

ACREAGE REDUCTION URGED BY DR. H. Q. ALEXANDER

In Annual Address to Farmers' Union He Says "Begin by Sowing the Lands in Small Grain"—Diversification Strongly Advocated.

(Annual Address of Dr. H. Q. Alexander, President of the North Carolina Farmers' Union, delivered before the Union last Wednesday evening.)

Not as a preacher but because it is wise and profitable to do so, I ask every man to examine himself. Examine yourselves, whether you be in the faith, prove your faith by works. Apply this injunction of Holy Writ to your own life. Are you honest, unselfish, reasonable, helpful, kind, charitable? Are you in all sincerity of purpose, earnestly trying to do good to your whole duty as a citizen, the church, the school, the community, the Farmers' Union, the State?

Do you know your own points of strength that you may impart to others? Do you know your own weaknesses that you may protect that point by constant watching, and strengthen it by perseverance, in well doing? And you feeling that all may do as the days are going by? Turn the search light in another direction: Do you know your business, your successes, your failures, the source of your profits, the loss responsible for the losses? Do you apply yourself to learn new and better methods, or are you content to plod along in the old ruts?

Do you try to find in your calling the inspiration that gives you purpose, the satisfaction that comes from a sense of duty well performed? Or is it to you a drudgery imposed by the necessity of circumstances and which you hope soon to be able to throw off?

Let us all continue this introspection until we know that we know our calling; until we know that we know ourselves; until we know that we know our own strength and our own weaknesses; until we know that we know our own points of strength and our own weaknesses; until we know that we know our own points of strength and our own weaknesses.

A Time of Peace.

I bring to the Farmers' Union the greetings that peace brings within our borders. It is not the peace of inertia or indifference that betokens death, but it is the legitimate fruits of the living spirit of fraternalism and co-operation.

This harmony and good will extends throughout the State and down to the local unions. Fewer complaints have come to me this year than during any previous year of our life as an organization. This is a cause for gratification under any circumstances, because in union there is strength; but in this day when the fraternal spirit seems to be dominating half the world, it is peculiarly a cause for thankfulness.

I shall not take up your time by entering into details of the work of the State Union, but will refer you to the reports of the officers in charge of the several departments of the work. I want to bear testimony to the faithfulness of the men whom you have called to this service. Their several reports will confirm me in his department has "done the best he could." He has had an able and efficient co-worker in the vice-president. Judge as you see according to the sincerity of purpose and the earnestness and not by our mistakes and failures.

You are more or less familiar with the efforts of the State Union to save the cotton and tobacco crops to the farmers. This is a noble 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' loss of credit in this still has been 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 it 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 lands in small grains. This has been and is being done more largely than ever before. The open furrows and especially for oats, should be used in late seeding.

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

Responsibility for Large Cotton Crop.

Just here let me say that the average home owning farmer is not responsible for the large cotton crop of the State. The large landholder, the absentee landholder, and the time merchant are responsible for the one crop system of farming. Acreage reduction and diversification of crops, if they are to be carried further than with the small farmer, a plan fair to all is that adopted by the mass meeting of farmers held in Raleigh in September. That no farmer should have more than five acres in cotton.

Fight Before Congress.

Just a brief statement of the fight made by the farmers before Congress. We have seen the cotton crop 50 per cent within sixty days because of a temporary suspension of foreign demand. We asked for a loan of currency at a low rate of interest that we might pay our obligations and not be driven to the European war had passed. Under the constitution of the United States, Congress alone has the power to "coin money and regulate the value thereof." This is a right that belongs to the people and Congress has no right to take it away from the people and give it to a small class of the citizenship. But this money and prints money but instead of issuing it direct to the people at a low rate of interest, it is turned over to the National Banks and they control the distribution of the money and interest, just as it suits their own interest.

The government turned a deaf ear to the just demands of the farmers but continued to give in return to the National Banks of the country. Hundreds of Millions in Interest.

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

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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 the country, they 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.

Method of Text Book Supply.

Some reform is needed in the method of text book supply, both for the public schools and State colleges. In the aggregate this amounts to an immense tax on the people. It is presumed of course that all changes in text books are justified by the superior merit of the books adopted; but some of us can recall the time when the "blueback" and if we "learn" 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 for "Cipherrin," a boy could find every name in "Davies' and Robinson's" arithmetica, he was considered pretty good in "Aggers."

I am not sufficiently familiar with the subject to make suggestions as to a remedy, but I am sure that the State might profitably establish a plant and do all the printing and binding required by the State government, including State text-books. Of course there would be serious obstacles in the way, such as copyrights owned by other publishers. But something ought to be done to lessen this annual tax on the people. If nothing else can be done, I would advise the State's furnishing text-books for the public schools.

