

A NEW FACTOR.

Farmers Dominate the South in Politics—An Organization that has Grown Silently and Slowly, but Vastly.

Slowly, slyly and silently has the great organization of the farmers, named the Farmers' Co-operative Union, grown within recent years throughout the South and West. The business and political world was perhaps ignorant that it has been becoming gradually more important in its dictations and vastly extending its ramifications. It has as its president Mr. Chas. S. Barrett, one of the most versatile writers on farming conditions in the country, a dynamic leader, one born to counsel and command. President Barrett recently made a visit to Washington in behalf of legislation in the interest of the great farming masses of the country, especially the South, and since that occasion numerous reports have been sent out indicating that his reception at Washington was significant, that he was granted a ready hearing and received promises of an encouraging nature both from Senators and Congressmen looking to the regulation of certain evils under which, it is claimed, the farmers are now suffering.

JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES WRITES.

The most significant report of the political bearing which the organization is now exercising is from the fluent pen of John Temple Graves, who recently indited a somewhat lengthy story to the Atlanta Georgian, of which he was formerly editor. He has sized up the Farmers Union as one of the most potent political factors of the day and his writing on this subject is well worth reading. It is as follows:

The newest and most potential forces in politics that this country knows, or has ever known, has grown up slowly, silently and persistently within the last four years.

Strange to say, the newspapers of the East know little of it, and say little about it. But there isn't a congressman who comes from the South or West who does not know it and bow to it whenever it passes an opinion across his political way.

At this time it is practically omnipotent in legislation, and it is an increasing rather than a decreasing force.

The Farmers' Union is a little more than 40 years old. It is a secret organization that succeeds the old Farmers' Alliance and the National Grange, which rose and fell some ten years ago.

The National Grange was the first organization. It was the first experiment in agricultural organization and co-operation. Its mistakes were many and its years were few. It did much good, but its wisdom was crude and it fell by its own experience. MOWED DOWN MANY CONGRESSMEN.

The Farmers' Alliance, which followed, was stronger and better. It cut a deep swath in its day, and mowed down congressmen like grain in its triumphant youth. It swept Georgia for instance, like a hurricane, and left only two congressmen to the regular Democrats out of the eleven in the State.

The Farmers' Alliance fell by its dissensions and its ambitions. Its first success fired its followers to political aspirations and it faded.

Now comes the Farmers' Union, which has learned wisdom and discretion by the mistakes of its predecessors. Its members do not seek office as members of the organization, but appear to avoid it. Only one United States Senator (Smith of South Carolina) has risen from its ranks to high official state.

The Farmers' Union is a practical, hard-headed body that is after results in legislation rather than offices for its members. It has been managed with consummate common sense and self-abnegation by its young and able president, Charles S. Barrett, and an able board of governors. It is a compact, secret organization in every county, State and section west of the Alleghenies and south of the Potomac, with an advancing growth in the Eastern States,

GOING OUT TO GET WHAT IT WANTS.

It knows what it wants in politics and it is going to get it.

And it has three million actual and devoted members who are wholehearted behind its wants

and its methods! Within the year this magnificent body of farmers has established a working compact with the American Federation of Labor with its three million members, and from its advisory councils issue the messages which are sent from the people to their Representatives in Congress and the Legislatures.

Here there is a compact union of nearly six million farmers and workingmen, enlightened, definite and resolute, moving upon the law-making bodies for the establishment of such legislation as seems necessary to their interest or prosperity. They are not after honors, but statutes; not working for offices, but laws.

I have said that the newspapers do not have much to say about this organized and omnipotent force.

But let me tell you that Congress knows it, and feels it every day.

I was talking with a Southern Congressman who has long held my unlimited admiration and respect. He is a scholar in politics, thoughtful, sagacious, a cool thinker and a careful adviser. He has opinions deliberately reached and thoughtfully held—one of the very few real constructive statesmen of his section and his party.

I was asking his probable attitude toward several of the leading questions on which this Congress is to vote.

"It doesn't make much difference what I think now, Graves," said he. "The day of the constructive statesman seems over, and the publicist who thought for his people and led them is passing, if he has not already passed. I have some very distinct and definite opinions upon the great questions of which you ask. I have read, studied and thought of them for years, and have concentrated my experience and my information upon them. If I were free to do so, I should love to rise in my place in Congress and give the result of that long and patient study to help my people to a sure and permanent solution.

"TELLING ME HOW I MUST VOTE."

"But when I find my desk laden every morning with letters and telegrams from the officers of the omnipotent organization, and from hundreds of individual and influential members in my

district, telling me how they wish me as their Representative to vote, I know that I am no longer a statesman, but merely an agent, and that the only thing for me to do is to obey the order of the organization, or to pack my trunks for a sure and speedy exit from the Congress of the United States.

"And as I feel and will act so will feel and act all of us who live within the sphere of these banded and definite constituents who know what they want and have the supreme power to enforce their will either through me or through some other man whom they will send to take my place."

The Farmers' Union has established a great bureau in Washington to "sit up with Congress" on the measures that it desires to pass. The bureau lives with the session, and adjourns when Congress does.

Here then is the force that is ruling the country. It is not an unwise or an unpatriotic organization. It comes as near to representing what we call the plain people in this country as any organization ever did. It is so far conservative, prudent and considerate.

It makes a fair and wholesome foil to the vast and heretofore omnipotent power of the "interests" and the "trusts."

And by all the logic of unity and common sense and success, it seems that it is here to stay.

DON'T GET RUN DOWN
Weak and miserable. If you have Kidney or Bladder trouble, Dull head pains, Dizziness, Nervousness, Pains in the back, and feel tired all over, get a package of Mother Gray's AUSTRALIAN-LEAF, the pleasant herb cure. It never fails. We have many testimonials from grateful people who have used this wonderful remedy. As a regulator it has no equal. Ask for Mother Gray's Australian-Leaf at Druggists or sent by mail for 50 cts. Sample FREE. Address, The Mother Gray Co., LeRoy, N.Y.

