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No. 1

HOW THEY DO IN KENTUCKY.

Plans and Purposes and Results of the Farmers Protective Association of the Dark Tobacco Belt--Interesting Letter to President G. O. Key.

Cedar Hill, Ten., Route 1, Jan. 28.

Hon. G. O. Key, Pres. North Carolina Tobacco Planters' Association, Pilot Mountain, N. C.

Dear sir:

Favors of the 20th inst. received, and contents carefully considered. In reply, would say that we organized the Planters' Protective Association of Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia (incorporated) at Guthrie, Ky., Sept. 24, 1904. At present our membership of land owners is probably 20,000 persons in the dark tobacco district of these three states. Of the crop of 1906 we control between 80 per cent. and 95 per cent. in the organized counties. This crop is not yet ready for sale. We have just finished selling all of the crop grown in 1905 at Mayfield, Ky., as you will see by the enclosed clipping, which will give you a good idea of our selling prices, both before and since, we were forced for self-preservation into organizing the Association.

We will begin selling the 1906 grown crop, however, as soon as we get it stripped and upon the market in the hogshead. We positively sell no tobacco at auction, either loose upon the warehouse floor or in the hogshead. We have it all prized, that is, put in the hogshead properly graded and classified by experts. Then it is inspected and our salesmen sell it by the samples and for the minimum price fixed by our Executive Committee. Of course, the salesman has the discretion to sell for as much more as possible. Our inspectors, graders, salesmen, warehouse or storagemen, supervisors of prizers and prizers are required to sign carefully drawn, written contracts specifying their duties. These contracts require these parties to give good and sufficient bonds for competency and integrity made by incorporated guaranty companies, that we select and approve after investigation by our Executive Committee. All tobacco is insured against loss by fire, etc., in good insurance companies from the time it leaves the farmer's lands till it is sold by the Association. As soon as the farmer gets his tobacco stripped and in good keeping order or condition, he may deliver it to an authorized prizer who puts it into a hogshead. The farmer takes this prizer's receipt for so many pounds of good, second and lug tobacco. The prizer puts an estimated value upon the crop—say 8 cents per pound on the good, 5 cents per pound on the second and 2 cents per pound upon the lugs. Of this value the farmer may borrow 60 per cent. as an advance loan at the rate of 6 per cent. interest till the crop is sold by the Association. Thus the farmer is enabled to hold his tobacco till it is sold in a suitable market. For instance, Canadian wrapper sells early, while Austrian is sold later on.

All the banks in our country are with us, and support us in this fight. Whenever a purchaser desires to buy he selects the sample and our salesman gives our price, but before we permit the trade to be closed, we compel the purchaser to see the tobacco he is buying re-sampled, and then, if he is perfectly satisfied, we let him pay his money and take the tobacco. For such alone is "a square deal" and it makes trade. It is honest and right. We planters are determined to give and to receive full value. Thus you can readily see that ours is a protective association. We protect both the planter and the purchaser. The countries of Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia are subdivided into civil or magisterial districts; hence we organize a county by requiring the tobacco planters to meet at some point or voting precinct in their civil or magisterial district and by popular vote select a director the first Saturday in September and the next Saturday these directors meet at their court house town or county seat and organize by choosing one of their members chairman, one vice-chairman and one secretary. Thus the county board of directors is organized. This chairman, by virtue of this office, is the county's representative or member of the general board of directors. This board is our executive committee for the three states. It has full control of the association, makes bylaws, rules and regulations that govern the entire body.

I enclose you a copy of the legal obligation which every farmer must sign to join us and to become entitled to the benefit of the Association. We have a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and General Manager. These, of course, are members of the Executive Committee. It costs nothing to join us, and there are no dues to be paid. The amount of legitimate expenses for prizing, insurance, grading, inspecting, storing and selling all told is about \$1.00 per hundred pounds of tobacco to the individual farmer. Therefore, our plan of selling is least expensive of any yet devised in this country.

By our method of selling at our sales room by sample, the Association can concentrate and does completely control the whole output and keep tab on it as well as prevent fraud on the part of buyers, who might form a conspiracy to let one man buy all without competition, and then divide the tobacco among his confederates.

I will also enclose you a copy of our Constitution Article, 2, showing the object of an organization. Article 5 enumerates the powers and duties of the Executive Committee and article 7 shows the personal obligations and duties that a member obligates and binds himself to obey and to carry out.

