

PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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

Vol. 4.

RALEIGH, N. C., NOVEMBER 12, 1889.

No. 40

DIRECTORY OF FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS.

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LET US EXPOSE ALL HUMBUGS.

October 22, 1889.

MR. EDITOR:—If I understand the object of the Farmers Alliance, it is to break down all monopolies, trusts and combines because of their evil and ruinous tendencies; being as they are, "born in sin, and shapen in iniquity." And it might be truthfully said of all who belong to them that "God is not in all their thoughts." But what are monopolies, trusts and combines but humbugs on a large scale? We can see them in no other light and if there is any difference between monopolies, trusts and combines and humbugs it must be as slight as that between man and woman as described by a primitive Baptist preacher when discoursing upon the creation. So if there is any difference between monopolies, trusts, combines and humbugs, it is so very slight, that, from my standpoint, it excites no gratitude in my heart. The object is evidently to deceive, cheat and defraud in most cases the honest and hard-working farmer. Those engaged in humbugging years ago relied upon deceiving the people, but of late the same chaps have gone a step beyond and have deep laid schemes that in the event they cannot deceive us, they will force us to take their articles, however defective, and at their own price, as exemplified in the bagging trust, i. e., we will force you to use jute bagging.

And now, brethren of the Alliance, while we are battling against large humbugs let us see if we cannot kill some of the smaller ones before they get grown; and the way to do this is for every brother to publish every humbug that comes to his knowledge and that will put the brethren on their guard, and save to the brotherhood many dollars, and perish out humbugs who are the worst of all bugs. And now, brethren, I will practice what I preach at once by saying I regard H. A. Ellis & Co., 161 La Salle Street, Chicago, dealers in what they call the "Excellior Safety Burner," as frauds, humbugs and cheats. They want agents to sell their burners and a family right to make the fluid, asserting that the articles to make the fluid can be found in almost any village store, and that it is much cheaper, and safer than kerosene oil. To this I say brethren, I have tested their statements at the cost of several dollars to me and find the above statements untrue. And when I found them untrue and wrote to them for satisfaction not one word of reply could I get. They will send you a sample can of fluid that makes an excellent light in their burners but when you undertake to make the same, you will meet with difficulties unless you are more fortunate than I was. I have a number of burners

now on hand that were engaged and I paid for them, but I did not deliver them, because I regarded them as a humbug and as an honest man I cannot deliver them. So brethren let us all expose humbugs.

Geo. E. Hunt.

A VOICE FROM THE WEST.

PLATEAU, N. C., Oct. 28, 1889.

MR. EDITOR:—The Wesley Chapel Farmers' Alliance, No. 1,513, is by no means on the back track. We were organized last February by Col. H. A. Forney, the organizer for this (Catawba) county. Since that time we have been growing until, at this date, we have near 90 members. And the beauty of it is, we constitute the men of this part of the county.

We have men of pure fidelity, strong, resolute, determined and as tenacious as the bark on a hickory tree. The moral, social and educational benefit of our order is already being felt in this community. Resolutions against drunkenness, profane swearing, etc., is having a very decided effect. Church members of different denominations are being knit together and feel like they are one brotherhood, fighting the battles of life under one common flag. Then, sir, we are acting in harmony with our brethren all over this fair, sunny South of ours.

We have acted, and are still acting, our part in the cotton matter. We are throwing our might and strength against the jute bagging. Only at our last meeting we resolved to use not one pound of jute during the year 1889. Also a resolution to have a high grade cotton fertilizer for spring of 1890, something to stimulate an early opening yield rather than bulky stalk yield. We will put the matter into the hands of our active and energetic Business Agent, Bro. Worth, very soon, in order to give him time to make special arrangements for the Alliance for a special cotton fertilizer. We will trade through our own agent and not guano companies' agents hereafter. We think it time the long-talked-of agency fund was secured so we may begin to get benefits thereby. Next week we will send Bro. Graham 30 or 40 dollars in addition to what we sent last spring. Yes, sir, Mr. Editor, we are looking forward with anxiety to the completion of our Exchange. When we read of what Georgia has done and is doing, and Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and other States, we begin to think its time the Old North State was kicking around.

And, by the way, I want to say one word for the Atlanta Constitution. He's a wholesome fellow, isn't he. I feel like getting up a subscription of 500 for his paper. His buying that house right in the heart of the city and giving in to the Alliance Exchange for five years makes me kinder like him. And then he is rallying for the Alliance in general. I say hurrah for the Atlanta Constitution. Hurrah for the PROGRESSIVE FARMER, hurrah for the Alliance, now and forever. Amen.

