

The Progressive Farmer.

L. L. POLK, Editor.
Raleigh, N. C.

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The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' Association and N. C. State Farmers' Alliance.

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.

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THE BOYCOT AGAIN.

One Way to Settle It.

The business men of Raleigh conceived that they were treated unjustly in the matter of discriminating rates in freights on the Seaboard Line. They held a meeting and protested. They got no relief. They changed their freight business to the R. & D. R. R. The General Traffic Manager, Mr. Sol Haas, was consulted. "He plainly intimates that no concession whatever will be made." So says the *News and Observer*. It further says: "The officials of the Seaboard connections have ever been uniformly liberal in their terms to Raleigh, and from conversations by a reporter with Maj. Winter, of the R. & G. Road, it is plain that he is in favor of giving car load rates to the business men, and if it were optional with him, he would do so at once. The past course of President Robinson, of the Seaboard Road, is also evidence that he would cordially agree to the same; but for mutual protection the railroads of Virginia and the Carolinas have associated themselves under a code of equalizing rules by which each line practically abdicates its right to make its own freight rates."

"Abdicates its right to make its own freight rates." To whom? Why to Mr. Sol Haas—one man! And his *dictum* is supreme law! Here is the situation in North Carolina: We have a railroad system running through our State, properly officered. Its President, the *Observer* says, is disposed to correct the grievance; the Superintendent, Maj. Winder, a North Carolina officer, located in Raleigh, presumably to look after the interests of our people, and whom the *Observer* says is plainly "in favor of giving car load rates to the business men if it were optional with him he would do so at once." Who then are President Robinson and Superintendent Winder? What are their official functions? What are their prerogatives? Are they "figure heads?" A large number of the business men of the State, together with large numbers of the liberty-loving farmers of the State—led by the combined business men of Wilmington, came to Raleigh last winter to secure the establishment of a Railroad Commission. They were

defeated. Who did it? Let the records answer, and they will answer in due time. All the great and important business interests of the people of the State are surrendered to the mercy of one man, according to the *Observer*, and that too, against the will of officers to whom we should look for relief, but who are powerless.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER has no prejudice against railroads; it recognizes their great value to the people and to the commerce of the world, but when they reach the point when they are to be run according to the will of one man, and he a non-resident, against the interests of our people, and in utter disregard of the views of its own officers located in our midst, it is high time for the political, religious and agricultural papers of the State to speak out, and openly and boldly declare in favor of a State Railroad Commission. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER knows who pays the fiddler in this dance. It knows that the buyer and the consumer bears the weight of all this system of discrimination and plunder. It knows that the farmers of North Carolina are standing, or rather, staggering under these accumulating wrongs, and it will be heard in their defence. It is needless to disguise the fact that in the elections next year in this State, the question of having a Railroad Commission for our State will be brought to the front. It cannot longer be suppressed. The people will demand it and that demand will be in such shape that it will not be ignored. Twenty-six States have a Commission, and North Carolina will be added to the list in 1889.

NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNORS.

North Carolina had six Governors under the Crown. It had twenty-seven under the Constitution, beginning with Richard Caswell in 1776, and who were elected by our General Assembly. Of these, Caswell, Alexander Martin and Benjamin Williams were elected for two terms. The Convention of 1835 transferred the election of Governor from the Legislature to the people, and since that time we have had fifteen, who were regularly elected by the popular vote, and five who were ex-officio Governors, and one Provisional Governor, appointed by the President. Governor Vance is the only one of the forty-two, regularly elected by the Assembly and people, who was elected for three terms. But one, Richard Dobbs Spaight, sr., had a son to attain to this distinguished position. Five of the counties, Craven, Guilford, Halifax, Warren and Buncombe, furnished occupants of the Governor's chair, each, three terms, and eight counties, Lenoir, Chowan, New Hanover, Moore, Mecklenburg, Orange, Wake and Rockingham, for two terms each.

