

BEDDINGFIELD'S BILL AGAINST TRUSTS AND COMBINATIONS.

A Bill to be entitled An Act to prohibit Trusts in the State of North Carolina, and to provide for the punishment of persons connected with them.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact.

Sec. I. That all combinations and trusts as defined by this act, are unlawful, dangerous to the liberty of the people, and are hereby forbidden to be formed or carried on in this State.

Sec. II. That a trust is an arrangement, understanding, or agreement either private or public entered into by two or more persons for the purpose of increasing, or reducing the price of the shares of any stock or corporation or of any class of products, materials or manufactured articles beyond the price that would be fixed by the natural demand for or the supply of such shares, products, materials or manufactured articles, and any attempt to carry out such purpose shall be evidence that such arrangement, understanding or agreement exists.

Sec. III. That any persons, associations or corporations who shall form or attempt to form a trust in this State or the agent or representative of any trust in any State or country who shall attempt to carry on operations in this State shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and upon conviction may be fined not less than one thousand nor more than ten thousand dollars, or may be imprisoned not less than three nor more than ten years for each offense.

Sec. IV. That any persons, association, or corporation who enter into an arrangement, understanding or agreement not to produce, mine, manufacture, buy sell or transport more than a certain specified amount of any goods, products or commodities within a specified time will have violated section three of this Act and will be liable to indictment therefor; and any persons, association or corporation who give bond or make a profit of any kind, not to break such arrangement, understanding or agreement, may be sued in the Superior Court of any county in the State, and upon proof of such bond or profit, shall pay double the amount thereof, one-half to the party bringing suit and one-half to the public school fund.

Sec. V. That any merchants, brokers manufacturers or dealers in raw materials of any kind or the agent of such persons who shall sell any particular class of goods, raw materials or manufactured articles for less than actual cost for the purpose of breaking down competitors shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction may be fined not less than five hundred nor more than five thousand dollars, or may be imprisoned not less than two nor more than five years.

Sec. VI. That this Act shall be in full force and effect from and after the first day of May of the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine.

ALEXANDER COUNTY.

HIDDENITE, N. C., Jan. 6, '89.

EDITOR FARMER:—We beg a short space in your paper to inform your readers what we are doing to promote the Alliance in Alexander county. We have been in working order but a short time, as we were organized Nov. 10th, 1888, with only five Sub-Alliances and about 100 members. We now have a County Organizer in the county, Bro. R. P. McLain, who is fast working up the county, which is ripe to the harvest. There were reported on the 4th nine Sub-Alliances in the county, with 154 members in good standing. We also have a Business Agent who is now under bond, (Bro. T. J. Sharpe, Hiddenite, N. C.) and has perfected arrangements with one of our local merchants whereby the members in the county will soon reap a benefit financially. The influence of our Alliance has been felt throughout the county, and we have experienced some improvement mentally, morally and socially. We are fighting to maintain the principles of the Alliance and endeavoring to enlarge its scope, fully recognizing the fact, at least in our opinion, that the ultimate success of our order is the only hope for the future prosperity of the agricultural classes, and that the prosperity of our common country is almost entirely dependent upon the success of the former.

We have unanimously endorsed the resolutions adopted by the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance at its annual meeting in the city of Raleigh, August 16th, 1888, and recorded on page 17 of the minutes of the same.

We have passed resolutions asking the Legislature to pass certain laws in

regard to the undue amount charged farmers who have to purchase commercial fertilizers on time, for their indulgencies, etc.

Your paper is recognized as superior to any in the State for the farmer, and there are men at work who will soon send you a good list of subscribers from this county.

The Alliance in session Jan. 4th, 1888, passed the following resolutions unanimously:

Resolved, That this body, now in session, tender to Bro. R. P. McLain, of Mt. Pisgah Alliance, No. 842, our County Organizer, our sincere sympathy in his recent sad bereavement in the sudden death of his father.

Resolved, That the Secretary be instructed to write a short piece to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER informing its readers what we are doing in "Little Alic."

Respectfully,
W. J. DAVIS, Sec'y.

THE STOCK LAW.

