina may justly pride herself upon beginning and which gives a glimpse of her success in serving and in training men to serve those who do not come directly into her walls. It is only another expression of the fact that she is so deeply rooted in the life of the people who have created and sustained her, so accurately conceived in their service, that her response to their need is only the complete expression of her life.

ALBERT M. COATES,
President, The North Carolina Club.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY

Rutherford county was formed in 1779 from Tryon and Burke. It was named in honor of General Griffith Rutherford, a brigadier-general in the Revolutionary War, who rendered valuable service to the cause of independence. Rutherford county was first settled by a sturdy Scotch-Irish people who have been mainly responsible for its growth and development.

The history of Rutherford might be divided into two periods: The first, from the time the Scotch-Irish settlers pitched their tents and erected rude huts, up to 1876 when the first railroad was built in the county. The second period is from 1876 to the present.

The first period of Rutherford's history was one of trial and bloodshed. The Cherokee Indians often made raids on the early settlers, who lived in daily dread of the bloody tomahawk and the treacherous scalping knife. Many forts were built for the protection of the settlers during this period. In times of peril the women and children fled to the block-houses while the men fought the Indians.

During the Revolutionary War a cloud of terror hung over Rutherford for the people were in danger both from the Indians and the British invaders. Colonel Patrick Ferguson, the British raider, threatened to hang the leaders who fought for freedom, burn their homes, and lay their country in waste.

After pillaging and plundering the county for some time Ferguson received the news that a band of men were coming to meet him. They met him at King's Mountain October 7, 1780. Ferguson himself was slain and all of his men either killed or captured. This battle was the turning point in the war for American independence. Rutherford county furnished her full quota to Campbell's army which defeated Ferguson.

Rutherford county has always stood for what was noble and great in both war and peace. She furnished the Confederacy eleven companies of troops who rendered valuable service to the cause. There stands on the court house lawn a beautiful monument to the men who fought for a cause they believed to be just and right. Every year on the 10th of May the people observe Memorial Day to keep fresh in the minds of the rising generations the glory of the men who fought and died on Confederate battlefields.

Rutherford in History

Rutherford has always taken an interest in questions of fundamental importance. In the Constitutional Convention of 1788 which

met at Hillsboro, July 25th-August 4th, Rutherford was represented by George Moore, George Ledbetter, William Porter, Richard Singleton, and James Whitesides.

At the Fayetteville convention of 1789, William Porter, James Holland, Richard Lewis, William Johnson and George Ledbetter represented the county. In the convention of 1835, held at Raleigh, Joseph McDaniel Carson, and Theoderick F. Birchett represented the county.

In the conventions of 1861, '65, '68, and '75, which met at Raleigh, Rutherford was represented by Jason H. Carson, Micajah Durham, G. W. Michal; Geo. W. Logan; W. H. Logan, Jesse Rhodes; N. B. Hampton; and James M. Justice, respectively.

Rutherford has furnished three Congressmen, as follows: James Holland, who was a member of the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th Congresses, 1803-09; James Graham, who was a member of the 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, and 29th Congresses, 1833-46; and Thomas L. Jones, who represented a district from Kentucky from 1867-71 and 1875-77. He was born in Rutherford county January 22nd, 1819.

John McDowell was a Councilor of State from 1824-28. He was elected by the General Assembly of 1824-25-26-27.

Rutherford has furnished three Superior Court Judges. Before 1868 they were elected by the General Assembly to serve during good behavior, since then they have been elected by the people for a term of eight years. They are as follows: John Paxton, 1818-26; George W. Logan, 1868-74; and Michael Justice, 1901—.

Rutherford's Voting Record

Sixteen hundred and eighteen voters of the county favored the call of the convention of 1835 and only one opposed it. Amendments submitted by the convention of 1835: for the amendments, 1,557 voters; against the amendments, only 2.

Six hundred and forty-seven voters favored the free suffrage amendment and 339 opposed it.

The vote on the convention question in February, 1861, was 1,332 for the convention and 431 against it.

The amendment to abolish slavery received 658 votes, against it only 11.

The amendment forbidding secession received 635 votes, favoring it 11.

Eight hundred and six voters favored the ratification of the constitution in 1866, while 46 opposed it. The votes ratifying the constitution of 1868 numbered 1,350, and the votes against it, 457.

Twelve hundred and seven voters were opposed to calling the convention of 1871, while 596 favored it.

Two thousand three hundred and four voters favored the suffrage

amendment in 1900 (disfranchising the negro) and 2,103 were opposed to it.

On the vote for state-wide prohibition in August, 1881, the voters in favor of it numbered 602, while those opposed to it numbered 1,699; but in May, 1908, prohibition received 1,559 votes and only 426 voters were opposed to it.

This record shows that Rutherford has usually been on the side of temperance, reform and progress in all matters involving the interest of the whole state. She gave a majority of 1,133 votes for state-wide prohibition in 1908.

Geography

Rutherford county is one of the western piedmont counties of North Carolina. It lies on the southeastern slope of the Blue Ridge. Its extreme western border extends from Sugar Loaf Mountain to Old Rumbling Bald, peaks of the Blue Ridge, both over 3,800 feet in elevation, between which flow the headwaters of the Broad River through the Chimney Rock gorge. A large part of the South Mountains are included in the northeastern corner of the county. The remainder of the county is hilly and rolling, the slopes becoming gentler toward the southwest. The entire county is drained by Broad River and its tributaries, which furnish considerable undeveloped water power.

Surface and Soils

Rutherford is bounded on the north by McDowell and Burke counties; on the east by Cleveland; and on the south by South Carolina; and on the west by Polk and Henderson counties.

There are several mountains in the county. Among the most important are Cherry Mountain, Smoky Mountain, Sweezy Mountain, Chimney Rock, and eastern spurs of the Blue Ridge in the western part of the county. The southern and western part of the county is drained by the Broad and Green rivers, which unite near the South Carolina line. The county is also drained by several important creeks and other smaller streams.

The soil is a red clay. There is some black loam along the larger streams. The intervening ridges are mostly white sandy loams. The soil has been well favored by nature, and though it is not rich, yet by skillful, scientific farming will produce in abundance.

The climate is fine for summer and winter residence, especially so in the mountain section of the county during the heated seasons. Labor in the open is never prevented by excessive heat, cold, or storms. The mean annual temperature is 57.3 degrees.

Nearly three-fourths of the county is wooded area. The mountain sections are covered almost entirely with forest growth. White oak,

post oak, and chestnut oak trees furnish abundant material for cross ties. Other hard woods such as red oak, hickory, black gum, Spanish oak, and wild locust are found in abundance. Second growth pines, which have grown up on old fields, furnish a good portion of the saw-mill timber. The poplar and maple are common throughout the county, especially in low sections.

Forest fires are very common, especially in the mountains, and the annual destruction of timber runs into tens of thousands of dollars. Second growth pine has almost ceased to be saw timber in Rutherford.

Plants

The native plants are varied and many. Roses, lilies, and ferns grow wild in great abundance. Ivy, trailing arbutus, violets, blood and snake roots are also conspicuous wild flowers. The rhododendron, wintergreen and ginseng are also found.

There is a great variety of medicinal plants growing wild in the county. Among them are snake-root, blood-root, sassafras, butterfly-weed, mint, horse-nettle, jimson-weed, elder, dandelion and wild cherry roots.

Animal Life and Standard Crops

The most common wild animals are opossums, rabbits, squirrels, foxes, minks, weasels, and coons.

Rutherford has a great variety of birds. The most common are the cat bird, robin, mocking bird, jay, yellow hammer, woodpecker, sparrow, blue-bird, red-bird, hawk, crow, buzzard, finch and rice birds. Quail in the open season offer fine sport for sportsmen.

Fish, mainly cat fish, and bass are found in a few streams but not in sufficient quantities to be of any importance.

The principal crops are corn, wheat, oats, cotton, rye, peas, and some tobacco. Vegetables could be grown in abundance. Potatoes, beans, turnips, cabbage, squash, onions, tomatoes, strawberries, Irish potatoes, okra, blackberries, and dewberries all thrive well when properly cultivated. The soils and seasons are admirably adapted to peaches, pears, figs, apples, grapes, and cherries. Commercial fruit farming in Rutherford lacks nothing but capital and skill.

Population and Business

Rutherford was settled chiefly by Scotch-Irish and Scotch Highlanders, along with scattering French, Germans, Irish, Moravians and Swiss. Our population, both white and black, is almost exclusively native; in fact in 1910 there were only twelve foreign born persons in the county.

In 1913 the total taxables of the county were \$6,948,029, as follows: Bank stock, railroads, telegraph and telephone lines, \$1,312,000; real

estate, \$3,787,604, and personal property, \$1,848,425. The per capita taxable wealth of the county in 1910 was only \$293, while the state average was \$323. However, in 1917 our total taxables showed an increase of nearly \$850,000. Only 44 counties made a better showing.

In 1913 the people voted for a \$250,000 bond issue to be used in building a system of roads. There are from 800 to 1,000 miles of public roads in the county, and on June 1st, 1915, there were 314 miles improved.

The county has four railroads—the Carolina, Clinchfield, and Ohio, which runs through the county for 27 miles; the Southern for 25 miles; the Seaboard for 20 miles; and the Cliffside for 7.5 miles, total 80 miles.

The postoffices are Caroleen, Henrietta, Cliffside, Ellenboro, Bostic, Forest City, Rutherfordton, Ruth, Spindale, Union Mills, Gilkey, Hollis, Uree, and Thermal City.

The county is well connected with telephones. There are two weekly newspapers in the county, the Rutherfordton *Sun*, and the Forest City *Free Press*.

Rutherfordton, Forest City, Ellenboro, Henrietta, Caroleen and Cliffside, are among the most important towns in the county. Forest City, our largest town, in 1915, had a population of about 2,700 souls and is extensively engaged in cotton manufacturing. Rutherfordton, the county seat, had a population of 1,500 in 1913. The population of Caroleen, Henrietta and Cliffside, each was from 2,000 to 2,500 in 1914. Ellenboro has 435 inhabitants.

The average length of the public schools of Rutherford county for the year 1915-16 was 118 days for the whites and 94 days for the negroes.

There are two State high schools in Rutherford, one at Forest City and the other at Rutherfordton. In both of these the full four-year high school course is given.

The Baptists have a good high school at Union Mills, and the Presbyterians at Westminster. The former is on the Southern Railroad from Marion to Blacksburg, S. C., while the latter is one mile from the C. C. & O. Railroad, near Logan Station.

RESOURCES, INDUSTRIES, AND OPPORTUNITIES

Water Power

The water power of Rutherford, to a large extent, is still undeveloped. Broad River drains most of the county and its falls and shoals offer ample water power for development. Second Broad River, which runs through the eastern portion of the county, has been partly developed. It furnishes power for Henrietta, Caroleen, and Cliffside cotton mills. They are all located on it within a space of six miles.

Cove Creek furnishes light for Rutherfordton. It has several other shoals. Outside of the streams mentioned there is no water power in the county that is worth developing on a commercial scale. Broad River furnishes the best prospects.

Mineral Resources

The principal mineral deposits of Rutherford county are monazite, mica, and gold. None of these, however, are being worked to any extent. The Isinglass Hill mine which is located on the Southern Railroad three and one-half miles north of Rutherfordton was once worked with much profit, but the supply seems to be exhausted at this particular place.

Timber Resources

The mountain and the plateau types of forest both occur in Rutherford county. The mountain or chestnut type, lying alongside the slope of the Blue Ridge, constitutes eight per cent of the entire forest area (1912 figures). The typical tree of this type is chestnut; poplar, oak, hickory, and pine are the other important trees. The pine and oak cover the greater part of the forest area of the county. About thirteen per cent of the present forest area has at one time been cleared and is now growing up in old field pine, much of which, unfortunately, is the scrub pine, though in some places, especially at a distance from the Blue Ridge, the shortleaf pine predominates.

Taking the forest area as a whole it was estimated, in 1912, that an average stand of 1,350 feet per acre was found, or a total stand of about 337,000,000 feet of timber for the county. Of this amount 84,000,000 feet was old growth shortleaf pine, 55,000,000 second growth shortleaf pine; 145,000,000 oak; 16,000,000 hickory and 6,000,000 scrub pine.

Much of this timber has been cut and put on the market. About 50 saw mills were in operation in the county in 1910. All these, except three or four, were run by steam. Practically all of them were portable. They cut about 19,000,000 feet of lumber annually; more

than half of this was field pine, one-third forest grown pine, ten per cent oak, and less than five per cent poplar. In addition to this, about one million feet were cut in the woods with whip saws and hauled as squares to the railroad. In 1910, two thousand, seven hundred cords of pulp wood and over 1,100 cords of chestnut oak bark were cut and shipped, while 22,000 ties were delivered on the railroad. Thousands of shingles were also cut, but these were largely used locally.

