

# PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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

Vol. 4.

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No. 24

## 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.  
Assistant Door Keeper—R. T. Rush, Mt. Gilead, N. C.

Sergeant-at-Arms—J. S. Holt, Chalk Level, N. C.  
State Business Agent—W. A. Darden.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE.**

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.

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

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

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Secretary—J. J. Silvey, Amisville, Virginia.

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Serg't-at-Arms—C. H. Lillard, Washington, Virginia.  
State Business Agent—S. P. A. Brubaker, of Luray, Virginia.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**  
E. T. Brumback, Jas. E. Compton and Geo. H. Chrisman.

**A WORD OF ADVICE.**

**FALLING CREEK ALLIANCE, No. 445,**  
Wayne county, June 3, '89.

Mr. Editor:—It has been a good long time since you heard from our Alliance. It has increased in number considerably. We are getting up more life and energy in our work than we have had heretofore. Corn and cotton are looking well for this season of the year; small grain not so good. Rain is not so plentiful as last year.

I said you had not heard from us in some time. Now, brethren, hear, one and all. The first meeting in this month is the time to elect new officers; look out and get good ones. Your best men are needed to lead you over rugged ways and through dark ravines.

Brothers, see that your Alliance does more good work in the new Alliance year now coming in than it did in the old year now going out. Stand firm to the order and victory is ours. The Business Agency Fund, O my! Fifty thousand dollars wanted, eighteen thousand collected. What are we all doing, brethren? Are we all asleep, or are we prostrated in negligence and reposing in slumber that knows no waking? Something must be done, and the sooner the better. Now, let us try a plan that cannot fail and one that will clear our consciences. This is it: Every person who subscribed last year, and failed to pay, come forward the first day of November next and pay the amount he subscribed over to the Secretary and he will forward it to the Trustees.

Let new member and members who have not subscribed come forward and subscribe freely and liberally; and, furthermore, let every Alliance in North Carolina that has any surplus treasury money contribute that also. We must sleep no longer!

We must have the required amount or short will be our race.

The Alliance is the greatest movement for the laboring class of people that has ever happened in this country, and is the only remedy by which we can save ourselves from destruction of these infernal monopolies and combines. Why, with the Alliance for our guide, we see "the wide, the unbounded prospects which lie before us," the prospects of a happy life of undisturbed repose. I imagine I see some few little sap-headed, so-called members of the Alliance who are members and who are not dead-beats, dead-heads, so to speak, who would contribute to the Alliance Fund, but they don't believe the Alliance will ever do much.

You, my brethren, are dishonest if you are that kind of men; you do steal

from yourselves and all other laboring men in the whole South every day of your lives, but still you claim to be an Alliance man. You are nothing but a drawback and a load of dead weight to be dragged about. You had better be out of the Alliance than in it. You are calculated to lead some one else astray. Some of these so-called Alliance members say they had better quit the Alliance until they get done their crops. Lord have mercy on such members! What trifling excuses! Such members can attend all other assemblies in good faith, except the one on which the prosperity of their whole future depends.

Now, brethren, we should look at things as they are. We should make new and strong resolutions and stand by them and the principles of the Alliance.

I would be glad to know that I have not reached any one's case; and, further, I hope you all think about these matters as I think: "Sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish," let us resolve to stand by the Alliance.

Yours fraternally,  
J. F. F., Lecturer.

