

PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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

Vol. 4.

RALEIGH, N. C., FEBRUARY 12, 1889.

No. 1

DIRECTORY OF FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS.

NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE.
President—S. B. Alexander, Charlotte, N. C.

Vice-President—T. Ivey, Ashpole, N. C.
Secretary—L. L. Polk, Raleigh, N. C.
Treasurer—J. D. Allen, Falls, N. C.
Lecturer—Dr. D. Reid Parker, Trinity College, N. C.

Assistant Lecturer—D. D. McIntyre, Laurinburg, N. C.
Chaplain—Rev. Carr Moore, Townsville, N. C.

Door Keeper—W. H. Tomlinson, Fayetteville, N. C.
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Bergeant-at-Arms—J. S. Holt, Chalk Level, N. C.
State Business Agent—W. A. Darden.

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Elias Carr, Old Sparta, N. C., Chairman; Thaddeus Ivey, Ashpole, N. C.; J. S. Johnston, Ruffin, N. C.

THE NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' ASSOCIATION.
President—Elias Carr, Old Sparta, Edgecombe county.

H. F. Hester, Oxford, Secretary; S. Otho Wilson, Vineyard, and W. E. Benbow, Oak Ridge, Assistant Secretaries.

VIRGINIA STATE ALLIANCE.
President—G. T. Barbee, Bridgewater, Virginia.

Vice-President—T. E. Massey, Washington, Virginia.
Secretary—J. J. Silvey, Bridgewater, Virginia.

Treasurer—Isaiah Printz, Luray, Virginia.
Lecturer—G. H. Chrisman, Chrisman, Virginia.

Asst. Lecturer—J. S. Bradley, Luray, Virginia.
Chaplain—Wm. M. Rosser, Luray, Virginia.

Door Keeper—B. Frank Beahm, Kimball, Virginia.
Asst. Door Keeper—G. E. Brubaker, Luray, Virginia.

Sergeant-at-Arms—C. H. Lillard, Washington, Virginia.
State Business Agent—S. P. A. Brumby, Luray, Virginia.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.
Brumback, Jas. E. Compton and G. H. Chrisman.

SESSION OF THE WAKE CO. ALLIANCE INSTITUTE.

The first session of the Wake County Alliance Institute was held in the city of Raleigh on the 23d ult. President Powell called the Institute to order promptly at the hour appointed. On calling the roll, twenty-four Sub-Alliances were found to be represented. The purposes of the Institute were briefly but plainly stated by the President. He said in substance: The organization of the Institute is composed of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and one delegate from each Sub-Alliance in the county. All authority exercised by the Institute was given it by the County Alliance. It is simply an auxiliary to aid the Alliance in carrying out its great mission of reform. Its conclusions are not obligatory on any one; its intentions are to instruct, but not to direct. Its sessions will be on the order of our normal schools, where teachers are taught how to teach; and the information derived by the delegate in attendance upon the sessions of the Institute is expected to be by him imparted to his Sub-Alliance for practical tests. The mission of the Institute will be to reach the friends of every tiller of the soil in the county and encourage him to independence and comfort. The sessions, when so determined, will be held with open doors, and all who feel an interest in bettering the condition of the farmers will be invited to meet with us. Subjects pertaining to the betterment of the condition of the farmer will be freely discussed at all its sessions.

The Institute then proceeded with the order of business, which was a subject demanding more thought and consideration perhaps than any other now agitating our country, viz: "Why is the farmer not remunerated for his labor in the cultivation of his crops?" The discussions were marked by a high order of practical common-sense reasoning and were most instructive and entertaining; and were participated in by Col. L. L. Polk, A. C. Green, President of the County Alliance; J. F. Taylor, J. A. Norris and others.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That in the sense of this Institute, it would be greatly to the interests of the farmers of Wake County to purchase less manipulated seed, reduce the average in cotton seed, grow more use of home-made manures.

On motion, the following committee was appointed by the chair to select a day to be considered at the next session of the Institute and select

speakers, viz: J. A. Norris, A. C. Green, S. F. Allen, J. W. Jones and J. F. Taylor. The committee made the following report:

Subject:—Can we afford to raise cotton and buy our supplies? Speaker, Hon. A. Leazar.

Subject:—If we cannot afford to raise cotton and buy our supplies, what will pay the farmer? Speaker, J. F. Taylor.

Subject:—The Cow; her management and value. Speaker, Dr. R. H. Lewis.

Subject:—Composting and how to make them. Speaker, Dr. H. B. Battle.