Court Reform Needed.

Reforms are needed in our courts to make them more considerate of the welfare of the people, more economical in administering the law and more expeditious and just in determining cases.

All juries should be chosen by the County Commissioners, or a jury commission established for that purpose. All peremptory challenges should be made and these should be refused without cause. And jurors should be paid more 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 more technicalities should never be permitted. All cases should be forced from the docket, unless there are exceptional circumstances under which such a course would defeat justice.

People Must Demand.

Such reforms as I have mentioned are demanded by the people. It is not to be expected that the legal fraternity will advocate changes that would curtail the power of the lawyers, or injure his business. That will be an unattainable goal. An intelligent man, well known in his section of the State, makes the following remarks: "The lawyers make the laws, define the laws, execute the laws and live by the law."

What would you think of the wisdom of a law prohibiting an attorney for a public utilities corporation from holding a legislative office, either State or national, unless in connection with the corporation, in good faith, when he announced himself for office, and agreed, if elected, not to renew it for two years after election. A repeal of the mortgage law, 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 mortgage law, in many counties of the State and I have had several letters favoring such action.

Use Cotton Bagging.

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 engaged in the packing of all fertilizers, cotton seed meal, grain and other feed stuffs in cotton bags.

In this connection I would say that Dr. M. A. Bland of Charlotte, N. C., has discovered a method of using lighter weight cotton sacks than would otherwise be necessary to carry acid phosphate. We should insist also on fertilizers being put up in 100 lbs. sacks.

Community Service Work.

I would like to see you earnestly consider the bulletin on "Community Service Week." I would urge the co-operation of all members of the Union in carrying out the program suggested. All great systems of the good of the people originate with the people. Political parties and politicians do not take the initiative. Agitation (not in bitterness or strife), promotes education and education will eventually lead to the formation of all public evils and injustices.

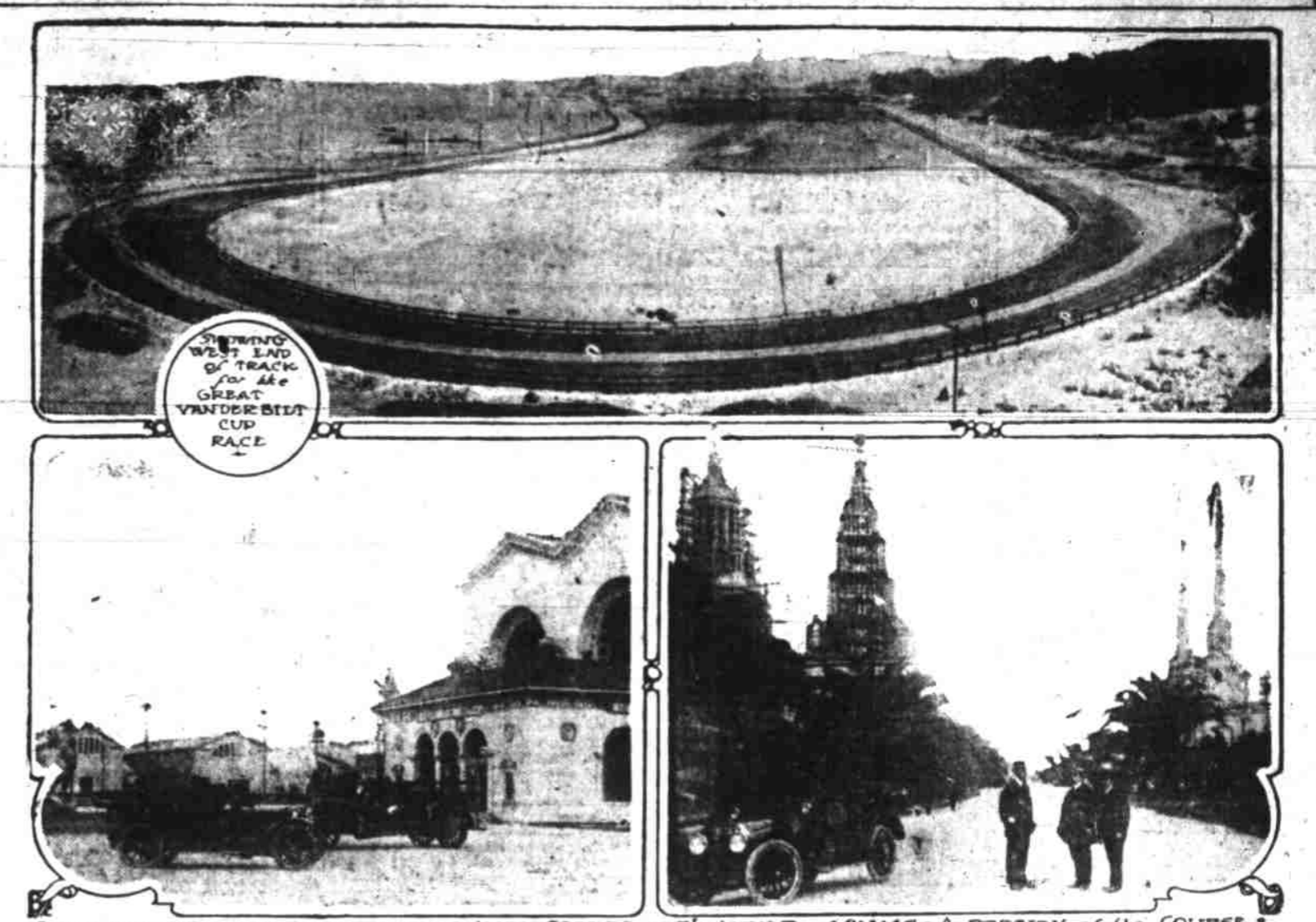
Agitation Necessary to Reform.