## GOOD SUGGESTIONS.

**ORMOND, N. C., July 10, 1889.**

Mr. Editor:—Very timely and well put are your editorial remarks upon the necessity of educating our members upon the great problems of political and industrial economy which now confront us. I can conceive of no better way of effecting this than by putting in the field a number of lecturers, as you suggest. Did the state of our treasury permit, four lecturers could be employed to advantage, but as this is doubtful, we should at least put two State lecturers in the field at an early day. Divide the State into eastern and western fields; then select the very best men we have for the work, men thoroughly acquainted with the condition of the people and possessing a full acquaintance also with the manner of growing and marketing the staple crops in their respective fields, pay them a reasonable salary and require them to devote their whole time to the work. Supplement the labors of these State lecturers who can only make county appointments, by a system of county lecturers, who shall visit and lecture to each Alliance in their respective counties at least twice a year; also pay them a reasonable per diem for each day devoted to this work, out of their county treasuries. Then require each lecturer of Sub Alliances to give notice, one meeting in advance, of the subject to be discussed at the next meeting, that the members may prepare for an intelligent participation in the discussion. Very important is it for these laborers to be furnished with the very best tools for their work, in the shape of their State and National organs, also with one of the best general newspapers of the county that they may keep themselves thoroughly posted upon all questions of the day.

One of the chief causes of the many ills affecting us is to be found in the Hide-your-talent-in-the-napkin-policy, pursued by the farmers. Leaving other classes to do the thinking, has resulted in their shaping all legislation to their advantage and our detriment. We have reached the most critical period in the life of all organizations. The excitement incident to the work of organizing has in a great measure passed, and we now have in the State a splendid army of 80,000 Alliance men, who must be kept actively employed or else they will fall a prey to inaction, that most deadly foe to all organized bodies.

Fraternally,  
J. B. SMITH.

**HOPEWELL ALLIANCE, Forsyth Co.**  
On May 31st, 1889, this Alliance was organized with seven members, and notwithstanding the near proximity of Eden, Flat Rock, and other Alliances, our growth has been very flattering. We held weekly meetings during June, and at the end of the month our number had increased to 28 male and 4 female members, with seven applications for membership. We have secured a seal, paid all dues to the County Alliance, and have money in our treasury. We intend to subscribe for a few copies of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and the National Economist, and if you editors will give us sufficient light on the subject, we intend to make our little Alliance a lively factor in the grand army which has been so justly arrayed in battle against monopolists and extortioners.

Fraternally,  
H. L. BECKERDITE, Sec'y.

## A SUGGESTION WORTHY OF CONSIDERATION.

**THOMASVILLE, N. C., July 8, '89.**

Mr. Editor:—I beg a little space in the columns of our organ, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, to call the attention of the brethren to the advisability of having a meeting of all the county Business Agents of the State, to be held at some time during the days of the annual meeting of the Farmers' State Alliance at Fayetteville. I think such a meeting would be very profitable to the order. I think I could give some points to the brethren in council, and I know I could gain some points from them. This meeting together, face to face, and interchanging the plans and methods of conducting our agencies, is worth more than writing a hundred letters to each other and far more satisfactory. And, besides, our State Business Agent would be with us and we could gain all the information he has, and we would more thoroughly understand each other and be better prepared to accomplish our great purpose and act together more as a unit. I will digress a little and remark that I have accomplished, by far, more good financially for the brethren of my county by the frequent calling together of the Sub-Business Agents than I could have done by trying to post them up by writing—hence I am proud to say that we thoroughly understand each other, and are working with perfect harmony and as a unit. The strength of a County Agent depends upon the efficiency of the Sub-Agents, the success of the Sub-Agents depends upon the united action of their respective Alliances, and the power and strength of the State Agent lies in the grand and united efforts of all. In Union there is strength, but the greater the union the greater the strength and greater the victory—greater the united efforts the greater the benefits. While the moral, social and intellectual features of the Alliance are grand and noble, I do not agree with some of the brethren when they say that the financial feature is the least of them all. I think the financial feature is the greatest—for, benefit a man financially and you prepare him better, if he is a true Alliance man, to enjoy the moral, social and intellectual features. If the financial feature of the Alliance had been left I don't think there would be quite 1,847 Alliances in the State, as there are today. Therefore, brethren, we see the necessity of raising the Business Agency Fund—it must be raised—we cannot afford to fail in the attempt. Bro. Darden and the County Business Agents shall have the meeting I have suggested?

Fraternally,  
J. W. UPCHURCH,  
C. B. A. of Davidson.