Subject:—Importance of farmers' organizations. Speaker, A. D. Jones, Esq.

On motion, the Institute adjourned, to meet in Raleigh on Friday, 15th of February.

R. JAS. POWELL, President.
J. W. SMITH, Acting Sec'y.

THE ORDER IN CHATHAM.

Love's Creek Alliance, No. 508, January 14, 1889.

COL. L. L. POLK.—Dear Sir:—Our Alliance has been hard at work for eleven months, and while there has been little said through your paper, it has been moving on in the direction that has accomplished much good and the prospect is good for it to continue. We have candidates to initiate at every meeting and yet they come. Some of those who said the Alliance would be like an old woman's dance are now knocking for admittance, and say it has come to stay. We number 50, and there is enough in this number to hold the lines, allowing the weak-kneed to fall out and go to the rear. No organization has ever been started for the farmer in which there is so much at stake, and if all will be faithful the time will come when we will be a happy and prosperous people. Then let us pass on without heeding opposition. We have started a co-operative store at Siler City with a small capital, yet it will save the farmers thousands of dollars this year. Salt has become so cheap that it can't be handled. Corn is at 65 cents. If it had not been for the Alliance movement we would now have to pay \$1.00. It will do away with the credit system, as the merchants will not credit the Alliance brethren. It will cause us to buy less and economize, and stimulate us to raise our own supplies. Then, brethren, let us govern ourselves accordingly. More anon.
W. W. EDWARDS, Sec'y.

BANNER COUNTIES IN NORTH CAROLINA.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER finds in looking over the Census Reports of 1880 that certain counties in North Carolina may be designated as banner counties in the production of certain crops, &c., and below we give a list of them with the product and quantity produced in 1879:

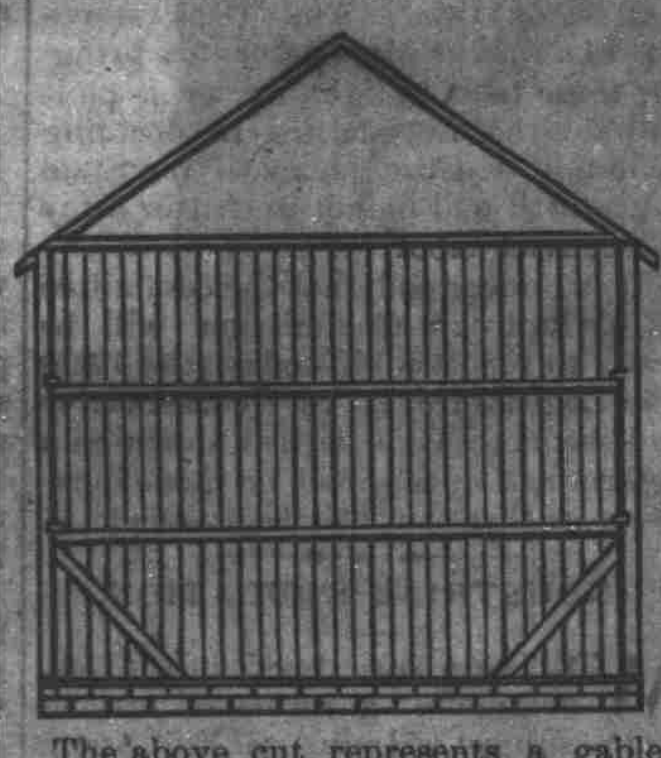
Ash	Rye, bush.	33,809
	Wool, lbs.	37,483
	Cheese, "	10,596
Brunswick	Rice, bush.	1,163,852
Buncombe	Butter, lbs.	248,455
Chatham	Milk cows, No.	5,736
	other cattle, "	9,124
Davidson	Wheat, bush.	174,671
	Irish Potatoes, "	26,108
Davie	Hay, Tons	8,667
	Oats, bush.	139,126
Granville	Tobacco, lbs.	4,606,358
	Horses, No.	3,633
Guilford	Barley, bush.	1,068
	Orchard products, value	\$49,223
Halifax	Work Oxen, No.	2,472
Jackson	Live stock, value	\$1,485,667
Johnston	Hogs, No.	39,328
Randolph	Sheep, "	15,742
Simpson	Sweet potatoes, bush.	214,596
Wake	Indian corn, bush.	612,569
	Cotton, bales	30,115
	Mules and asses, No.	3,052
	Farm Products, value	\$2,044,397
	Cost of building and repairing fences	\$63,134
Watauga	Buckwheat, bush.	7,937

ENDORSEMENT.

