

GEORGE PEABODY

The Seaman A. Knapp Farm and School of Country Life



SEAMAN A. KNAPP



PROPOSED BUILDING FOR SEAMAN A. KNAPP SCHOOL OF COUNTRY LIFE AT GEORGE PEABODY COLLEGE FOR TEACHERS, NASHVILLE, TENN.

WHAT THE SCHOOL STRIVES TO DO.

1. The Seaman A. Knapp School of Country Life, in connection with George Peabody College for Teachers, represents the first attempt in America to build an institution devoted *exclusively* to the study of the problems of rural life.

2. The School is organized to teach thousands of farmers and their sons the principles of better farming, better business methods on the farm, and better living in the country, and thus promote the agricultural interests of the South.

3. The School maintains courses on the College campus and makes demonstrations on the Knapp Farm. The Knapp Farm is being established as an object of interest and

imitation for the entire South, a model of its kind. The School offers co-operation to help convert part of the grounds of country schools in all sections of the South into similar models for their respective communities. It is also helping convert the farms of its friends into such models.

4. It demonstrates on its own farm, with diversified conditions, on the grounds of country schools co-operating with it, and on the farms of its friends, the best methods of growing every plant which may be profitably grown in the South. It demonstrates the best methods of gathering, curing, storing, packing, preserving, shipping and selling these crops.

5. It studies and demonstrates the best policy for Southern farmers with respect to live stock of all kinds; the best methods of breeding, selection, and care; the best systems of preserving, storing, shipping, and selling the various kinds of live stock products.

6. It ascertains the best system of buying lands, equipment, and supplies, and presents the results in the most practical way to the farmers of the South directly, as well as through the country teachers, county demonstrators, and others.

7. It works out the most efficient forms of farm credit, and demonstrates their practicability and assists in their development.

8. It is analyzing the systems of taxation of agricultural property, products and activities, and advises with farmers as to their efficiency and justness, and presents, for the consideration of all, the best systems of taxation and the use of the funds secured, the administration of school funds, etc.

9. It is beautifying the lands of the Knapp Farm by abundant planting, constant improvement, splendid roads, and in every way attempts to keep an ideal farm.

10. It is one agency to check the exodus from the country and to demonstrate all possible means of meeting the increased burden of production now placed upon the country by the immense growth of population in urban centers.

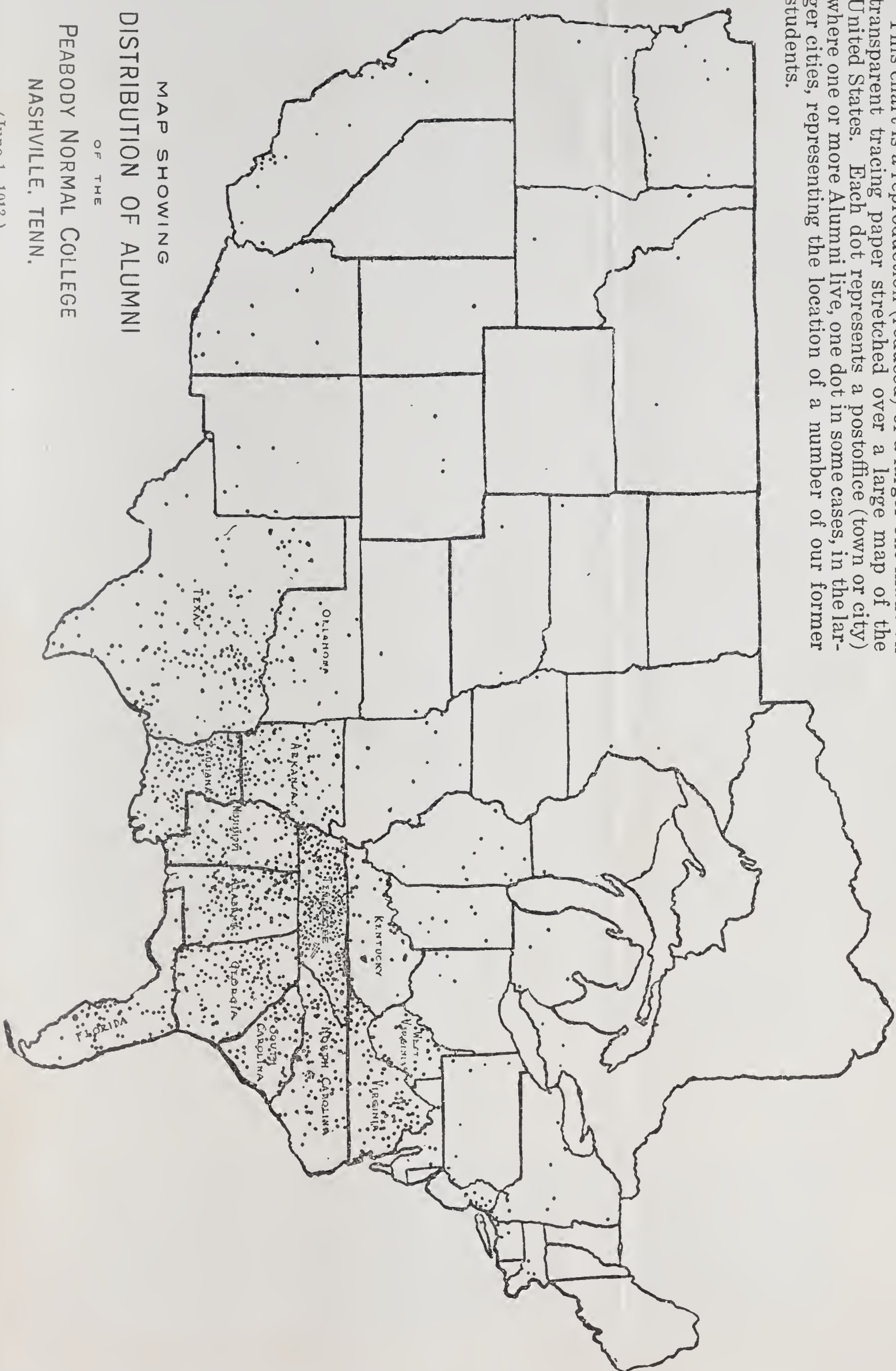
11. It looks to the service of the farmers, their wives, their sons, and their daughters in the South, to the end that a decided impetus may be given to life in the country.

