

The Progressive Farmer.

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RALEIGH, N. C., JULY 28, 1887.

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ENDORSED BY THE CONVENTION.

The following resolution was passed by the Farmers' Mass Convention in Raleigh, January 26th, 1887:

Resolved, That THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, published by L. L. Polk, Winston, N. C., be declared the Official Organ of the North Carolina Farmers' Association, and that its Editor, L. L. Polk, be admitted to the privileges of the floor as an honorary member of this Convention.

We ask every Grange and Farmers' Club in the State to send us at once, the number of members in the organization, together with the name and post-office address of each officer.

PLEASE NOTICE.

In writing to this office to change the address of a paper, our subscribers will do us a favor by stating the office at which the paper is received, as well as the one to which it is desired to be sent. Failure to do this puts us to a great deal of trouble and the necessity of going through a long list of names, involving not only much work, but much loss of time, when time is valuable.

SUBSCRIBERS, READ THIS.

Is there a Cross Mark on the margin of your paper? We adopt this as the simplest and easiest method of informing our patrons that their terms of subscription have expired, and that the paper will be stopped if we do not hear from you. We know "times are hard" on everybody, and especially is this true of newspapers, and particularly agricultural papers. But we must help each other as best we can. If, therefore, you are not prepared to renew for the whole year, renew for a part of the time, and this will enable you to have time to make us up a club, for which you will get the paper one year free of charge. So if you see the Cross Mark, let us hear from you.

WHEN WILL TIMES GET BETTER?

Hundreds of farmers within the past few months, have propounded the above question to us, and we answer it. We answer, of course, that they mean "better times" for the farmers, for we know of no great interest in this country except that of agriculture, that is especially pressed by hard times. We do not think the rail roads are complaining of hard times. We do not hear that manufacturers are complaining of hard times. We believe that the banking interests are hopeful and prosperous. We think the insurance business is flourishing, speculators seem to be thriving and are accumulating colossal fortunes every day—so brother farmer it seems that you and those who are directly dependent on you, are the only ones in all this busy population who seem to be suffering very greatly from the pressure of hard times. The classes and interests named are not particularly anxious for "better times." They seem to be having a good time and are doing well enough. Well, how and why is this? One of the chief reasons is, that they have thrown around these interests the strong and powerful arm of cooperation. "When will times be better" for the farmers? They will be better when the farmers shall resolve to make them better. When they shall do like these other classes—get together, act together, work together and stand together for the advancement and promotion of the farmers' interests.

Don't wait for the capitalists, rail

road men, the manufacturers, the bankers, the merchants, the traders and speculators to quit their business to attend to yours. Don't waste your time in abuse of rings, politicians, speculators, railroads, extortioners legislatures, party leaders, and our National Congress,—none of these are going to attend to your business. They are all busy with affairs of their own, and while you work and complain and growl, some of them are busy devising plans for capturing the profits of your labor. Better times will come to the farmers when they shall stand up in the dignity of their manhood and show to the world that they appreciate their importance as factors in society and government, by systematizing their effort to advance and protect their interests. This will have to be done, and none can or will do it but the farmers themselves. Organize and work together—this must be done if we would see better times for the farmers.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY-SIDE.

We shall remember with pleasure the kindly greeting with which we were honored by the good people of Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Guilford, Rockingham and Caswell counties, on our recent trip. They have good crops, and are wishing, hoping, longing, for the coming of better times. And we believe they are going to work to bring it about.

We found a good crowd of ladies and gentlemen at old Rocky River church—a congregation noted for its large number, its sturdy integrity and its unusual intelligence and boundless hospitality.

At Huntersville, the friends of education have done themselves high honor by the erection of a splendid school building of brick at a cost of \$7,000—seating capacity of hall, 856 by actual count. President Orr has a fine school here.

At Summerfield, Prof. Blair has a very flourishing school, and the good ladies of that community tempted a great crowd out on Monday, even though the thermometer told them that it registered 100, to hear our talk and to share the feast of good things they had prepared.

At Rocky Springs, the whir of the threshers was heard in all the land, and the farmers were up to their eyes in the golden harvest, but a clever little crowd met us.

At Madison, we were again made to feel that our lines had fallen in pleasant places. The Baptist church was filled by respectful, intelligent and interested listeners, and the cordial kindness of the ladies and gentlemen of that community will long linger with us.

At Stoneville, we knew we would meet friends before we had even met one of them, so nicely had they prepared for the comfort of speaker and audience. We predict that one of these days it will be said of Stoneville that no more substantial and progressive community can be found in that whole section.

At Leaksville, a goodly crowd filled the public hall and seemed deeply interested in the questions presented. Here, too, that free and open-handed hospitality which is characteristic of the Rockingham people, and indeed of the whole Piedmont section, made us feel quite at home.

