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The Farmers Convention Closes Work

(Continued From Page One.)

the next year the number was increased, and this year it will be more than forty erected with his assistance. Mr. Conover says the slage silo is cheaper and better than digging one. It is easier and cheaper to use a pipe and wind for the stage than three men in the one that is dug fifteen or twenty feet in the ground. He said he had seen one 10x20 feet built for thirty or thirty-five dollars. Mr. Conover said he believed that the cement silo was the coming silo.

During his discussion of the subject, Mr. Conover went into the details of the construction of the different kinds of silos from the foundation to its completion, and was asked many questions by those present.

Committees Appointed.

President Blount announced the following committees:

Resolutions: E. S. Miller, T. J. W. Broom and J. H. Goldy.

Nominations: A. L. French, C. C. Moore, G. T. Tyson, W. A. Thigpen and A. A. Maynard.

Dr. A. S. Wheeler.

Dr. A. S. Wheeler, manager of the famous Biltmore farm, was the next speaker on the program, and he held the convention in the closest of attention, his clear-cut words falling upon an interested audience.

Dr. Wheeler began by briefly mentioning some of the interesting topics that had been discussed during the convention, after which he said, in part, as follows:

"I notice in the papers that heavy rains have done great damage in my section of the state. When I left there a few days ago to attend this convention, everything looked smiling and promising, but I almost fear to return. Over the big farm I expected fifteen or twenty tons of feed to the acre, now I don't know whether it is in the French Broad today or not.

"In the beginning of my remarks, I want to take this occasion to thank Dr. Hill, Mr. Blount and Mr. Parker for the success of this convention. This is the first time I have ever attended the State Farmers' Convention, but it will not be my last.

"My father-in-law, who served in the Confederacy, has often said that you could build a wall around the southland if it could easily get along. That is my idea of the farm. We want the farm so we can build a fence around it and not have to go outside for anything.

"The subject I have selected is 'Co-operation Among the Farmers in Agriculture.' My idea of co-operation is perhaps classical and due to much reading and not to practice. If the southern farmer wants to play the civilization role in the drama of our civilization, he must unite along educational, economic and moral lines. Robt. Owen, a wealthy manufacturer, began a system of co-operation, but it was an economic failure. The Brook Farm movement introduced co-operation into the country in 1840."

Here Dr. Wheeler gave a brief history of the origin and rise of co-operation in other countries.

Continuing, he said that the people in the United States were the greatest wasters in the world and the farmer was just as bad as any of them. Our garbage wagons are laden and our streets littered with waste. Seventy-five percent of the mail that comes to our offices is consigned to the waste basket." Dr. Wheeler here told how he with the others in his office, had formed an "Anti-Waste Club" for the purpose of utilizing all the waste that had heretofore been thrown into the waste basket.

"Western North Carolina is becoming the playground of the world. It is the great resting place for shattered nerves, and there are thousands of tourists there today. A short time ago, with a friend, I went into the heart of the balsam mountain. In that section there is an industry that cuts down the spruce trees of four to six inches in diameter and uses the body only to the limbs for making pulp, the balance being thrown away. When these trees are felled they crush the young and tender undergrowth, and the whole country is left covered with a ten-foot layer of inflammable material, which only awaits the application of a match that is necessary to start a conflagration which will ruin the forests and rob the soil. This state of affairs is a national crime. The time is now almost too late, and I am afraid our beautiful country is doomed."

In taking up the subject of co-operation, Dr. Wheeler discussed co-operation in buying supplies, which is the simplest and most elementary form of it. The farmer can derive many advantages by uniting in the purchase of his seed, his feedstuff, farm implements, etc. This system is commended most heartily to the southern farmer.

The next form of co-operation he discussed was co-operation in marketing the supplies, which is one of the most complicated and intricate of problems. Dr. Wheeler told of a barren district in Louisiana, where there was absolutely nothing to invite the settler. One day a man

who owned a few cows, began to sell milk through the car windows of the trains. His business grew. Soon Roseland became a regular stop for dairy lunch. The railroad people began to boom the place, and today that country is the wealthiest in the United States. Everything is conducted in the community on the co-operative plan, which alone is the cause of its great success.

He then took up the co-operation of the fruit growers of California and other states and showed how they were benefitted by co-operation.