My purpose in making many of these suggestions is to get the people thinking and acting. All great systems of the good of the people originate with the people. Political parties and politicians do not take the initiative. Agitation (not in bitterness or strife), promotes education and education will eventually lead to the formation of all public evils and injustices.

When Book and Cross Clash.

The world war is a conflict between the empire of force and the empire of sacrifice—and suffering. Once again the battle is on between the Roman idea of imperialism and the Jewish message of atonement, and who can doubt the issue? For it was philosophy which caused this present war, the latest and most fashionable form of worldly wisdom. We could name the philosopher—Sophisticated Roman pride and man's natural pride, his desire to be "hard-headed" and "worldly wise" and "up-to-date" and "scientific." So the rule of might and pride and grandeur and selfishness cast its blinding spell over the minds of millions. It is easier for human nature to accept the philosophy of self-interest—Left to himself, man has always gravitated that way. Therefore this prideful modern philosophy has

Thousands Can See Vanderbilt Cup Race and Grand Prix



THE AVENUE OF PROGRESS • EAST END OF AUTO CIRCUIT • THE AVENUE OF PALMS • A PORTION OF THE COURSE

Two Supreme Events of Automobile World to be Held at Panama-Pacific Exposition, One Feb. 22 and One March 9. Course Makes Circuit of San Francisco Fair Grounds.

San Francisco, Nov. 21.—If the peoples of the world retain the love of thrills they have evidenced through the 184 years of the Christian calendar and during the several thousand years of the older calendars, there will be two days of the Panama-Pacific Exposition that will stand mountain high above the 288 days crowded with world appealing spectacles.

These two days are February 22 and March 9. The first is the date of the Vanderbilt Cup Race and the second is the day of the Grand Prix Automobile Race. But the mere fact that these races will take place on these days is not the source of all the pleasurable anticipation.

Danger is Minimized.

As an example of this the turns on the plaza of the Federal Court house, looking over the course, this is to be divided so that one half of it is given over to the speed demons going west and the other half to the racers going east. The division will be a nine foot base and of baled straw, burlap and pads held

to the center of the plaza by anchored cables. If a driver swerves into this wall the danger is minimized and it should not cause him to leave the race.

The same barricade will be erected at the "hairpin" turn and at the two right angle turns. In addition to these special walls the turns will be banked.

One full lap of the course, which utilizes the exposition's mile track, is 2.9 miles. The Vanderbilt Cup Race covers a distance of approximately 200 miles, which means out seventy-five times around the course. The Grand Prix will cover 400 miles with approximately 100 laps.

Barney's Money Up.

Barney Oldfield, the first entry in each race and whose check is now on deposit, looked over the course a few days ago and pronounced it the finest ever given over to the two races. The width ranges from thirty feet to eighty feet and every foot of it, except the graded dirt track, is asphalt.

Both races will start at 10 o'clock in the morning and are expected to be over by 2 o'clock in the afternoon. More than forty drivers, representing the pack of drivers in every part of the world, are expected to be entered. Horacio Anasagasti, Commissioner General from Argentina and himself an automobile manufacturer, is planning to have an entry which will be his company's first venture in the big race.

For these races the exposition is planning to construct bridges over the course to permit the crowds to pass from one part of the grounds to another without danger of being struck by the big machines.

In order to give the contestants an opportunity to try out and study the course they will be given the use of the grounds from 6 to 8 o'clock every morning for a week preceding each race. This will be before the exposition gates are open and the course will be guarded to keep employees from the track.

Needs One More.

Ralph de Palma has given assurance that he cannot miss the Vanderbilt Cup Race, for he is in the position of having to win but one more in order to obtain the Vanderbilt Cup.

