



# THE



# PROGRESSIVE



# FARMER.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY.

Vol. 2.

RALEIGH, N. C., JUNE 30, 1887.

No. 19.

### OUR FARMERS' CLUBS.

#### What our Farmers are Doing and How the Work of Organizing is Progressing.

##### LET ALL THE CLUBS DO LIKEWISE.

In response to our call for the address of the officers of all the clubs in the State, Mr. J. J. Hendren, of Cedar Run, N. C., kindly gives the address of the secretaries of clubs in Alexander county as follows:

W. W. Teague, Bentley, N. C.

C. O. Pierce, Hedrick, N. C.

G. W. Wilson, Taylorsville, N. C.

Let every club in the State send us the address of its officers at once. It is important and necessary that the Secretary of our State Association may make up a complete directory of the organization.

##### THE FARMERS ALLIANCE.

Last Saturday Mr. M. T. Sealy, formerly of Robeson county, N. C., but now of Texas, addressed the farmers on matters pertaining to their interests, and, after making a very practical speech in their behalf and giving some statistics of the above order of which he said there were 250,000 members alone in Texas, he proceeded to organize a lodge here which consisted of 43 charter members. He proposes to organize lodges at each prominent place in the county and then organize a County Alliance of these different lodges at Rockingham.

The Alliance was started in a county in Texas several years ago and then became a State Alliance, then an Alliance embracing all the cotton belt.

Farmers, laborers, mechanics, country school teachers and preachers only are admitted to membership.—*Laurinburg Exchange.*

##### SUMMERFIELD, N. C., June 7, '87.

According to previous arrangements, the farmers of this township, Summerfield, met last Saturday, June 4th, and organized a farmers' club with about sixty members. Dr. J. W. Winchester was elected President, J. A. Haskins Vice-President, F. W. Doggett, Treasurer and J. L. Lane Secretary. An executive committee was appointed consisting of J. T. Rhodes, W. H. Case, C. O. McMichael, J. M. Burton and L. C. Winchester.

The theme for discussion at next meeting is: How should the ground be prepared for wheat and turnips.

Five new subscribers were secured for THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

I see you ask for the address of the officers:

J. W. Winchester, President, Scalesville, N. C.

J. A. Haskins, Vice-President, Summerfield, N. C.

F. W. Doggett, Treasurer, Summerfield, N. C.

J. L. Lane, Secretary, Summerfield, N. C.

##### BATTLEBORO FARMERS' CLUB.

At the last meeting of this Club the following proceedings were had:

The Committee on Declaration of Principles recommended the following, which were adopted without revision:

Whereas, It being a well-known fact, that the agricultural, as well as other industrial occupations in the United States are, and have been for several years, in a state of general depression, resulting in a general shrinkage of values of all species of real and personal property, thereby entailing loss and failure on the farmers and many business enterprises directly dependent upon agriculture.

Therefore, we, the members of the Battleboro Farmers' Club, do affirm and declare to the world:

1st. We believe the cause of this general depression and shrinkage in values is traceable to unwise and selfish class legislation, whereby the crafty and scheming designers have fallen upon the unwary and unsuspecting people and have been for several years systematically plundering and robbing them of their goods under the form of law.

2d. We denounce the present tariff

as a masterpiece of fraud and demand its reduction to the requirements of the government economically administered.

3d. We denounce the contraction of the currency and the forced resumption of specie payments coupled with the secret and underhanded demonezation of silver in 1873 as the most stupendous fraud of the age, whereby the masses have been robbed, wealth centered in the hands of the favored few, who have built up gigantic corporations and huge monopolies that threaten the liberties of our citizens.

4th. As a relief from this great oppression we demand a revision of our banking laws whereby productive land as well as government bonds can be used as a basis of our National Bank issue.

5th. We demand the full and free coinage of silver.

6th. We believe with a circulating medium commensurate with the wants of the business requirements of the people, that exchanges would be more rapid, farming would become profitable, labor would be better paid, manufactures would spring up and prosper without the aid of the present protective tariff that robs the farmer to enrich the manufacturer.

7th. We denounce class legislation in every manner, shape or form.

8th. We believe that the farmers throughout the world should organize, that by organization and co-operation we can raise agriculture to a plane equal to any of the useful occupations of mankind.

9th. Like the Psalmist of old, we believe that it is good for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head, like the dew of Hermon that descended upon the mountains of Zion, for there the Lord commanded the blessing forevermore.

A letter from J. T. Patrick, Commissioner of Immigration, recommending a plan to convert Mount Holly into a permanent place of State agricultural meetings, was read, but no action was taken on the proposition.

Remarks were then made by Messrs. G. C. Battle, T. P. Braswell and others, in regard to a cotton seed oil mill at Battleboro, and on motion of the first named speaker, a committee was appointed to get all necessary information on the subject, consider a plan of operation and report at next regular meeting.