Owing to its situation on the Blue Ridge, Rutherford will always have a considerable percentage of forest land. The original forest, which up to twenty years ago was overrun with cattle, is, since the passage of the stock law, growing into a fine growth of young hardwoods wherever it has escaped forest fires. In the lower and more thickly settled portions of the county fires are infrequent, but in the high mountains fires are of annual occurrence and cover large areas, doing much damage.

Many of the old fields which have grown up in dense stands of second growth pine could be improved by thinning out the percentage of the trees. Under ordinary lumbering conditions the best trees are usually taken and the poorest, which are usually the scrub pine, are left to form a second crop and to re-seed the area.

Industries

Textile manufacturing leads all other industries in Rutherford. This leadership is due to the nearby supply of raw cotton, the ample water power, the dense population of white farmers, nearly half of whom are tenants, and lastly to sagacious local leadership. There were six textile mills in the county in 1916, with a combined authorized capital stock of \$1,325,000, and an estimated annual output of \$2,500,000. Two more have been chartered and are now under construction at Forest City. They are the Wingo and Alexander mills, the former with a capital of \$200,000, and the latter with a capital of \$500,000. The Wingo mill will have an output of 275 dozen pairs of half hose per day, besides other goods. The equipment of machinery will include \$7,000 knitting machines each with \$300 electric power drive. We need more machines of this type in order to be able to turn out a finer grade of goods. There is more profit in high grade goods than in coarse goods. It takes skilled brains and fingers to turn out fine silks, laces, insertions, silk hose and other high grade products. The officers of this new mill are J. F. Alexander, president; K. S. Tanner, vice-president, and W. P. Leister, secretary and treasurer.

The Haynes Mills, which are located at Avondale, between Henrietta and Caroleen, were chartered in 1916, with an authorized capital of \$300,000. Building is now completed for 20,000 spindles and 600 looms. A portion of the machinery has been contracted for and will

be in operation by the end of the year. A knitting mill will also be operated by the Haynes Mill. Building for it is now complete and the machinery bought and it will be in operation in the next few weeks to make 420 dozen pairs of half hose per day.

Cleveland county had fifteen textile mills in 1916, with a total capital stock of \$1,255,000.

Rutherford's pioneer textile manufacturers are Messrs. S. B. and K. S. Tanner and R. R. Haynes and Sons. Mr. Haynes died on February 6th, 1917, universally respected, and loved because of his rare qualities of character.

The Cliffside Mills are now under the direction of the Haynes Brothers. Cliffside is one of the ideal mill towns of the South. It was founded in a wilderness by Mr. Raleigh R. Haynes, and is being further developed by Mr. Charles H. Haynes and his brother. Prizes for the best garden, the most beautiful yard, and the most sanitary premises are offered from time to time. Good schools and churches are provided for the mill workers. Community pride and co-operative spirit are evident. Each yuletide there is a community Christmas tree in which every mill operative receives a Christmas gift. Last Christmas each operative was presented with a United States War Savings Certificate with the promise that if the holder would fill the spaces with 25-cent stamps with the exception of the last space by next Christmas the company would complete the \$5 certificate. This was done to encourage thrift and patriotism among the operatives. Cliffside has often been referred to as an ideal mill town.

Messrs. S. B. and K. S. Tanner have also made the Henrietta, Caroleen, Spindale, Cleghorn, and Florence mills, ideal mill towns. The operatives are paid good living wages. The sanitary conditions are good. Gardens and truck patches are encouraged. Good schools are provided. The mill owners donate to the school fund each year. All these towns would have only a five or six months term each year, were it not for the generosity and public spirit of the Tanners. A new school building with modern conveniences and a teachers' cottage home have been recently established at Caroleen.

Mr. Kenneth S. Tanner was the first man in the county to offer help in financing this County Bulletin. It was through his public spirit and generosity that this bulletin was made possible.

There are about fourteen lumber and shingle mill firms in the county. Some of the most important are at Ellenboro, Gilkey, and Rutherfordton. There are many small industries of various kinds in the county, too numerous to mention, but they are playing an important part in our development.

Two new cotton mills have been built within the last year, one between Forest City and Rutherfordton, near the Seaboard depot, known as Spindale, and another near Henrietta, known as The Haynes

Mills. The first is a Tanner enterprise and the last is a Haynes mill. These with the two others that are under construction at Forest City, will add much in the way of wealth and population to the county.

The coming of good roads and ample railway facilities has helped to stimulate manufacturing in the county. The Southern, and the Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio railroads both cross the county, while the Seaboard Air Line terminates at Rutherfordton. Two other branch lines connect with the Seaboard: one at Ellenboro, and the other at Cliffside Junction.

Rutherford is destined to become one of the banner manufacturing counties in Western North Carolina. She has thrifty, enterprising people, ample railway facilities, good roads and highways, water power, schools, hospitals, a soil that is easy to improve, and a low death rate. These conditions with such leaders as the Tanners, the Hayneses, and the Alexanders, assure the future of Rutherford as a manufacturing and commercial center.

Opportunities

Rutherford has an area of 544 square miles; and had an estimated population of about 30,000 souls in 1917. It contains 348,160 acres of land as compared with 312,320 in Cleveland. Rutherford had 1,459 town lots in 1916, while Cleveland had 3,850. Rutherford had 80 miles of railroad in 1914 with an assessed valuation of \$1,325,748. She had 10,630 acres of mineral, quarry, and water power lands. In the same year, 1914, Cleveland had only 4,223 acres of the same kind of land.

Rutherfordton has one of the best private hospitals in the state. It is owned and operated by Drs. Norris and Biggs. They came to Rutherfordton several years ago and established a good hospital at a time when many people of our county did not know what a hospital was. Some of the nearby counties had tried to establish a hospital but had not succeeded in running it for any length of time. Drs. Norris and Biggs have been a great benefit to our county and have really educated our people to appreciate a good first class hospital. It now receives state-wide patronage.

Allowing 50,000 acres for wood-lot uses, there is room in the county for 2,620 new farm families, allowing 75 acres to the family.

Rutherford has a lower death rate than either the state or United States. It is noted as being a healthy region.

Hundreds of people go to Chimney Rock and Bat Cave every summer. The scenery and beauty of the mountains is hardly surpassed by any mountain scenery east of the Mississippi river. The peaks and waterfalls are noted throughout Western North Carolina. A fine summer resort hotel stands at the foot of Chimney Rock.

Rutherford needs more large-scale scientific farming. Her soil and

climate allow it. She needs more manufacturing enterprises and at least one large city to furnish a market for her farm products.

Rutherford had 337,000,000 feet of timber standing in 1912.

She needs to enlarge her timber industries and wood-working establishments, furniture factories and the like. She has the timber and the world needs the finished products of her forests.

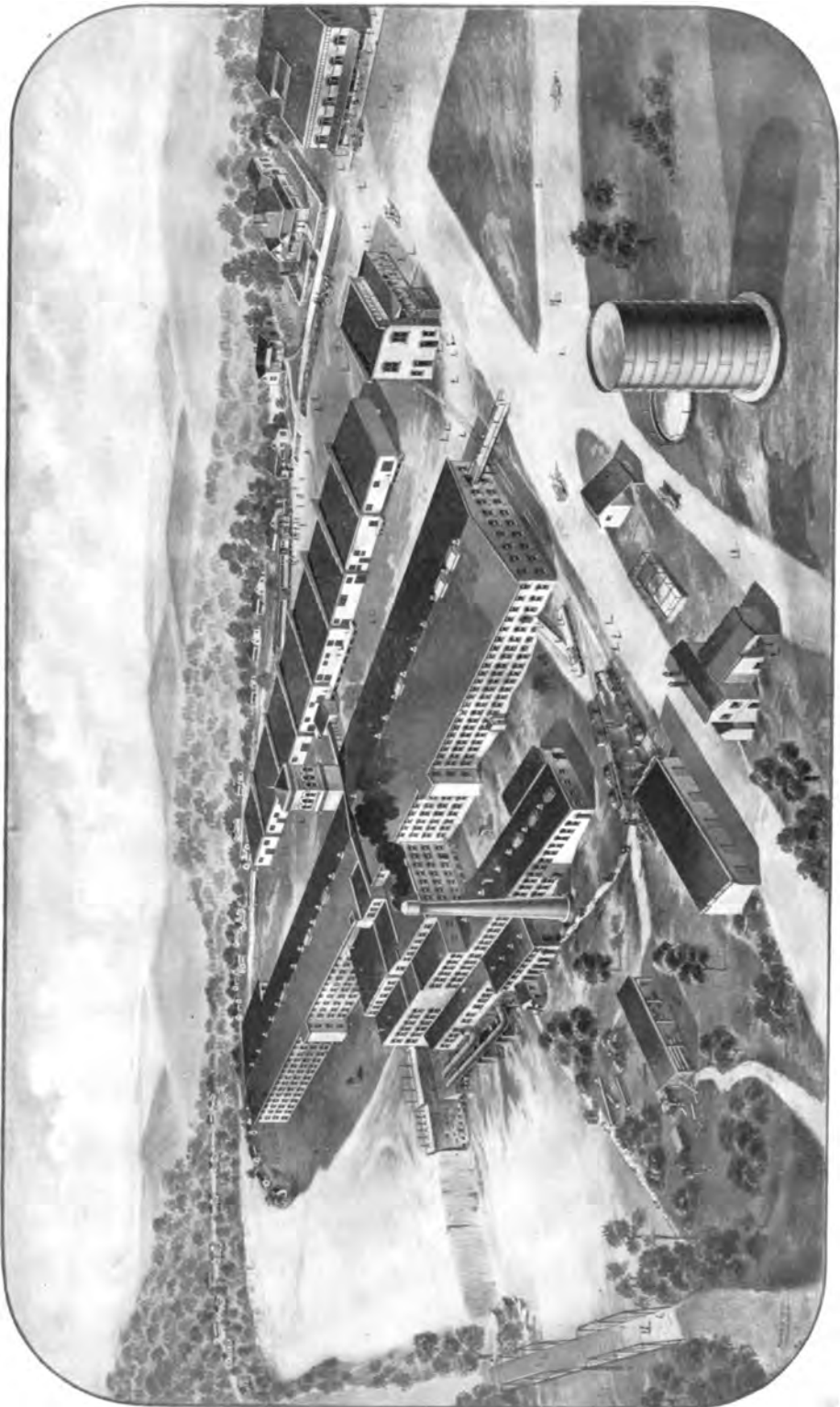
She needs good creameries and cheese factories. The Forest City Creamery Co., is now doing a good business. She has three co-operative Credit Unions—at Mt. Vernon, Walls, and Watkins, and she needs more. So far, however, she is keeping pace with Mecklenburg and Moore in this important modern movement among farmers.

She needs more sand-clay and macadam roads. The county-wide tax system for roads does not work as well as a township, or precinct system. This is proven by the example of Cleveland county, where there are more sand-clay and macadam roads. Cleveland used the township system while Rutherford first adopted the county-wide system. She is gradually resorting to the township system.

The appearance of the *Rutherford County School News*, a monthly journal of four pages, gotten out this year by the teachers and for the teachers, marks off another mile post in county progress. It helps the teachers rub elbows a little better. Only a few of the leading counties of the state, so far, have such a publication.

Rutherford needs more tomato, corn, and pig clubs. The young folks need to acquaint themselves with such work. It means more food and feed stuff for our own people as well as more cash operating capital for our farmers. The boys in the corn club averaged 51 bushels per acre in 1915. The old-time farmers are beginning to learn that it is possible greatly to increase their per acre yields. Rutherford was one of the earliest counties to employ a Farm Demonstration Agent. He can easily be of far greater value to the county than our farmers yet realize.

The appointing of Miss Jessie Wills Steel, of Rockingham, N. C., as Home Demonstration Agent in February, 1918, means much for the county and will help to lessen our bill for imported food supplies. She has already entered upon her duties, with headquarters at Rutherfordton. She was trained at Peace Institute, the Columbia (S. C.) College for Women, and at the State Normal and Industrial College at Greensboro. She is well prepared for her new duties. She will work with the women of the county. She will organize canning clubs, cooking and sewing clubs, and will give instruction in food conservation, home sanitation and home conveniences. She will supply a long felt need in the county.



CLIFFSIDE MILLS, CLIFFSIDE, N. C.

Rutherford needs more people as well as more intelligent people. The coming of the moonlight school has done much to wipe out adult illiteracy in the county.

With every citizen in the county able to read and write, and every acre of her land producing the largest possible crops, the possibilities of our county are beyond easy measure. With an intelligent, progressive citizenship we should be able to apply all the gifts and forces of nature to the welfare and well-being of our people.