12. It will bring together the one thousand farm demonstration agents of the South and the leading school teachers, groups which represent two of the most effective agencies for the rehabilitation of country life.

13. It will become a center for the exchange of ideas and experiences on the part of all rural leaders of the South.

14. It teaches the intricate lessons of scientific agriculture by simple methods which appeal directly to human senses,—by ocular demonstration of scientific principles.

This chart is a reproduction (reduced) of a larger one made on transparent tracing paper stretched over a large map of the United States. Each dot represents a postoffice (town or city) where one or more Alumni live, one dot in some cases, in the larger cities, representing the location of a number of our former students.

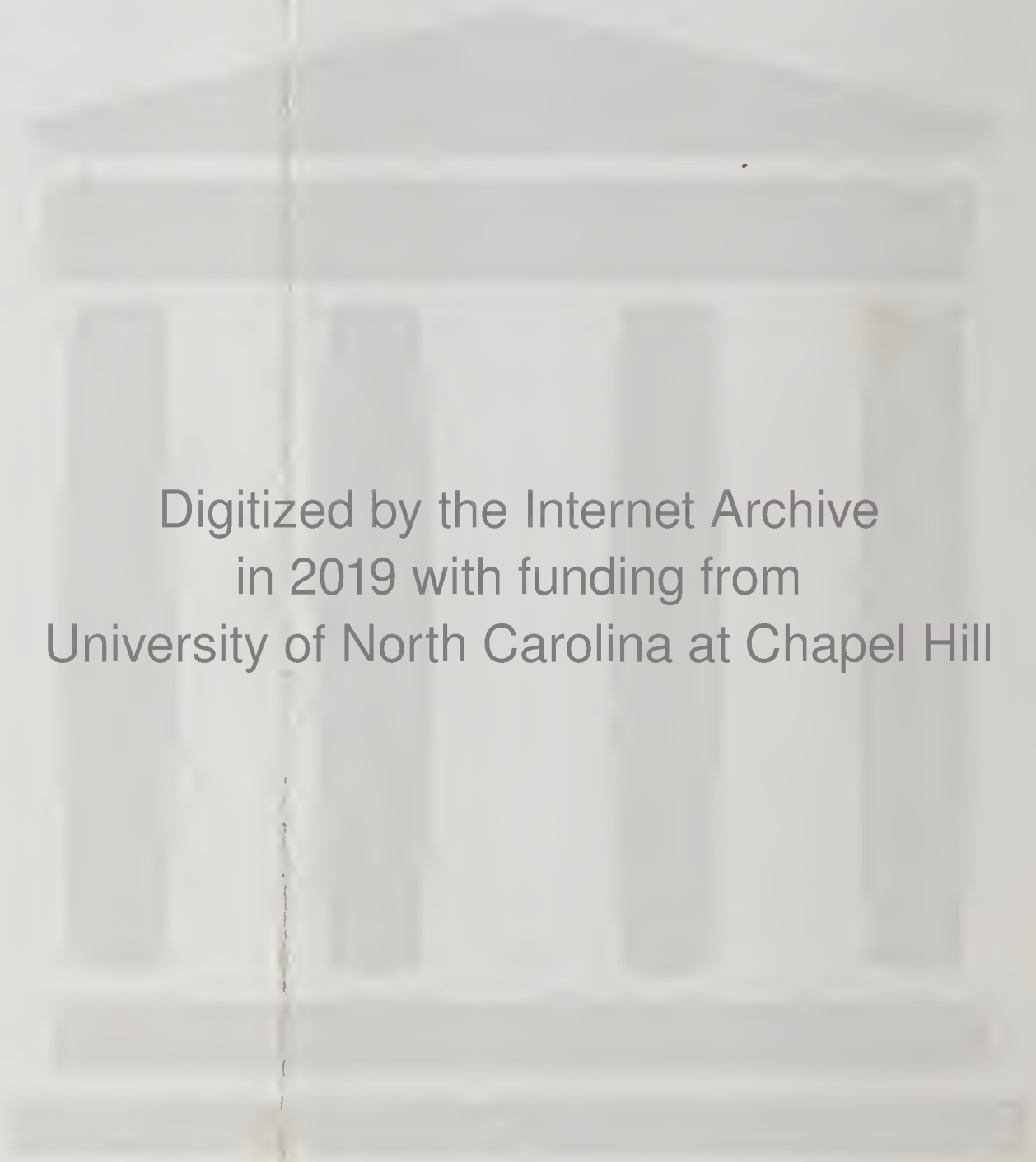


MAP SHOWING
DISTRIBUTION OF ALUMNI

OF THE

PEABODY NORMAL COLLEGE
NASHVILLE, TENN.

(June 1, 1913.)



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<https://archive.org/details/seamanaknappfarm00unse>

15. The numerous difficult problems met by the farm demonstration agents of the South are being worked out, thus resulting in the widest application of modern teachings to the farms themselves.

16. The benefits of certain plants, as crops for use in farm rotations and in soil improvement, are shown. The one-crop system, too prevalent in many quarters, is corrected.

17. The latest teachings regarding methods of renovating depleted and neglected soils is shown here and will be carried by the demonstrators and teachers to all quarters.

18. It attempts to educate and train practical men and women for rural leadership as farm demonstrators, home improvement workers, rural teachers, marketing experts.

19. One of its great objects is to train and develop men and women for those positions wherein they are to serve the country people by taking information from educational institutions, experiment stations, agricultural colleges, etc., and disseminating it at the homes and on the farms. It is a training school for rural service workers.

20. The great need of the country life today is co-operation—co-operation for schools, churches, better roads, better farming, better marketing. It teaches the principles of co-operation.