Our Association is a corporation like an insurance or railroad company is, and is regularly incorporated and chartered under and by the laws of the state of Kentucky. Hence we have met a trust with a trust: a combination with a combination; a corporation with a corporation.

We planters have the very same legal right thus to unite to sell tobacco, that the tobacco buyers or tobacco Trust have to unite to buy tobacco under the laws of our land. This, too, is the simplest way in which to solve the problem of the tobacco planter's relief. It is a getting of relief under the law and according to law.

Hoping this may be of some benefit to the good people of my grand father and mother's native state, to your Association and yourself against the thieves who compose the Tobacco Trust and are employed by it, I am

Sincerely yours, to command,
JNO. M. FOSTER.

N. B.—Publish this letter over my name if you so desire, and read the one to Mr. A. M. Denny, of Pinnacle, N. C., if you like.

J. M. FOSTER.

Our Association issues 200 shares of non-dividend paying stock of the value of one dollar per share. This amount of stock was required by the Kentucky law before we were permitted to obtain a charter. The enclosed certificate of stock and agreement explains itself. You can therefore see that by this arrangement every member of the Association does not have to hold stock to be a member fully entitled to all the benefits, etc., of the Association as his representative is the stock or share-holder for the entire county of which he is chairman. All of this is peculiar as we had a special law enacted by the Kentucky Legislature permitting us to charter and make this new feature as a corporation. Thinking this would interest you, I send the same.
JNO. M. FOSTER.

BIG CREEK.

Big Creek, Jan. 28.—Mr. Robt. Collins, who has been attending school at Bombay this winter, returned home the past week on account of ill health.

Miss Willie, the daughter of Rev. J. H. Wright, has been teaching at Dog Trot school house since Miss Mattie Tucker quit.

Mr. Thos. Dearmin, who has been at work at Greensboro, returned home a few days ago. He says "there is no place like home." Guess he couldn't leave Miss Mattie C.

It is with keen regret we chronicle the death of Mrs. Wm. Beasley, who died the past week. The deceased had been in ill health for some time, and her death was not a surprise. She was a faithful member of the Primitive Baptist church. The remains were laid to rest at the family burying ground Saturday evening to await the resurrection of the just.

Mr. R. E. L. Francis had the misfortune to lose a good horse the other day.

JOHN SHARP.

GIDEON.

Gideon, Jan. 29.—Much sickness, such as colds, pneumonia and grip prevails.

We will mention the deaths of Mr. Joe Hutchens near Sandy Ridge, and also Mr. Ed Young near Mayodan, both formerly citizens of Stokes. Both were clever citizens, and will be much missed.

Mr. James Bullen, of Kernersville, wants to get back to Stokes. We may expect others from High Point, Kernersville, Mayodan and other points will want to get back soon to get a breath of fresh, pure air from our mountains.


It seems that lumber and crossings are all the go now.

The Reporter's readers and friends are asked to be patient with us and to excuse the many shortcomings of the paper until we get our engine reinstalled, which will probably be next week. It is now in the shops undergoing repairs. We expect to greatly improve the paper soon. It will be considerably enlarged, the print will be made better, the news service improved, and editorial department added, and other improvements.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

Nursing baby?
It's a heavy strain on mother.
Her system is called upon to supply nourishment for two.
Some form of nourishment that will be easily taken up by mother's system is needed.
Scott's Emulsion contains the greatest possible amount of nourishment in easily digested form.
Mother and baby are wonderfully helped by its use.



ALL DRUGGISTS: 50c. AND \$1.00

Composition On Stokes County.

The following composition on Stokes county was written by little Miss Alverta Pulliam, one of the 15-year-old pupils of Flat Shoal school:

Stokes county is a thriving little county. The people carry on lots of business. They raise their grain, and a lot of tobacco. The people don't raise much cotton; but some make a very good living raising tobacco; and yet the people do more than raise grain and tobacco in Stokes. We have several little villages—in one they run a large furniture factory, and ship a lot of furniture to all parts of the State; and in some they have graded schools, and run large hotels, churches, etc. In some parts they have Sunday Schools, Christmas excises, Sunday School conventions, etc., which are always enjoyed by all.

Our free schools are better than they were a few years ago; nicer houses and grounds. At our school (Flat Shoal) we have the best in the county. Last winter we spent over \$100.00 for the benefit of our school house and yard. Now it is free from stumps, and looks very nice indeed. We are planning to have an entertainment at the close of school, and would be very glad to have all our Stokes people to visit us on that day.

