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ANTI CO-OP'S THROW OFF THEIR SHEEP'S CLOTHING

Clarence Poe Writes About The Great Victory Of The Association In The Nashville Court

Below we publish a signed letter by Clarence Poe addressed to the farmers of North and South Carolina and Virginia which deals with the cooperative movement and the court fight just ended at Nashville, N. C.

"Dear Friends:—

"I am just back from the hearing at Nashville, North Carolina, where the first great onslaught on the co-operative marketing movement was made by the interests that will move heaven and earth to crush it. This was the first suit in the Carolinas or Virginia in which the co-operative marketing association has brought an injunction to compel a signer to deliver his crop, to pay a penalty of five cents a pound for each pound he had sold outside the association, and to pay the expenses of the association in prosecuting him, all of which things are called for by the contract. And in spite of all that attorneys, warehousemen and dealers fighting co-operative marketing could do, farmers backed the contract.

"Whether you have signed or have not signed the co-operative marketing contract, Mr. Farmer, I wish you could have stood with me and with the others in the multitude that thronged the courthouse of Nash county. If you have signed the co-operative marketing contract you would have had your faith strengthened. If you have not signed it, I believe you would have had it borne into your very soul that the co-operating farmers have enlisted in a great battle for freedom and that it is your duty and the duty of every other farmer to get into this great battle and fight shoulder to shoulder with your comrades until the victory comes—or until you die and pass the fight on to your children and children's children.

"For freedom's battle once begun, Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son, Though baffled oft, is ever won."

"I say all this because there in Nashville, as never before, was revealed with brazen shamelessness the true inwardness of all the bitter and determined fight that special interests have made and will continue to make against the effort of the farmer to free himself from such special interests, and instead to 'make himself master of his own industry.'"

Wherever opponents of co-operative marketing have found a farmer they thought they might fool these last two years, what have they told him? Haven't they told him that co-operative marketing was a weak and futile thing that could never amount to much? Haven't they told him that co-operative marketing offered no special advantages to the farmer and that he might as well let it alone?

But at Nashville last Thursday, thank God, the opponents of co-operative marketing threw off their sheep's clothing. They unmasked themselves. Here they were not trying to fool some poor uneducated man with spurious falsehoods—not at all. On the contrary, they were going before a distinguished judge who couldn't be misled by mere silliness and absurdity. Consequently, facing Judge Daniels in Nashville Court, the opponents of co-operative marketing gave utterance at last to their real fears—the terrible features that have oppressed and haunted them ever since the farmers of America began to show signs of wanting something to say about the sale of products made in the sweat of the farmer's own face.

"Speaking under the solemn auspices of a great court trial intended to break up co-operative marketing, what did these distinguished attorneys say? Did they say that co-operative marketing is a futile thing, a thing that can never amount to much, no matter how many farmers go into it? Did they say the co-operative marketing promised the farmers no special benefits, no special advantages?

"Not within a thousand miles of such a thing!

"These distinguished attorneys in their solemn affidavits appealed to the courts to break up co-operative marketing for two great reasons and two great reasons only:—

"First, they said that co-operative marketing will give the farmer such tremendous power that if it goes on unchecked, then farmers will soon be able to dictate the prices of all their

great staple products and that manufacturers and buyers and the whole commercial and consuming world will be at the mercy of the farmer.

"Second, they said that the co-operative marketing law gives the farmer, the producer of agricultural products, special privileges and special advantages for getting the upper hand of other classes, and for this reason these attorneys declared the co-operative marketing law is unconstitutional and must be swept off the statute books.

"These, my friends, were the charges that the hired opponents of co-operative marketing repeated over and over again before the court.