21. From its location in the suburbs of Nashville, an educational center so easily accessible to all parts of the South, it derives great benefit; and it profits by all the work of George Peabody College for Teachers.

22. It will quickly repay the sums invested in it because of its service to the eighty-five per cent of our population who live in the country and are responsible for the creation of so large a proportion of our wealth.

23. It exists as a practical and useful memorial, perpetuating the influence and the fame of Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, the Southern farmers' greatest benefactor, and the friend of the boys and girls of the country.

24. It strives to beneficially supplement and enhance all other instrumentalities of progress in existence in the South, and co-operates with them all for genuine service to this section.



BIRD EYE VIEW OF KNAPP FARM SHOWING RAILROAD, ORCHARD HILL, FIELD PLOTS, ETC.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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May 12, 1913.

Dr. Bruce Payne,
George Peabody College for Teachers,
Nashville, Tenn.

My Dear Dr. Payne:

I am delighted to know that you are making progress in your plans for the Seaman A. Knapp School of Country Life at the Teachers College. I am convinced that the biggest problem confronting us is the rural life problem, and yet it is one which in its larger aspects has been ignored. Recently the attention of the country has been directed to this problem in very emphatic ways. State and Federal agencies are more fully alive to the importance of it than ever before. The establishment of a school directing its attention specifically to country life seems very opportune. We need leaders in every community, and need them badly. This Department is finding difficulty in discovering men to undertake the new enterprises that are developing here.

It seems to me singularly appropriate that the school should bear the name of Seaman A. Knapp. He was a pioneer in country life work in no small sense. The last years of his life he devoted with great zeal to the upbuilding of the Southern States. The school will be a most fitting monument to him, and I sincerely hope it will be generously provided for.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) D. F. HOUSTON,
Secretary.