At Trinity—church, in Caswell, located in as fine community, and among as clever and good people as can be found in the State, we found the house full of intelligent, refined and eager listeners. Here, as at most of the other places, there was a "feast of fat things."

Clubs were formed at several of these places, but our readers will be more definitely informed as to these in the future, as we shall hear from them.

We are indebted for special favors to Mr. J. M. Harris, J. W. Moore,

Prof. Blair and lady, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Bennett and family, Mr. Busick and family, Col. Galloway and lady, Mr. Watkins and lady, T. B. Lindsay and lady, Mr. Ivie, and our old friend, Mr. Azariah Graves and his family.

Many, many thanks to our numerous and kind friends for their aid in making us a handsome contribution of subscribers to our paper. We shall strive earnestly and constantly to prove ourselves worthy their confidence and support.

THE GRAPE FAIR.

The premium list of the Grape Fair to be held in this city August 4th, has been placed on our table. The premiums aggregate \$200 in cash, and are to be awarded as follows:

For the largest No. pounds by one exhibitor	\$20 00
" best varieties by one exhibitor	20 00
" best display of one exhibitor	20 00
" best display of Wines by N. C. Manufacturer	20 00

For the best plate of each of the following varieties, five dollars: Concord, Ives, Champion, Martha, Moores, Catawba, Delaware, Pekins, Early Victor, Duchess, Brighton, Hartford, Wooden, Cottage, Salem, Telegraph, Lady Norton, Clinton, Scuppernong.

This will be the largest grape show ever held in the South, and the most liberal premiums ever offered. Every lover of North Carolina should come and see the magnificent display which will eclipse anything of the kind ever attempted in the South. Write to the Secretary, Mr. S. Otho Wilson, who will most gladly give any information. We learn that letters are being received daily indicating a very large attendance.

LET OUR CHILDREN SEE THEM.

Some of our cotemporaries are advocating the placing of statues of our eminent men in Statuary Hall, in Washington, D. C. Better by far place them where our children can see them. In the rotunda of our capital in Raleigh, are four empty niches, designed by the architect to hold the images of some distinguished sons of our State, and they are very suggestive. There is not a slab as large as one's hand erected by the State anywhere in our borders to commemorate the lives and services of any of our great men. Let us first put up monuments at home and place in the hands of our children school books that shall teach them of the great and good men produced by our State, and to learn them something of our resources and history. How many men in North Carolina can repeat the names of her Governors? No, let us educate our own people in regard to our State and its history.

ONE OF THE GREAT NEEDS OF THE SOUTH.

We need petty industries. We want small enterprises in manufacturing established in our villages, towns and cities. We want employment for our women and children, that they may be self-supporting and be producers of wealth instead of consumers. No need of calling for the building of railroads, cotton factories, furnaces and other enterprises requiring immense capital. These will come of themselves and in due time. Capital will find the places and the investments where it will be the most remunerative. But we must encourage those with small capital to invest in small enterprises. The Southern community that realizes this truth and acts upon it will be wise.

RESTRICTED IMMIGRATION.

The Knights of Labor are agitating national legislation looking to the restriction of immigration. The slums and cess-pools of European cities are being emptied on our shores, and one of these days our statesmen will find that the character and integrity of American institutions will be largely in the hands of those whose idea of government, in whatever form, is, that

it is synonymous with tyranny and oppression. There may be those living who will witness again a terrible struggle to establish the doctrine that "Americans must rule America."

POINTING THE WRONG WAY.

When we were a boy, we frequently found wagons broken down on the roadside, but the tongue or poll was pointed invariably toward the market. We notice now in such cases that the poll points the other way, and that the load consists of hay, fertilizer, corn, flour and bacon, and yet our farmers complain of "hard times."

BEWARE.

A good many farmers are accustomed to hang their milk and meat in their wells to keep it cool. News comes from Wilmington, Delaware, that three persons were recently poisoned by drinking water from a well in which a piece of meat had fallen and decomposed.

The following is in a circular, issued by the Secretary of the Inter-State Convention to delegates and explains itself:

The Kimball House will accommodate delegates at from \$2 to \$2.40 per day, Markham House \$2 per day, and the National Hotel \$1.50. Even less rates may be secured at private boarding houses, of which there are many in the city.

Respectfully,
W. S. DeWOLFE, Sec'y.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

STATE PRESS ASSOCIATION, HENDERSONVILLE, & C.

Monday night, July 18th, found this deponent aboard the train bound for the meeting of the Press Association. There were several pleasing features of the trip in anticipation. The range of the thermometer from 95 to 104 for a week or more had well nigh exhausted what physical energy there was in us, especially as the nights had become almost insufferably hot. Even the thoughts of starting towards the mountains filled us with delight.

