



THE



PROGRESSIVE



FARMER.

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

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DIRECTORY OF FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS.

FARMERS' NATIONAL ALLIANCE AND CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF AMERICA. President—C. W. Macune, Texas. First Vice-President—L. L. Polk, N. C. Vice-Pres't for Ala.—H. P. Bone. Vice-Pres't for Ark.—W. H. Moore. Vice-Pres't for Fla.—Oswald Wilson. Vice-Pres't for Ky.—S. B. Irwin. Vice-Pres't for La.—Linn Tanner. Vice-Pres't for Mo.—R. T. Love. Vice-Pres't for N. C.—S. B. Alexander. Vice-Pres't for Tenn.—I. H. McDowell. Secretary—E. B. Warren, Texas. Treasurer—A. E. Gardner, Tenn. Chaplain—Rev. J. C. Jones, La. Lecturer—Ben. Terrell, Tex. Asst. Lecturer—J. A. Tetts, La. Door Keeper—Newt. Gresham, Ala. Asst. Door Keeper—H. C. Brown, Ky. Serg't-at-Arms—T. E. Groom, Miss.

OLD MECKLENBURG SPEAKS.

May 7, 1888. COL. POLK.—We have unfurled the banner of Right and on its folds are written: "For Governor, S. B. Alexander," first, last and all the time. Let us all make a long pull, a steady pull and a pull all together to place a man at the helm of the State who will make the same kind of a pull for us. We not only need men in office who understand practically the interest of the farmer, but who have the determination, tact, skill and judgment to work for their interests. Now we believe Alexander is the man who can and will fill the bill. We hope, Mr. Editor, that by our united efforts we can bring back the same state of affairs that existed before the war between the States, when the farmer had something to say about the price of his products, and the monopolies and brokers were not so well versed in the sleight-of-hand performances. We wish to see the day when the monopolies, together with all the "hell-brood" of vicious "grab alls," of the result of the farmers' labors, shall be done away with forever, including the lien law. Then shall a new day spring dawn on us from on high; then can the farmer do justice to his calling—educate his children, and right and truth shall again triumph; then will peace, prosperity, happiness and concord again prevail. We can then weigh the anchor, haul

in the ropes while success sits at the helm. The farmers in this section are well advanced with their work; wheat looks fine, and the fruit prospects have not been much damaged by frost. More cotton is being planted than usual. Our watch word is "Onward."

THE HICKORY PIEDMONT FAIR.

This Fair Association, so well known all over the State, on account of its success heretofore, will hold its fourth annual fair this fall, beginning on the 18th of September, lasting four days. The fair grounds have been enlarged to 35 or 40 acres, and is about enclosed. It will be well supplied with water for man and beast, having three wells, two springs and a model fish pond. There will be two tracks—one for racing and one for pleasure riding. In addition to the buildings already on the grounds, the President assures us that additional buildings will be built soon. This fair will come off just the week following the one that's to be held in Newton, ten miles east. So those wishing, can attend both fairs with the same expense and time almost. D. W. Rowe is President and J. F. Click is Secretary. Either of them will take pleasure in giving any information desired pertaining to this fair. It doubtless will be to the interest of all stock men and manufacturers in the State to patronize these two fairs.

HE "SPEAKS OUT IN MEETING."

OAK RIDGE ALLIANCE, May 5, '88. COL. L. L. POLK.—Our meetings are growing more and more interesting. We met to-day, and although it was a called meeting, nearly all the members were present. After the transaction of some Alliance business, we discussed the value of ensilage, and the best and most economical methods for raising ensilage crops. The discussion was very interesting and all seemed to agree on some important truths, which are essential to success in farming. That to be less dependent and more independent, our farmers must be more nearly self-sustaining, and the inference from the discussion was that we must decrease our acreage in cultivated crops and increase our manure heaps. That to have good land and good crops we must have more manure, and to have more manure we must have more stock, and to have more stock we must have more grass. And one of the best and cheapest auxiliaries in this system of farming is to make ensilage and plenty of it. We are glad to see such an awakening among our farmers, and especially the interest manifested as to our future interests. They see and feel that the wheels of the whole machine is going to stop unless they go to work and take their own interests into their own hands. And I want to say just here that

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER deserves the thanks and the endorsement of every farmer in the State for the manly course it has pursued. I have been a constant reader of our paper ever since its first issue in the town of Winston. It began by pleading for organization and it has kept it up all the way through. It organized hundreds of farmers' clubs, and then it did another thing, which will carry its name down to future generations. It came out boldly and fearlessly and told the farmers of the State about that \$125,000 that the government donated to us to educate the farmer boys of the State and made a square stand-up fight for it and got it, and to-day we are having the foundations of our Agricultural College laid. To THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, more than to all other agencies combined, are we indebted for that College and for that money. Everybody in the State knows that it made that fight all alone—that there was not another paper in the State that said one word for money or to help our paper in that fight.