FACTS ABOUT THE FOLKS

At the close of this and other chapters will be found a table worked out of the 1910 census and other authoritative sources of information. This table shows (1) certain fundamental facts about Rutherford set over against similar facts about other counties and the state at large, and (2) how the county stands in each particular when compared with other counties of the state.

This table affords a basis for an interpretative chapter of great length, but there is room for only a brief, simple discussion of it in this bulletin. The reader is asked to study carefully this and similar tables closing other chapters in the bulletin.

The fact that Rutherford has 335,237 acres of land, practically all of which is valuable for crops or pasture land farming, and that 42 counties have a larger rural population per square mile, goes to prove that we have abundant room for home seekers. The fact is, Rutherford really needs a larger population. More people would overcome the lonesomeness of our farm communities, give us better schools, better support for churches, better community co-operation, and a better balanced farm system. One of the richest and most attractive farm sections the writer ever saw was Noble county, Indiana, where it was easy to see at least 12 or 15 fine farm homes for every mile of public highways.

Rutherford had 52.2 people per square mile in 1910, North Carolina had 32 and Denmark had 612 for every square mile in the country. Denmark has one of the richest and best developed farm systems on earth. She has very few tenants. She has good markets for all of her farm products which means plenty of ready cash operating capital, and ample capital for farm improvements.

Rutherford can never be the well-to-do, independent county that she should be until we have a larger population, and a better balanced farm system. We also want more towns and larger trade centers. Good markets for the farmers' products will mean more food and feed crops along with more cotton and tobacco. The heavy annual drain of our money supply into the west for bread and meat will then cease. Before we are really a prosperous county our farmers must have more ready cash operating capital, a larger cash surplus, and more ready money for better roads, churches and schools.

The number of native white illiterates ten years of age and over, in 1910 in Rutherford was 153 people out of every 1000, or 30 in the thousand more than the state average. Seventy-six counties made a better showing in this respect.

Rural illiteracy in North Carolina is about 19 per cent of the people, all races ten years of age and over. Illiteracy not only produces less crude wealth, but it retains less of the wealth it produces than does

intelligent labor. Ignorance and poverty usually go hand in hand, while intelligence, thrift, wealth and prosperity go together.

The greatest social ill in Rutherford and every other county of the state is illiteracy and ignorance. Sixteen out of every one hundred of her native white voters cannot read and write. This is 2 per cent greater than the state average and 12 per cent greater than the United States average. The recent moonlight crusade will do much to check this. We greatly regret that Rutherford is above the average for the whole state. We could do no better thing than to appropriate money and join the state authorities in a vigorous campaign against illiteracy in our county.

Only 60 out of every 100 white children in Rutherford in 1910, from 6 to 14 years of age, were in school. Sixteen hundred or three-fifths of the children of these ages were out of school at that time, according to the 1910 census. The schools have already been provided and the mystery is that the people fail to take advantage of their opportunities. Seventy counties in 1914 paid their rural white teachers more than did Rutherford. The average for the state was \$235 per year while Rutherford averaged only \$203. Under the present high cost of living, \$203 will barely keep soul and body together. We can never have well-trained, efficient teachers in our public schools until we pay them a decent living salary. It is impossible to get something for nothing or much for little. This law just as surely applies to schools as to business enterprises.

Eighty-three counties in 1913 spent more money on schools per \$1000 worth of taxable property than did Rutherford. We spent only \$6.07 per thousand for school purposes, while McDowell spent \$20.85 per thousand. The state average was \$1.94 ahead of Rutherford's average.

That Rutherford is a healthful community in which to live is shown by the fact that the death rate per 1,000 population in 1914 was only 10.3, while the rate for the state as a whole was 13.2, and for the United States it was 15. Nature has favored Rutherford with a mild climate, fine water and plenty of fresh air. Sixty counties of the state had a greater death rate than Rutherford in 1914.

Sixty-seven people out of every one hundred, 10 years of age and over, in Rutherford in 1906 belonged to some church. This is 11 per cent ahead of the state average, which is only 56 per cent. Ours is a church-going people.

With the excellent showing in health, morality, and energy, there is no reason why Rutherford should not be in the forefront in the state and the South in prosperity, material and spiritual.

RANK IN IMPORTANT PARTICULARS

Rank indicates the number of counties that make a better showing.

In the census year, Rutherford with 335,237 acres of land was 33rd in size in North Carolina; 29th in population with 28,385 inhabitants; and 43rd in density of rural population with 52.2 people to the square mile. The negroes in Rutherford numbered 4,441 in 1900, and 4,288 in 1910, a decrease of 3.5 per cent during the ten-year period.

77th	in native white illiterates, 10 years old and older, per cent	15.3
	State average, 12.3 per cent; U. S. average, 3 per cent.	
66th	in native white illiterate voters, 854 in number, per cent..	16.1
	State average, 14 per cent; U. S. average, 4.2 per cent.	
94th	in white school attendance, 6 to 14 years of age, per cent, in 1910	60.2
	White children of these ages not in school, 1,612. State average, 75.7 per cent.	
81st	in negro school attendance, 6 to 14 years of age, per cent	56.3
	Negro children of these ages not in school, 472. State average, 64 per cent.	
71st	in average salary paid white country teachers, 1914.....	\$203.00
	State average, \$235. Rutherford's average for white teachers, town and country, in 1915-16 was 219.75, and her rank was 84th.	
77th	in average salary paid negro school teachers, 1914.....	\$106.00
	State average, \$128.	
84th	in school expenditures per \$1,000 worth of property, 1913	\$6.07
	McDowell averages \$20.85. State average, \$8.03. Rutherford is behind in this respect. Only 16 counties in the state spent less per \$1,000 worth of property than did Rutherford.	
30th	in consolidated public schools, per cent.....	43.2
	Schools with two or more teachers, 35. Pamlico leads with 69.5 per cent, Bladen last with 15.4 per cent.	
82nd	in per capita investment in white public school property in 1915-16	\$3.04
	New Hanover 1st with \$18.80; Mitchell last with \$1.03.	
63rd	in marriage rate per 1,000 population, 15 years old and older, 1914	9.1
	Marriages, 257. State average, 10.1; Pasquotank, 23.6.	
41st	in death rate per 1,000 population, 1914.....	10.3
	U. S. rate in 1913, 15; North Carolina rate in 1914, 13.2.	

RUTHERFORD COUNTY: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL 21

46th	in church membership, per cent.....	67.
	8,444 people, 10 years old and older outside the church; 33 per cent of the total population of these ages. State average of non-church members 44 per cent.	
26th	in homicides, average annual rate per million inhabitants, 1910-1914	97.
	State average, 95; U. S. average, 72.	

WEALTH AND TAXATION; FARMING AND MANUFACTURE

Rutherford is for the most part a rural county, lying in the piedmont section and having a total population of over thirty thousand people in 1917. It ranks 29th in the state according to population and 33rd according to size.

The chief industry of the people is agriculture, although cotton manufacturing is extensively carried on. There are no large towns and cities in the county, but a large number of small, growing town centers. Forest City is the largest town with about 2,700 population. It is one of the most rapidly growing towns in Western North Carolina. The recent chartering of two corporations, the Wingo and Alexander manufacturing companies, with a combined capital of \$700,000, adds wealth, population and industry to the place. A man who has recently travelled over the United States and much of Europe said: "Forest City is one of the most beautiful little towns south of Washington City." Its location and connection with the outside world are ideal.

Rutherfordton, the county seat, has about 1,500 population. Henrietta, Caroleen, and Cliffside are all growing manufacturing towns. All the rest of the population may be said to live in the country as there are only four or five small villages of two or three hundred inhabitants whose main occupation is farming.

Domestic Animals

Rutherford had an increase in the value of domestic animals from 1900 to 1910 of 91 per cent. This seems like a large increase and yet we need more farm animals in the county. Rutherford had 28 cattle for every thousand acres in 1910, while the average for the state was only 23 cattle per thousand acres.

We had only 20 hogs for every one thousand acres while the State average was 39; the United States, 66; and Iowa, 263. It is easy to see that we need more home-raised meat for consumption. We need at least 60 or 75 hogs per one thousand acres. Then the money that goes out of the county each year to supply the 900,000 pounds of meat shortage could be used for civic and social improvements. In 1910 Rutherford was 77 per cent below the level of even a lightly stocked farm area. It is safe to say that we need an immense increase in farm animals of every sort.

Rutherford ranked 52nd in investment in farm implements per acre, \$2.13; the United States average was \$2.51; the state average was \$2.10; and Cleveland's average \$2.25. Some of the land in the western part of the county is too hilly to allow the use of improved farm ma-

chinery. Most of the farms in the county will now be forced to use more machinery, due to the shortage of labor, or else suffer a decrease in farm production. Our investment in farm implements per acre is large enough. What we need is larger farms and more horse and machine power per farm; and our farming must develop in this direction or it will dwindle into insignificance as the years go on.

Only 36 counties ranked ahead of Rutherford in per capita country wealth in 1910. Alleghany county led the state with \$560. With the climate, soil, adaptability, and industry of our people, there is no reason why Rutherford should not rapidly forge to the front in agriculture as in manufacture.

Manufacturing

There are few counties in Western North Carolina that have increased in manufacturing faster than Rutherford. She has no large corporations and only 80 miles of railroads. Yet her progress along the line of manufacturing has been marvelous.

The Spindale and Haynes mills were built in 1918, while the Wingo and Alexander mills were chartered in December, 1917, and are now under construction at Forest City.

This makes a total of eight textile mills for Rutherford with a capital of over \$2,000,000. The capital of the new Wingo mill at Forest City is \$200,000 and the Alexander Manufacturing Company has \$500,000 capital.

The former will make hosiery, underwear, and shirts while the Alexander Company will manufacture twine, yarns, cloth and cotton fabrics in general.

Fifty-seven counties ranked ahead of Rutherford in 1910 in negro farmers who owned their own farms. Thirty-eight out of every one hundred negro farmers in the county owned the land they cultivated in 1910, while only 33 out of every one hundred in the state at large owned their own farms in 1910. This means that the negro farmers in Rutherford are more thrifty than those in the state as a whole.

But we are behind the state average in the number of white farmers who own farms. The state average of white farmers owning their own farms is 66 out of every one hundred, while Rutherford's rate is only 55 in the hundred.

Only 11 counties in the state had a higher tax rate than Rutherford in 1916. Our rate, state and county tax, was \$1.25 for all purposes, on each hundred dollars worth of property. Clay county led the state with a rate of \$2.02 2-3. These high rates grow out of the low tax values of our properties. In 1910, our farm land, for instance, was listed at only 31 per cent of the census valuation. There is need for a revision of our taxation system. Our present practice discourages thrift, industry, and enterprise by allowing land to lie out of productive

use for speculation rises in value. The idle, wilderness acres in Rutherford in 1910 numbered 247,000, which is more than two-thirds of the whole county. At current market values, here are some 6 million dollars of dead capital tied up in idle lands. It is a drag on progress. The tax values are low but the market values are high enough to build a Chinese wall around the county against home seekers from other counties and states.

We need a better system of listing our personal property and assessing our land values. Each land owner sets the value of his own land, and it is usually low. The average census value of an acre of land in Rutherford in 1910 was \$21.20 while the average tax value for the same year was only \$5.63 per acre.

WHERE RUTHERFORD STANDS

48th	in total farm wealth, 1910 census.....	\$6,787,973
63rd	in total taxable property in 1913.....	\$7,266,973
	In 1916 the total was \$7,793,973. Increase in taxable property, 1903-1913, was 68 per cent. State increase, 81 per cent.	
52nd	in farm wealth increase, from 1900 to 1910, per cent of increase	119.5
	This increase amounted to \$3,696,047. The state increase was 130 per cent.	
67th	in increase in value of domestic animals, 1900-10, per cent of increase	91.
	State increase, 109 per cent. Robeson county, 208 per cent. Value of all domestic animals in the county in 1900 was \$381,326. In 1910 it was \$729,358.	
37th	in per capita country wealth in farm properties; the average per country dweller in 1910.....	\$293
	Alleghany led with \$560; state average, \$322; United States average, \$994; Iowa, \$3,386. Per capita taxable wealth of all kinds in 1910 was only 198. Negro per capita taxable wealth in 1910 was \$22.	
58th	in negro farm owners, per cent of all negro farmers...	38
	State average, 33 per cent. Negro farm owners in Rutherford, 194. White farm owners in Rutherford are 55 per cent of all white farmers; in N. C. 66 per cent.	
88th	in tax rate, state and county, on the \$100 in 1913.....	\$1.17 2-3
	Twelve counties had a higher tax rate. Yancey led	

the state with \$1.68 2-3 on the \$100. In 1916 the combined state and county rate in Rutherford was \$1.25 and ten counties had a higher rate. Our rate is too high and our tax values are manifestly too low.

