

THE DANBURY REPORTER.

VOLUME XXXIII.

DANBURY, N. C., APRIL 12, 1906.

NO. 11

The Trust

TOBACCO FARMERS ORGANIZING TO FIGHT THE GREAT ENEMY--STOKES COUNTY TO TAKE A HAND.

"We recommend that our Tobacco Growers' Association endorse the general plan of the Dark Tobacco Growers' Association of Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia, and reject the manufacturing plan heretofore adopted by our Inter-State Executive Committee on the ground that it is more of a speculative plan than one for controlling prices of the raw material; but we extend our moral support to all manufacturing plants that have started under the auspices of our Association."

"We also recommend that we co-operate generally with all Tobacco Associations and the American Society of Equity in obtaining the best prices for leaf tobacco."

This was the substance of the great convention of tobacco farmers at Danville a few days ago. It was a meeting of the Virginia Tobacco Growers' Protective Association, at many North Carolina farmers' request.

The Reporter gets its information from the Progressive Farmer, whose editor was present at the meeting. The above-quoted resolution means that the bright tobacco growers of Virginia have decided to join the plans of the Dark Tobacco Growers Association of Kentucky, which has time has choked off the price and doubled the price of tobacco.

In order that those of our readers who do not know of the plans of the Dark Tobacco Growers, we publish the details as told by Mr. Allen, one of the leaders of the association, to the Progressive Farmer. Let every farmer read it carefully over and over till he thoroughly understands its meaning, and then act accordingly.

The dark tobacco district proper—the "Clarksville Black Patch"—covers only about five counties each in Middle Kentucky and Tennessee, but nearly twenty other counties grow the dark crop to some extent. In all there are 40,000 or 50,000 tobacco farmers in these States, including tenants. About 40,000 of these are represented in the Association.

The Dark Tobacco Growers' Association was organized in September, 1904, the crop being pledged a year ahead—about 75 per cent of the tobacco in the Dark Belt. Prices were then averaging only four cents a pound; by February, 1905, prices had more than doubled; by April, the Tobacco Trust offered 20 cents a pound in order to break up the organization, but failed. Last year the prices averaged over eight cents a pound for the entire crop, 80 per cent of the total yield (or 25,000 hogsheads) being sold through representatives of the Association, and this year \$2 more a hundred is expected than last year. The committee has already fixed this.

This year the farmers are not only pledging this year's crop to be sold through the Association, but the crop of the next two years also, the official pledge being as follows:

"We, the undersigned persons, whose signatures appear here below, hereby appoint, engage and employ, irrevocably, the Dark Tobacco District Planters' Protective Association, as our sole agent, to sell for us, our respective crops of tobacco, to be raised by us, or that we may own or control, during the years 1906-1907-1908. We agree and bind ourselves to it, to

prepare for market all tobacco we may raise, own or control, during the years 1906-1907-1908, in the way and manner it may desire and designate, and deliver the same at places and to the persons it may name, and to allow it have full and complete control of the same, and agree to abide by and conform to all its decisions and acts, and to fulfill all its contracts and agreements, connected with the preparation, delivery and sale of said tobacco."

This pledge is signed by the farmer, the blank also leaving space to insert the number of acres in farm, and the number of acres in tobacco.

The farmers of Kentucky and Tennessee are not only putting their products into the hands of the Association for selling, but they have reduced their acreage even more successfully than the cotton growers have done. The 1904 crop was only 80 per cent, of a full crop, but last year (1905) the crop was reduced 20 per cent, while for 1906 a further reduction of 10 per cent is expected.