COL. L. L. POLK.—Dear Sir:—Seeing an advertisement of Bro. J. W. Reid, of Reidville, S. C., in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER about Secretaries books, and being in need of some, I wrote to him, and have just received a lot, which I consider a real treat. They are well arranged and prices are reasonable. Desiring to help my brother Secretaries all I can, I would be glad if you would insert this in your paper.
W. B. SMITH.

PLAN FOR A SILO.

OLD SPARTA, N. C., Jan. 21, 1889.
MR. EDITOR:—As the time is rapidly drawing near for the preparation of forage crops, I am reminded of a promise to give your readers plans and specifications for an inexpensive silo and how to fill the same.



The above cut represents a gable elevation of a wooden silo 14 feet square and 12 feet pitch that will hold 50 tons of ensilage. Of course the larger the silo the better, but I have just had demonstrated that ensilage can be well preserved in very small quantities provided the pressure be continuous. I filled a 50-gallon cask with pea ensilage September 1st, applying screw pressure and securing the same. Opened January 15 and found 60 per cent of it perfect. Had the pressure been continuous, following down the shrinkage, the loss would have been much less. I make this point to demonstrate the fact that no man may be deterred from trying the experiment on the score of expense.

HOW TO BUILD.
Foundation wall of stone or brick, 10 inches wide and 8 inches high. Upon this place 2x10 inch bond timbers, flush with the inside of the foundation wall. Toe-nail 6x6x12 corner-posts, flush with the outside of these timbers, bracing with 4x6. Four feet up and 8 feet up, jog in 2x10 horizontal plates by cutting two inches in the post and 4 inches in the plate. This gives increased strength and prevents contact between that part liable to decay, the lining, and frame spike down securely upon top of post, plates 2x10. Line with 5-inch matched boards, all heart, letting them drop a little below the bond timbers that the wall may help sustain the pressure. A roof of boards with open gables will be sufficient. For convenience in filling and emptying, a door may be cut half-way up and opening on the inside, with bevelled edges. The framing timbers need not be heart, provided a projecting roof is used, and the corner-posts may be of round timbers, sized up only at joints. This building will not cost to exceed \$35, and with an occasional renewing of the lining it will last a life-time. A barn to hold the same amount of dry feed would cost \$200.

ENSILAGE CROPS.
Any good green forage makes good ensilage. In quality clover is best, peas next, but corn, our large stalk Southern, surpasses all, from the fact that three times as much can be grown per acre. And when supplemented with cotton seed meal is near a complete nutrient.

HOW TO PLANT.
Select 5 acres adjacent to silo, manure, break and harrow well; plant in 3 feet 6 inch rows, 11 inches apart, one stalk in a hill, keep down weeds and grass. When the ear has glazed or just passed that stage, when it is too hard for roasting-ears, is ready for the silo. Cut down with sharp weed hoes, loading on wagon with butts all one way. Now comes the important part, and if there is a secret about it it is this: Cut as fine as you can. The finer the better. In half-inch lengths there is no waste. If cut longer some of the larger and coarser stalks will be rejected. Besides, it is more compact—would recommend Sinclair's feed-cutter. It is not only the cheapest but the best. They can be had through our State agent. A great deal has been said and written about letting the corn wilt and filling slowly to make sweet ensilage. My experience is you can't put it up wrong. I never stop for dew or drizzle, and I have yet to see my first spoil ensilage. When full, cover with tarred paper or boards and weight with any convenient substance, stone, old iron, firewood, &c. But this is not essential. If not weighted at all it will spoil only a few inches.
HOW TO FEED.
Open by stripping the top entirely.

taking out all that is spoilt. To cattle unaccustomed to it feed sparingly at first, gradually increasing to 30 pounds. Some cows will eat 50 pounds per day and not be satisfied.

No man can tell of the possibilities of ensilage in the future. Just think of wintering your stock cheaper than you can pasture it in summer. With our alluvial bottoms to grow the corn, our accessibility to the great Northern markets and cheap labor, Eastern North Carolina should not reject the boon that is offered.
ELIAS CARR.

ALLIANCE FACTORIES.

Should the Farmers' Alliance go into manufacturing, is a question that is (and justly so) agitating the public mind at the present time. The reasons in favor of such a move are many, but a few will suffice.

To begin with, manufacturing pays an average of twenty-five per cent. throughout the country, vs. two and one-half per cent. in agriculture. This shows ten times the profit in manufacturing as farming. Alliance factories have many advantages over any others, from the fact that they have a surer and more substantial patronage.