51st in tax value of farm lands; compared with census value, per cent 31
 State average, 38 per cent. Number of acres of land listed for taxation in 1916 by whites and negroes in each township was as follows:

TOWNSHIP	WHITE Acres	NEGRO Acres
Rutherford	14,324	1,121
Green Hill	25,411	1,667
Union	11,949	761
Sulphur Springs	22,235	849
High Shoals	23,284	494
Colfax	31,174	193
Cool Springs	17,580	915
Duncan's Creek	16,677	346
Golden Valley	19,081	no figures
Logan's Store	33,650	369
Camp Creek	19,973	1,120
Morgan	19,661	156
Chimney Rock	31,823	4,672
Gilkey	11,220	632
Listed before Commissioners, 1,285.		

Total for whites, 299,327; for negroes, 13,307; grand total, 312,634. Between 1913 and 1916 nearly 22 thousand acres disappeared from the tax books. The loss in tax values was \$182,000 and the loss in tax revenues was \$2,260. There are about 348,160 acres in the county subject to taxation. Total number of town lots in 1916 in the county was 1,459; their value being \$624,150.

Total value of real estate in the county in 1916 was \$3,221,538, which was a decrease of a half million dollars in three years. Personal property being \$1,544,511, which was a decrease of \$300,000 in three years.

The census value of farm land in Rutherford was \$16.41 per acre in 1910; the tax value was only \$5.63; in 1916 it was \$8.28.

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55th	in income taxes paid the state in 1916.....	\$67.70
	The decrease in three years was 80 per cent. Twenty-six counties paid no income tax. Cleveland's state income tax in 1916 was \$171.50.	
28th	in professional taxes paid in 1916.....	\$235
	There were 47 doctors, lawyers, dentists, photographers, architects, etc., in Rutherford in 1916. Each paid a tax of \$5.	
29th	in white farm mortgages, per cent.....	12
	State average for whites, 17 per cent. Cleveland ranked 39th with 15 per cent.	
29th	in negro farm mortgages, per cent.....	21
	State average for negroes was 26 per cent. For both races, 18½ per cent in N. C., Cleveland ranked 68th, with 36 per cent.	
	Polls on tax list in 1916, both races.....	3,680
	Males between 21 and 50 years old were 4,486. The number paying no poll tax were 806.	
47th	in per capita bank capital in 1915.....	\$5.01
	New Hanover leads the state with \$40.06. United States average in 1915 was \$21.46. State average, \$8.51.	
55th	in per capita bank loans and discounts in 1915.....	\$20.10
	Total \$641,378. State average \$45. New Hanover led with \$296. Cleveland county ranked 20th with \$43.50, and a total of \$1,391,188.	
70th	in per capita bank resources in 1915.....	\$21.10
	State per capita, \$62.65. New Hanover led state with \$432.	

FARM CONDITIONS AND PRACTICES

Rutherford Predominantly Agricultural

1. More than seven-tenths or 71 per cent of the land in Rutherford is not in use for farm purposes. This is, to be sure, the average of the state at large. Much of the land in Rutherford is too steep and rough to be cultivated in crops but nevertheless it is useful in livestock farming. Allowing 50,000 acres for wood-lot purposes and 75 acres to each family there is room for 2,620 new farm families in the county. We need this increase in farm population and we need to put into active enterprises the 6 million dollars now lying idle in our wilderness acres.

2. It is interesting to note that the United States Census Bureau did not credit Rutherford with a single town in 1910, owing to the fact that we had no incorporated community with 2,500 inhabitants or more. The 1920 census will undoubtedly credit Rutherford with two or three such towns.

Both the best and worst fact about Rutherford is that she is mainly agricultural and rural. It would be a blessing if there were at least one large town or city in the county where the farmers could find a ready cash market for home-raised products. The South has always been handicapped by the lack of large cities and lively market centers. Rutherford is especially deficient in this particular.

3. Only 36 counties in the state contain more acres than Rutherford and only 22 had a larger number of farms in 1910. These facts prove (1) that Rutherford is among the largest counties in the state, and (2) that she is mainly agricultural. In Rutherford the average number of cultivated acres per farm is only 29.3 acres. In 56 counties of the state the farms average a larger number of cultivated acres.

Our farmers farm on a too small a scale. We shall never become the well-to-do, independent farm people that we should be until we farm on a larger scale. We need to put capital, brains, energy, and business skill into our farming system just as our cotton mill and railroad owners do; and we need to use more horse and machine power on farms of a larger average size—say from 75 to 150 cultivated acres.

Livestock Status

4. Only 11 counties in the state suffered a greater loss in poultry production than did Rutherford from 1900 to 1910, the decrease being 21 per cent or more than a fifth. We had 83,137 fowls in 1900 and only 63,742 in 1910. Surely under the present price of poultry and eggs we shall have an increase by 1920. The most profitable by-product on Carolina farms today is poultry and eggs. We say by-product, because with only a little intelligent attention a barnyard hen of good

breed forages for herself and produces about 200 eggs a year, which at present prices are worth \$5 or so.

Another surprising fact is that Rutherford in 1910 had only 20 hogs per thousand acres, while the state average was 39; the United States average was 66, and the average for Iowa 263. Thousands of hard earned dollars of cotton money go west each year to pay Rutherford's bill for imported meat. This fact largely explains our small per capita country wealth in farm properties. It was only \$293 in 1910 against \$322 in the state, \$996 in the United States, and \$3,386 in Iowa. The fact that Rutherford is mainly rural with an abundance of idle land proves that we could and should raise enough meat for home consumption and surpluses to sell abroad. On the contrary, our hogs decreased in number between 1900 and 1910. During this period Cleveland's decrease was only 7 per cent. In 1860 Rutherford had 15,354 hogs, but in 1910 only 6,314 or much less than half the number of hogs for more than twice as many people. Let us hope that we shall have an increase in pork production under the stimulus of present high prices.

Forty counties suffered a greater loss than Rutherford in the number of sheep between 1900 and 1910. During this period we lost 65 per cent or nearly two-thirds of our sheep. Our loss was 1,044 sheep, a number which at present prices represent \$7,300. So much for the damage done by worthless wandering hound dogs. It is only a question of time until there will not be a sheep in Rutherford county.

Farm Tenancy

Only 37 counties in the state had a larger proportion of farm tenants than Rutherford. Forty-six out of every 100 farms in Rutherford were cultivated by renters, three-fourths of whom were croppers. The average for the state is only 42.3 per cent. Sixty-two counties made a better showing in the cultivation of farms by owners. Forty-seven counties decreased in farm tenancy between 1900 to 1910; but not so in Rutherford. Which means that our farm civilization is headed the wrong way. The landless, homeless, white tenants and their families numbered nearly 6,400 people in Rutherford in 1910. These people are constantly on the move from place to place. In the nature of things they lack abiding interest in churches and schools. Their presence in a county in large numbers means low ratios of church membership and large ratios of illiteracy. It means low grade farming, excessive cotton production, the neglect of food crops and farm animals, and the deterioration of farm properties.

Food Crops and Farm Wealth

Cotton and other non-food crops in Rutherford in 1910 produced 48 per cent of the total crop wealth. That is to say, about one-half of

all our farming was crop farming—cotton farming mainly, and this system did not supply our everyday needs of bread and meat. Sixty counties in the state produced more bread and meat in proportion to total crop values than Rutherford.

The farms of Rutherford county, including crop and animal products, produce as much wealth every four years as the farmers have been able to retain and accumulate in the last 131 years. This alone shows the weakness of our present farm system. We create cotton wealth and then spend it to secure the actual necessities of life. Buying farm supplies with cotton money is our fundamental mistake. Raising cotton on a bread and meat basis is the system we need to develop. If the farmers of Rutherford had retained only half of the wealth that they have created in the last 100 years Rutherford's total taxable property would now be more than \$60,000,000 and we would be, by far, the richest county in the state.

Rutherford's crop yielding power per acre in 1910 was \$6.14 below the state average. This fact shows that we need more improved scientific farming in Rutherford; more farming by owners and less by croppers. We need to increase our per acre and our per worker yields. Our crop yielding power is 63 cents per acre above the average of Missouri; 50 cents above that of Minnesota; \$2.59 above that of North Dakota, and \$2.90 above that of South Dakota. Yet the per-capita wealth of all of these states is far above that of Rutherford county. They retain their wealth while we do not; they are bread and meat farmers, while we are cotton farmers mainly. The fact that the annual production of farm wealth per person in Rutherford is \$22.30 below the state average proves that we must raise more to the acre as well as more to the farm worker.

Rutherford has the land, the people, the fertility of soil and the climate. She needs to combine energy and intelligence in order to make her a leader of the state in agricultural civilization; but it must be energy and intelligence on the part of farm owners. Farm tenancy is the greatest possible hindrance to the development of country civilization.

HOW RUTHERFORD RANKS

28th	in cotton production, total crop in 1914, bales.....	13,090
	Robeson was first with 74,168 bales. Rutherford produced 6,411 bales in 1917, and our rank was 31st.	
65th	in tobacco production in 1910, pounds.....	4,968
	Per acre production, 414 pounds; rank 63rd. State average 625 pounds per acre.	

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41st	in non-food crops produced; cotton mostly.....	\$662,819
	Tobacco, cotton and other non-food crops produced 48 per cent of the total crop wealth. Food and feed crops produced 52 per cent of the total crop wealth. State average of non-food crops 53 per cent.	
43rd	in annual farm wealth produced	\$1,779,611
	This total covers both crop and animal products. Every four years the farmers of Rutherford produce more wealth than they have been able to accumulate in the last 138 years.	
59th	in crop yielding power per acre, 1910.....	\$13.69
	State average, \$20.18. Compares well with Missouri, \$13.06; Minnesota, \$13.19; N. Dakota, \$11.10; S. Dakota, \$10.79 (in 1910).	
85th	in annual production of farm wealth per person.....	\$62.70
	State average, \$85; average for French farmers, \$126; Cleveland county average per person, \$114.	
74th	in food and feed production per person.....	\$39
	Needed, \$84 per person; deficit, \$45 per person. Total deficit, \$1,642,012.	
54th	in food and feed crops, per cent of total crop values..	52
	Alleghany, 89 per cent; State average, 47 per cent. Alleghany is the richest county in per capita country wealth. Rutherford ranks 37 in this respect.	
46th	in land under cultivation, per cent of total area.....	29
	State average, 29 per cent. Land under cultivation, 101,109 acres. Idle, wilderness acres, 247,051, or 71 per cent of the total area. Reserving 50,000 acres for wood-lot purposes and allowing 75 acres to the family, there is room for 2,620 new farm families.	
23rd	in number of farms	3,447
	Average cultivated acres per farm, 29.3 acres. Size of cultivated farms larger in 56 counties. About one-third of our farms are less than 50 acres in size, both cultivated and uncultivated land considered.	
89th	in poultry decrease, 1900 to 1910, per cent.....	20.9
	There were 83,137 fowls in the county in 1900 and only 63,742 in 1910. Rank in number of fowls on hand, 92nd.	

RUTHERFORD COUNTY: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL 31

32nd	in cattle per one thousand acres, average.....	28
	State average, 23; U. S. average, 61.	
45th	in cattle increase, 1900-10, per cent increase.....	16
	Caldwell increased 62 per cent; State average increase 12 per cent. Our cattle in 1860 were 6,365; in 1910 there were 8,680, an increase of 36 per cent. Our population increase was 145 per cent. for the same period.	
87th	in hogs per 1,000 acres	20
	State average, 39; U. S. average, 66; Iowa, 263.	
52nd	in swine decrease, 1900-10, per cent	25
	Sixty-nine counties decreased; only 28 increased. Cleveland ranked 12th in decrease, per cent 7.	
60th	in sheep losses, 1900-10, per cent.....	65
	Total number lost 1,044; worth \$7,300 at present prices. The dog tax license in Rutherford in 1916 produced only \$207 for the school fund; in Gaston it produced \$1,438; in Alamance, \$1,744; in Halifax, \$3,323.	
52nd	in investment in farm implements, per acre.....	\$2.13
	State average \$2.10; U. S. average, \$2.52; Cleveland averages \$2.25. The average is large enough per acre, but too little per farm.	
28th	in horse power; one work animal for every, acres.....	23.46
	State average, 25.85 acres; U. S. average 19.81 acres, Cleveland being 24.36. What we need is larger farms and more horse and machine power per farm.	
63rd	in farm tenancy, per cent of all farms.....	46.1
	State average 42.3 per cent. Forty-seven counties decreased in farm tenancy between 1900 and 1910; Rutherford increased. White tenants in Rutherford, 1,272; negro tenants, 317. The landless, homeless, white tenants and their families number nearly 6,400 people. Three-fourths of all the tenants are croppers, 1,416 in number. One hundred fifty-nine are cash or standing-rent tenants. Tenants raise cotton mainly and neglect food and feed crops. In 1910 one thousand six hundred and fifty-two white men owned their own farms, and 194 negroes. There are 34,000,000 acres in North Carolina and nearly 9,000,000 under cultivation. These 9,000,000 are divided	

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into 253,725 farms. Of this number 123,877 are owned and operated by white people and 63,148 are operated by white tenants; 21,443 are owned and operated by negroes; 44,139 are operated by negro tenants.