The following resolutions were adopted by Little River Alliance, No. 407, on January 12th:

WHEREAS, The present stock law of Little River and Mark's Creek townships, east of Mark's Creek, in Wake county, is a curse upon us on account of our poor pasture lands and the scarcity of water, and whereas, there is an abundance of timber with which to fence our farms; therefore

Resolved, That each of us aid and assist in getting up a petition, in the above mentioned territory, asking the Legislature of North Carolina to give us a vote on the stock law in said bounds.

Resolved, That this resolution be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for publication, in order that those within the bounds who favor the stock law cannot say we are doing anything in secret, as was the case when the law was put upon us.

Fraternally,
W. A. LILES, Sec'y.

P. S.—I went out with my petition to-day, (Jan. 14th) and found 58 in favor of repeal to 4 against it.

W. A. L.

THE APPRENTICE LAW.

Mr. J. H. Mills, Superintendent of the Thomasville Orphanage, has this to say of our apprentice law:

1. The present apprentice law is square-toed tyranny.

2. Under the present law apprentices are generally poorly fed, poorly clothed, and seldom allowed to attend even a free school. I know a widow who will not allow her apprentice to attend a free night school, after working for her all day.

3. The apprentice law is so tyrannical that very few besides orphans are bound, and they do not learn trades. Nearly all the trades here are carried on by jack-legs.

4. A law for the voluntary binding of youths to learn trades would be a blessing. Boys are not willing to work till twenty-one for six dollars and clothes (\$3) and a Bible (25 cents)—\$9.25.

5. Boys should go to school and do farm work till about sixteen years old. Then they can select a trade and learn it in four or five years. They should have a little money every month. Having learned their trades, if able, they should go to college. If not, let them marry and go to work. On this plan, the country would have mechanics and our college boys would have more humility and more practical sense. Farmers could mend their own implements. Apprentices have no remedy if they are mistreated; they would be punished for any appeal to the Probate Judge. Usually, apprentices are run off on some frivolous accusation just before they reach twenty-one. Three of my near neighbors were apprenticed to farmers. They learned farm work; but they never went a day to school. They hate corn bread now, because they ate it all the time of their apprenticeship. They cannot read, and were never known to sing. But they are sending their children to school."

HOW TO HAVE RICH, GOOD MILK

The richness and good quality of milk do not depend wholly on the dairy breeds, but are also largely influenced by the care given to the animals and the feed provided for them. If one wants all the milk that can be got from a cow without any reference to its quality, then juicy grass, green corn fodder, brewers' grains, turnips or other roots that have a large proportion of water, warm mashes and sloppy feed in general will produce it. A constant moist diet will unquestionably produce more milk than a

dry one. Moistening hay and fodder with warm water, putting bran into the drinking water to tempt the cow to drink more will also have the same effect. If rich milk is desired at least a fair proportion of substantial food should be given out of which to make it. Good clover hay, corn fodder, cornmeal, a little oilcake meal and a moderate supply of roots, along with a bran mash, make a good winter diet for a cow and will give richness to the milk. Cows should have all the pure water they will drink, and in winter it is well to warm it for those giving milk. Salting them regularly should not be neglected, otherwise the butter will be long in coming.

MAGNOLIA, N. C., Jan. 7, '89.

EDITOR FARMER:—Will some one inform me, through THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, what quantity of lime and salt to sow broadcast per acre? Also, if there is any remedy for the so-called "Big Root?" Information will be thankfully received.

Truly yours,
H. E. NEWBURY.

A WAKE COUNTY FARMER'S VIEWS.

FORESTVILLE ALLIANCE, No. 70.

COL. L. L. POLK.—Dear Sir:—As I have been appointed Corresponding Secretary of our Alliance, I take it for granted that something is expected of me in the way of a short communication. What to say, or where to begin, I hardly know, as there is so much for us to look after and write about, if we do our duty to each other.