## A WORD OF ADVICE.

**BLAND, N. C., July 5, '89.**

Mr. Editor:—I will say to you that our Alliance is No. 872, our former name was Bland, but at our last meeting it was unanimously agreed that we change the name from Bland to that of Jackson, and we would like to be recognized hereafter by that name, for just reasons known to ourselves. We number 30 male members. I must say that our boys are doing all they can to roll this great Alliance wheel along. We are, as a general thing, very poor people in this section, and when the brethren will consider that our turpentine and tar is nearly worn out and we have for the past few years had to resort to cotton for our money, and that our last crop has long since been exhausted, and we can and did put our hands down low into our pockets and raised \$30 in cash to pay on the endowment of our State Agency Fund, I think the brethren who know our standing will say, "well done for No. 872." Now, brethren, it will not make your shoulder sore to push this wheel. If you will all work together as a unit you will all grow stronger and better every day. Why, I was talking to one of my brothers the other day and asked him the question, if the Alliance should come to naught where or how would it leave him? He told me it would leave him a better man by far in every respect than it found him.

"In union there is strength," and let me beg you for the welfare of yourselves, you who have contributed nothing to a cause which a just God is directing, take shame to yourselves for not performing your duty sooner, and resolve never to meet in another Alliance meeting without doing your duty to this great cause. Why will

you burden those noble and generous brethren who have stood up so nobly and contributed so freely and have been expecting aid from you? Have you done your duty? Are you a true Alliance man? If you have not paid anything to this great cause I fear you have brought reproach upon yourself, and let me beg you as one who feels a great interest in you, and your children after you, to repent in dust and ashes and go and perform your duty.

Fraternally,  
JAMES CRAFT.

## NOTES FROM WAYNE.

**COTTON PLANT ALLIANCE, No. 649,**  
Eureka, Wayne Co., N. C., July 10.

Mr. Editor:—At our last meeting I was elected Corresponding Secretary for our Alliance, and I feel it my duty to write. Our Alliance was organized the 31st of March, 1888, with 20 charter members; we have steadily increased until now we number 101 members in good standing. The majority of our members are honest, hard-working men of limited means, but men of good solid worth, and they are determined to make our order a success.

The very heavy rains recently damaged the small grain and also the growing crops in this section; some are despondent and gloomy, but we are holding our faces to the front and pressing forward to accomplish the high and noble purposes of the Alliance, and by God's help we will succeed.

On the 5th inst., it was our good pleasure to hear Bro. Harry Tracy, of Texas, and we but voice the sentiments of every intelligent and unprejudiced mind when we say that all who heard him were more than pleased, and the Alliance cause received a momentum that will carry it forward to its noble end. The business men were convinced that the Alliance is making no war on any true citizen, but doing what it can to elevate and enable the poor downtrodden tillers of the soil. But combinations and trusts must flee the wrath to come.

After hearing Bro. Tracy's lecture on the great truths and principles of the brotherhood, we are confident that if we be faithful to our trust that the reward is ours.

At our election nearly all the old officers being true and efficient were re-elected. In honor to our worthy President, H. C. Sherard, we would say he has never been absent since called to the chair. May every Alliance man rally around our standard, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, and hold up the hands of its bearer (the editor) until the victory is ours.

JAS. H. BEST, Sec'y.

## FARMERS CELEBRATE THE FOURTH.

**GLIDEN, N. C., July 5th, '89.**

Mr. Editor:—Albemarle Grange, No. 574, and Mintonville Alliance, No. — of Gates county, N. C., came together in a farmer's meeting at Warmack church to celebrate the old glorious Fourth, by having a pleasant time and showing their appreciation of the independence of our great nation.