REAR VIEW OF HENRIETTA MILLS No. 2
SHOWING SWINGING BRIDGE OVER BROAD RIVER

THE LOCAL MARKET PROBLEM. HOME RAISED FOOD AND FEED

A One Million Six Hundred and Forty-two Thousand Dollar Shortage

We consumed in Rutherford in the census year pantry and farm supplies amounting to about one million six hundred forty-two thousand dollars more than the farmers produced. This amount covers staple bread stuffs, not dainties and luxuries. The figures are based on the thirteenth census and the average annual consumption figures given out by the Federal Department of Agriculture.

This shortage in detail covers 156,746 fowls; 223,160 dozen eggs; 79,438 bushels of wheat; 900,213 pounds of meat; 397,390 bushels of corn; 803,721 pounds of butter; 7,472 tons of hay.

Rutherford had an increase in raising cattle, from 1900 to 1910, of 16 per cent, which was 4 per cent above the state average increase. She averaged 28 head per one thousand acres while the state average was only 23; and the average for the United States was 61. But since 1860 our population has increased four times faster than our beef supply. Rutherford needs an immense increase in the home production of beef, mutton, milk, and dairy products.

Why Our Farmers Fall Behind

Our farmers do not supply this one million six hundred and forty-two thousand dollar market demand, because (1) of too much attention to cotton and too little to food and feed products; (2) excessive farm tenancy under the supply merchant, crop-lien, time-credit system; (3) the lack of ready cash markets for home-raised supplies. The fact that we have no ready cash market for food and feed crops causes our farmers to raise cotton and other money crops.

Too Little Home-Raised Supplies

Forty-eight per cent of the total crop wealth produced in Rutherford year by year is produced by cotton and other non-food crops, and this ratio has been steadily increasing for a full half-century. We are giving increasing attention to grain crops, hay and forage, domestic animals and livestock products since 1910.

In 1900 our population was 13.1 per cent greater than in 1900, but our corn crop was only 3 per cent greater. Our wheat chop in 1900 was 56,460 bushels while it was only 34,102 bushels in 1910; a decrease of about 40 per cent in ten years.

In 1900 we raised 4,698 bales of cotton; in 1910 we raised 6,971 or an increase of 33 per cent; in 1914 we raised 13,090 bales or an increase of 88 per cent over 1910.

This situation explains fully why we had a million six hundred and forty-two thousand dollar shortage of food and feed crops in the census year. It explains in large part why our per capita country wealth is below that of the state average. Only a self-feeding farm population can ever be prosperous. Every four years the farmers of Rutherford county produce more wealth than they have been able to retain and accumulate in our 131 years of county history.

During ten years, 1900-1910, we lost 65 per cent of our sheep, the number lost being 1,044. In 1860 we had 6,482 sheep but in 1910 only 561. During the same period we had a decrease of 25 per cent in pork production; a 20.9 per cent decrease in poultry production; but an increase of 16 per cent in cattle. The production of butter in 1910 in Rutherford was only 20 pounds per inhabitant per year; which means that we imported over 800,000 pounds, or that we ate less butter than the average in the United States. Twenty-two counties made a better showing in the farm production of butter. There is only one creamery or butter factory so far in Rutherford—at Forest City. We need at least two more in other portions of the county.

We can easily produce all the food supplies we need for man and beast in Rutherford county. We have the soils and seasons. For instance, in 1915 six of our corn club boys averaged 51 bu. to the acre, or about 4 times the average for the county at large. At this rate the farmers of Rutherford could have produced on her corn acreage nearly 1,900,000 bushels. Allowing 879,935 bushels for home consumption, this would still leave nearly a million bushels to sell abroad. Raising a corn surplus of a million bushels at home beats buying nearly 400,000 bushels at \$2.50 per bushel.

In 1910, we had 52.2 country people per square mile and 247,000 acres, or 71 per cent of our total area, idle and uncultivated. In the census year, 1,589 of our farms or 46 per cent of the total were cultivated by tenants, and farm tenancy under the crop-lien, time-credit system in the South; which means more cotton and tobacco and less attention to food and feed crops, such as grain, hay, forage, nuts, fruits, vegetables, poultry, dairy products, beef, mutton, and pork.

Our food bill for man and beast in 1910 amounted to two and three-quarter million dollars. What we produced at home amounted to a little over one million dollars worth. So we sent out of the county more than one and a half million dollars in cold cash for food and feed supplies which we might have raised at home; and just to this extent we decrease our power to accumulate wealth year by year.

The Penalties We Pay

As a result our per capita country wealth in Rutherford in the census year was only \$293. Thirty-six counties in the state ranked

ahead of us in this particular. In Alleghany it was \$560, in the United States it was \$994 and in Iowa it was \$3,386.

Rutherford ranks 45th in North Carolina in the production of total crop values, while Robeson county ranked first and Cleveland 16th in this particular. Our rank in per capita country wealth is 37th, while Alleghany, which raises no cotton and very little tobacco, heads the list in this particular. We ought not to raise less cotton, but we must produce more bread and meat at home, or we shall forever be a poor farm population, no matter how high the price of cotton may be. Rutherford cannot afford to send beyond her borders a king's ransom for food supplies—more than one and a half million dollars in 1910, and at present prices more than three million dollars in 1917. The food producing farmers of the middle west grow rich selling us bread and meat, grain, hay and forage, while we stay poor buying these supplies with cotton and tobacco money.

The high cost of living in the towns and cities of the cotton belt results from the fact that our people import bread and meat in enormous quantities from the food farmers of the Middle West—nearly a billion dollars worth in the census year. The part of the consumer's dollar which goes to middlemen for packing, transportation, delivery and so forth is much more than the producer gets for his product, and this part increases as the distance increases. If the farmers of our nearby towns and cities were self-feeding and at the same time produced the food needed for town consumption both farmers and town dwellers would be benefited, for the consumer would get more for his dollar and the producer would get more for his products. This would be true in Rutherford, owing to the fact that she has many small towns that must have bread and meat from some source.

Towns Interested in the Problem

Caroleen, Henrietta, Cliffside, Forest City, and Rutherfordton, like all other towns and cities, are therefore interested in the local market problem, because in the first place, it concerns the increasing high cost of living. The whole world faces this primary problem today, because once more in the world's history population presses upon the food supply. The cost of food stuff is higher everywhere while the purchasing power of the dollar is less. Today it is barely half what it was four years ago; that is to say, 50 cents then would buy more than a dollar will buy now.

Imported Bread Stuffs and Inflated Bills

If Rutherford must depend upon far-away producers of food and feed supplies to the extent of one million six hundred and forty-two thousand dollars a year, the overhead charges of transportation and

handling by a swarming multitude of middlemen will, of course, add enormously to the cost of pantry supplies.

Rutherford's Crop Producing Power

Our farmers can easily produce all the standard food crops and meat products necessary for home consumption. Our soils are as good as any in the state and are easily made fertile. Our corn club boys averaged 51 bushels to the acre in 1915 and most of the corn land in the county can be made to produce that much. We have in the past depended upon the west for more than two-thirds of our flour, when we can raise wheat at home and can do it as cheaply as any county in the state. We depend upon the west for nearly one million pounds of meat each year, when it would be much cheaper and better to produce it at home.

Rutherford's Average

In the census year our average crop-yielding power per acre was \$13.69. This is \$6.49 below the state average. Fifty-eight counties in the state ranked ahead of us in this particular. However, our crop producing power compares well with that of the rich western states. Missouri had an average crop-yielding power per acre of only \$11.10, and South Dakota's average was only \$10.79 in 1910. These states retain the wealth they produce because they are food producing farmers, while Rutherford lets her wealth slip through her fingers because we are food buying farmers.

We raise cotton instead of food and feed crops, because there is an organized market for it. The farmer does not need to seek cotton markets, the cotton market seeks the farmer. He can sell cotton for instant ready money and can establish credit upon it even before it is planted.

We rank 85th in the annual production of farm wealth per person. Our average was \$62.70 in 1910. The state average was \$85; Cleveland county's average was \$114; while that of the French farmer has long been \$126 per year. Our low rank in this particular is due mainly to the fact that our farms are too small, and to excessive tenancy farming with simple hand tools for the most part. We need larger average sized farms, more farming by owners, more profit-producing machinery, more livestock, and more science and skill.

Poor Market Facilities

The farmer's bread and meat products in Rutherford find no ready cash markets at a fair price and profit. At present he is compelled to peddle his vegetables, fruits, butter, eggs, meat, and poultry, from door to door or sell them to the merchant at prices that are discouraging. Often when he cannot sell to any one he will leave his perishable

products with a merchant to dispose of at any price obtainable, as it would be a complete loss to take them back home. Our producers and consumers are not organized in ways that are advantageous to both. They are as far apart as if they lived on different planets. The producers and consumers of food products in Rutherford suffer from the Iron Law of Trade as do people elsewhere. This law is: Keep producers and consumers as far apart as possible; pass goods from the one to the other through as many hands as possible; charge consumers as much as possible and give producers as little as possible. As long as this law is in full force in any community it suffers. The force of it can be broken only by union and co-operation. Where there is disunion and collision both producers and consumers suffer while the middlemen get the lion's share of the wealth the farmers produce.

Doubling Our Farm Wealth

But leaving city and town consumers out of consideration, the farmers can and should produce the supplies they themselves need from year to year to feed their families and their farm animals. In the census year they failed to do this by \$1,138,000. If they would stop spending a million or so dollars a year for imported supplies their farm wealth in 1910 would easily be doubled by 1919.

We do not contend that our farmers should cease raising cotton and tobacco, but that they raise it on a bread-and-meat basis. We have tried raising cotton and buying food and feed stuffs long enough to know that we can never hope to be as wealthy as the Middle Western farmer who raises his own bread and meat. The only certain way to increase our farm wealth is to have our pantries, barns, cribs, and smokehouses filled with home-raised supplies, no matter what else we produce on our farms.

The Acid Test of Success

The local market problem created by the demand for bread stuffs at high prices and the failure of the nearby farmers to satisfy this demand is a perplexing problem in every city in America.

The law of markets is a greed for gain. It is a tooth-and-claw struggle for prices and profits. This primary law of human nature organizes a world-wide market for cotton and tobacco; and at the same time and for the same reason it denies producers and consumers of bread and meat stuffs, living side by side in the same county, an even chance and opportunity for direct dealings with mutual advantage.

We have all seen fruit and vegetables go to waste on the farm during the summer months while the city families were paying high prices for the very same kind of farm products. Why so much want on the one hand and so much waste on the other? Why not let the man

who has a surplus and the man who has a need get closer together? The only way to do this is by a better system of local marketing.

The Solution of the Problem

Greed safely counts upon the dull unconcern of both producers and consumers. Finally the consumers wake up to the fact that the cost of living is a national problem. Farmers discover that the prices of food products to consumers have gone up enormously, but that their own farm profits are no more or little more than they were fifteen years ago. The simple fact is that producers and consumers are too far apart and the cost of distribution is too great.

How great the cost of marketing is can be shown from figures compiled by the Citrus Fruit Growers Association of California. These growers have done everything in their power to reduce the middlemen to a minimum and to pass fruit from producer to consumer with as little cost as possible. Nevertheless with all their wonderful organization and business skill they found that the part of the consumer's dollar that got back to the producer was only twenty-eight cents; while the middlemen—the pickers, packers, transporters, and merchants—got seventy-two cents of it. The hard fact about marketing is that it costs more to get goods from original producers to final consumers than it costs to produce these goods. This is especially true of vegetables and fruits.

The great problem is getting producers and consumers together. The principle of action lies in co-operation; and success is achieved when farmers get more for their products and consumers get more for their money. If farmers do not get more for their products, and if at the same time the consumers do not get more for their money, then the problem is not solved; no matter how elaborate the market plan or how expensive the market house.

Co-operation Necessary

Producers alone cannot solve the market problem. Success calls for the direct co-operation of consumers; and in big scale marketing, it invariably calls for and depends upon the credit accommodations of banks. If consumers are unconcerned and unorganized or if banks and transportation companies are neglectful or hostile, then the farmer's chance of success is reduced to zero. Success lies in collusion, not in collision; in co-operation, not in contest.