The status of monopoly, by Mr. Overby, is certainly worth our earnest consideration, and Uncle Steve's *meanderings* ought to open our eyes and make us see what a lamentable fix we occupy, and all join hands and second the resolve, "That we are a nation of farmer-fools." Some of us, I am afraid, cannot even boast of home-made cats, for I have seen them shipped to our place, though they may have been bred in our State, and I hope they were. It strikes me, Mr. Editor and farmer brethren, that we ought not only to take hold, but to all pull together. We must not imagine ourselves only a literary body with nothing else to do. We want to find out by meeting each other the cheapest way to make and save all the crops which we cultivate. We ought to make ourselves familiar with the laws of the country, and at the same time enquire if there is not legislation that we need, and ought to demand. If we continue to allow other people to make our laws for us and do not demand our rights, are we not to blame? Can we expect anything if we lie idle and do not demand what is due us, the hardest working people on the face of the earth? That we as a class are getting poorer every day of our lives, no one can deny. Is it not imperative that something must be done, and we can do whatever is best for us if we will only continue to pull together, and remember that, while it may be a struggle for us now, that in union there is strength, and that the day is not far distant when by united effort we can and will wield a mighty power in our land. Every vocation of life seems to be well organized and against us, but let us be careful and patient, never desponding, never willing to give up until we are properly recognized and our just demands listened to. Even merchants in our little one-horse towns have their organizations and do dictate terms for us, and we have heretofore been bowing in humble submission. How on the face of the earth we have lived and fed the world as long as we have, is a perfect miracle, taking in consideration how we have been abused and every effort made by trading men to reduce us to poverty; and to think, brother farmers, that we have submitted so long to the outrages practiced upon us! If we don't already hold the balance of power, we can by united effort, and it behooves us to act and act promptly. I don't think it is right for us to bite a cent in two to keep half of it, but I do think, Mr. Editor, that our Subordinate Alliances ought to look after things around home, for they can accomplish a great deal, and not to depend entirely on what our State or County Business Agent may be able to do for us. As a rule we lack energy and push at home among our sub-lodges.

In conclusion, I would state that we organized with seventeen members, and that now we have forty members who are willing to roll up their sleeves and go to work for anything that will be for the good of our order. Let us take hold of everything as we did the bagging trust, that seeks to

combine and injure us as laboring men, and at the same time let us be prudent and just and know that we are right before we take one single step against any party or corporation.

Respectfully,
C. M. WALTERS, Secy.

THE ORDER IN RANDOLPH.

TRINITY COLLEGE, N. C., Jan. 11, '89.

COL. L. L. POLK.—Dear Sir:—I enclose President Kearns' address to our county meeting for publication in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, not so much for any real merit in it, but to encourage a like effort in all other County Presidents. Our county meetings, in the main, are rather tame affairs, and unless we do something to make them of interest and profit, the attendance will be small. Our Randolph meeting was really grand and glorious in its effects—it was good to be there. Everybody enjoyed it in a high degree. The attendance was unusually large. I shall put two special organizers in Guilford next week.

Truly, &c.,
D. REID PARKER.

The Address of President E. B. Kearns to Randolph County Alliance, held at Shiloh, Jan. 4th, '89.

MY BRETHREN.—Our County Alliance is in many respects an independent body, and while we expect to realize much help from the State Alliance, let us remember that the greater part of the work is ours. There are no restrictions in the Constitution to prevent us from moving forward in business affairs for the best interest of our people.

Our interests are varied—some raise cotton, others raise tobacco, wheat, corn, cattle, &c.

We are here to-day to freely confer with each other as to what will best promote the interests of all. I am rejoiced to see such a full attendance in our meeting. It evinces in you a commendable readiness to do your part in this great work. Although in the estimation of many, we have made rather slow progress, you will remember that to most of us, it has been new work. We have tried to use the proper caution in every step taken, and yet doubtless, we have made some mistakes. Many have expected vast results too soon, supposing they had entered an Eden, where nothing is required but to reap the golden fruit from the trees of the garden. But to-day we see that there is a wonderful field of labor before us; but the harvest is not yet—now is only seed time. Our aim should be to gain something from the experience of each one, however small that may be. To enlarge our plans, to rekindle our zeal and thoroughly prepare for grander results.

Apart from the regular business required by the Constitution, it seems to me, that a short and concise report should be made from each Sub-Alliance in the county, as to what progress they are making in the various fields of our work. This may be a little tedious, but will no doubt be interesting and profitable to all. Also there are quite a number of resolutions that ought to be brought before this meeting, and we hope that all who desire to introduce resolutions will remember that they must be written. Have them ready, brethren, so that there will be no delay, as our time is limited to a few hours. We hope that the brethren will feel that this is a farmers' meeting—your meeting, and will therefore throw aside all embarrassing restraints and speak freely on all subjects that may come before us. I would here urge upon all of our members the necessity of mental improvement—read THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and other good farm journals. Improve your lands by grass, clover, and stock raising, make and judiciously apply all the manure possible and bring up our farms to a paying fertility, thereby keeping our money nearer at home. We should express our views freely as to needed legislation; and let our representatives know what we desire of them. We should by all means strive to establish our State Agency on a firm basis. Brethren, look after this Fund and do your full duty in this matter, ever keeping our motto before us:

"In things essential, unity; and in all things, charity."