The farmers know these things and they appreciate them. Then again, when the Alliance had no existence in this State, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER began to advocate it. My recollection is that in March of last year it began to advocate the Alliance. It didn't wait to see which was the strong and popular side, but like a bold and true friend of the farmers, it came forward manfully and took the Alliance flag in its hand. The farmers know this and they are going to stand by it. I am proud to say to you that every member of our Alliance is a subscriber and a friend to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. Can any other Alliance in the State say that much? We claim to be the banner Alliance. Success to you and to our noble organ.

ALEXANDER THE MAN.

The following is one of many articles truly representing the real sentiments of the laboring men of the State in regard to the candidate for Governor: The masses of the people are aroused as never before in relation to all matters touching their material welfare. President Cleveland, has made the National issues and they all point to individual and general prosperity. And then come the five State issues of Industrial Education, Equalization of Taxation, the Public Road Law, a Railroad Commission, &c. For all these give us Alexander; not a mere politician, but a farmer statesman.

WHO FOR GOVERNOR?

Only a Progressive Man. Despite all the politicians and part papers may say, the mass of the people, and especially the farmers and working classes, want a bold, self-reliant and practical business man for Governor. They want, and they demand just such a man as Capt. S. B. Alexander, of Mecklenburg, and now is their time to stand by him.

RESOLUTIONS OF ENDORSEMENT.

- ASBURY, N. C., May 7, 1888. MR. EDITOR.—At a meeting of Asbury Alliance, held on the 5th inst., after the transaction of the usual routine business, the following resolutions were introduced and unanimously adopted: Resolved, That Asbury Alliance, No. 368, endorses most heartily the following sentiments contained in an editorial published in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER of date of April 17th, last, under the heading, "Needed Legislation," as follows: 1. A law for creating a Railroad Commission for the regulation of tariffs and freights on our railroads. 2. A better and more equitable system for working our public roads. 3. A law to prohibit the giving away of our convict labor to private parties or to corporations, and to work that labor on our public roads. 4. To enlarge the jurisdiction of magistrates in minor causes, and to curtail the enormous expense now attending litigation. 5. To make our homestead law a blessing and not a curse to the poor people of the State. To give them a homestead indeed and in fact instead of one merely in name. To make it a blessed reality instead of a shadow and a farce. 6. To prohibit any legislator, judicial or other public officer, or editor, from accepting free passes on railroads. 7. To foster and encourage diversified industry among our people. Be it further resolved by this Alliance, That we are strongly in favor of the enactment of a law by which no convict shall be allowed to learn a trade in the penitentiary, unless he be a prisoner for life. Resolved, That a copy of these reso-

lutions be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER with the request that the same be published.

DECIDEDLY TO THE POINT.

WARRENTON, N. C., May 6, '88. COL. L. L. POLK.—Dear Sir and Brother.—At a called meeting of Warren County Farmers' Alliance, on May 5th inst., the following resolutions were submitted and unanimously adopted: WHEREAS, It is of great importance that in our efforts for social and material improvement, our aims and purposes should not be misrepresented and contemptuously belittled and the public mind misled, by sneering editorials or insinuating correspondence, sometimes appearing in newspapers of this State, and

WHEREAS, We acknowledge the power and influence of the press in moulding and shaping public sentiment, we are, therefore, not insensible to the good work done for the advancement of our order by our organ, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, be it

Resolved, That we pledge ourselves to the support and circulation of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER to the extent of our ability, and

Resolved, That we will hereafter stop and cease to be subscribers to any paper of whatever political shade or party, that by means of biased editorials or prejudiced correspondence in its columns aids to defeat and nullify our efforts in a just and honorable cause, and

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be sent to the editors of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, the State Chronicle, the News and Observer and Warrenton Gazette, with request that they publish the same.

SETTING OUT PLANTS.