Texas Leads

Texas has taken a great step forward in solving the problem of markets for home-raised food products, and one of the many things she does with the help of her city boards of trade is to maintain free

telephone market information exchanges in charge of officials whose business it is to give reliable, disinterested market news to farmers and to city dwellers, and to bring consumers and producers together in direct dealings.

How the Banks Can Help

The banks of Texas are refusing loans to supply-merchants who do a crop-lien, time-credit business, protected by cotton acreage alone. They have a half-and-half system. They stipulate a minimum acreage which must be devoted to food production, and farmers wanting credit are required to raise a specified amount of food on this acreage. They are doing this to force the supply-merchants to force the farmers to raise a sufficiency of bread and meat on every farm. It is sound sense and safe business policy, they say, to keep in Texas the 217 million dollars that has been leaving the state every year heretofore to pay bills for imported food supplies.

This policy insures a food producing farm civilization, and this means prosperity. It also means bigger, safer, better business for supply-merchants and bankers.

This same system could be put to work in this state, especially in our cotton and tobacco counties where conditions are similar to those in Texas. We have proved to the world that we cannot accumulate country wealth under the one-crop or money crop system of farming. We stay poor raising cotton and tobacco, while the west grows rich raising bread and meat. The bankers can do more to solve this problem in a single year than the farm demonstrators can do in a life-time, and they can do it almost by lifting or lowering their eyebrows.

The larger towns of Rutherford must get ready with arrangements, conveniences, and facilities for doing a larger business in home-raised food and feed supplies.

The Farmer's End of the Problem

On the other hand the farmers must not only produce food and feed supplies for farm consumption but they must raise enough to feed the towns of the county as well. The farmers must not dump all their food products on a small market at any one time. What they offer for sale in competition with the big wide world must look as well and taste as good as imported food products. They must become expert in picking, handling, grading, packing, and crating. They must produce meat, butter, and eggs, fruits, vegetables, grain and hay in steady and reliable quantities; and stand ready to supply market demands just as the western markets do upon sudden notice.

HOW RUTHERFORD RANKED IN 1910

The census of 1910 gives the latest figures on farm animals and crops by counties—except in case of cotton.

19th	in corn production, total crop in bushels.....	483,155
	Robeson ranked 1st with 1,142,000 bu. In 1860 Rutherford produced 386,670 bushels of corn.	
40th	in corn production per person, bushels.....	17
	Needed per person, 31 bushels; deficit per person, 14 bushels; total deficit, 397,390 bushels. State average, 15 bushels per person.	
22nd	in total wheat production, bushels.....	34,102
40th	in wheat production per person, bushels.....	1.2
	Needed, 4 bushels per person; deficit, 2.8 bushels per person; total deficit, 79,438 bushels. Only 15 counties in 1910 raised wheat surpluses.	
32nd	in oats production, total crop in bushels.....	27,677
	The oats produced amounted to 1.2 pints per work-animal per day; rank 37th. The ten-year increase in oats production, 1900 to 1910, was 184 per cent; rank in this particular 11th. In 1860 Rutherford produced 14,245 bushels.	
50th	in hay and forage production; total crop, tons.....	1,284
	Ten-year decrease, 1900-10, was 42 per cent. Rank 12th.	
21st	in per cent of farms buying feed.....	24
	Eight hundred thirty-one farms bought feed averaging \$34.18 per farm.	
56th	in beef production per person, pounds.....	21
	State average 33.8 pounds per person.	
74th	in pork production per person, pounds.....	61.6
	State average, 93 pounds. State average of hogs sold and slaughtered per inhabitant, .47 hog; U. S. average, .57 hog; Iowa, 2.72 hogs per inhabitant. Needed for farm consumption, 122 pounds per person.	
27th	in poultry production per person, fowls.....	7.7
	Needed 13 fowls per person per year; deficit 5.3 fowls per person. Total deficit, 150,746 fowls.	
72nd	in egg deficit, dozen.....	223,162
	Needed 17½ doz. per person per year. Deficit, 7.86 doz. per person per year.	

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75th	in ten-year increase in farm sales of dairy products, per cent	63
	Total sales in 1910 were \$16,074. State increase was 146 per cent. Rutherford produced 20 pounds of butter per person; rank 23rd. The amount needed was 48 pounds per person per year. The per capita deficit was 28 pounds.	
53rd	in livestock, reckoned on 1 animal unit to every 5 acres of improved farm land, per cent.....	23
	Haywood and Alleghany have nearly twice as much livestock as Rutherford, and Cleveland stands 6 per cent above us.	
65th	in livestock products per person.....	\$14
	Alleghany, \$65; state average, \$17.	
74th	in bill for imported food and feed supplies.....	\$1,642,000
	In about 4 years it equals the farm wealth accumulated in 131 years.	
23rd	in boys' corn clubs in 1915, boys reporting.....	6
	Per acre yield, 51 bushels, or nearly 4 times the average for the county at large. The average cost was only 52.4 cents per bushel, which beats buying corn at \$2.50 a bu.	
	Girls' canning clubs, no report in 1916-17.	
	A whole-time home demonstration agent appointed this year for the first time—Miss Jessie Willis Steele.	

HOME-RAISED FOOD AND FEED IN 1910

I. FOOD AND FEED:

Needed:		
28,385 people @ \$84.....		\$2,384,340
4,798 work animals @ \$39.39.....	\$188,993	
5,449 dairy cows @ \$18.55.....	101,079	
4,130 other cattle @ \$8.09	33,412	
574 sheep @ \$1.79.....	1,028	
6,840 swine @ \$6.69.....	45,760	\$ 370,272
		<hr/>
Total food and feed needed.....		\$2,754,612

II. FOOD AND FEED:

Produced:	
Food and feed crops	\$721,736
Dairy products	96,432

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Poultry	104,011
Honey and wax	5,215
Animals sold and slaughtered.....	185,206—
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Total food and feed produced.....	\$1,112,600
Shortage in home raised food and feed.....	\$1,642,012

Our cotton and tobacco crops in 1910 were worth \$662,819, which left us \$979,193 on the wrong side of the dead-line. This deficit in farm products averaged \$34.50 per inhabitant per year or 9½ cents a day. The simple truth is that our cotton mills are what has saved Rutherford from going into bankruptcy. And this exhibit emphasizes the debt of the county to the Tanners and the Hayneses.

III. DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND FEED SHORTAGE:

	<i>Pounds</i>
(1) Meat needed: 28,385 people @ 152 lbs. each.....	4,314,520
Meat produced:	
1,448 calves @ 150 lbs.....	217,200 lbs.
1,952 cattle @ 350 lbs.....	683,200 lbs.
218,259 poultry @ 3½ lbs.....	763,907 lbs.
8,750 hogs @ 200 lbs.....	1,750,000 lbs.—
Total home produced meat.....	3,414,307
Deficit	900,213
(2) Needed: Butter for 28,385 people @ 48 lbs. each.....	1,362,480
Produced	558,759
<hr/>	
Deficit	803,721
	<i>Fowls</i>
(3) Fowls Needed: For 28,385 people @ 13 each.....	369,005
Produced	218,259
<hr/>	
Deficit	150,746
	<i>Dozen</i>
(4) Eggs: Needed for 28,385 people @ 17½ doz. each.....	496,737
Produced	273,505
<hr/>	
Deficit	223,162
	<i>Bushels</i>
(5) Corn: Needed for 28,385 people @ 31 bushels each.....	879,935
Produced	482,545
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Deficit	397,390

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(6) Wheat: Needed for 28,385 people @ 4 bushels each....	113,540
Produced	34,102
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Deficit	79,438
	<i>Tons</i>
(7) Hay: Needed for 4,798 work-animals @ 10 lbs. per day..	8,756
Produced	1,284
	<hr/>
Deficit	7,472

The annual consumption averages used in this table are the figures given to the public by the Federal Department of Agriculture. They refer to the year 1910. Costs have more than doubled since that date.

The corn average per inhabitant seems large; but it is the figure for the United States and covers corn products of all sorts, for man and beast—meal, grits, corn syrup, corn oil, distilled products, stock feed, and so on.

SEVEN-YEAR GAINS IN RUTHERFORD COUNTY RURAL SCHOOLS, 1908-09 TO 1915-16

1. Consolidation of Schools

This discussion is based on the tables at the close of the chapter. The reader is asked to study these tables carefully.

Progress in the rural schools of Rutherford county during the seven years from 1908-09 to 1915-16 has been highly creditable. In all but five items we find gains and some of these gains are considerable. In four of the loss items, which pertain to the colored schools, two are advantageous losses. For example, the number of rural colored schools decreased 4 per cent, the number of colored men teachers decreased 43 per cent, and the number of white one-teacher schools decreased from 57 to 52. The salary of colored teachers is so small that few negroes can now afford to teach.

The increase in the number of rural white schools was 14 per cent during the seven-year period under review, while the number of white schools having two or more teachers increased 76 per cent. This fact shows that Rutherford like almost every other county in the state has realized that it has had too many one-teacher schools, and has begun to remedy this evil by cutting out some of these wasteful, weak, little schools and consolidating them into fewer, bigger, better schools, because larger schools can have more teachers and better equipment. When we consider the size of our county and compare the number of her rural schools with those of other counties we find that Rutherford has given up many of her petty, individualistic ideas and has co-operated with the county superintendent in his effort to consolidate schools and to support them by local tax levies. During these seven years our consolidated country schools increased from 21 to 37. Few counties in the state make a better showing in this particular.

2. Better Equipment

Rutherford has made wonderful progress in school equipment. Most of the school houses in the county have been painted in the last few years. Maps, black-boards, and libraries have been placed in many of our schools. One great need in our rural schools is yards and playgrounds beautified with flowers and grass, and school rooms decorated with pictures.

In 1908-09 only 42 rural white schools, or 54 per cent of the total, were equipped with patent desks, but seven years later every white school in the county was provided with modern school furniture. Only 13 other counties in the state in 1915-16 could boast this distinction. In thirty-five counties of the state the crude benches of primitive days

are still found; not one of them is left in the white schools in Rutherford. Nearly half of our negro schools have modern patent desks.

3. Better Teachers

The teaching force of Rutherford's schools has been increased in quality as well as quantity, but there is still room for a greater increase in quality. The rural white teachers increased in number from 100 to 130 during the seven years; the number with four years of experience increased 93 per cent; the number with college diplomas increased 70 per cent, including the teachers of Forest City and Rutherfordton, while the number with a first grade certificate increased 31 per cent. Only 7 white rural teachers in the county in 1915-16 had second grade certificates. Few counties in the state surpassed us in the number of teachers with four or more years of experience. We need more teachers who expect to make teaching a profession. We can never hope to have them until teachers are better paid. We need more teachers and larger schools. An interesting fact about the teachers in Rutherford is that the number of men teachers increased 25 per cent more than the number of women teachers during the period under review. In 1908-09 a little more than a fourth of our rural teachers were men, but in 1915-16 a full third of them were men. Except in our mountain counties, the women are rapidly displacing men in the public schools.

4. Better Salaries

Seventy counties of the state paid their rural white teachers a better average salary in 1914 than Rutherford. Her average was only \$203 a year, which was \$22.27 below the state average at that time. Edgecombe county led the state with \$358.80. In 1916 the state average had increased to \$257.34, while in Rutherford it had increased to \$213.07, which left us \$44 below the state average. If the state as a whole could increase the teachers' pay \$22.07, why could not Rutherford do the same? When we pay teachers more we can expect more of them. It is foolish to expect much for little. Nature has so arranged things that we can never get anything worth while without paying for it in full. Teachers' salaries are no exception to nature's rule. The counties that pay better salaries than Rutherford will steadily toll away our best teachers and leave the poorest on our hands.

SEVEN-YEAR GAINS IN RUTHERFORD COUNTY RURAL SCHOOLS

The following figures for 1915-16 include all the schools of the county except Forest City and Rutherfordton, and in 1908-09 they included all the schools of the county, because at that time the report makes no distinction between city and country schools.