J. M. CLAMPITT, Bus. Agt.

FROM BELVIDERE.

NOVEMBER 1, 1889.

MR. EDITOR:—Not having seen anything from Belvidere Alliance, No. 1,109, since July, I will endeavor to inform you and the brethren through THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER that Belvidere Alliance is still living and moving slowly but surely, and with an indomitable determination to succeed in helping to carry out the designs of this great and noble order. A few weeks ago at one of our regular meetings, the proposition published by a brother to provide for the families of deceased brethren, was thoroughly discussed among our brethren, after which we agreed that it was just, right and honorable for us as a society, and a duty that we should not neglect, to make provision for the wives and children of our deceased brethren. Therefore we, the members of Belvidere Alliance, heartily endorse the plan suggested by the brother, and we hope that every Alliance in the State will give this subject due consideration and publish their opinions in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. The farmers of this country have long been borne down by combines, trusts and monopolies, and yet it is said that we are living in a free country, where equal rights and privileges are granted to every one. Yet the farmer is not allowed the liberty to price his own products, but has to take whatever the purchaser is pleased to give him. Brethren, it is time for us to begin thinking about where we stand and

what a grand position we hold. Are we not the props which support every other industry? Certainly we are. Then why should we be so cowardly and neglectful as to allow others to rise and dwell in splendor at our expense? The farmer's place is at the top of the ladder, and he makes the rounds by which to ascend, but these other industries have managed to control him by trusts and combines and have kept him at the bottom.

Brethren, we have allowed such, and there is but one way by which we can attain our rights, and that is to give our energy, influence and our means towards advancing the great Alliance movement. Let us double our exertions and work with a stout heart and a resolute will, ever looking forward to the great victory that will soon be ours. We shall always remember our old friend Jute. We have nothing against him, but it was the company he kept.

Our Alliance passed a resolution at the last meeting not to use any jute bagging for the year 1889.

I hope soon to send you a long list of subscribers for your valuable paper. I hope that our brethren will read it more next year than they have this and learn thoroughly the principles of our great order.

Yours fraternally,
JAS. A. WHITEHEAD, Sec'y.

ORGANIZERS' REPORT.

EVERGREEN, N. C., Oct. 26, '89.

MR. EDITOR:—In complying with Art. 9, Sec. 5, of the Constitution, I hereby submit my report as organizing officer for Columbus county:

On the 18th inst. I met a number of farmers at Mt. Calvary and organized Mt. Calvary Alliance with 16 members, 12 males and 4 females. President, W. W. Merritt, Prong, N. C.; Vice-President, B. B. Thompson, Prong, N. C.; Secretary, A. J. Babson, Prong, N. C.; Business Agent, H. T. Williams, Prong, N. C.

I shall endeavor to organize a lodge in every community where there is not one, in Columbus county. I have not canvassed any yet, but hope to make a thorough canvass of the county by January 1st, and hope that I shall be able to send you a long list of subscribers for THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. I want to see it flying hither and thither all over the State, bearing its golden message to every Alliance man and farmer in its borders. So I hope to make a better report next time.

Fraternally,
D. W. NANCE, Organizer.

FROM THE FISH AND OYSTER COUNTY.

AURORA, N. C., Oct. 29, '89.

MR. EDITOR:—Having been elected Corresponding Secretary for Aurora Alliance, No. 1,277, I feel it my duty to let the brethren hear from this Alliance through the proper channel, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. As will be seen by examining the map, we are on South creek, a tributary to the Pamlico river, only a few hours sail from Pamlico Sound, which abound in fish and oysters in almost endless variety. This Alliance was organized a little more than 12 months ago and has been gradually gaining ground ever since. It has a membership now of 50 or more. This Alliance has made satisfactory trade arrangements with Mr. J. B. Whitehurst, and am happy to say that a large majority of the members appreciate the situation. Am sorry to say there are a few only who are dissatisfied; am satisfied when they realize what they are doing and take time to consider what they are doing they will change. I entreat the brethren throughout the State to stand by the action of your several Sub-Alliances; don't get dissatisfied because the majority see differently from you, for united we stand and divided we fall. It is plain to the mind of every farmer (if he takes time to think) that properly organized there is nothing they cannot accomplish. Farming is too independent an occupation. As soon as he gets his corn in his barn and meat in his smokehouse and the organization he belongs to don't do exactly to suit him he quites and says he don't care, as he can live without them. Now, brothers, this is a sad calamity, we have got to guard against such and be satisfied to let the majority rule, as the organization of other professions do. It is not uncommon to hear men of other professions say that farmers have not got sense enough to run an organization. Brothers, it is not for the want of brain; it is on account of a want of confidence in each

other, and they are led about by their particular pets and friends who are members of other organizations who are continually throwing cold water on this organization.

