

OUR FARMER'S PAGE

THE FARMERS UNION OF NORTH CAROLINA IN ANNUAL MEETING.

Delegates Present From All Over the State—Sessions at Greenville—The President, Dr. H. Q. Alexander, in His Annual Address Urges Many Reforms in the State—For Legalized Primary—Federal Government's Failure to Aid the Farmer is Criticized—Dr. Alexander Also Comes out for Woman's Suffrage.

Greenville, Nov. 18.—The seventh annual meeting of the North Carolina State Farmers' Union met here this morning in the auditorium of the Training School. There are a large number of delegates present, nearly all of the officers and a large number of visitors from out of the State. The meeting was called to order by President Alexander. Rev. A. G. Harris lead in prayer.

Mr. James welcomed the union to the city. President Wright, of the Training School, extended the greetings of the Greenville Chamber of Commerce and the Training School. J. C. Galloway, representative-elect, welcomed the union in behalf of the local Farmers' Union. Rev. Mr. Coble responded to these addresses.

After these addresses several prominent visiting delegates addressed the Union. One of the most prominent of those called upon to speak was Charles S. Barrett, of Union City, Ga., president of the National Farmers' Union. L. M. Rhodes, president of the Tennessee State Farmers' Union, and chairman of the board of directors of the national union, was next introduced.

Superintendent J. Y. Joyner was called upon to address the union. Dr. Joyner praised the union for its assistance in his work. He credited them with giving generous support to the two recent education laws passed in this State. He urged the farmers to help the community service work.

At the afternoon session President Alexander delivered his annual address, reports of the financial committee, that of the State Organizer and reports and recommendations of State Committees were made.

DR. ALEXANDER'S ADDRESS.

"I bring to the Farmers' Union the good tidings that peace reigns within our borders. It is not the peace of a truce or indifference that betokens death, but it is the legitimate fruits of the living spirit of fraternalism and true co-operation.

"You are more or less familiar with the efforts of the State Union to save the cotton and tobacco crops to the farmers. His was a condition out of the ordinary and one which the farmers' union had not planned for and which the Southern farmers were not prepared to meet without serious loss.

"The farmers deserve credit for the fight they have made to save the product of their labors. In my opinion the holding movement prevented cotton from going much lower than it did. If we continue to hold and reduce acreage next year at least 50 per cent, I believe the crop yet unsold of both cotton and tobacco, will command a much better price than it is bringing today.

"And now is the time to begin the acreage reduction by sowing the land in small grains.

"I want to say with all possible emphasis that for general farming the only safe method is diversification of crops, the growing of all food crops for man and beast. The farmer who plants cotton or tobacco next year at the neglect of food crops for home use, ought to have a guardian appointed for his children, and grant his wife a divorce.

"The Government turned a deaf ear to the just demands of the farmers, but continues to issue cheap money to the national banks of the country.

"The banking system of our country has enabled the few to levy tribute on the many without giving in return a value commensurate with the tax imposed. Something like \$700,000,000 are paid in interest alone every year, to say nothing of the ma-

nipulation of prices which results from contraction and expansion of the volume of currency at the pleasure of the great financiers.

AN ECONOMIC CRIME.

"This is an economic crime and a moral wrong. The government should control all of the banking business of the country on a low interest rate for the benefit of all the people, and not for private and unlimited gain as now obtains.

"In this arraignment of the banking system, it is the system and the men responsible for the system that I condemn and not the honorable citizens engaged in the business of banking. The system is wrong and cannot be made to do justice to all the people.

"Ignorance is the bane of any people. Through ignorance the farming and laboring people have submitted to gross impositions too grievous to be borne by an educated populace. For lack of knowledge in our calling we have been inefficient laborers. The returns are not commensurate with the burden of our efforts. Wise planning and intelligent directions are essential to the success of any business.

"Therefore the Farmers' Union must continue to emphasize the absolute necessity of an educated agricultural class. Agriculture and domestic science and art should be taught in every State school from the free school to the university, and farm life schools should be established, one or more, in every county in the State. Farming must be made more profitable and farm life more livable. Education of the right kind will enable the farmers to make it pay. This will save the rural South.