Now where is the boy or girl in our State who can furnish us the names of all these Governors the year in which each was elected, and the counties of which each was a resident? And yet there should be school histories in every house in the State giving such information. Who will furnish this greatly needed work for our schools? North Carolina has furnished to other States fifteen Governors, three Presidents, two Vice-Presidents, fourteen United States Senators and forty-one members of lower House of Congress. John K. Steele, who became Governor of New Hampshire in 1844, was born in Salisbury in 1792, and it is said that he was a shoe maker, and when he left his native town, he started on foot, carrying on his shoulder, a bag containing some cobblers' tools. Andrew Johnson was born in the city of Raleigh and was raised on a tailor's bench. He went to Tennessee, was subsequently a member of the Legislature of that State, a member of both houses of Congress, Governor of the State, Vice-President of the United States, and finally President. The birth-place

of Andrew Jackson is a matter of dispute, though the testimony collected with very great care and at great trouble by Col. S. H. Walkup, of Union county, about the year 1859 and published in the *National Intelligencer*, satisfied us that he was born in North Carolina. Who of our friends in Mecklenburg will give us the facts touching the birth place of James K. Polk, and of its present ownership, condition, &c.?

Give us text-books that will learn our children something of our people and State.

WAKE COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of this Society was held at the Yarboro House on the 5th inst. This is the first regular business meeting held since the grape show and the premiums awarded at that time were ordered paid.

An election of officers was held for the ensuing year. It resulted as follows: Col. J. M. Heck, President; B. F. Montague, Vice-President; W. R. Womble, Secretary; Jesse A. Jones, Treasurer; Capt. B. P. Williamson, Geo. Shellum and W. H. Cole, Executive Committee.

The Association contemplates making the grandest grape exhibit in 1888 that has ever been seen in this county. It will be worth a trip across the Continent to see it. We suggest to the management that the State Alliance will meet in this city on the 2d Tuesday in August next and the city will be full of representative farmers from all sections of our State. And the Inter-States Farmers' Association will also meet in this city on the 3d Wednesday in next August, and we have reason to expect large delegations from Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana and all the Southern States. Indeed a prominent Texan said to us a few days ago: "Your city will have to spread out to entertain that convention, for they are coming by hundreds from all over the South. Texas will be here in full force." Let us have an eye to these important meetings and show them that North Carolina is the Burgundy of America. What say you, gentlemen?

FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

The Fair this year promises to be a grand success. Everything is being done that can be to interest and instruct each and every one who comes. There will be a grand display at the Fair grounds of the finest varieties of all kinds of grain and fruits. The Institute will be held especially for the benefit of the farmers, and every one who comes to the Fair should not fail to hear what some of the most experienced farmers have to say on some very important subjects. The following topics and speakers have been selected for the Farmers' Institute, commencing on Wednesday of Fair week:

1st, "Tenant System," Prof. J. D. Hodges; 2d, "Diversified Crops," Col. Elias Carr; 3d, "Trucking in North Carolina," George Allen; 4th, "The Silo and Ensilage," Dr. R. H. Lewis; 5th, "The Profits of the Cow," Dr. D. W. C. Benbow; 6th, "Manufacturing and Small Industries," Henry E. Fries; 7th, "Grass and Clover," Dr. Jas. Bird; 8th, "The Bright Tobacco of North Carolina," Col. W. H. S. Burgwyn; 9th, "The Grape, its Care and Profits," S. Otho Wilson; 10th, "Home-Made Manures," Dr. H. B. Battle; 11th, "The Possibilities of an Acre," Milton Whitney; 12th, "The Farmer Should be Educated," Hon. Kemp P. Battle; 13th, "Immigration," Nat. Atkinson; 14th, "Should Farmers Organize," S. B. Alexander; 15th, "Wheat Raising," John Dorsett; 16th, "The Horse we Need," W. P. Batchelor; 17th, "Our Agricultural College," W. S. Primrose; 18th, "Fruit Growing," J. Van Lindley; 19th, "Impediments to Southern Farming," T. B. Lindley; 20th, "Plowing," Capt. D. M. Payne; 21st, "Agricultural Fairs," Hon. T. M. Holt; 22d, "Restoration of Run Down Lands," Col. C. M. McDonald.