It is always necessary to set out or transplant more or less plants every spring. When there is a full supply of moisture in the soil and the weather is favorable, transplanting can usually be done with very little trouble or risk of loss, but these conditions are not always so favorable, and more care must be taken.

There are quite a number of plans for doing this work. One important item is to see that the soil is filled in close around the roots. Carelessness in this particular is the principal cause of failures to secure a start to grow. One of the best plans I have ever tried with small plants of all kinds is to thoroughly prepare the soil, in a good condition, the soil ought to be made fine and mellow.

A garden trowel or a round stick about one and a half inches in diameter and about one foot long, and a cross-piece fastened on top and the other end well sharpened, is a very convenient implement for making the holes in which to set the plants.

Do not take up too many at once, and especially if there is a hard wind blowing, as it is not a good plan to allow the roots to become dry. Take a shallow pan, put in a small quantity of water, and then add fine rich soil until the mixture is about the consistency of cream; dip the roots of the plants in this, stirring around if necessary, so as to get as much of the mixture as possible to adhere to the roots.

Then make the hole for the plant, insert, and see that the soil is pressed close around the roots. I prefer to set out the plants late in the evening. If care is taken in getting the soil to adhere to the roots and the soil is filled close around the roots, under ordinary conditions, no other attention is necessary. If the weather is very hot and dry, it may be necessary to water for two days after transplanting, but earlier in the season this will not be necessary.

Another good plan is to take up the plants carefully, so as not to injure the roots, make the hole for the plant, pour in half of a gill of water, put in

the plant, and fill in around the roots well with soil.

Either plan is good, and under ordinary circumstances no other attention will be needed, but the soil ought to be in good condition. When this is the case the work can be done very rapidly.

Do not be in too much of a hurry to set out the plants. Let them make a thrifty stocky growth before transplanting, and take pains to do the work carefully, so that the plants will make a quick start to grow.—Farm, Field and Stockman.

HOW HE MADE MANURE.

Students of agriculture are familiar with the experiments made by Jared Eliot in 1747. He made a long narrow yard into which his cattle were turned at night. Once a month the end fences were taken out and the whole surface of the yard well plowed. The end fences were then replaced and the cattle turned in on the plowed ground. This was kept up through the summer, and in the fall the bottom of the yard was carted out and spread upon the fields. When any field needed special manuring, this yard was made as near to it as possible. The system of folding sheep on plowed ground and "cow-penning," as practiced in parts of the South, are outgrowths of this old system. So is the more modern system of spading poultry yards frequently and eating out the surface soil for use in farm practice.—Rural New Yorker.

SOAKING FEED CORN.

It will be found upon trial that the soaking of corn to be fed to working stock, especially old horses or mules, will be attended with good results. Indeed it is not unwise to soak corn for all work stock after hot weather has set in. At this time corn, especially flinty varieties, becomes very hard, and is, therefore, not easy of mastication. By soaking the corn in water, even for the space of six hours, it becomes softer and easy of digestion. Or a day's supply can be put into the soaking tub every night, and a handful of salt thrown into the water with it does good. When horses or mules are kept constantly at work it is wise as well as kindly to consult their comfort and health. Whole corn, or corn imperfectly masticated, swallowed into a horse's stomach, not only does not digest readily and supply the needed nourishment and strength, but in very many cases produces colic, nervousness and fretfulness on the part of the animal. When the horse's digestion is good he is sure to work with greater comfort and with satisfaction to the plowman. The soaking does not extract any of the nutriment of the corn. Try it and you will discover a difference in favor of the soaking of corn for your plow animals.—The Cotton Plant.

The business of raising lambs for early spring marketing is yearly assuming greater proportions in New York and New England. To meet with the greatest success it is found important to select ewes for dams that are large milkers, and to so feed them as to keep a liberal flow of milk long continued.

OFFICIAL ORGANS OF FARMERS ALLIANCE.

- National Alliance—Southern Mercury, Dallas, Texas. Alabama—Alliance Banner, Athens. Arkansas—State Wheel Enterprise, Little Rock. Mississippi—The Farmer, Winona. North Carolina—THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, Raleigh. Louisiana—The Union, Choudrant. Tennessee and Kentucky—The Toller, Union City, Tenn. Free Speech, Beaumont, Texas, of the counties of Jefferson, Orange, Tyler, Hardin, Chambers, Liberty. Florida—Farmers' Florida Alliance, Marianna, Fla.