Thank God, the mask is off. Hereafter when you hear someone saying that co-operative marketing 'Won't amount to anything,' and 'Doesn't promise anything to the farmer,' just remind him of the sworn charges made by the opponents of co-operative marketing as they fought for their lives in Nashville Court. These men are fighting co-operative marketing because it really does promise to become powerful enough to make the farmer master of his own industry. They are fighting to control the legislatures of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia next time so as to repeal the co-operative marketing law because they admit that it really does give the farmer greater advantages than he has ever before enjoyed in any fight to control the products of his own labor.

"The chief pity and shame of it is that these special interests are using and will continue to use some so-called farmers as their dupes, tools, and cat's paws in this conspiracy to keep the farmer forever at their mercy. It was a man who calls himself a farmer but who admitted that he was now in the employ of a warehouse fighting co-operative marketing—he was one of the two men defending themselves against the charge of having violated their contract and their pledge to their brother farmers. And as I stood in the courthouse in Nashville, a loyal farmer pointed to another man passing through the crowd and said with a sound of hissing through his teeth:—

"There goes a contract-breaker."

And there was a look and a loathing on this loyal farmer's face as if he had seen Judas Iscariot passing by with his thirty pieces of silver or shame-cursed Benedict Arnold with his bag of traitor's gold.

That is the spirit we have got to develop among farmers. So long as a farmer really has the consent of his mind and conscience to stay out of this great fight, it is not for me to condemn him or rebuke him. He must decide for himself. But once a man has decided and signed the contract, he should keep the faith as your ancestors and mine kept the faith when they followed Washington at Valley Forge or Lee at Gettysburg, and risked all and dared all rather than hand down to their children and children's children the shame of being a traitor to one's fellows.

"I repeat that to the man who hasn't signed, I would leave this matter on his mind and conscience—the question whether you can leave it to our brother farmers to fight this battle alone.

"Whether you realize it or not, it is the world-old battle against privilege. What I saw in Nashville court was but another effort on the part of greed and privilege to do that which Isaiah rebuked three thousand years ago—'To turn aside the needy from judgment and to take away the right from the poor of my people.' Today as then, 'With the spoil of the poor in their houses' the beneficiaries of greed 'have drawn out the sword and have bent the bow to cast down the poor and needy.'"

"The men who have fattened on the farmer, the men who have grown rich and powerful handling his products, are determined at all hazards not to let the farmer get for his own needy wife and children the profits that have heretofore enriched the middlemen and speculators. The teaching of all history, as George H. Stevenson says, in our thought for the week this time, is that the farmer can never—in fact no one can ever—prosper as a mere producer of raw materials. The men who dig coal live in huts; the men who sell and handle it in fine houses.

"The men who cut timber and run lumber-saws live in shacks and cabins; the men who manufacture lumber and sell it are well housed. The men who grow cattle make small profits; the packers, the distributors, are prosperous. The men who make peanuts are poor; the cleaners and distributors are wealthy. The men

who make cotton and tobacco and sugar cane live humbly; those who buy and handle and manufacture these products live more prosperously.

"And so the farmer is fighting today for a larger share of the wealth that he creates. He is fighting to be something more than a producer of raw materials. He is fighting to get and keep for himself the profits that come from handling and distributing, and wiser handling and distribution—of the products of his soil. He is fighting to bring about a realization of the prophecy uttered nearly three thousand years ago—

"They shall build houses and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat."

"Nor do I think it too much to believe that now at last 'The cries of them that have reaped have entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.'"

"As I said in the beginning, the battle for the farmers' rights has just begun. The wealthy and powerful interests fighting co-operative marketing will go to the State Supreme Court, the Federal Courts, the United States Supreme Court. The fighting farmers need the help of all their fellows. And I do not believe that any farmer could have heard the champions of the speculators and middlemen in Nashville Courthouse without realizing that it is his duty to join with those farmers who are fighting for freedom through co-operative marketing.

"Sincerely your friend,
"CLARENCE POE."