"The rural problem—what is the rural problem? It is to keep the land occupied by an intelligent, efficient, home-owning citizenship. Everybody is concerned in reaching a correct solution of this problem. The supply of food and clothing for the nation is jeopardized. Population increased 21 per cent the last ten years; farm products increased only 10 per cent. Urban population in North Carolina increased 32 per cent; rural population increased only 12 per cent. Ten per cent farming in North Carolina increased 11 per cent within the last 10 years, until now 43 per cent of our farmers are tenants. The white farmers of North Carolina own nearly 1,000,000 acres less land than they did 10 years ago; the negro farmers own 250,000 acres more land than they did ten years ago—one very good reason why the Farmers' Union has increased segregation of the races in land ownership.

"As already indicated, an educated rural citizenship will find a solution of this problem.

LEGALIZED PRIMARY BADLY NEEDED.

"But there are other problems than the oft-mentioned rural problem, that an intelligent citizenship will tackle and solve. Just now we may feel a little discouraged in tackling any public question since the constitutional amendments seem to have been defeated. But this only proves the need of more information on the part of the people. If all the voters had fully understood the amendments I believe all of them would have been adopted. The campaign was too short in which to educate the people.

"I would suggest, briefly, other questions for your consideration. A State-wide legalized primary for all parties on the same day and for all officers, from President to Constable, is absolutely essential to the best government of and for and by the people. This should be backed by a corrupt practices act with teeth in it. The elimination of unnecessary officers and employes wherever possible in State and counties, and the budget system of appropriations for all state institutions should be obtained. This would tend to efficiency and economy and do away with lobbying in the general assembly. We need to study the commission form of government, with a view to its adoption in county and State, to study the question of fire

insurance by the State government; a system of state warehouses equipped for the handling of all kind of crops, for same to be paid for by the farmers over a term of years and to become the property of the farmers when paid for; and an enlargement of the force and an extension of the work by the Department of Agriculture, in practical co-operative marketing of all farm products. It would be of immense benefit to both producer and consumer and add greatly to the wealth of the State, if economic marketing and distribution could be provided for all the food products of every line that are now going to waste. It will also stimulate diversified cropping in the cotton and tobacco counties if ready markets are found for the various other crops adapted to these counties.

"Some reform is needed in the method of textbook supply, both for the public schools and state colleges. In the aggregate this amounts to an immense tax on the people. It is pre-emptive of course that all changes in textbooks are justified by the superior merit of the books adopted; but some of us can recall the time when there weren't any speller, but the 'Blackbook', and if we learn't how to speak good English (and there are some of us that didn't), we had to get it from 'Smith's' or 'Bingham's' grammar, and as for 'cipherin', if a boy could work anything in 'Davies' and 'Robinson's' arithmetics, he was considered pretty good in 'figgers'.

"All juries should be chosen by the county commissioners, or by a jury commission established for that purpose. All peremptory challenge should be abolished and no man should be excused without cause. And juries should be paid for their services. Judges should be required to render excuses for tardiness to the clerk of the court, and these excuses should be published in the county papers. The time allowed for pleadings should be cut down. The pleading of mere technicalities should never be permitted. All cases should be forced to trial within a given time or erased from the docket; unless there are exceptional circumstances under which such a course would defeat justice.

"Such reforms will not be obtained unless demanded by the people. It is not to be expected that the legal fraternity will advocate changes that would curtail the power of the lawyer or injure his business. That would be unnatural. No other class would do it voluntarily. An intelligent man well known in his section of the State, made this remark to the writer: 'The lawyers make the laws, define the laws, execute the laws and live by the laws.'

"The repeal of the crop lien, or crop mortgage law, is advocated in many counties of the State and I have had several letters favoring such action. One of the cardinal principles of the union is 'to discourage the credit and mortgage system.' You should consider this question carefully.

"Let me say further without telling you why, that I favor woman suffrage.