"Very little has been done by the farmer to place his produce at the door of the consumer. The middleman is there, and the consumer feels that he is being knocked down by the farmer and the middleman, and there should be a better understanding between the consumer and the farmer on one hand and the middleman on the other. The fundamental law of supply and demand must be recognized by all.

Where there is co-operation there is publicity which robs it of harm. If the books of the great trusts were open to the public, it would be robbed of its dangers.

The consumers of the country are rapidly co-operating, and getting good results thereby.

The farmers are making great strides along social and educational lines, as is shown by such a meeting at such a place.

In speaking of the business side of the farmer's life, Dr. Wheeler told how the bookkeeping on the Biltmore farm was done under the latest methods, and how at any day in the year one could turn and see exactly how he stood on any part of the farm without waiting for the end of the year. The southern farmer is not a good business man, for he hasn't time to keep an elaborate set of books. Mighty few can tell what it costs to keep a dairy cow one month, a hen one year, or what it cost to cultivate one acre of corn. One man has 4,000 hens, and the annual cost of feed is \$1.55 each, yet he clears about twenty-five per cent on his investment.

Dr. Wheeler said our agricultural schools do not teach the students how to look after the interest on each farm investment.

The speaker then took up the system of co-operative banks which was started in Germany and has spread all over Europe. The citizens of a community, 7,500 in number, all become shareholders, no man having more than ten shares. All are auditors of the books, and all work for the bank. Personal integrity is all that is necessary to secure a loan, unless it is a large one. When the surplus accumulates, interest on loans is decreased and interest on deposits increased, and by a unanimous vote the surplus may be expended only for public purposes, such as schools.

Dr. Wheeler said that it was presumptuous on his part to talk politics, but that there was need of farmers, merchants and wage-earners in the councils of state instead of professional politicians, and until this is done our course can never be placed in the proper place it deserves.

When Dr. Wheeler concluded he was given loud applause by the convention.

Program Committee.

Upon motion of Mr. C. C. Moore a committee consisting of T. W. Blount, T. B. Parker and G. A. Roberts was appointed to act with the president and the secretary in preparing the program and advertising the next convention. Every man was urged to bring at least two with him next year, and an effort will be made to have at least 2,000 here.

Dr. Kilgore.

Dr. B. W. Kilgore made a brief talk relative to the advantages of live stock and soil improvement crops on soil. His speech the other day in which he favored soil improvement crops, seemed to have stirred up considerable discussion, many holding that live stock was the best for soil. He said the soil crop was better but both were good.

Mr. A. L. French, for the nominating committee, stated that as there were so many good men to fill the offices, the custom had been established to get a new set of officers each year, and in behalf of the committee, recommended the ticket given at the top of this article, which was unanimously elected.

Retiring President Blount thanked the convention for its assistance in making it a success. He said he was a farmer by birth and by training and always wanted to see the condition of the farmers improved, and become the first business man of the state.

President Shields was escorted to the chair and before assuming his duties as presiding officer expressed his thanks for the honor that had been conferred upon him.

Resolutions.

The committee on resolutions reported:

1. Endorsing the work of A. & M. College, Agricultural Department and the Experiment Station.

2. Protests against the taking of the surplus oil funds out of the hands of the Department of Agriculture.

3. Recognizes the valuable aid rendered by the United States in fighting cattle tick, cholera, etc., and asks that the legislature appropriate

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September

Is now at hand, and that is the month you have been looking forward to for a long time. It is the beginning of the big prosperous fall business for you. It is the day you have been promising yourself to begin advertising your business. To start out to be something and make something out of your business.

Raleigh

Now has over one million dollars going into permanent improvements. Thousands of men are at work making big wages. More are needed. Hundreds of young men and women are coming to the city this week and next week to enter college. They spend thousand of dollars here with our merchants. With all this money being spent here the merchants who get busy should reap a harvest this fall and winter. September is going to open the season with a rush, thousands coming into the city for the winter and thousands working every day.

Stake your claim

By taking an advertisement every day in The Evening Times, the paper that reaches nearly everybody. Don't wait until the other fellow gets first call on the business but open up your advertising campaign and go after the money that is being spent here in Raleigh. If you want more business, if you need help in preparing your copy, just 'Phone.

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