How Good News Spreads.

"I am 70 years old and travel most of the time," writes B. F. Tolson, of Elizabethtown, Ky. "Everywhere I go I recommend Electric Bitters, because I owe my excellent health and vitality to them. They effect a cure every time." They never fail to tone the stomach, regulate the kidneys and bowels, stimulate the liver, invigorate the nerves and purify the blood. They work wonders for weak, run-down men and women, restoring strength, vigor and health that's a daily joy. Try them. Only 50c. Satisfaction is positively guaranteed by all druggists.

Her Choice.
"May I offer you my umbrella and my escort home?"
"Many thanks. I will take the umbrella."—Fliegende Blatter.

Eliminate all Risks in Buying Your Piano

of getting a cheap "made to sell affair," by ordering a Stieff or Shaw, the pianos whose name is all the knowledge or guarantee you need in making your selection.

If you buy a Stieff or Shaw your piano purchasing days are over for life, and year after year your piano will be as sweet and tuneful as the day you bought it.

Write Today.

CHAS. M. STIEFF,

Makers of

The Artistic Stieff, Shaw and Stieff Self-Player Pianos

Southern Warerooms,

5 W. Trade Street,

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

C. H. WILMOTH, Mgr.

Dr. J. H. HONNET,

Physician and Surgeon.

Practice limited to diseases of Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat and fitting of glasses.

No. 12 North Front Street, Wilmington, N. C.

8-6-t.

No. 150. NORTH CAROLINA,

Robeson County.

To T. N. Higley, Entry Taker for Robeson County: The undersigned, Giles Davis of Robeson County, lays claim to the following piece or parcel of land of Raft Swamp Township, Robeson County, North Carolina, the same being vacant and unappropriated land, and subject to entry, viz:

In Raft Swamp Township, Robeson County, bounded on the North by the South side of Raft Swamp, on the West by _____, on the South by Giles Davis, on the East by Simon Caldwell, and others.

Containing by estimation ten (10) acres more or less.

This Feby. 21st, 1910.

Giles Davis,

Witness: E. A. Thompson, T. N. Higley, Entry Taker.

Entered Feb. 21st 1910. 2-24-1m

The Market.

Have on hand at all times Fresh Meats, can goods and in fact most anything in the Grocery line; also have a nice assortment of Earthen Ware.

Give us a call

A. H. HINDS,

Lumberton, N. C. 2-24tf.

\$5.00 A CORD

for Wood in Lumberton, N. C.

Think of It.

Bring a load of wood and take back a load of guano. DOGWOOD is the kind we want, and must be cut 5 feet long and not less than 5 inches at small end.

Will Pay spot Cash.

THE BEE GEE MFG. CO.

Lumberton, N. C.

Our mill is located in North Lumberton on V. & C. S.

Man there to measure your wood. 2-28tf.

Get the prices of the Red Springs Jewelry Co. on Watches and Jewelry before buying. Watches, clocks and Jewelry repaired at the most reasonable prices.

Red Springs Jewelry Co.

D. M. McDonald, Manager. Red Springs, N. C.

\$50. \$50.

Fifty Dollars Given Away

We are going to give away Fifty Dollars worth of medicine during the next thirty days.

HERE IS WHAT WE WANT TO DO.

Springtime is coming and your system needs toning up, you need a tonic. Yes, you need a bottle of COMPOUND EXTRACT OF SARSAPARILLA. Everyone knows what Sarsaparilla is—it's The Great Blood Purifier, and we are willing to bear half the cost of one hundred bottles in order to create a greater demand for it. The price you have always paid for Sarsaparilla was one dollar a bottle. Now what we want you to do is this: fill out the coupon below, bring or send it to our store, and it will be good for fifty cents in part payment for a dollar size bottle.

COUPON.

This coupon when properly signed and presented to our store on or before the 31st day of March will be worth fifty cents in part payment for a \$1 size bottle of The Compound Extract of Sarsaparilla.

Name _____

Date _____

Postively only one bottle to a customer.

THE POPE DRUG CO.

"THE HOUSE OF QUALITY."

Lumberton, N. C. 2-17

Greetings For 1910

Looking backward over the year just closing, we cannot help a feeling of regret in saying farewell to such a satisfactory year as 1909 proved to be for us. From all indications the coming year bids fair to be a period of ever increasing prosperity. In wishing you the compliments of the season, permit us also to wish that you may secure your full share of this prosperity. Throughout 1910 we will do our very best to merit a continuance of your confidence, your approval and your patronage;

J. D. McMillan & Son

DRUGGISTS.

Lumberton, N. C.

Buggies and Carriages

STYLISH AND SERVICEABLE.

Standard Makes

Babcock, Hackney, Washington and Wrenn. There is none better. Ask your neighbor.

WAGONS—Hackney and Nissen One and Two Horse. Harness and Saddles, all Kinds.

Give us a call. Terms to Suit.

W. I. LINKHAW, LUMBERTON, N. C. 2-24tf

COUNCIL & WEBB

—The Practical Plumbers—

The only Plumbers in the State that hold State Certificate of Competency issued in 1903.

Plumbing, Heating, Roofing, General Repairs, Automobile Supplies.

Office and Shop at old bottling works, opposite court house

Remember **COUNCIL & WEBB** where Quality Counts.

Lumberton, N. C. 2-28-3m-1m*

C. M. Fuller.

Received a large shipment of Mules and Horses from the Western markets, Saturday February 5th, 1910.

Prices and Terms Attractive.

C. M. FULLER.

Lumberton, N. C.