"Prizing men are employed to see that the tobacco delivered by the Tobacco Association members, is assorted and packed honestly, the prizes being under bond (in a guarantee company) of \$5,000 or more to do the work fairly and accurately. If the farmer chooses to prize his own product, he must give a bond of \$1,000 in a guarantee company for honest packing. Each prize takes out of the hogshead when prized twenty-four bundles. The twenty-four bundles represent three types of eight bundles each. Each type must bear a sealed tag, with the farmer's name and the number of the hogshead. The prize reserves and holds one type for his own protection; the other two are sent to the salesroom and put in charge of a salesman. The three graders employed by the Association there at saleroom classify and write on the tag the grade of the tobacco—A, B, C, etc. The types are put in bins—after grading by the three graders, each grade in a separate bin. Next the Executive Committee makes a schedule of prices; the salesman has nothing to do with selling except to display the types. The agent of the government or syndicate desiring to buy applies at the saleroom; the salesman informs him the prices fixed on the desired grade. The purchaser must pay the price or do without the tobacco. If they agree on price he buys by the type, the salesman sends to warehouse where the hogsheads are stored and has the warehouseman and inspector take a sample from each hogshead. If the sample compares with the type, the sale is confirmed. The purchaser takes a sample of each hogshead and carries it along; if there is any packing he has recourse against the association, in which case the Association falls back on the bond of the farmer. There have been only two reclamations out of 25,000 hogsheads sold. By taking the types from the bulk as priced and having them in the sales room, it saves the farmer the expense of going into the hogshead to display the types."

"But to whom do you sell?" was asked Mr. Allen, "and how much money can farmers borrow on stored tobacco?"

"We sell to Austria, Italy, France, Spain, England, and other foreign countries, these having

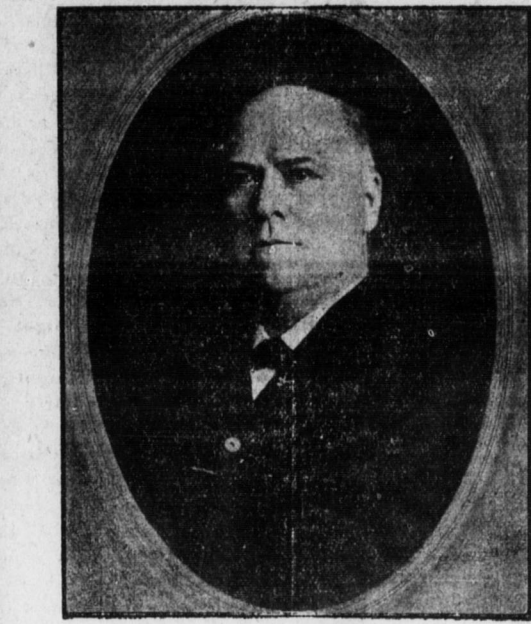
representatives on our markets. As to borrowing with the tobacco as collateral, it is easy to get 65 per cent of the market value."

Illustrating the thoroughness of the organization, Mr. Allen said that in his county nearly 98 per cent of the tobacco farmers are members "Only seven in my district are outside. The men who refuse to co-operate with their fellowfarmers are virtually ostracized, have to thresh their wheat by themselves, for example, and sit by themselves at church, and the girls won't ride with their young men. We have made it a point, too, to take in the negroes as well as the white farmers. In my county, where there are a considerable number of blacks, the negroes have a separate organization."

Now what the dark tobacco growers of Kentucky and Tennessee have done, the dark growers purpose doing at once—and the bright farmers will now begin work in the same fashion.

By fall much the larger part of the Virginia dark crop will be sold through the Association. Mr. Allen says that 50 per cent of the crop is already pledged.

Substituting the words "Inter-State Tobacco Growers' Association," it is now the plan to have the bright tobacco growers sign the identical pledge signed by their dark tobacco brethren, which we have given in full in this article.



GOV. GLENN SENDS EASTER GREETING TO THE PEOPLE OF STOKES COUNTY.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
RALEIGH

Messrs. Pepper Brothers,
Danbury, N. C.