VOTERS HEAR JOSIAH BAILEY

Raleigh Man Compares Republican Promises With Records Of Administration

Wilmington, Oct. 26.—Speaking here tonight in the interest of the Democratic campaign J. W. Bailey, of Raleigh, launched a severe and pointed attack at the Republican administration of national affairs and pointed with pride to the accomplishments of the Democratic party in the state.

In attacking the Republican record Mr. Bailey pointed to the promises made by President Harding prior to his election and compared those promises with the accomplishments of his administration.

Mr. Bailey discussed President Harding's promise of an association of nations and asked the whereabouts of that association now. President Harding, said the speaker, promised economic justice to the business man and to the worker. In discussing that question Mr. Bailey declared that the President had been a dismal failure in his efforts to settle industrial disputes.

Mr. Bailey went into details of the Republican administration and turned from that to a discussion of the administration of affairs in North Carolina. Discussing that question he said:

"Nobody accuses Governor Morrison of not keeping his promises. If there is complaint it is founded upon the rapidity with which he has pressed the fulfillment of his promises. He has been going ahead at a great rate. He saw to the scrapping of the revaluation act. In 1923 real estate will be appraised by local authorities, and all necessary readjustments will be made.

We are building schools and roads at a rate that is attracting universal admiration. No good citizen will oppose good free schools. They are the best investment that can be made with tax money. Good roads are equally indispensable. If we complain of the distribution of the burden of taxation, we know that we can get that redistribution through the Democratic party. The people can do whatever they want to do. It does not belong to any man or set of men. It is as good as the people choose to make it. The thing to do is not to stand off and criticize, but to come on in, do your part, and make it what it ought to be. There is always much to be done by way of progress. There are always men who stand in the way. But the people can run things in the Democratic party whenever they want to."

Good Health

If you would enjoy good health, keep your bowels regular. No one can reasonably hope to feel well, when constipated. When needed, take Chamberlain's Tablets. They are mild and gentle.

ROCKFELLER IS FOR EIGHT HOUR DAY

54-Hour Week "Unnecessary, Uneconomic, Unjustifiable," Says Junior Oil Magnate

New York, Oct. 27.—A sweeping statement declaring his personal stand for the eight-hour day in industry and condemning the 12-hour day and the seven day week as "unnecessary, uneconomic and unjustifiable," was issued today by John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

The statement appears in the form of an article signed by Mr. Rockefeller in the current issue of The Survey Graphic and follows an arraignment of working conditions in certain oil fields of Wyoming in the same magazine by R. S. Lynd, who spent three months investigating conditions.

The statement is the second within a week Mr. Rockefeller has given out in behalf of the laboring men. The previous one, issued last Wednesday, took up the cudgels in the interest of coal miners in Somerset county, Pa., and particularly those employed by the Consolidation Coal company, of which he is a stockholder.

"I believe that generally speaking the 12-hour day and the seven day week should be no longer tolerated in industry, either from the viewpoint of public policy or of industrial efficiency," the oil magnate says in his most recent statement. "I believe both have been proven to be unnecessary, uneconomic and unjustifiable."

Even in those industries where the so-called "continuous process" is an inevitable feature, Mr. Rockefeller says, he believes the routine should be so adjusted that the employees can have at least one day's rest in seven and can obtain that share of leisure for self-development which accompanies the work-day of approximately eight hours.

"While the adoption of these standards may and doubtless will at first entail increased costs of production, I am confident that in the long run greater efficiency and economy will result, and that from the outset public opinion will support any industry which installs them."

With regards to living conditions even in isolated localities with oil camps, Mr. Rockefeller declares that it is not only possible but necessary to make reasonable provisions for the health, comfort and contentment of those who labor there in behalf of the entire community.

"I have never believed that these things should be provided for working men and women either as a result of chance generosity or deliberate paternalism," the statement continues. "Quite aside from the fact that in my judgment they represent the soundest economic policy, they are due to the employee as a human being first and a member of the industry afterward."