The South is behind the North in material prosperity because the South depends on an industry paying just one-tenth the profit of their more prosperous but less favored brethren. How can this state of things be overcome? Is a question that should engage the attention of every patriotic mind. We venture the following:

Let every County Alliance, Sub-Alliance and individual Alliance man contribute of their funds to Alliance stock companies, which shall manufacture such goods as fertilizers, wagons, buggies, plows, shoes, harness, tobacco, cotton, &c., and then when the goods are put on the market let Alliance men buy no other goods in the lines manufactured by Alliance factories except their own. If we will do this, merchants will co-operate with us and thus secure the almost entire patronage of the State and the South. There is no reason why we should not manufacture goods in any of these lines as good and as cheaply as it can be done anywhere. We have the advantage of a warm climate, cheap labor, power and materials.

I am glad to know that we will have at Raleigh an Alliance shoe company, a plow and wagon factory at Cary, tobacco factories and warehouses at Henderson, Oxford, Durham and Reidsville; and we believe that every Alliance and Alliance man should aid these enterprises by taking stock, and then buy and use these goods exclusively.

You ask if this will be just to other factories; and our answer is yes, because we will by this co-operation keep our money in circulation at home, and receiving the profits of the business, be enabled to keep pace with other less highly favored sections, who by diversified industries manage to draw patronage and profit from every section of the country. The shares of these co-operative companies should be small, so that every Alliance man would be enabled to do something. Every stockholder is a regular customer and a worker for the enterprise. I think that every one should co-operate in these enterprises, and thereby help to counteract the formation of trusts and combines, which is the bane of American civilization.
Fraternally,
S. O. W.

NO INCREASE OF SALARIES.

VIENNA, Forsyth Co., N. C., January 28, 1889.

COL. L. L. POLK.—Dear Sir:—As it has been some time since I have seen anything in your paper from here, I will try and give something. Our Alliance is booming. We have 40 members and applications every meeting for membership. We send you some resolutions for publication. It seems that the officials want their salaries increased. Of course, they would like to get all. Well, we are about tired of this thing—all tax and no rest. They say that the pay is not sufficient for them to live and support their families! Well, let them quit and go to farming once, as the common farmer does, and pay the taxes that he does and see how it goes. We are inclined to think that one year will convince them and they would be glad to go back with less pay. They all seem very anxious to get in office. We would like to see things arranged so that we would have less tax to pay instead of an increase. But fearing I have taken too much space, I will close. Success to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. R. G. LINDBACK, Cor. Sec'y.

AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGES.

[By Gen. S. D. Lee, of Mississippi.]

EDITOR FARMER:—I propose writing a few articles about Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges, and intend showing the object and intent of Congress in providing for them and the necessity for their establishment. What I shall write will be in a non-partisan spirit, intended to overcome objections to these institutions, which are honestly entertained by many who should be their friends.

In the older States there are colleges and universities which have grown up with them; many of them richly endowed and others supported by State appropriations. As the newer States were organized, similar ones were established, and in most instances provision was made for their liberal endowment by Congress by donations of public lands. Many of these endowments, both to the colleges and common schools, have been lost by the States.

These universities and colleges in all the States were generally patterned after the old English colleges, and their curriculums were gotten up to educate young men and fit them for the three learned professions of Law, Divinity and Medicine. The theory of their instruction was based on the idea that a thorough study of the ancient classics was the only true road to learning. These colleges, besides giving a general liberal education, also provided special schools for Law, Divinity and Medicine, making liberal and ample provision for those intending to pursue these professions. In doing this they afforded most excellent and necessary higher educational facilities only to a small part of the people, but made no provision for the special training and wants of the great majority of the people engaged in the multiplied industries and learned pursuits of the present day.

The recent discoveries of science and art have made very great changes in the industries of the world, and the education afforded by the older colleges and universities was too contracted, and favored too much certain small classes of our population, and narrowed down too much the choice of selecting, in preparation for the different pursuits of life, and were evidently favoring the wealthier classes and discriminating too greatly in not affording special training for the pursuits the majority of our population were following. The census of 1880 shows that in a population of 60,000,000 at the present time, that only 85,671 persons were doctors and surgeons, 64,698 were ministers and 64,137 lawyers, making 214,506 persons in the learned professions, less than a half million, while the balance of our population earned their livelihood in other pursuits—one-half being engaged in agriculture and the other in commerce, in manufacturing, in transportation and in the mechanical arts. These glaring facts caused the courses of study in the colleges and universities to be subjected to critical examination. The enquiry was made: Why so purely literary? Why for the especial benefit of only three or four classes of people? Why so little science? Why so much theory and so little practice?