"To increase the consumption of cotton, I suggest that all Southern farmers not only use cotton bagging hereafter for packing cotton but that all farmers, merchants and others insist upon the sacking of all fertilizers, cottonseed meal, grain and other feed-stuffs in cotton bags.

"LET THE PEOPLE THINK.

"I would commend for your earnest consideration, the bulletin on 'community service week.' I would urge the co-operation of all members of the Union in carrying out the programs suggested. Do not neglect the community survey. It will enable you to make a diagnosis of the troubles that are retarding the growth and development of your community.

"My purpose in making many of these suggestions is to get the people to thinking and talking. All reforms for the good of the people originate with the people. Political parties and politicians do not take the initiative. Agitation (not bitterness or strife)

promotes education and education will eventually lead to a reformation of all public evils and injustices. We want to see North Carolina developed; her citizenship elevated and enlightened, their ideals exalted; their purposes unselfish, their labors crowned with success. We would see the country prosperous that the growth of the towns may be safe and permanent. We would protect all property rights but we would extol and nurture and carefully guard all human rights. We would do justice by the dollar but we would show mercy to the man who created the dollar. We would not allow the creature to impose upon the creator. We would establish 'justice, equity and the Golden Rule between all classes and individuals of society. We would see all industries built upon an equitable basis, with enforced regard for the rights of others. We would eliminate all unnecessary agencies that add to the cost of commodities without adding to their value. We would see the day when all men render to society some useful, necessary service in return for the blessings of good society.

"To this end may we all labor and faint not, nor weary in well doing."

ROUTE EIGHT NEWS.

W. A. Lewis still continues right sick. Mrs. C. E. Tapscott is nearly well, we are glad to note. Thanks to our good friends who have remembered us with nice fruits and vegetables. Comes in mighty nice. Cold weather is coming on, and we want to request our patrons to buy stamps and have their mail ready stamped so we won't have so much trouble with pennies and nickles. Do this please—we will appreciate it. W. L. Saul has moved from No. 6 back to No. 8, again. He has rented the W. A. Paschal place. Glad to have them back on No. 8. He shows good judgment in coming back. Pearl Turner, our colored friend, has purchased the Wash Simpson place and will move soon. Uncle Wash will move to A. T. Isley's. We wish them both much success. Most everybody on No. 8 has finished sowing wheat. Though some are always behind. They have had nice weather.

These items were handed in for publication in our Tuesday's issue, but were crowded out.—Editor.

ALTAMAHAW NO. 1 ITEMS.

We have been having plenty of rain recently. Those that have not finished sowing wheat will be knocked back for a few days. The congregation at Shiloh was quite small Sunday on account of the rainy weather. Mr. John Faucette, Jr., and wife, of Durham, are spending several days on No. 1, visiting his father and relatives and friends. They were married

Wednesday the 11th at the home of the bride's father, J. J. Choak. We hope their life may be a long and happy one. They will locate in Durham, where Mr. Faucette works in the Model Pressing business.

Mr. C. W. Mathins is on the sick list. We hope he may soon be well. Quite a crowd of young people on No. 1 enjoyed a nice hay ride Friday night. They took in the debate at Gilliams' Academy. We hope they enjoyed it O. K. The little baby of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Reid is right sick with what they think is whooping cough. We have no news this week. These items were handed in for publication in our Tuesday's issue, but were crowded out.—Editor.

SCHOOL NEWS.

One of the best attended teachers' meetings and one of the most interesting, was held in the Court House, last Saturday. Not every teacher was in attendance but a large majority were—numbering 70. The interest manifested showed a professional spirit that should tell for good during the session. A number of methods and plans concerning the work were discussed by the teachers as a whole in addition to special demonstration work done in second grade, reading by the primary department and a study of Geographic Influence on American History by the Grammar Grades.