The article of Mr. Lynd, which called forth Mr. Rockefeller's statement, is an intensive study of conditions in the Elk Basin crude oil producing field of Wyoming, where, according to the author, "one man in three works 12 hours a day and seven days a week, and all other classes of labor, including office personnel, work a nine-hour day, six and a half days a week."

Poisoned By Cake Sent To His Home

Philadelphia, Oct. 28.—W. W. Sterrett, an expert accountant of Devon, who with his wife was poisoned Thursday by a piece of cake mailed to their home, died tonight in the Bryn Mawr hospital. Mrs. Sterrett, who is in the same institution, was reported in a critical condition and attending physicians hold out little hope for her recovery.

Federal, state and local authorities are engaged in a strenuous effort to trace the sender of the package. It was addressed to Mrs. Sterrett and reached her home Thursday afternoon. It bore no return address, however, and apart from the fact that it was mailed from a local railway station, authorities working on the case have no clue as to its origin.

The cake was in a tin box addressed in handwriting unknown to Mrs. Sterrett, she said later. It was the only contents and looked as if it had been cut from an iced wedding cake. Assuming that it was from friends, Mrs. Sterrett gave part to her husband and ate the remainder herself. Both were stricken soon afterward.

DANIELS TRIBUTE TO MAJ. STEDMAN

Fifth District Will Honor Itself By Returning Him To Congress

High Point, Oct. 24.—Speaking here tonight before a large crowd at the auditorium, Josephus Daniels, former Secretary of the United States Navy, paid a high tribute to Congressman Charles M. Stedman, the only surviving veteran of the Confederate Armies now serving in the United States Congress, who comes up for re-election in November.

Mr. Daniels was guest of honor at a banquet tendered him by local Democrats at the Sheraton Hotel at 6 o'clock. He was presented at the auditorium by Senator O. E. Mendenhall, Lewis Teague, local Democratic chairman, presided at the meeting. Music for the occasion was furnished by the Elks band. After discussing national and State issues, Mr. Daniels had the following to say of Major Stedman.

I have no desire to change my political residence though I would be happy on election day if the privilege could be afforded of voting for the re-election of Hon. Charles M. Stedman for Congress. And there are tens of thousands of other voters in North Carolina, men and women, who would travel far to enjoy the opportunity of putting in a ballot for the chivalrous Major on election day. Above all others the voters of the Fifth District are honored. Other districts may vote for able and faithful Congressmen, but the unique distinction belongs to this district of giving honor to themselves by giving an unprecedented majority to the only Representative in Congress who bravely followed Lee in the crucial years of 1861-'5. The voters of all other districts have called younger men to serve them in Congress—I mean younger in years. There are none younger in spirit or more willing in service than Charles M. Stedman. He was in the front of noble young men when his State called for men to wear the gray. He hurried to the call. His record in the struggles in the War of Brothers is beyond any appraisal by men of my generation. It is only those who lived in those crucial days who know the sacrifices of Lee and Stedman and all who marched with them. Nothing approaching it came until the hell of the French trenches. And then in our World War there was no lack of food and no lack of medical attention.

But no man ought to be elected to Congress because he was a brave soldier. It is because he had qualities that shone in the war that the same gifts have shown in Major Stedman in peace. He is easily the best beloved man in the House of Representatives, not alone by men of his own section and party, but by men of all creeds and all parts of the union. How has he won the hearts of his colleagues? Exactly as he won the hearts of his comrades in war, as he won the love of his associates in youth and as he won your regard and support when the Fifth District called him to succeed William W. Kitchen in Congress. Your district has had the distinction to furnish two remarkable men to the House in the past score of years for William W. Kitchen has had no superior in that body in my day unless we except his eloquent brother, Hon. Claude Kitchen, the present leader of the House, slated to be speaker of the House when the Democrats organize it after the fourth of March next.