These were pertinent questions, and when made authoritatively by Charles Francis Adams, at Harvard a few years since, they attracted great attention—under public pressure these curriculums have been partially and gradually changed. But where these changes have been made only to meet the wealthier and better educated classes rather than to benefit the necessities of the masses of our population. These colleges have added departments for Engineering, Analytical Chemistry, Domestic Economy and commercial training, schools of Pharmacy and Dentistry; schools of arts of various kinds, Polytechnic Institutes, Normal Colleges, and, in fact, departments for the theoretical and special instruction of nearly every calling, but have persistently ignored agriculture, which, as an art, is virtually the basis of all arts and of all wealth.

This is the pursuit, too, that one-half of the population of the United States is engaged in, and in Mississippi four-fifths. The recent changes and additions in the curriculums of the common schools are following the same policy. In addition to "the three R's," we find recent introductions of philosophy, botany, physiology and practical instruction in carpentering, wood engraving, type-writing, stenography, cooking, sewing, &c., but we hear nothing of the introduction of the study of the elementary principles of agriculture in the common

schools, an art that four-fifths of the boys and girls of Mississippi must necessarily earn their support from. This, too, in face of the fact that the principles are as well arranged and understood and as easily mastered by dull boys and girls as all the dry facts of arithmetic, grammar, spelling, geography or histories. The great straits to which the farming classes or peasants in Europe were brought about the beginning of this century has made a complete revolution in agriculture. In 1840, just forty-eight years ago, Leibig reduced to practical and scientific order what was necessary to maintain fertility in soil and to restore fertility. As a consequence, there are now over 400 agricultural schools and colleges in Germany. The same system is found in France and other European States. As a result of this thorough system of agricultural education among the peasants, the yield per acre of land in Europe has been gradually increasing, while in the United States statistics show it is gradually decreasing. The statistics as to the condition of the agricultural classes in the United States points to the absolute necessity of their being better educated. The census of 1880 brought out the fact that in the decade of 1850 to 1860 the farmers were one-half of the population, and had increased the productive wealth during the ten years 101 per cent., and that they owned just one-half of the wealth of the entire country. In 1880 they were still nearly one-half of the population, but during the decade, 1870 to '80, they had only increased this productive wealth 9 per cent. instead of 101 per cent. from 1850 to 1860, showing a loss of 92 per cent. in twenty years; also that in 1880 they, as a class, only owned one-fourth of the entire wealth of the country instead of one-half as in 1860. It is even worse than this; for much of the land of farmers is mortgaged. This mortgage in the States of Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri is estimated at \$3,422,000,000, and it is a notorious fact now, that lands in these States have greatly depreciated in value and the farm lands of the New England States and New York very much of late. To put it in different shape, in the twenty years, 1860 to 1880, the farmers added to the agricultural wealth of the entire United States \$4,122,588,487, then composing about one-half of the entire population. During this twenty years the other half of the population (not farmers) added to the wealth of the country \$23,359,794,854, or nearly 500 per cent. more than the farmers made. This shows at least a lack of comparative prosperity with the farming classes, and this is the reason so many farmers and their children are quitting the farms and engaging in more lucrative pursuits. This accounts, too, for the rapid building up of cities and corporations. This is why 22 per cent. of our population is to be found in towns and cities in 1888, while only 3 per cent. lived in towns and cities in 1800.

The great progress now being made in the world has brought about new conditions, which affect the farmers. For instance, the facility and cheapness of transportation has done away with all local competition. In 1880 it cost 18 cents to transport a bushel of grain from the West to New York, or from New York to Liverpool. Now it only costs about 2 cents; so thrifty farmers in any country have not only to compete with each other, but with thrifty farmers in the West, and, in fact, all over the world. Skill and invention has brought down prices in all products, including farm products. The farmer, therefore, must be educated and become more skilled, or he will be at the mercy of other callings.

MISS ASTOR'S PEARL SLIPPERS.

Mrs. August Belmont has the finest collection of sapphires in this country, though Mrs. William Astor is credited with possessing the finest single one. When one of the younger Astors was married a dainty present was given her by her uncle. It was her wedding slippers; they were of white satin elaborately seeded with pearls, put in a white satin box, on the inside of which in pale colors were "lady slippers" and on the outside china asters. The sentiment was really very pretty, and the work was most artistically done.—Philadelphia Times.

The whites of two eggs will render the deadly corrosive sublimate as harmless as a dose of calomel.