THE FARMERS' ORGAN.

We are proud of the position which THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER holds in the confidence and esteem of the farmers of North Carolina, and of the respect it has won among all classes of our people, and with its contemporaries of the State press. It has not gained this position by cringing or flattering. It has been bold in the expression of its views. It has concealed nothing. It has been independent of cliques, or combinations. It has tried honestly and faithfully to serve the interests whose cause it espoused. Its purpose and its devotion has known no variance "or shadow of turning." It has stood in the past (as it will in the future) fearlessly and faithfully for the best interests of those whom it represents. Before it was yet a year old, it was unanimously adopted as the organ of The North Carolina Farmers' Association, and too, by a convention of nearly four hundred as solid substantial, and patriotic men as ever assembled in our State. And it was unanimously adopted by the State Alliance as its organ at its recent meeting—a body representing about one hundred and twenty Alliances and a membership of at least four thousand. Its highest aim is to prove itself worthy of these flattering manifestations of confidence by devoting its best effort to promote and protect the interests of our people.

JUST IMAGINE!

Here is a specimen of the cotton reports that are sent out from the headquarters of cotton gamblers in New York every day, and by which the speculators and gamblers all over the country are kept posted:

GREENE'S COTTON REPORT.

NEW YORK, Oct. 4.—Greene & Co's report on cotton futures says: "With good demand for spots at the South and moderate offerings of futures here local shorts bought with considerable freedom at hardening rates. Shorts were somewhat stimulated to cover by anticipation of a poor bureau report due next Monday. Liverpool was somewhat better on reduced and fractionally dearer offering from the South. The close was firm in absence of sellers while buyers wants also appeared rather satisfied."

Just imagine, a plain, unsophisticated farmer reading the above some calm evening to his family! "Spots"—"local shorts"—"hardening rates"—"shorts stimulated to cover"—"a poor bureau report"—"Liverpool better on fractionally dearer offerings"—"the close firm"—"futures," &c., &c. It is all Dutch or Greek to him, and he will never know its meaning until he finds its interpretation in the market price of his cotton, and that price, often, below the cost of its production. But the farmers are beginning to open their eyes, and the day is not distant when the thunderings of their united voice will be heard in our legislative and Congressional halls, against this huge gambling scheme. They are going to stop it.

SHAME UPON US.

We can grow successfully within the borders of our highly favored State, corn, wheat, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, rice, cotton, hemp, flax, jute, silk, tobacco, peanuts, sorghum cane, broom corn, millet lucerne, clover, orchard, timothy and herds grass, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, hops, peas, melons, strawberries, cranberries, apples, peaches, grapes, plums, cherries, &c., &c., and yet we find people confining their labor and care to the production of single crops to the exclusion of all others. And these crops frequently cost more to produce them than the price for which they are sold. And the worst feature of this suicidal and ruinous policy is, that the producer has no more control over the price than a child. How helpless! How poor! How dependent and servile we must be so long as this mad course is pursued.

COMPELLED TO SELL? WHY?

A Mecklenburg correspondent of the *Charlotte Chronicle* says:

"Many of our farmers express themselves as not being satisfied to sell at present prices, but as a general rule the average farmer is compelled to sell regardless of prices."

Precisely so. They know the price is too low; that at 81-2 cents per pound the average farmer loses money; that he does not get the cost of its production, yet "as a general rule the average farmer is compelled to sell regardless of prices." Well, there is one way to get relief from this humiliating and servile condition and only one, and that is for the farmer to raise his own supplies and thus pave the way to rid himself of the grinding mortgage, and then organize and control the sale of his cotton. They can do it and they must do it.