Gentlemen:

Your kind letter received. I have so many engagements that I cannot now write you such a letter as you desire, but take this opportunity of expressing my interest in your county and your people. For eight years I lived in Stokes county, and a more generous, kind hearted, faithful people never lived. They gave me my start in life and never can I lose an opportunity to say or do anything for their advancement.

You have splendid water power, the finest climate in the country, magnificent timber, and strong land, yielding the finest tobacco, and there are only two things lacking to make Stokes county take a stand in the forefront of the counties of the State. These two things are good roads, and a better way of getting to the outside world by means of rapid transportation. I understand there is a prospect of an Electric railroad running from Reidsville through county. These Electric lines do not cost very much, and are very useful in getting produce, lumber and minerals to market, and I urge you, through your valuable paper to do all you can to get your people to take advantage of any and every opportunity to bring themselves in contact with the outside world.

I cannot close this letter without saying a few words to you personally.

Your grandfather, your father and your uncles were my very best friends and have aided me greatly in my struggle through life. They did a great deal for the upbuilding of Stokes county, and if they had done nothing else but keep the Danbury Reporter always alive and active, they would still have rendered a great service to the State. Let me therefore, in memory of those who are dead, and to you who are living, express my appreciation for the past, and wish you prosperity and happiness for the future.

Wishing the people of Stokes every blessing, and assuring them of my willingness to aid them in every good endeavor, I am,

Sincerely your and their friend,
R. B. GLENN,
Governor of North Carolina.

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Real Estate

SOME RECENT TRANSFERS OF LAND IN STOKES COUNTY, COMPILED BY THE REPORTER FROM THE RECORDS.

Robert Darnel to Martha J. Bradley, 38½ acres in Yadkin township, consideration love and respect.

Robert Darnel to D. R. Bumgardner and wife, 38½ acres in Yadkin township, consideration love and respect.

E. T. Wilson and wife to L. A. Lynch, 48½ acres in Quaker Gap township, consideration \$400.

W. T. Tuttle and wife to J. R. Tuttle, 13½ acres in Meadow township, consideration \$1,225.

I. G. Ross to Joel A. Hicks, 57 acres in Meadow township, consideration \$400.

Board of Education to J. F. Nelson, 1 acre in Peter's Creek township, consideration \$45.

J. E. Marshall, J. H. Marshall and J. E. Marshall, Jr., to T. E. Davis, 122½ acres, consideration \$1,800.

T. E. Tillotson, Trustee, to Joseph W. Neal, 46 acres, consideration \$300.

H. C. Lackey and wife to J. A. Leak, 324 acres in Snow Creek township, consideration \$300.

L. W. Martin and wife and Martha Reid to Zeb V. Martin, 101 acres in Beaver Island township, consideration \$400.

Z. B. V. Martin and wife to Laura E. Martin, 191 acres in Beaver Island township, consideration \$1,100.

L. T. Isom and wife to S. F. Abbott, 91 acres in Sauratown and Meadows townships, consideration \$675.

T. W. Hylton and wife to A. J. Pringle, 12 6-10 acres in Peter's Creek township, consideration \$53.

N. O. Petree and wife to J. W. Kurfess, lot at Germantown, consideration \$1,100.

Edward V. Fowler and wife to Wm. D. Thomas, 1 7-8 acres, consideration \$65.

W. R. Bennett and wife to Walter L. Smith, 50 acres in Peter's Creek township, consideration \$350.

Walter L. Callier and wife to N. T. Pettitt, 38 4-10 acres in Surry county, consideration \$876.

A. J. Brown and wife to John M. Taylor, 184 acres in Quaker Gap township, consideration \$425.

Robert Darnel to B. M. Bradley, 38½ acres in Yadkin township, consideration, love and respect.

Snow Creek and Peter's Creek Want the Electric Line.