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	1908-09	1915-16	PER CENT INCREASE
Value of white school property.....	\$35,006	\$60,800	74
Value of colored school property.....	\$3,240	\$5,000	54
Raised by local tax.....	\$16,138	\$23,224	44
Spent on teaching and supervision.....	\$15,936	\$31,762	99
Spent on buildings and supplies.....	\$2,651	\$5,770	118
Administration	\$1,112	\$1,195	7
White school population	7,211	7,655	6
Colored school population	1,635	1,802	10
Total school population	8,846	9,457	7
White school enrollment	5,175	6,696	29
Colored school enrollment	986	1,424	44
Total school enrollment	6,161	8,120	32
Per cent of white population enrolled.....	72	87	15
Per cent of colored population enrolled....	60	79	19
Average white daily attendance	3,465	4,484	29
Average colored daily attendance	568	947	66
Per cent of whites enrolled in daily attendance	67	66	-1
Per cent of colored enrolled in daily attendance	57	66	9
Average annual salaries, white teachers....	\$153	\$213	39
Average annual salaries, colored teachers..	\$76	\$98	29
Number of rural white schools.....	78	89	14
Number of rural colored schools.....	23	22	-4
White schools having two or more teachers	21	37	76
Colored schools having two or more teachers	2	3	50
Per cent white schools having two or more teachers	27	42	15
Per cent colored schools having two or more teachers	8.7	11	2.3
Number and sex of rural white teachers—			
Masculine	28	43	53
Feminine	72	87	28
Total rural white teachers	100	130	30
Number and sex rural colored teachers—			
Masculine	7	4	-43
Feminine	14	25	79
Total number rural colored teachers.....	21	29	38
White teachers with 4 yrs. experience.....	44	85	93
Colored teachers with 4 yrs. experience.....	12	11	-8
White teachers with college diplomas.....	10	17	70
Colored teachers with college diplomas....	2	0	—
White teachers with 1st grade certificates	94	123	31

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White teachers with 2nd grade certificates	6	7	17
Colored teachers with 2nd grade certificates	20	26	30
White schools with patent desks.....	42	89	111
Colored schools with patent desks.....	0	10	—
Number of new schools houses—			
White	3	4	33
Colored	1	2	100
Total cost (both races).....	\$1,137	\$1,800	50
Total white school districts.....	78	89	14
Total colored school districts.....	23	26	13
Local tax districts	8	22	175

NOTE—The minus sign (—) indicates a decrease.

STATUS OF RUTHERFORD'S RURAL SCHOOLS

1. School Property

Our total investment in rural white school property in 1915-1916 was \$60,800. Only 22 other counties stood ahead of us in this particular. Our investment in negro school property was only \$5,000 and 37 counties made a better showing.

Thirty-one counties spent more for new buildings, repairs, and supplies than Rutherford in 1915-16, our total being \$5,174.

Our total public school fund, town and country, white and colored, the same year was \$53,135. It was larger in 51 counties, while 62 counties had a larger total of taxable property. This shows that we are using more of our wealth for maintaining our public schools than many other counties of the state.

Our per capita investment in white school property, town and country, was only \$3.04 in 1916. Eighty-one counties were ahead of us in this respect. Cleveland ranked 69 with \$3.90. The state average in 1914 was \$8.03. At that time McDowell led the state with \$20.85.

2. School Population and Enrollment

Our white school population increased 6 per cent between 1908-09 and 1915-16; while both our white enrollment and attendance increased 29 per cent. At this rate of increase we will soon have all our children of school age enrolled and in average daily attendance.

The compulsory school attendance law has probably helped the average daily attendance somewhat; but when 3,171 white children of school age, or a full two-fifths of them all, were not in daily attendance in 1915-16, it can be clearly seen that the law needs a more rigid enforcement. In 1916 we had 87 per cent of our school population enrolled but we had only 66 per cent of our enrollment in daily attendance. This per cent should be increased. Our farmers should make a greater sacrifice to keep their children regularly in school from the first to the last day of the term. The public school is short, at best, and they need to take advantage of every day of school. The great majority of our boys and girls will never go to school any more after they leave the public school. It costs nothing extra to send as the taxes have to be paid anyway. What is said of our farmers is equally true of our factory population.

In the school year 1908-09 there were 2,036 white children of school age in the country not enrolled in the schools; seven years later there were only 959. This number should be still smaller, although it is impossible to enroll the entire school population.

Another matter of importance: in 1908-09 there were 1,710 white children enrolled who were not in average daily attendance in our



MODEL HOMES IN ONE OF THE MILL VILLAGES OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY

schools; but in 1915-16 there were 2,212 such pupils, which is to say, we are lagging behind in daily attendance. It means that there is something wrong with our schools and it sorely needs correction.

3. Strange Conditions

In 1908-09 we find only 21 white schools with two or more teachers, but seven years later we had 37 such schools. The per cent increase was 76, which is unusually large.

At the same time we had an encouraging increase in the number of trained teachers. Yet we had a decrease in the per cent of white school children enrolled in daily attendance. Our school population increased 6 per cent, and the average salaries paid our rural white teachers increased 39 per cent, yet our attendance on school population fell from 67 to 66 per cent. Our salaries are far below the state average. They were increased during these seven years but they must be still further increased. We must keep our experienced teachers in the county. Our decrease in attendance is largely due to the fact many or most of our teachers are raw recruits teaching school for the first time with no special preparation.

Our total negro population in general decreased slightly during this seven-year period, but the negro school population, the negro enrollment, and the negro school attendance were all greatly increased; and the rates of increase run far ahead of those for the white children. Whether we approve it or not, the negroes are everywhere eager for education, and careless white parents must see to it that their children keep well ahead in the race.

4. Negro Schools

So far I have dealt mainly with the white schools in the discussion in this chapter. The writer has always claimed that the right kind of education helps any human being, and he believes that schools of the right sort will help the negro and at the same time the community in which he lives. The negro is here to stay. We have more than 4,000 of them in Rutherford alone. In some respects the negro schools have made more progress than the white schools during this seven-year period. A few of the most striking contrasts are: the enrollment in colored schools increased 15 per cent more than that of the white schools; the colored school population enrolled was 4 per cent greater than that of the whites; the average colored daily attendance increased 66 per cent while that of the whites increased only 29 per cent, a net gain of 37 per cent in favor of the colored schools. The per cent of colored children enrolled in daily attendance had an increase of 9 per cent, while that of the whites suffered a loss of one per cent.

The colored country schools decreased 4 per cent in number, while

the white country schools increased 14 per cent. Colored men teachers in the country decreased 43 per cent, while white men teachers in the country increased 53 per cent. In 1908-09 we had two negro teachers with college diplomas, but in 1916 we had none. In 1908-09 there were no colored schools with patent desks, but in 1916 there were ten.

5. Grasshopper Teachers

We need country-minded, country-loving teachers, who will stay on at the same school year after year and become community leaders. This need can be met only by paying our teachers enough to induce them to stay after they have received some training. We pay our white teachers less than 70 other counties of the state.

One of the best ways to get more money with which to do this would be to increase the local school tax rate, and enlarge the number of local tax school districts. Seventy-two counties of the state had a higher local school tax rate in 1915-16 than Rutherford. In 1915-16 our total county and district tax rate for schools was only \$5.67 on the \$1,000 of taxable property. We are 95 cents below the state average and more than \$13 below the average for McDowell.

However, we know that Rutherford realizes as much good from what she spends as any other county in the state. We have a live, good superintendent and a working board of education. Together they have aroused the people to vote local taxes and to consolidate the schools. These are two fundamental policies of educational progress.

Our county commencement is an important event in our county and is destined to become more so as the years go by.

6. Private Schools

In conclusion, the writer wishes to express his appreciation of three other schools in the county, viz.: Round Hill Academy, at Union Mills, which is supported by the Baptists and is doing a great work. This year it is under the able leadership of Professor and Mrs. A. C. Warlick, and they are ably assisted by a corps of teachers who are helping them to make "polished jewels" out of the raw human material which is found in Western North Carolina.

The Presbyterians have a most excellent school, Westminster, which is under the leadership of Professor T. E. P. Woods. This school is located one mile from Logan Station on the Carolina, Clinchfield, and Ohio railroad. It is recognized as one of the best preparatory schools in Western North Carolina.

The colored people have a good preparatory school near Rutherfordton. It is doing much to enlighten and uplift the colored race in our county.

HOW RUTHERFORD RURAL SCHOOLS RANKED

45th	in total taxable property in 1916, there being.....	\$7,793,973
48th	in total farm wealth, 1910 census.....	\$6,787,973
82nd	in per capita investment in white school property, town and country, 1915-16.....	\$3.04
	In 1913-14 it was only \$2.70 and our rank 80th.	
32nd	in amount spent upon buildings and supplies, 1915-16..	\$5,174
28th	in number of local tax districts, 1915-16, per cent.....	25
	Twenty-two of the 89 school districts levy a local tax.	
62nd	in total revenue from district taxes, 1915-16.....	\$6,060
	Received from the state equalizing fund, \$6,201. From all other state aid sources, \$7,715.	
52nd	in total school fund for the county, 1915-16.....	\$53,135
	Buncombe county led the state with \$474,560. Total rural fund for Rutherford, \$44,634.	
23rd	in investment in rural white school property, 1915-16..	\$60,800
38th	in investment in rural negro school property, 1915-16..	\$5,000
	Guilford county lead the state in 1916 in total value of white school property with \$414,771.89, while New Hanover lead the state in total value of negro school property with \$80,912.04. Warren county was at the bottom of the list in 1916 in total value of white school property with \$4,121; while Mitchell was at the bottom in 1916 in the total value of negro school property with \$200.	
71st	in average annual salaries in 1916 paid rural white teachers	\$213.07
	State average in 1914, \$235.27. State average in 1916 was \$257.77; increase over 1914, \$22.50. Ruther- ford's average in 1914 was \$203; increase from 1914 to 1916 was \$10.07.	
56th	in school attendance in 1913-14 on enrollment, per cent	66.7
	State average, 68.1.	
48th	in rural white schools with two or more teachers in 1915-16, per cent	42.7
	Thirty-seven of the 89 rural schools had two or more teachers. All of the 89 rural white school houses in Rutherford in 1916 were equipped with patent desks, and 10 of the 22 negro schools also had pat- ent desks, 10 had home-made desks and two had benches. Eighty-six of the 100 counties in	

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the state in 1916 had some home-made desks and 35 had some schools that were furnished with benches.

73rd in local school tax rate in 1915-16, county and special, per \$1,000 \$5.67
 McDowell led the state with \$18.73 and Graham county was last with \$3.91. The state average was \$6.62.

43rd in average expenditure per high school pupil enrolled (1913) \$27.83
 In 1912-13 we spent \$20.29 per high school pupil in our state aided high schools and only \$10.63 in 1907-08. Our rank then was 71st.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY TO-DAY

WHERE SHE LEADS

Rutherford county has many things to be proud of. Her record in state history is one of distinction. She contributed her full quota of men that helped to defeat Ferguson at the memorable battle of King's Mountain. She furnished 11 companies to the armies of the Confederacy. She has always stood and voted for reform, justice, and temperance. Rutherford has one of the best hospitals in the state. Nearly three-fourths of the area of the county is woodland. Our stand of timber is around 400,000,000 feet. The home-supply of lumber ought to attract capital for wood-working industries of every sort. There is plenty of room in Rutherford for new comers. We need more people. A denser population would mean better support for schools and churches, and better community co-operation.

Health

Only 14 counties in the state had a lower death rate than Rutherford in 1915. Our rate was 9.9 people for every 1,000 population. The average for the state was 13.2 per 1,000 population and 15 for the United States. This means that Rutherford is a healthier place on the average than either the state at large or the United States. Health means wealth and happiness. With our pure mountain air and fresh free-stone water, Rutherford offers a great inducement to the settler seeking health, prosperity and happiness.

Morality

It is natural for the average civilized man to desire to live in a peace-loving, God-fearing country. Rutherford has rarely ever had a lynching, a rape, a robbery, or a murder. She has no place in the sensational news of the state. Her people are industrious and peaceful. Sixty-seven people out of every 100, ten years old and over, belong to some church. The average for the state is 44 out of every 100.

Farm Ownership

Only 28 counties in the state made a better showing in freedom from mortgage debt than Rutherford in 1910. Only 12 out of every 100 white farms were mortgaged, while the average for the state was 17. The average for Cleveland was 15. Only 21 out of every 100 negro farms were mortgaged in Rutherford, while the average for the state was 26 out of every 100; and in Cleveland, 36 in every 100.

Thirty-eight colored farmers in every 100 in 1910 in Rutherford owned their own own farms; the average for the state was 33. Fifty-

six white farmers out of every 100 in Rutherford in 1910 owned their own farms while the state average was 66. The colored farmers of Rutherford are 5 points above the state average, while the whites are 10 below it.

Food and Feed Crops

Despite the fact that we had a shortage in food and feed crops amounting to \$1,642,000 in 1910, we were 5 points above the state average in this particular. This shows that our farmers are on the right road to farm ownership and prosperity. We need only to move ahead faster. We had 28 cattle for every 1,000 acres of improved land in 1910, while the state averaged only 23. The United States averaged 61. These figures show that both Rutherford county and North Carolina do not have enough cattle. Other sections or states are raising our beef in large part. Our cattle increase from 1900 to 1910 was 4 points above the state increase. This rate of increase in Rutherford shows that we are headed in the right direction in our farm development. In the census year, we raised two bushels of corn more per person than the average for the state as a whole. This gain shows that we are on the road to a greater farm prosperity.