Between nine and ten o'clock large bodies of people had assembled at the place appointed, with provisions of all kinds, and by arrangement of a committee, a splendid dinner was lavishly handed. By the programme as agreed to by both orders of farmers, at or near 2 o'clock p. m. A. J. Ward called the meeting to order, and to open the work, Rev. M. L. Green led off in a stirring prayer to Almighty God for our deliverance, after which A. J. Ward read the declaration of independence which was listened to with strict attention, after which Miss Emily L. Berryman read an essay on the farmers banding themselves together for their own protection. Then John M. Trotman, Esq., of Mintonville Alliance, made a stirring speech by presenting the cause of independence and the cause that the farmers were aiming at. Then Rev. M. L. Green being brought forward, made a noble speech, taking in the work of Providence and this great nation's progress as tillers of the soil.

On motion, it was ordered that a committee of each order be appointed at their next meeting to confer together in regard to celebrating the next Fourth of July. The exercises being over, it was ordered the proceedings be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER with the request to publish. The meeting closed by prayer by M. L. Green.

Truly,  
A. J. WARD,  
Chairman.

you burden those noble and generous brethren who have stood up so nobly and contributed so freely and have been expecting aid from you? Have you done your duty? Are you a true Alliance man? If you have not paid anything to this great cause I fear you have brought reproach upon yourself, and let me beg you as one who feels a great interest in you, and your children after you, to repent in dust and ashes and go and perform your duty.

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Truly,  
A. J. WARD,  
Chairman.

## ALLIANCE NEWS FROM HERTFORD.

**WINTON, N. C., July, 1889.**

Mr. Editor:—Our County Alliance convened last Friday pursuant to adjournment with a full delegation from all the Sub-Alliances, though fewer in attendance than expected. The usual order of business was taken up and disposed of regularly. Our actions with reference to Vice-President Jno. W. Faison in meeting assembled on the 1st Friday in January at which he was impeached for charges improperly founded, and for which all that pertaining to the charges preferred against him is to be expunged from our minutes. President Vann, by request of the body, offered an apology to him expressive of regret for having acted so rashly, which was accepted by Mr. Faison with all the kindness of a true gentleman. May we ever in the future be more cautious not to wound the feelings, nor in any way detract from the good character of our fellowman without good reasons therefor. I mention this from the fact that it was made public then.

Mr. Jno. F. Newsom was elected a delegate to attend the State Alliance with Capt. J. H. Picot as alternate.

Mr. P. W. Magitt was appointed a delegate to meet with the National County Alliance in Suffolk on August 1st, the object of which will be to devise some plan for the better handling of the present growing peanut crop, also Mr. J. B. Vaughan was appointed to meet with the brethren at Petersburg on July 10th, relative to bags for the same. The action of the Birmingham convention was endorsed as to the non use of jute bagging, and we resolved to use cotton instead regardless of cost. It being the regular or fixed time for the election of officers, we proceeded to the task. With the exception of Mr. N. J. Harrell for Vice-President, the present incumbents with some few changes in the offices of minor importance were re-elected.

For want of time our Lecturer, Capt. Picot could not address the body and many were disappointed at not hearing him. He offered during his school vacation to visit the different communities if the brethren so desired, and already an invitation has been given and no doubt the Captain will be off occasionally for our people know of his ability to give them a good speech. Will meet again the 1st Friday in October.

GEO. A. BROWN, Sec'y.

## MORE THAN ONE OBJECT.

**GROVE, N. C., July 3, '89.**

Mr. Editor:—If you will allow me space in your valuable columns, that I may cast in my mite, it may be of some benefit to the brotherhood. A great many Alliance men as well as outsiders are not properly apprehending the real objects of the Alliance, but regard it merely as a means by which they shall be enabled to sell high and buy cheap.

This is very desirable in itself, but there are some other interests whose objects, aims and purposes command our attention. You are aware that we farmers, as a class, do not sustain the power and influence in society which properly belongs to us, nor have we that equal voice in the legislative halls of the State or Nation to which we are properly entitled (if we had had there would have been a Railroad Commission law in North Carolina to-day) but are regarded by other classes as being in some sense inferior to them; having no rights or privileges, except to pay taxes, and are required to submit like a lamb to their dictation and control. To elevate and restore our profession in society demands and should inspire the highest ambition of every Alliance man; and to do this each member has a good work to do. You, my brother; you, my sister, remember that "intelligence is the great lever power that moves the world."