And then, too, the warm-hearted expressions from the people of Hendersonville had raised our expectations pretty high.

On the cars we found a right good delegation from the East. This continued to increase slowly until our arrival at the place of meeting.

As might have been expected, the cars were all packed from Greensboro to Hendersonville—not, however, with representatives of the press alone.

Our attention was attracted more by the growing crops, as we passed along, than by anything else, except the heat, for there was no "cessation of hostilities" until we ran into a nice shower of rain at Conover. We found the crops suffering much more for want of rain in the Piedmont section than nearer home.

At Connelly's Springs we were caught by another shower, which rendered the stop more pleasant. And yet all the way from Raleigh to our destination we were informed that there had been the warmest weather, and the longest "whet of it," that had been known for years.

As the train was about to leave Asheville, quite a heavy rain began to fall, nor did we get out of it any more. And we were not a little surprised to find that there was much more need of rain west of the Ridge than there was down east. They told us at Hendersonville that there had been no rain there for six weeks and more. The corn is considerably injured, and information reached us that there were some sections where it was a matter of meat and bread. But the refreshing showers have come and all nature is bright and verdant.

THE PRESS ASSOCIATION

was a decided disappointment to us. It was composed of not much more than a corporal's guard. Only a very few of the leading editors of the State were present. And the surprise was greater when we thought of the delightfully pleasant and hospitable place of meeting.

The principal items that were brought before the body were the propositions to erect a monument to the late P. M. Hale, to establish a uniform tariff for advertising rates, and to prevent bogus and fraudulent ad-

vertising. It was a source of astonishment that some of the best informed took the ground that no such thing could be done as to have uniform advertising rates.

The competent judges say that the annual oration, the poem and the essays were fine. A merited compliment was conferred in the election of Bro. Eldridge, of the Lexington Dispatch, as President. The same very efficient Secretary, Bro. Lindsay, of the Kernersville News, was re-elected amidst applause.

We must say a word about the people of

HENDERSONVILLE.

It was our first attendance upon the sessions of the Association, but judging from the expressions we heard from several quarters, the reception was one of the most hospitable ever extended. Everything was done to make our stay pleasant.

The Committee on Hospitality met us at the train, assigned us homes at the various hotels and boarding houses, took us to them, nor would they let us pay anything for this service, nor for our entertainment while here. Rev. J. B. Boone, president of that excellent institution, Judson College, threw the doors wide open and we used the chapel for our sessions. The admirable address of welcome by Rev. J. E. Carter, editor of the Western N. C. Baptist, was but an index to what was to follow.

The ladies had also prepared a most excellent and enjoyable entertainment for us, which took place Wednesday night. It is not our purpose to flatter, nor bestow fulsome praise, but we never attended a more pleasing entertainment. It consisted of songs, instrumental music, recitations, tableaux, &c.

A free excursion was given Thursday to the Boilston Gold Mines, some 12 miles west of Hendersonville, of which most of the members took advantage. On Friday a similar offer was made to go to Hot Springs by that clever gentleman, Mr. McBea, Supt. W. N. C. Railroad. This too, was accepted and the Association adjourned.

LEGALIZED ROBBERY.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER has frequently adverted to the system of genteel (?) gambling in bread and meat and other necessities of life, by which the prices of these necessities are regulated and controlled by unscrupulous speculators and money lords. The people must elect men to legislate for them who will put a stop to this National swindle. Mr. Mortimer Whitehead, Lecturer of the National Grange has issued the following which expresses our views so clearly that we cheerfully give it a place in our columns:

Legalized robbery amounting to millions of dollars, that must be paid by the masses of people, are becoming more frequent with every passing year. The great wheat and coffee "corners" were of this class. The price of coffee was doubled to the millions of consumers in this country for several weeks, and who has estimated the millions of dollars, "stand and deliver," thus taken from them? How few people who are thus robbed are taking any action to have it stopped. The National Grange, at its late session in Philadelphia, had this subject under consideration, and, with the view of bringing it before the Subordinate Granges and the people, passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, do hereby denounce and condemn the practice of the monopolists and speculators in the purchase of what is known in commercial circles as "futures," whether of cotton, corn, wheat, pork, or any other product of the farm; that we, the said Grange, believe it to be a species of iniquitous gambling; that it establishes the price of the produce of the farmer without regard to the necessity of the just and equitable law of supply and demand.

Resolved, That we recommend to the Subordinate Granges, and farmers generally, to petition their respective legislatures to enact such laws as will make the said dealing in "futures" a misdemeanor, and punished as other crimes.

When public sentiment in regard to this subject is aroused as it should be, a law or laws will be enacted prohibiting the dealing in "futures," and the natural law of supply and demand will govern the market in the necessary commodities of life.