The prizes for the Vanderbilt Cup events are \$2,000 for first, \$2,000 for second, \$1,500 for third, and \$1,000 for fourth. The Grand Prix prizes are: The gold challenge cup donated by the Automobile Club of America and \$8,000 in cash divided as follows: \$3,000 for first, \$2,000 for second, \$1,500 for third, \$1,000 for fourth, and \$500 for fifth.

1915 events, but the activities of Hollis E. Cooley, chief of special events of the exposition, and local races, William E. Hamilton is chairman of the racing committee of the exposition and the races will be under the direction of the California State Automobile Association. The Vanderbilt Cup Race is open to all cars of south or west coast displacement and comes under classification, E. The Grand Prix will be run under the rules of the Automobile Club of America and is open to all cars regardless of power, weight and other dimensions.

Deposit of \$15,000.

The entry fee is \$250 and the entries close at midnight of February 10, 1915. The exposition will put up \$15,000 on deposit before February 1 to insure the awarding of the prize.

Automobile men from every part of the United States who have seen the exposition course and its many advantages are enthusiastic for 1915 and predict the greatest road races ever held. One of the advantages in addition to those mentioned, that appeals to the automobile men with special force, is the unlimited space for parking of automobiles. Thousands can be placed on the grounds without the wonderful Presidio hills, where thousands more may have a view of the entire course.

Strolling about among wonderful exhibit palaces, pavilions of forty foreign nations, buildings of forty-three States and territories, structures that house the best of the culture of the world in the last decade, and in view of spectators from every corner of the globe, there never has been a setting for a contest so wonderful as this that awaits by the Golden Gate 1915. GUY R. KINSLEY.

In The RELIGIOUS WORLD

"BY THIS SIGN CONQUER"

The International Sunday School Lesson for November 22, "Christ Crucified."—Mark 15:21-41. Luke 23:30-43.

By William T. Ellis

When visitors enter the room where the Declaration of Independence is signed in Philadelphia, they instinctively remove their hats and sacred transaction. The depths of reverence are touched. So when we approach this story of the crucifixion we pause and bow our heads in awe and meditation. This is the greatest theme that mortal pen ever essayed. Here is the apex of history. Calvary is the cross-roads of time, the church of the world, the cross on a hill outside the wall of old Jerusalem, heaven touched earth. Even the cherubim and the archangels must veil their faces as they contemplate Calvary.

There never was an hour in all the long course of time when mankind was readier to hearken to the story of the Cross and its broken-hearted Victim than now, when the spirit of the world is crushed in sorrow. The only symbol of hope on the earth's horizon is the cross emblem.

In a sense not meant by Constantine—the first Christian Roman emperor, whose name is borne by the great city on the Bosphorus which is one of the day's war centres—the cross bears the message of hope. "By this sign conquer," it says, "and its message can deliver the world in this hour of woe. The world has come to a new Golgotha; may it not miss the meaning of the cross that conquers stubborn human pride and redeems all of life.

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plunged the world into a wicked, woful, wasteful war beyond words.

Over against the might of superior armed selfishness, with its specious philosophers exultant in the luck of ground, we put the cross, eternal symbol of selfless sacrifice and suffering. The cross will conquer, even as the seed, provided that there was a "sain Iamie" in the soil, the cross will conquer. Selfish philosophy lifted up to the world's gaze, as of recent days, has filled men with horror and repugnance; but from the cross follows the message, "If, if he lifted up, will draw all men unto me." The Christ idea of love at its utmost cost, the Calvary conception of man reconciled to man and to God, will win the forward march of the world, the cross will conquer.

But we all must have our Calvary. We may climb the height from a different starting point, but we each go up to be crucified. As we scale the steep, another may share.

The dreadful load that our shoulders bear, the steepest sorrow is all our own.

For on the summit we bleed alone.

When The Auto Was Wrecked.

Argument can be withstood, but love overwhelms us. That is a truth in which the cross is planted. It is not when seated at the head of all the world's teachers that Jesus wins the allegiance of mankind; but when raised on the cross of ultimate sacrifice and devotion. We cannot forget that the most philosophical of organized expressions of "Christianity" have been most barren of results, whereas the stumbling, blundering proclamation of the cross has meant new life. The history of that day by the hill outside the Jerusalem wall is the story of the world's redemption.

One overcame Roman pride and selfishness, and another overcame man's natural pride and selfishness. We can say with Watts:

"When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride."

I have a friend, a noble Christian

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If the experience we are now passing through serves to unite all the farmers and laborers in demanding a system of farmers banking adapted to their needs, backed by the government and independent of the commercial banks, then it will be

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