Education, then, in its broadest and most general sense—thorough, practical and complete—is what we need to secure to us our proper standing in the world.

The principles as set forth in our declarations of intentions adopted by our State and National Alliance is enough to convince the impartial observer that the Alliance is well calculated to accomplish this desirable end.

In what way does the Alliance propose to educate its members? By mutual interchange of thought, opinion and ideas, by meeting together, talking together, consulting together and acting together for our mutual protection and advancement; employ-

ing our energies, our efforts and our influences in our combined as well as in our individual capacity to utilize those means which will best promote our interests; developing a higher manhood and womanhood among us; by educating ourselves in all that is real great, noble and good, discarding all that is unreal and fictitious; by systematizing our labors, ennobling and dignifying our pursuits, beautifying and adorning our homes, making attractive the dearest spot on earth to our sons and daughters.

Fraternally,  
L. E. COLE.

## A LETTER FROM MECKLENBURG.

**JULY 7, 1889.**

Mr. Editor:—It has been some time since you heard from Beach Cliff, one of the oldest, if not the oldest Alliance in Mecklenburg county. There was a new set of officers elected some time since and we are moving along harmoniously. Fine crops, especially corn; cotton is off some points, as they say, at the bucket shop in Charlotte; that is, the stand is not extra, but what there is looks well. We are having fine seasons, but damaging the small grain a little. The farmers of this section will have no corn to buy next year; the crop is better along the Catawba than it has been in six years. More hogs listed in this township this year than has been in five years and the prospect for pork is flattering. All the farmers are more cheerful than usual, and I think it is from the working of the Alliance. We are pushing to be ready for Bro. Tracy on the 24th of this month, when we will turn out en masse. As that able journal, the Charlotte Democrat has wisely said, we will nominate our own president for that important position which has been so ably filled by Capt. Syd Alexander, I think by far more important than the one now held by Daniel G. Fowle. Yes, we will have a Simon-pure farmer for our next president without any trading or lobbying, and I would just say I think the farmers of the western part of the State, provided it suits the eastern part of the State, would be satisfied with Elias Carr or Thad Ivey to lead us for the next two years.

J. SPRINGS DAVIDSON.

## THE BRETHREN IN BURKE.

**CONNELLY SPRINGS, Burke Co., N. C.,**  
July 3, 1889.

Mr. Editor:—At a meeting of Berry's School House Farmers' Alliance, held on the 29th of June, 1889, it being the time for the annual election of officers, Bro. W. A. Wilson was elected President, A. P. Sally Vice-President, and your humble scribe Secretary and Business Agent for the ensuing year.

The meeting was conducted very harmoniously, and the brethren seemed imbued with the Alliance spirit and are resolved to get all the good possible to be derived from being Alliance men. The following resolutions were discussed and adopted:

Resolved, That we adopt the articles of incorporation as passed by the last Legislature of North Carolina for the State Farmers' Alliance.

Resolved, That we approve of the consolidation of the Alliance and Wheel as one body corporate, and in-dorse the proposed Constitution and By-Laws of the Farmers and Laborers' Union of America and instruct our delegates to the County and State Alliance to urge the consummation of the same. We have not taken any stock in the Business Agency Fund yet, but expect to contribute the surplus in our treasury at an early day. Wishing THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER much success, we remain,

Yours fraternally,  
W. W. AIKEN, Sec'y.

The favored class of men who can fairly wallow in easily got millions, under institutions as they now are, will fight all needed reforms to the death, for if they make but a single concession and agree that one evil exists that should be stamped out, where will the movement toward more of justice for the producers stop? It would not stop, but, gathering increased power and momentum from every righteous victory, would at last take away from "vested privilege" every one of its iniquitous franchises. The millionaire monopolists are very sharp and well know such would be the inevitable end. Hence they will keep the door locked and barred against all reforms, and thus make themselves dead safe.—Farmer's Voice.