Stokes county contains two railroads—the Norfolk & Western and the Southern. We also have two rivers—the Dan and Little Yadkin, other streams are Snow Creek, Town Fork and Neatman. We have rural free delivery mail, our mail being delivered once a day. We have three mineral springs. In summer they are visited by thousands of people for their health. The young people make many pleasure trips to these places in warm weather.

We have many beautiful mountains, branching from the Blue Ridge. The special peaks are Moore's Knob, Cook's Wall, Hanging Rock and Buzzard Cove. The young people generally spend Easter Monday on some of these peaks.

ALVERTA PULLIAM.

All Kinds Of Seed.

The Standard Feed & Seed Co., of Winston, are among the biggest seed dealers in the State. They have just received a big shipment as follows:

Two cars of seed oats.
" " " potatoes.
One car " " corn.

Have also received big lots of clover seed, orchard grass seed, timothy grass seed, Kentucky blue grass seed, and all kinds of garden seed, which they are selling at the very lowest prices. By buying their seed in ear load quantities they are easily enabled to undersell the small dealer.

This company, which is a new one, has already built up a good trade in its own and adjoining counties.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the present General Assembly of North Carolina to amend the charter of the town of Walnut Cove, N. C.
D. S. BOYLES, Mayor.

NEIGHBORS GOT FOOLED.

"I was literally coughing myself to death, and had become too weak to leave my bed; and neighbors predicted that I would never leave it alive; but they got fooled, for thanks be to God, I was induced to try Dr. King's New Discovery. It took just four one dollar bottles to completely cure the cough and to restore me to good sound health," writes Mrs. Eva Uncaher, of Grovertown, Stark Co., Ind. This King of cough and cold cures, and healer of throat and lungs, is guaranteed by all druggists. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

J. E. MANRING KILLED SUDDENLY.

Former Stokes Citizen Meets Horrible Death At Madison—Was Struck By North Bound Train—Was Intoxicated.

Mr. J. E. Manring, formerly of Stokes, more popularly known as "Bud" Manring, was struck by a north bound train and killed at Madison Friday night. He had been drinking and was on his way to Mayodan, supposedly walking on the track. He was reported to have been drinking. After being struck by the train, he was picked up unconscious and never spoke again, dying shortly afterwards.

Mr. Manring had been living at Spray for a year or more. He leaves a wife and several children. He has many relatives in this section.

Death Of Mr. A. V. Duggins.

Mr. A. V. Duggins died at 7:40 last evening at his home in East Winston after eight days sickness of pneumonia. The age of the deceased was 64 years. He leaves a wife and several children. The funeral service was conducted from the home at 4 o'clock by Dr. H. A. Brown, his pastor. Deceased was a member of the First Baptist church for a number of years. The interment was in Woodland cemetery.

Mr. Duggins was a soldier during the civil war. He enlisted in Aug. 1862, from Stokes and was a member of Company M. 21st N. C. Regiment. He was wounded in the hand at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 12, 1862.

Two Stokes Boys Sentenced To Penitentiary For Life.

Fayetteville, W. Va., Jan. 23.—About two years ago two boys from Stokes county near the Virginia line came to the state of West Virginia seeking their livelihood. But their many friends will regret to hear the sad news of their fate. From the time they arrived in this state until August 4, 1906, their characters were excellent. They had won the good will of many and bore a good name, and it was the desire of the people and also the coal operators to befriend the boys in their undertakings, and it is the belief of many that trouble was imposed on them for which they were sentenced to serve 99 years in West Virginia State Penitentiary. One of the boys, W. R. Collins, is the son of Mr. W. J. Collins, a prominent farmer near Stuart, Va., the other being Walter Hayden, a neighboring boy in that locality.

It is the request of their friends that this be published.

R. G. NESBITT.

Sharp's Institute To Be Rebuilt.

A letter from Intelligence, Rockingham county, states that Sharp Institute, which was destroyed by fire one night last week, will be rebuilt at once if the proper encouragement is given Prof. Sharp. He estimates the loss at from \$5,000 to \$9,000, with insurance of about half that amount.

Obituary.

George Isom was born Oct. 4, 1884, and died Jan. 24, 1907, making his stay on earth 23 years, 3 months and 20 days. He was buried on the 25th inst. at the Isom graveyard. His disease was heart trouble. He leaves a wife and one little son, father, step-mother, three brothers and four sisters, besides a large circle of friends to mourn their loss, but we hope their loss is his eternal gain.

All that kind and loving hands could do, was done for him, but it was God's will to take him away in the bloom of youth. He was loved in life, in death remembered.
S.