Farm Machinery

Only 51 counties in the state invested more than Rutherford in farm implements per acre in 1910. In this particular we were three cents above the average for the state. We need larger farms and more horse and machine power per farm. It is true that some of the land in Rutherford is too rough and ragged for improved farm machinery, but it is otherwise in the major portion of the county. What we need is scientific farming on a larger scale. Human power is the costliest power than can be used in any industry. Horse and machine power are always cheaper than human power on farms of proper size, say on 150 or more acres per farm. Herein lies the wealth-producing, wealth-accumulating power of the Middle Western farmers.

Home Demonstration Agent

Rutherford has taken a long step forward in securing a Home Demonstration Agent. It means better home conditions, more home comforts and conveniences, more canned fruits and vegetables, more jars of preserves, jams, and jellies, more pigs and poultry; and a smaller bill for imported food products year by year. It means that our girls as well as our boys will be taught things that will be useful to them when they have left the school room. Miss Steele will devote her whole time to the work. This was made possible through the efforts of the County Superintendent of Education and the County Commissioners.

Roller Mills

Rutherford has several roller mills of note. Lakeview Mills, near Cliffside, has a capacity of 50 barrels of flour per day. This is one of the largest flour mills in Western North Carolina. There are two other mills of note, one at Rutherfordton and the other at Ellenboro. Both of these mills receive a wide patronage.

Education

Rutherford is one of the fourteen counties in the state that can boast of no home-made desks or benches in her white schools. This is according to the last report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Twenty-five per cent of her public school districts have a special school tax levy. This shows that our people are awakening to the need for better schools. Only 27 counties in the state are ahead of us in the number of rural white schools with two or more teachers. The time is soon coming when the little one-teacher country school will be a thing of the past and the sooner the better. The course of instruction is too narrow in these little one-teacher schools.

What the country boy and girl need is education that is practical and applicable to their lives; education that will help them to do more effectively and easily the things they are going to do in life, whether it be to raise pigs, chickens, corn, cotton and wheat, to practice law or medicine, to preach the gospel, or to teach the youth of the land.

Ideal Mill Towns

One thing for which Rutherford is known far and near is her ideal mill towns. They have been made so by the heroic efforts of such men as Mr. R. R. Haynes and Mr. S. B. Tanner, and their sons.

Cliffside was laid out by a landscape architect and is one of the most beautiful mill towns in the south. It owes its beauty, excellent morality, intelligence, and prosperity to Mr. Raleigh Rutherford Haynes. It is the dream of his life. It is ideal because he banished ignorance, poverty and pain, and taught the people to love God supremely and to love their fellow man as themselves. Cliffside has been rightly called a "veritable dogless Eden." You find no questionable characters there. Cliffside mills built the ample school building which the town has. The school has a daily attendance of 350 children with a principal and five assistant teachers. Mr. Haynes built a nice teachers' home and has a matron to look after the lady teachers. Flowers and gardens are cultivated in abundance. The water supply is the boast of the town.

The operatives of this mill have had over \$57,000 deposited in the mill bank on savings account at one time. Four young ladies employed in the mill came to the office some time ago and deposited \$420 on their

savings account. The mill company pays 6 per cent interest on the deposits of all its employees. In the last 10 years from 75 to 100 families have moved away from Cliffside to buy farms with the money they had saved at the mill.

Mr. S. B. Tanner and Mr. K. S. Tanner, his son, are creating similar conditions in their mill villages at Henrietta, Caroleen, and Spindale. In all the mill villages of Rutherford, the mills employ community health nurses. These towns are the homes of happy, prosperous, moral and intelligent people. The world needs more such men as the Hayneses and the Tanners.

WHERE RUTHERFORD LAGS

The purpose of this brief chapter is to point out where Rutherford is behind the state average in various important particulars. It is the earnest desire of the writer that all people who are interested in the future of the county will earnestly consider our deficiencies and actively apply the remedies. There is no reason why Rutherford cannot lead in all the things where she now lags.

1. Illiteracy

Native white illiterates, ten years old and over, are 3 per cent more in Rutherford than in the state as a whole. They are 12 per cent more than in the United States. Our illiterate native white voters are 2 per cent more than the average for the state and 12 per cent more than the average for the United States. Our first great task is to abolish illiteracy in Rutherford county.

2. Schools

Our average white daily attendance when compared with our white school enrollment is too small. It was only 66 per cent in 1915-16, and only 6 counties made a poorer showing. We are 15 points below the state average. The compulsory school attendance law must be more strictly enforced. Our country schools must be better and their power to interest and hold pupils greater. Our people must wake up to the need and importance of education. The negroes of the county make a better showing than the whites in both school enrollment and attendance.

We lag behind 70 counties of the state in the average of salaries paid to white rural teachers. We have been increasing these salaries but the increases do not keep pace with the increases of the state at large. And so we lose our best teachers to other counties that pay better salaries.

We are lagging behind 72 counties in local school support per \$1,000 worth of property. We are 95 cents behind the state average in this

respect. We have the property if we would only use it for education.

The average term of our rural white schools in 1915-16 was 9.7 days shorter than the state average. Our unwillingness to support our public schools by local taxes causes this shortage. The average term of the Forest City high school in 1915-16 was 20 days behind the average for the city high schools of the state and 10 days behind that of Rutherfordton. Our country and town children deserve as good schools and as long terms as any other children in the state, and it is up to the good citizens of our county to see that they get it.

3. Farm Wealth

While Rutherford increased her farm wealth 119.5 per cent from 1900 to 1910 the state increase was 130 per cent. With our climate, soil, and hard working population, we ought to surpass the state average in this increase.

The state increase in the value of domestic animals from 1900 to 1910 was 18 per cent greater than that of Rutherford. This shows that we need more and better farm animals. This condition is largely the reason why we are \$29 behind the state average in per capita country wealth.

Rutherford lagged behind the state average in annual production of farm wealth per person in 1910 by \$22.30. Eighty-four counties were ahead of us in this respect.

Eighty-six had more hogs per 1,000 acres than we had. The state average was 19 more than Rutherford's average, which was only 20.

We were behind the state average of per capita beef production by 12.5 pounds. We need to raise more cattle, we need more and better milk animals, and a large increase in dairy products.

Seventy-three counties were ahead of us in pork production per person. We lagged behind the state in this respect by 31.4 pounds per person.

Fifty-eight counties had a greater crop yielding power per acre than Rutherford. We were \$6.49 behind the state average in 1910.

4. Taxation

Eighty-seven counties had a lower tax rate, state and county, than we had in 1913. Our rate was 7 cents per \$100 higher than the average for the state, and yet 87 counties spent more per \$1,000 worth of property on schools than we did and 70 counties paid their white teachers more. There must be something radically wrong with our tax system in Rutherford.

The average value of our farm lands on our tax books was only 31 per cent of its census value in 1910. In other words, the average land owner gives in his land to the tax assessor at less than one-third of its census value, and at less than one-fourth of its current market

value, and yet he takes a solemn oath that it is listed at its true value when sold for money in the ordinary manner of sale.

5. Banking

More of our people should get the habit of having a bank account. This would mean more economy, more wealth and greater prosperity for everybody.

Rutherford's per capita bank capital in 1915 was \$3.50 behind the state average. We need more banks and more banking capital.

Sixty-nine counties were ahead of us in per capita bank resources. The state average surpassed us by \$41.55.

Fifty-four counties surpassed us in per capita loans and discounts. The state average was ahead of us in this respect by \$22.90. This proves that too few of our people ever do any banking business to amount to anything.

THE WAY OUT

The purpose of this brief chapter is to make a few practical suggestions about how Rutherford county may lead where she now lags. There is no reason why she cannot do this. There are many things that might be said but time and space forbid. The writer does not expect all of the readers of this booklet to agree with him, to be sure, about suggestions and remedies, and he will be satisfied if our intelligent clear thinking citizens are aroused to think and to think out better ways than he is able to do.

Rutherford is predominantly agricultural, yet she spent over one and a half million dollars in 1910 for imported food and feed stuffs. Unless we were better bread-and-meat farmers in 1917 the ready cash that we sent out of the county for food supplies was around 3 million dollars. We can never be an independent farm people, until we are self-supporting, live-at-home farmers. This means more livestock, supported by diversified farming. With larger farms, more labor-saving machinery, more livestock and greater diversification we shall begin to accumulate a surplus of farm wealth, which will mean more farms cultivated by owners and fewer cultivated by tenants. Our idle acres must be brought under the plow, or put into permanent pasture. Our farms must be large enough to allow the profitable use of labor-saving machinery, as the labor-cost of farm production consumes the profits of farming in Rutherford; and the expense of producing crops can be lowered to the lowest level by horse and machine power on farms of a greater average size, as in the west.

Two instances of the value of machinery on farms can be readily seen from a famous table on The Influence of Farm Machinery upon Production and Labor Cost, by Quaintance. The total corn crop of the

United States of 1894 would have called for 117,487,098 days of work by one man using the simple tools and hoe-handle methods we are accustomed to; but by the liberal use of horse and machine power on medium or large sized farms the days required were less than a fourth of this number. In other words the days of labor saved was more than three-fifths.

The case of wheat is even more striking. It would have taken 130,621,927 days to produce the total wheat crop of the United States in 1896 by hand methods. The days of human labor saved by machine farming numbered 123 million, or nearly 95 per cent of the total.

Iowa and North Carolina

The average number of acres cultivated on an Iowa farm is 130, while it is about 35 in North Carolina. The value of farm implements per farm in Iowa is \$421 while it is \$72 in North Carolina. The average number of work-animals per farm in Iowa is 7 while it is 1 1-3 in North Carolina. The annual per capita farm production, crop and animal, in Iowa is \$1,680 while it is only \$290 in North Carolina. The per capita country wealth of Iowa is \$3,386, while it is only \$322 in North Carolina. What Iowa has done North Carolina can do. Rutherford's per capita country wealth is \$29 behind that of our state and is \$3,093 behind that of Iowa. Nature has been more favorable to Rutherford than to Iowa in the form of excellent health conditions, mild winters, abundant rainfall, and running streams, good soils for grains, hay and forage. Our climate allows stock to be lightly housed in winter time; not so in Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin where steam heated barns are fairly common.

The writer longs to see the time come when tenancy, poverty, and ignorance will be a thing of the past in Rutherford county; when every farmer can sit by his own fireside, eat his own bread and meat, work his own stock and use his own machinery on his own land.

Education

The only way out of our illiteracy lies in well-paid teachers, longer terms, better enrollment and average daily attendance. We need to bestir ourselves, get out of the old ruts and get upon more modern highways of social progress. Our younger generation must all go to school or we shall still lag in illiteracy. The world is making wonderful strides along lines of education. We must develop a more generous educational spirit or we shall be left behind in the forward march of American communities. There never was a better time than now in which to live. The world is undergoing many changes and Rutherford is no exception to the rule.

Despite their almost unbearable war debts, England and France are increasing their appropriations for education. It is time that Ruther-

ford was waking up and getting ahead of some of those 87 counties that spend more per \$1,000 worth of property for schools than we do, or these 70 counties that pay their teachers more. Every man, woman and child that loves Rutherford and wants to see her take the lead in the state and nation must pull together and see that our schools are better and our daily attendance greater in all our schools during the next 25 years. This must be done whatever else we do. There is no other way out. There is no short-cut to prosperity and plenty, home-ownership, and intelligence. Schools and education are the only way.

Our taxpayers must be more willing and liberal in their support of public education. In 1913-14 only two counties in the state had a lower local school tax, county and special, per \$1,000 worth of property than Rutherford. It was only \$3.68. It was \$1.36 below the average for the state, which was \$5.04 at that time. We cannot expect to have the best schools without the most liberal support on the part of local communities.

We are doing something along this line, but the trouble is that we are not doing enough. We are like the little boy who took a bath and his mother asked him if his body was clean. He replied, "Yes, in spots." Our school attendance and school tax rate are fine in spots; they need to be fine the whole county over.

We must have more teachers with normal training and college diplomas. We must have good teachers who will stay on in our school communities year after year. No other kind of teachers will ever build up schools of abiding and increasing value. We can never have such teachers and such schools until we are willing to pay liberal salaries. Teachers cannot prepare for a position unless the position is worth preparing for.

Our country schools need to be fewer, bigger, and better; which is to say, we need more consolidated schools with courses of study better adapted to the needs of our boys and girls.

It is the task of all good citizens to help create such conditions. Some are doing this already, and it is the hope of the writer of this little booklet that others will catch the vision, develop the spirit of hearty co-operation and fall in line to make our county the most ideal county in the state or the nation.

That she may continue to lead where she now leads and also where she now lags is the hope and prayer of the author of this little county bulletin.

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