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The Co-operative Marketing Case

Opponents of Co-operative Marketing at Last Give Their Real Reasons for Opposing the Movement.

Clarence Poe in Progressive Farmer. 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.

"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 cooperative 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 cooperative marketing was a weak and futile thing that could never amount to much? Haven't they told him that cooperative marketing offered no special benefits nor special advantages to the farmer and that he might as well let it alone?

But at Nashville last Thursday, thank God, the opponents of cooperative 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 could not be misled by mere silliness and absurdity. Consequently, facing Judge Daniels in Nashville Court, the opponents of cooperative marketing gave utterance at last to their real fears—the terrible fears 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 cooperative marketing, what did these distinguished attorneys say? Did they say that cooperative marketing is a futile thing, a thing that can never amount to much, no matter how many farmers go into it? Did they say that cooperative marketing promised the farmers no special benefits, no special advantages?

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 cooperative marketing law gives the farmer, the producer of agricultural products, special privileges and special advantages for getting the upperhand of other classes, and for this reason these attorneys declared the cooperative marketing law is unconstitutional and must be swept off the statute books.

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 cooperative 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.

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.

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."

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 distributing—of the products of his toil. He is fighting to bring about a realization of the prophecy uttered nearly three thousand years ago—"They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat."

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

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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 Sabbath."

As I said in the beginning, the battle for the farmer's rights has just begun. The wealthy and powerful interests fighting cooperative 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 cooperative marketing.

Leads in Sunday Schools The report of the field secretary, C. V. Woosley, shows that the Western Carolina conference has more Sunday schools than any other in Southern Methodism, and it stands second in scholars enrolled. The conference, according to the report, had a larger gain last year than any other in the connection.

SALE OF VALUABLE LANDS IN ROBESON AND HOKE COUNTIES

By virtue of authority vested in us under the provisions of a certain deed of trust executed by J. D. Gibson and wife to the undersigned as trustees for various parties...

First Tract: In the county of Hoke, MeLaughlin township, beginning at a stake M. E. Newberry's corner and runs North 85 West seventeen and 80-100 chains to a stake and pine pointers near the road; thence as said road North 65 West seventeen and 70-100 chains to a stake and 3 pine pointers; thence North 85 West eighty-one chains to a stake; thence North 85 East thirty-six chains to the beginning, containing two hundred and sixty three acres, more or less, and being same land conveyed by deed dated November 22nd 1904 and registered in the office of Cumberland County in Book "X" No. 5 at page 420.

Second Tract: In the county of Hoke, MeLaughlin township, beginning at the Newberry corner in lot No. 1 of the A. J. Davis division, and runs South 4 West twenty and 50 chains to a stake in the line of said 288 acre swamp; thence South 45 East twenty seven and 50-100 chains to a stake in the Morgan line; thence North 4 East twenty six and 50-100 chains to a stake; thence North 45 East 288 acre swamp; thence up the run of the swamp to the beginning, containing one hundred and sixty two acres, more or less; and being same land conveyed to J. D. Gibson by H. B. Gibson and wife by deed dated November 11, 1911, registered in Register's office of Hoke County in book 16 at page 10.

Third Tract: In the county of Hoke, Antioch township, adjoining the lands of Murdock McDonald, Angus Connelley, the Bethune land, and others, containing seventy five acres, more or less, and being the same lands conveyed to J. D. Gibson by J. A. Hodgins by deed dated the day of 19-- and registered in the Register's office of Hoke County in book-- at page--

Fourth Tract: In the county of Robeson, Shannon township, beginning at the run of Raft Swamp in the center of the railroad and runs with the railroad South 48 West thirty eight chains to a stake in the run of Juniper branch, thence South 40 East down the various courses of the run of said branch forty five chains to a stake by two junipers and a gum; thence North 48 East to the run of the swamp; thence up the run of the swamp to the beginning, containing one hundred and sixty two acres, more or less; and being the land conveyed to J. D. Gibson by C. B. Pate and wife by deed registered in the Register's office of Robeson County in book 3 "Y" page 107.

Fifth Tract: In the county of Robeson, Shannon township, beginning at a stake and two pines north of a small pond, Archibald Brown's beginning corner at 75 1-2 acres No. 5, and runs thence South 20 East four chains to the corner of a 31 acre tract of Daniel McLeod, thence with his line North 28 East twenty three chains to his corner in the line of No. 5, thence North 3 West thirty six chains; thence South 45 West sixteen chains; thence North 18 West thirteen chains and 48 links; thence South 60 East twelve chains to the beginning, containing 47 1-2 acres, more or less; and being first tract conveyed by deed from Archibald Brown and wife to J. D. Gibson, dated November 29, 1902, registered in Register's office Robeson County in book 4 "T" page 469.

Sixth Tract: In the county of Robeson, Shannon township, beginning at a stake in the division of the estate of Malcolm Galbraith, beginning at a stake by two pines North of a small pond and runs South 63 West thirty six chains to a stake in the Raft Swamp; thence North 45 East 63-100 chains to a stake; thence South 76 West ten chains to a stake at the edge of the swamp; thence North 15 West thirteen and 48-100 chains to a stake; thence North 76 East thirty one and 63-100 chains to a stake by a pin above the Lumberton road; thence South 15 East thirteen and 48-100 chains to a stake west of the Lumberton road; thence South 60 East twelve chains to the beginning, containing twenty eight and one half acres, more or less; and being the second tract conveyed in deed from Archibald Brown and wife to J. D. Gibson, dated November 29, 1902, registered in Register's office Robeson County in book 4 "T" page 469.

way of said railway; thence, as said right of way North 53 East to the beginning, containing thirty two acres, more or less, and being same land conveyed by deed to J. D. Gibson by J. D. Gibson by deed October 12, 1904, registered in the Register's office of Robeson County in book 4 "W" page 240.