Mr. D. W. Bulluck then took the floor and spoke on the Oil Mills. Passing in his remarks to the Declaration of Principles he dwelt especially upon the tariff and recommended a fight on the taxation of one article at a time as the practicable road to success. His talk just suited the time and place, was rich with the purest wit, yet convincing in argument based upon the experience of a long and useful life.

The meeting then adjourned to meet again at Odam's Hall, in this place, on the 2d Tuesday in July next at the usual hour.

G. L. WIMBERLY, President.

W. H. POWELL, Sec'y pro tem.

##### ORGANIZATION THE SECRET OF SUCCESS.

It is remarkably strange that every farmer in the land cannot be induced to join a farmers organization.

It is strange that every farmer in Texas does not join the Farmers' Alliance. It is strange that farmers everywhere do not hail with delight, the opportunity to unite in well organized bodies for the betterment of their condition. Physicians have no trouble in inducing every doctor in the land to join the Medical Association. Merchants have no trouble in inducing the merchant to join their organization. Bankers have no trouble in organizing. Lawyers have no trouble in organizing. In fact all classes are easily organized except the laboring classes, especially the farmers.

Who would ever have thought of the millers organizing. They are so scattered over the country; so far apart; so inconveniently situated for organization, but they are organized,

and they have their meetings—transact their business—keep their own councils and make money by it. They meet to determine just how much they will pay the farmer for his wheat, and they make money out of it. It is true the farmer does all the work raising the wheat, and it is his wheat, but the millers Association sets the price on it all the same, and then the farmer exercises his personal liberty by taking the price put upon his produce by some body else, or letting it alone just as he pleases.

The farmer does all the work necessary to raise, gather and prepare for market his crop of cotton, and then when he gets it to market he can take the price set upon it by a corporal's guard of bucket-shop gamblers, or he can exercise his personal liberty by letting it alone. The farmer raises his hogs, fattens them, drives them to market, and takes the price set upon them by the "packer," or he can again use his personal liberty and drive them back home. The farmer's wife raises chickens, "saves up eggs" milks the cows and churns the butter out of the milk, takes her chickens, eggs, butter etc., to market; and now comes her turn to exercise her personal liberty. She can take the price set upon her marketing by the soft-handed grocer, or she can take her marketing back home and do without the sugar and coffee she intended to buy with it. The farmer, should he accidentally get into a difficulty and be arraigned before the courts of the country, can employ a lawyer and pay him the enormous price set upon such service, or again he can use his freedom, and let it alone, and perhaps lose his case in court. And finally, when the farmer gets sick and sends for a doctor must pay the enormous price set upon such service by the medical association, or he can refuse to employ the doctor and pay such extravagant prices, and lie there and die. The farmer is very independent indeed! Isn't he? Well, why? Simply because all other classes are organized, and the farmers are not.

Now would it not be the easiest matter in the world for farmers, if they were properly organized, to set the price on their farm products. These the world are compelled to have or go hungry and without clothes, and this they cannot do. How easy would it be for the cotton raisers in this, the cotton belt of the United States, to set the price on their cotton if they were only organized, as they hold in their hands the great bulk of the world's cotton supply, but they are not organized, and the bucket-shop gamblers are, hence they raise the cotton, and the other fellows set the price on it. No one seems to call in question that there is great benefit from proper organization and unity of action.

It is generally conceded that the man or men with no competition have a smooth sea. Where the tradesman has no competition he sets his own price on his goods, and where the laborer has no competition he sets his own price on his labor. These facts seem to be plain to all men, and acted upon by all, except farmers. Who can tell us why.—*Mercury?*

##### WHAT AN OLD FARMER SAYS.

This is the advice of an old man who tilled the soil for forty years:

I am an old man, upwards of three score years, during two score of which I have been a tiller of the soil. I can not say that I am now, but I have been rich and have all that I need, do not owe a dollar, have given my children a good education, and when I am called away will leave enough to keep the wolf away from the door. My experience taught me that—

One acre of land well prepared and well cultivated produces more than two which receives only the same amount of labor used on one.

One acre of clover or grass is worth two of cotton where no clover or grass is raised.

One cow, horse, mule, sheep or hog well fed is more profitable than two

kept on the same amount necessary to keep one well.

No farmer who buys oats, corn or wheat, fodder and hay, as a rule for ten years, can keep the sheriff from his door in the end.

The farmer who never reads the papers, sneers at book farming and improvements, always has a leaky roof, poor stock, brokendown fences, and complains of bad seasons.

The farmer who is above his business and entrusts it to another to manage, soon has no business to attend to.

##### HOG CHOLERA.

For several years there has been a scourge among the hogs in this and the surrounding country, known and called by the name of cholera. It is surprising that such little attention been paid to this important branch of industry, as it is of vital interest to the farmer. I have noticed one or two articles in the *Gazette* in regard to this matter, and the remedies used were so wide of the mark, I shall offer a few hints in regard to what is exhibited on the post mortem examination, also the treatment best to assist nature in recuperating.