It is a fact of serious import, that all the wheat and corn this country sells to other countries does not pay our sugar bill. Last year we paid \$135,000,000 for sugar imported, while the wheat and corn brought back only about \$111,000,000.

SOME FACTS PLAINLY STATED.

FALLING CREEK ALLIANCE, No. 445, Wayne Co., N. C., Jan. 3, '89.

COL. L. L. POLK.—Dear Sir:—We have changed our meeting from semi-monthly to once a month. We see the Alliance work is fast opening the eyes of all laboring classes of people, and we trust it is for their good. We have squelched the bagging trust and have that to think about no more.

Here is something we must study about before we make successful and praiseworthy farmers, and that is, we must raise our support at home. Let me implore you brother farmers to accept a few thoughts from me. I earnestly desire that you will try them at once, because it will do you good.

The old year has died away in pleasant dreams, the new brings us further away from our childhood and rests us nearer the verge of the grave. Have we wasted our money and time on the desert air, or have we put it to an economical and proper use? If not, it is time for us to wake up. We see the mistake we made in the past and let this be a lesson for us in the future. This is what I want to say: We have been raising cotton and almost nothing else, and the more cotton we raise the further in debt we go. Now, brethren, as the golden sun of Heaven pours down its refulgent rays of light more brightly in this new-born year than ever in the past, let us do something more than we have done before, and that is, let us raise more corn and pork in 1889 than we raised in 1888. That's what I would like for us all to take into consideration. We can live on corn and meat, but we cannot live on cotton, for we have well tried that; and there is no chance of making our condition worse than it is already. One-half of our farmers do not make enough meat to trace the grease in their smoke-house, and not enough corn to keep the mice fat. This is one kind of farming and the kind that has driven us almost into starvation. Now, brethren, we have neglected doing our duty in the past. There is no Alliance or union of any kind in the world that will feed and clothe us as well as a union on raising corn, meat and flour. We must do this or we are forever gone. "I can make more clear money on raising cotton than I can on raising corn." This very man will come to a man who raises corn about the first of April and say, "Mr., please let me have a few barrels of your corn—but—but—I can't pay you until next fall"—talk about your clear money on cotton. The Devil is lose in this country again.

Some scoundrel, whose adamant heart throbs only in a pool of cold blood toward humanity, burned our Lodge on the night of the 26th ult.

Yours in truth,
J. F. GRANTHAM.

NOTES FROM ROWAN COUNTY.

Rock, N. C., Jan. 15, '89.

COL. L. L. POLK.—Dear Sir:—I herewith send you the demands of the N. C. F. Alliance which it affords me pleasure to say were unanimously and heartily approved and endorsed by Rock Alliance, No. 829, at its meeting on Saturday, the 12th inst. We certainly need some wholesome legislation all along on that line. It has been rumored in this section that Ben. Gratz, the jute bagging man, has formed a combine with the various "sand-bag" guano companies to furnish sacks for their use and to advance the price of commercial sand in order to reimburse him for the loss sustained by him in the jute bagging trust. Should you learn that such is the case, just sound the alarm, and we are ready to take our places in the front rank, nor quit the field until the guano and jute bagging trusts shall slumber side by side unhonored, unwept, and unsung. I trust that the brethren all over the cotton belt will look after their interests with vigilance and let nothing impede their onward march to happiness and prosperity. This section of country (Rowan) is generally a good Alliance section, only a few good but doubting people are beyond its protection by remaining outside. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER makes good Alliance men, and inspires a feeling of confidence wherever it is read, and convinces everybody that its zeal in the Alliance cause comes from a pure and earnest desire to benefit and bless the laboring masses of North Carolina. Let the beacon light blaze forth to the world, and we trust that the time is not far distant when the farmers of this our grand old Union may joyfully exclaim, the Alliance leads the world!

Fraternally,
W. W. HARRIS, Sec'y.