FORMULAS FOR WHEAT COMPOST.

From a report of Dr. H. B. Battle, in the last issue of the *Bulletin*, we clip the following formulas of composts for wheat:

3. For a compost, mix in layers, dissolving the sulphate of ammonia and muriate of potash in water, and sprinkling it over each layer:

Acid phosphate	-	-	1,000 lbs.
Sulphate of ammonia	-	-	100 "
Muriate of potash	-	-	100 "
Stable manure	-	-	800 "
			2,000 lbs.

Use one-fourth or one-half of the above on one acre.

Where cotton seed or tobacco stems (ground), or dust are to be had, they may take the place of a part, or the whole, of the stable manure. Then wet enough to thoroughly kill the seed. This only takes more time.

4. The following is recommended:

Acid phosphate	-	-	600 lbs.
Muriate of potash	-	-	100 "
Sulphate of ammonia	-	-	100 "
Dry muck, or other rich earth	-	-	600 "
			2,000 lbs.

For wheat and rye or oats, it may be harrowed in with the grain at the rate of 300 or 400 lbs. to the acre.

5. Using cotton seed meal:

Acid phosphate	-	-	600 lbs.
Cotton seed meal	-	-	700 "
Stable manure	-	-	600 "
Muriate of potash	-	-	100 "
			2,000 lbs.

It is a hard matter to advise as to the proper quantity of each compost to be used to the acre. The farmer knows his own capabilities and resources and should therefore be his own judge; he best knows how much money he can afford to spend in manures for application to the soil. The formulas given are all in the right proportion, and the general rule will hold for each, as indeed, in all fertilization of land in this way:

The larger the quantity of composts applied to the acre, the greater will be the crop yield.

There are now labor bureaus in twenty States. The first one was established in Massachusetts in 1869. Five have been established this year; in Colorado, Maine, Minnesota, North Carolina and Rhode Island.—*South West*.

PROCLAMATION

To the Subordinate and County Alliances of North Carolina.

By virtue of authority vested in me as National Organizer, by C. W. Macune, President of the National Alliance and Co-Operative Union of America, I, N. H. C. Elliott, do hereby issue this, my Proclamation, notifying the members and officers of the Farmers' Alliance in North Carolina, that the situation of the National Alliance, at the town of Rockingham, county of Richmond, on the fourth day of October, 1887.

This is therefore to notify the County and Subordinate Alliances of the State that by the said act of organization all the powers, privileges and prerogatives properly belonging to the said State Alliance under the Constitution of the National Alliance were fully conferred, and they are hereby notified that the said organization the following named officers were duly elected for the term ending the second Tuesday in August, 1888: S. B. Alexander, of Mecklenburg, President; Thaddeus Fey, of Robertson, Vice-President; L. L. Polk, of Wake, Secretary; J. D. Allen, of Wake, Treasurer; George Wilcox, of Moore, Lecturer; D. D. McIntyre, of Richmond, Asst. Lecturer; Rev. E. J. Edwards, of Cumberland, Chaplain; W. H. Tomlinson, of Montgomery, Door Keeper; R. T. Rosh, of Montgomery, Asst. Door Keeper; J. S. Holt, of Hartnett, Sergeant-at-Arms; who will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

All forms, blanks, charters and outfits will hereafter be issued by L. L. Polk, Secretary of the State Alliance, whose office is at Raleigh, N. C. All commissions issued to organizers in this State by authority of the N. F. A. & C. U. of A. and now held by them, will expire by limitation on the 25th day of the present month (October) and all commissions issued thereafter, must be issued by the authority of the State Alliance of N. C. Done under my hand and seal at Rockingham, N. C., this, the 5th day of October, 1887. By authority of C. W. Macune, President N. F. A. & C. U. of A. N. H. C. ELLIOTT, National Organizer.