To treat a disease successfully, it is first essential that the one applying the remedy should have some knowledge of the pathology of the disease, also of the *modus operandi* of drugs. According to the report made by the United States Commissioners on the topic, debility, emaciation, ulceration of the intestines with continued fever are the predominating symptoms. This improper labeling has led to wild and erroneous notions, and consequently no mode of treatment has as yet done any good. The similarity of this disease in hogs, and typhoid fever in human is very striking, and the mode of dying the same; hence what is beneficial in one must do good in the other. This is purely an eccentric fever of an asthenic nature, and not cholera. The treatment *sine qua non* towards curing this formidable complaint, is clearly indicated. Nourishments, stimulents, and mild tonics. First of all, the greatest attention should be paid to sanitary regulations. The hog, or hogs, should be supplied with pure water to which enough carbolic acid has been added to make perceptible to taste, as this is a splendid antiseptic.

There is nothing better for the ulcerated condition of the bowels than oil of turpentine suspended in some mucellaginous mixture, combined with mild tonics. To all that are interested, I will say try this mode of doctoring your hogs, and I'm satisfied you will not regret it.—W. S. SPARROW, in *Washington Gazette.*

##### VALUE OF EARLY AND LATE CUT HAY.

Aside from convenience sake or on account of the weather, the time to cut grass will be determined by the comparative value of the hay as shown by actual feeding tests. Thus experiments at the Maine agricultural college farm, continue for two years, showed that clear timothy harvested when in bloom could be ranked as 100 for milk producing, while the same hay cut 20 days later was ranked at 95. In other words, if the early-cut hay was worth \$20 a ton for making milk, the late-cut hay was worth \$19. The report concludes: "The early hay was harvested when in full bloom, at just that time when it has generally been supposed to contain the most nutriment and to have its greatest feeding value, while the late hay was left until it had attained a very unattractive appearance; yet it produced quantities of both milk and butter nearly equal to those furnished by the hay from grass in blossom. The length of time elapsing between the early and late harvest was sufficient to seriously affect the feeding value of the late hay had it been severely injured by ripeness. Had the hay been fed alone, without the addition of grain, the result might have been

different. These tests upon the hay of two different seasons' growth and harvest correspond in results very closely to those obtained by Prof. Sanborn at the New Hampshire State College when feeding growing steers. While it may be desirable that grass be harvested as soon as possible after blossoming, yet it is evident that the haying season can be considerably extended without serious injury to the feeding value of the crop."—*Farm and Home.*

##### TO TURN IT INTO GRASS LAND.

E. P. has three acres of swamp land in Delaware that has been cleared off and tile-drained. Now he wants to get in into grass. This cannot be done satisfactorily without plowing. The job is worth doing well if at all. Plow and put in potatoes, cultivating thoroughly, then manure well after the potatoes are dug, plowing and harrowing, and then seed down to clover, herds-grass and redtop, with a little orchard grass. Some of your neighbors who have had experience with similar soil in the same climate may be able to assist you. We don't believe in going to the extent you have on such a soil without working the land thoroughly before seeding to grass. What such a soil wants is to be plowed up and have the air get into it.—*Farm and Home.*

##### CURINC GREEN CROPS.

In making hay of peas and oats, cut and spread in the morning, and get all the benefit you can from the sun and wind by frequent stirring till 3 p. m., when you will draw it into windrows and two rakings on a side. Leave it in this shape till the next day, and when the dew is off shake out and keep it stirring till 3 p. m., when it must be put in good sized cocks, using a pitch fork. Make the heaps high, small at the bottom and press down the fodder as you build up. Next day load these cocks on a cart or wagon and spread on some grass ground that has been recently cleared, keep it stirring and begin hauling to the barn as soon as the first that was spread will do, which will be soon. The reason for carting the fodder off for the final drying, is on account of the immense amount of moisture the roots pump out of the stubble.—*Farm and Home.*

##### HINTS IN THE HAY FIELD.

Cut timothy when the seed is in the dough; that is soon after the bloom is off. If the weather is good, it can be cut in the morning, spread out before noon and hauled in before 6 o'clock. If cut before blooming, the weight of the hay is less, but the work of curing is much more so, says L. N. Bonham, of Southern Ohio, in the *Rural New Yorker*. A. C. Glidden, of Michigan, says that if one desires quality for his own use at the expense of quantity, he will begin to cut two or three days sooner than he who sells his hay by the ton. Curing is very much simplified when the work is delayed until much of the water in the plant has been evaporated by nature's processes. Prof. G. E. Morrow, of the Illinois agricultural college, remarks on the slight injury to grass if wet immediately or soon after cutting, and does not stop mowing on account of a shower. He advocates a practice we like on many accounts: Being sure that the following day is going to be pleasant, mow in the cool of the late afternoon or early evening, and haul in the next afternoon before dew falls, raking into windrows a little while before loading and making double "tumbles" or rough rolls or cocks for the pitcher-on—enough for a good stiff forkful on each side of the "tumble;" if the pitcher is stout and ambitious he won't give out on a pretty big allowance. Waldo F. Brown, of Ohio, is satisfied with three hours of bright sunshine for curing pure timothy hay.—*Farm and Home.*

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