At the next meeting, December 5, the Primary Department will do special work in drawing and seat work. The Teachers' Assembly will meet in Charlotte November 25-28. This will be the 31st Annual Session. In connection with the Assembly will be the Association of Kindergarten Teachers, Association of Primary Teachers, Association of Grammar Grade Teachers, and Association of City and County Superintendents. About a half score of the nation's best educators will take part on the program. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving and the last on Friday night. It is recommended by the State Superintendent to all school committees and trustees that they give to all teachers who attend the Assembly Friday without loss of pay. It is believed that the instruction received by the teachers to be brought back to the school will fully repay the days absence. The Assembly is one of the great gatherings of all the year of the State's Educational forces. Alamance County should send a large delegation. Any teacher can get the program by writing to the County Superintendent. The railroad fare will be one and a half cents per mile, plus twenty-five cents. At this rate the round trip from Graham will be \$3.85. It is being planned for every school to take part in the observance of Community Service Week, December 3, 4 and 5. All committees have been appointed and are now being published.

TAX NOTICE!

SECOND AND LAST ROUND.

I will attend the following appointments for the purpose of collecting taxes. These taxes are due and must be paid, and it is every man's duty as a good citizen, to pay promptly and cheerfully. Delinquents will take warning now that they are on the list for levy and advertisement without further notice: Graham: Tax books for the County open at all times. Burlington: Every Saturday. Albright's Township, John Holt's Store, Friday, Nov. 27. Haw River Township: Haw River, Saturday, Nov. 28. Pleasant Grove Township: Stainback's Store, Thursday, Dec. 3rd, 10 to 12; E. L. Bailey's Store, Thursday, Dec. 3, 12 to 9; E. C. Murray's Store, Thursday, Dec. 3, 3 to 5. Faucette Township: L. H. Adridges' Store, Friday, Dec. 4th, 10 to 2; McCray's Friday, Dec. 4th, 3 to 5. Boone Station Township: J. B. Geringer's Store, Tuesday, Dec. 8th, 10 to 3. Mortons Township: Altamahaw Store, Wednesday, Dec. 9th, 10 to 2; Morton's Store, Wednesday, Dec. 9th, 3 to 5. Cobles Township: Alamance Factory, Thursday, Dec. 10th, 10 to 2; Belmont Factory, Thursday, Dec. 10th, 3 to 5. Meville Township: Mebane, Friday, Dec. 11th, 10 to 5. Patterson Township: Rufus Foster's Store, Monday, Dec. 14th, 10 to 2; Mr. John Holt's Residence, Monday, Dec. 14th, 3 to 5; W. H. Fogleman's Store, Tuesday, Dec. 15th, 9 to 2. Newlins Township: Snow Camp, Tuesday, Dec. 15th, 3 to 5; Holman's Mills, Wednesday, Dec. 16th, 9 to 11; Sutphin's Mill, Wednesday, Dec. 16th, 1 to 4. Thompsons Township: Saxapahaw, Friday, Dec. 18th, 10 to 2; Swepsonville, Friday, Dec. 18, 3 to 5. The law contemplates the settlement of all taxes the year in which is listed. Under the law all taxes are subject to levy and sale November 1st, of the year in which they are listed. The law must be observed. Settle NOW and save costs and trouble.

R. N. COOK, Sheriff

VERY LOW ROUND TRIP FARES

--VIA--

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Premier Carrier of the South.

TO VARIOUS POINTS AS FOLLOWS:

\$11.70	to Atlanta, Ga., and return account Fourth American Road Congress NOV. 9th-14th, also National Woman's Christian Temperance Union NOV. 11th-18th. Tickets on sale NOV. 7th-12th, inclusive with final limit NOV. 23th, 1914, unless ticket is deposited in person with Mr. Joseph Richardson, Special Agent, 729 Equitable Building, Atlanta, Ga., not later than NOV. 23rd, and upon payment of fee of \$1.00 final limit of ticket will be examined until DEC. 10, 1914.
\$10.60	to Savannah, Ga., and return account Annual Convention United Daughters of the Confederacy NOV. 11th-14th. Tickets on sale NOV. 7th-10th inclusive; final limit NOV. 20th, 1914.
\$7.75	to Richmond, Va., and return account Southern Association NOV. 9th-12th. Tickets on sale NOV. 6th-7th-8th, with final limit NOV. 22, 1914.

O. F. YORK,

Traveling Passenger Agent, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA.

POOR