Mr. J. J. Priddy, of Danbury Route 1, was in town Monday talking enthusiastically in favor of the proposed electric line. Mr. Priddy says Snow Creek will vote the \$50,000 tax with a whoop. He stated that the logical route is from Stoneville, via Sandy Ridge, Lawsonville, and Piedmont Springs to Danbury, and that in his opinion Peter's Creek would vote the tax cheerfully. This route would be through a fine agricultural country filled with timber, mineral's and water powers, and the grade would be easy.

Mr. T. W. Hylton, a prominent merchant, of Campbell Route 1, was here today enroute home from Winston.

IS THE MOON INHIBITED.

Science has proven that the moon has an atmosphere, which makes life in some form possible on that satellite; but not for human beings, who have a hard enough time on this earth of ours; especially those who don't know that Electric Bitters cure Headache, Biliousness, Malaria, Chills and Fever, Jaundice, Dyspepsia, Dizziness, Torpid Liver, Kidney complaints, General Debility and Female weakness. Unequaled as a general Tonic and Appetizer for weak persons and especially for the aged. It induces sound sleep. Fully guaranteed by all Druggists. Price only 50c.

Mr. T. W. Tuttle, of Walnut Cove Route 1, was here on business Monday.

A LUCKY POSTMISTRESS is Mrs. Alexander, of Cary, Me., who has found Dr. King's New Life Pills to be the best remedy she ever tried for keeping the Stomach, Liver and Bowels in perfect order. You'll agree with her if you try these painless purifiers that infuse new life. Guaranteed by all druggists. Price 25c.

A HEART-RENDERING ACCIDENT.

A 14-Year Old Girl Burned to Death, As Told In Letter From Arkansas to Reporter.

Saginaw, Ark.—Lomer Roberts was burned to death while at school on the 22nd. It was a very sad and heart rendering accident, occurring at the noon hour. Several little boys went out in a field that is very near the playground and Freddie (my little boy) set fire to some dry grass to see it burn and being told that it might displease the owner of the land to burn the grass he went to work to put it out and some of the little girls went to help him, Lomer Roberts in the bunch; while they were trying to whip it out her skirts caught behind her and she burned up alive. It burned the last vestige of clothing off her from the top of her shoes to her hair, and part of that was burned. From the effects of which she died that night at 9 o'clock. The teacher Mr. Cash tried with every effort available to put her out. He burned up his coat and hat and burned his hands badly trying to extinguish the flames, but every effort failed until they got some water, but too late.

Lomer was a beautiful little girl just in her fourteenth year, well educated to date and age. She was just preparing to go away to a music school to take lessons in music.

Thus you see is a person's life in this world is strewn with disappointments when we least expect it. The pale horse and his rider appears and carries away the most unexpected of us to try the realities of an unknown world to us that are left behind.

I want to say to her father and mother and brothers and sisters who live in about 200 yards of me that they are not the only ones that have sorrowed and shed tears over this sad affair.

She was buried on the evening of the 23rd in the Social Hill Cemetery in the presence of a host of friends.

L. H. HILL.

J. S. Needman Very Sick—Others Pilot Mountain News.

Pilot Mountain, Route 1, April 2.—J. S. Needman is very sick and has been in bed for some time. Abrian is very sick. We hope he will soon be out again.

The Pilot merchants say it is the dullest on trading they ever have been for some time.

Mr. J. G. Jones was on our streets last Saturday on business.

Mr. L. Levy our Pilot Mountain furniture dealer sold several coffins last week, he reports.

The measles is not as bad as they have been. We hope they will soon die out. They have been bad.

Mr. Boss Hall took his best girl home Sunday.

Miss Cora Gordon, Mr. Gid Gordon and son have gone to Winston with tobacco.

Mr. Gid Haynes has got two pumpkins yet, the 2nd day of April. Miss Carrie Gordon has been visiting near Capella this week.

I guess Mr. Colonel Gordon is on the back ground because he didn't see his best girl Sunday.

I am sorry to learn of the misfortune of Mr. Paul Coon getting his hand cut with an ax while making boards.

BLUE RIDGE KID.