Eleventh Tract: Beginning at a stake in the right of way of the Atlantic Coast Line and runs as M. B. Bule's line South 72 East four and 75-100 chains to a stake; thence North 18 East five chains to a stake; thence North 55 West three and 28-100 chains to a stake in the right of way of said railroad; thence, as the right of way of said railroad to the beginning, containing two acres and being the same lands conveyed by Flora G. McMillan et al to J. D. Gibson by deed dated Oct. 12, 1904, registered in book 4 "W" page 214; and by D. F. McLesch et al Commission-ers to J. D. Gibson by deed dated March 29, 1905, registered in book 4 "W" page 868 Register's office of Robeson County.

Twelfth Tract: In the county of Robeson, in Burnt Swamp township, beginning at a stake in the right of way of the A. C. L. R. and runs as Spivey's line south 57 east 216 feet to a stake Spivey's corner F. J. Spivey's corner; thence North 33 East 680 feet to a stake; thence North 57 West 210 feet to a stake in said right of way; thence, as said right of way South 32 West 210 feet to the beginning, containing three acres and being same conveyed by Robert Leggett and wife to J. D. Gibson by deed dated December 27, 1905, registered in the Register's office of Robeson County in book 4 "V" page 487.

Thirteenth Tract: In the county of Robeson, in Burnt Swamp township, beginning at a stake Spivey's and A. D. Brown's corner on south side of the railroad and runs 57 East 216 feet to a stake; thence North 33 West 210 feet to a stake; thence North 57 West 210 feet to a stake by two post oaks; thence North 33 East to a stake 210 feet; thence North 57 West 210 feet to a stake in D. A. Prevatt's line; thence as his line, South 38 West 210 feet to the beginning, containing one acre, and being the land conveyed by R. K. Blake and wife to J. D. Gibson, by deed dated December 29, 1904, registered in Register's office Robeson County in book 4 "V" page 517.

Fourteenth Tract: In the county of Robeson, in Burnt Swamp township, beginning at a stake Prevatt's corner on the south side of the railroad and runs as Prevatt's line South 57 East three and 28-100 chains to a stake; thence North 32 East three and 18-100 chains to a stake by a dogwood and hickory; thence South 58 West to a stake on the right of way of the railroad; thence as the railroad right of way to the beginning, containing one acre and being same conveyed by H. B. Bethune to J. D. Gibson by deed dated November 27, 1917, registered in Register's office Robeson County in book 6 "R" page 508.

Fifteenth Tract: In the county of Robeson, in Burnt Swamp township, beginning at a stake by an oak bush Dockery McMillan's now H. B. Bethune's corner on the East edge of right of way of the railroad and runs as his line North 38 East three and 66-100 chains to a stake by a post oak stump and pine; thence South 57 East three and 28-100 chains to a stake by a post oak and sweet gum; thence South 33 West three and 66-100 chains to Dockery McMillan's now Bethune's corner; thence with the line North 37 West three and 28-100 chains to the beginning, containing one acre and being same conveyed by Lina Oxendine to J. D. Gibson, by deed dated November 11, 1909, registered in Register's office, Robeson County in book 5 "U" page 296.

Time of Sale: Monday November 6th, 1922 at 12 noon. Place of Sale: Court house door Lumberton, N. C. Terms of Sale: Cash. Dated October 2nd, 1922. DICKSON McLEAN, R. C. LAWRENCE, Trustees.

COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF LANDS Under and by virtue of the authority vested in the undersigned commissioner, under a judgment of the Superior Court of Robeson County, North Carolina, entitled L. H. Caldwell versus J. R. Britt and wife Isabella Britt, the undersigned commissioner, on Monday, October 30th, 1922, at twelve o'clock noon, at the court house door in Lumberton, North Carolina, offer for sale and sell to the highest bidder for cash, the following described lands to-wit:

1st Tract: In the county of Robeson on the west side of Living Branch, it being a part of lot No. 2 in the division of the lands of Laban Britt: Beginning at a short leaf pine, the corner of lot No. 1 and 2, and runs as the line of lot No. 2, north 35 degrees west 11 chains to a stake in the plantation, then south 58 degrees east, 11 chains and 85 links to a stake in the line of lot No. 1, thence, as that line south 55 degrees west 4 chains and 80 links to the beginning, containing 2 3-4 acres, more or less; land conveyed by J. L. Britt to Haven Britt by deed dated May 14th, 1897, and recorded in Book 3-W, page 137, office of the Register of Deeds of Robeson County.

2nd Tract: 45 acres on the west side of Lumber River on both sides of Living Branch, and adjoining a 2 3-4 acre tract conveyed by J. L. Britt to Haven Britt and recorded in Book 3-W, page 137, and adjoins the lands of J. L. Britt, Ben Sutton, Oakley Stephens and Bud Stephens and being the lands on which Nancy Britt now lives.

3rd Tract: 25 acres on the west side of Living Branch and Lumber River and adjoining the lands of W. R. Surles, Bud Stephens and the Thompson heirs, their being about five acres of said tract being cleared, and being the tract of land on which J. R. Britt now resides. This th, 29th day of September, 1922. DICKSON McLEAN, Commissioner.

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