It was my good fortune to be in Washington during eight years of the service of Major Stedman. I saw him often, I felt his presence as a steady force for national honor and national duty. He was ever at his post in the crucial days of war. He always rang true. Every man who wore Uncle Sam's uniform knew that in Maj. Stedman he had a "buddy" in courage, backing them up with confidence, supplies and money.

There were not wanting Congressmen in those days who faltered and hesitated and sometimes lacked real Americanism, Stedman was on the firing line every day, his heart with the boys under arms and his devotion to them full hearted. And when war was over, and peace, beckoned, he was no whit behind Woodrow Wilson in favoring keeping the pledge to the American soldier.

I happen to know the opinion held of Maj. Stedman by all of the Wilson administration. They knew that wherever the President led for progress, he would find Stedman already there. They knew when he stood for successful prosecution of the war, he found that Maj. Stedman had already enlisted. When he gave his health for the Covenant and World Peace, he found that Stedman was equally dedicated to garner the fruits of what our boys had won in battle.

Wilson is the great casualty of the war. Stedman was a comrade and buddy who retained his strength and ability to serve unimpaired. During the summer he fell ill, due to his devotion to duty in crucial days, and temporarily, under the direction of his physician, his constituents are denied the pleasure of hearing him in eloquent tones issue the command to Go Forward. The enforced absence from the stump, and inability to greet all the voters of the district is a sore deprivation to Major Stedman. But they love him so much, they honor him so much that from all parts of the district they are sending him this message: "Obey your doctor. We need you too much for you to jeopardize your future ability to serve. The men and women of the district will enlist and roll up for you the biggest majority you have ever received."

That is the message they are sending now to cheer the Grand Old Man of the Fifth District. And that message with a great majority will bring increased strength when it is wired to him on the night of the election. The whole State and the whole Congress will turn with approval and honor to the Fifth District when it honors itself by honoring its gallant soldier-statesman.

Jim Barrett Is Fined In a Salisbury Court

Salisbury, Oct. 26.—James F. Barrett, president of the Charlotte Herald company and former editor of that paper, and labor leader, today paid into the Rowan county court \$15 and costs for being drunk on the occasion of his visit here during the rail strike in August. The charge of drunkenness was not resisted and was proven after two witnesses had been heard.

At the same sitting of the court Judge Furr found Mr. Barrett guilty of carrying a concealed weapon, a pistol, during the same visit referred to above, and fined him \$75 and costs. This charge was resisted and notice of an appeal was given. Barrett took the stand and insisted that he had taken it away from another man to prevent his using it, and that later he gave it to a third man.

J. Frank Flowers, Charlotte lawyer, represented Barrett and argued that guilt did not lodge where there was no intent to conceal but Judge Furr held that putting the pistol in his pocket made Barrett guilty.

Barrett's conduct happened during a very tense time and when the entire community was on tiptoe and 500 national guardsmen here to prevent trouble, attracted considerable attention. Hearing of the case was postponed three times on account of Mr. Barrett being in a sanatorium.

Turkeys Will Be Higher This Year

Washington, Oct. 28.—Forebodings of high-priced turkeys this year are seen in agricultural department announcements that despite a steady increase in the price of turkeys production has steadily decreased. The average price received during the four months October to January, 1915-16 was 15 cents a pound. The average price received during a similar period of 1920-21 was 32 cents per pound, according to the department's figures.

In 1900 the census figures showed 6,594,695 turkeys on farms in the United States, while in 1910 there were only 3,898,708 and in 1920, there were 3,627,628. During the last six years the price of turkeys has increased to the producer more than 100 per cent, while during the past 20 years the number of turkeys produced has decreased about 50 per cent, the department states.

The difficulty of raising turkeys is given as the reason for the production decrease. They are hard to raise, because of wandering propensities and a disease known as "black head" to which they are easy prey. It is very difficult to ship live turkeys to market and when shipped dressed there is a large amount of "shrinkage."

However, the raising of turkeys may be a very profitable occupation where there is an abundance of range, ample feed and reasonable freedom from predatory animals, the department adds.