Fraternally, R. H. L.

FROM STOKES COUNTY.

WILSON'S STORE, N. C., Oct. 30, '89.

MR. EDITOR:—It may be that the outside world does not know that there is such a thing in existence as Vaughn Alliance, but nevertheless such is the case by a large majority. Bro. S. A. Hauser organized our Alliance the 21st day of May last with seven members, we now have twenty-six and still they come. Very few drones in the hive.

Well, Mr. Editor, we read in your valuable paper reports from farmers from different parts of the State about their good crops, big potatoes, etc. While we do not raise cotton and cannot compete with the east in raising potatoes, we will get there this year on bright tobacco and a good corn crop. We are sowing the largest acreage of wheat in Stokes this year I think since the war. We are whooping up the farming interest in old Stokes and don't you forget it; the Farmers' Alliance being the great moving power by which we expect to make the farm self-sustaining and settle that much perplexed question, does farming pay?

So we are going to make a long pull and a strong pull, and with the faithful old PROGRESSIVE FARMER to scotch for us we will reach the top of the hill that we have been balking on for years. Expect to get a good list of subscribers for THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER pretty soon, so with the promise of doing better next time, hope this will not find its way to the waste basket. With best wishes for THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and its editor, I am

Fraternally yours,
J. W. VAUGHN, Sec'y.

FROM BLADEN COUNTY.

BROMPTON ALLIANCE, No. 573,

Oct. 26, 1889.

MR. EDITOR:—Our Alliance was organized by Col. Tom. Hall, of Cumberland county, the 19th of March, 1887, with 10 charter members, and we now have about 45 in all—8 females and 37 males. We have a few of that number suspended but will soon be restored again. We are all very poor down here. Sent \$5 to the State business agency. We have had no deaths in our Alliance and but one marriage. Bro. Anthony A. Brisson and Miss Mittie Dowless, of Tar Heel, were married near Purdie's church last morning, C. W. Lyon, J. P., officiating.

We meet twice a month now, and have some knocking at the door to get in. We are fighting the Jute Trust with all our might and we are trying to work in unity, trusting that we will soon see a better day. Long life to Bro. Polk and THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

Fraternally yours,
A. J. EVANS, Sec'y.

LETTER FROM OREGON.

SALEM, OREGON, "Willamette Valley."

MR. EDITOR:—I have been invited by some of the good patrons of THE FARMER to tell them a little more of this "Paradise of Farmers," so called, by some of the real estate men here in Salem. I don't wish to impress on your minds that this is a paradise or even akin to paradise, but I will say this: It is certainly a fine country in which to live and make money, as all the production of this country is very fine. Wheat made on an average this year from 35 to 40 bushels per acre; oats from 40 to 70 bushels; hay from 2 to 4 tons per acre. Vegetables yield bounteously and fruit is simply immense. The eastern cherry or plum gives but a faint idea of the Oregon production.

No country produces finer grasses both native, etc., than this valley. We have for fuel both wood and coal in super abundance. Our timbers are principally the evergreen variety, still we have oak, birch, maple, alder and many other kinds. We have fine water power, enough to run all the machinery of the State. One of the largest mills in Oregon is located in Salem and run by water. The streams are not muddy and sluggish but the water is clear and the current is swift. The oldest Oregonian will tell you that this has never failed in a crop in this Willamette Valley.

A North Carolina farmer can get along here hugely. When you sow you can usually depend upon about how nicely you will reap. Summers

are cool and pleasant, always have a cool breeze from the sea, while in winter the grass is always green, hence this valley is often called the "Ireland of America." If any one wishing to make a change and wanting a little more information and will write me enclosing stamp, I will answer in all candor and truthfully give them such information as they desire.

Most respectfully,
G. W. MEERS.
Salem, Ore., Oct. 25, 1889.

TIMBER LANDS.

BY OLD FOGY.

Brethren, I have an opportunity of selling a few thousand acres of timber lands for cash, either oak, hickory, ash, poplar or pine. I cannot find you customers for small tracts; it is difficult to sell 500 acres, but if it can be had in blocks of 1,000 or more at reasonable figures, good title and not too far from railroad, or if in very large blocks even away from railroads, if low in price, I can find you customers.

If you desire me to sell, describe your lands fully and accurately; above all, don't make them better than they are, and quote your lowest cash prices. Address

OLD FOGY.
Care PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

HOW MONEY RULES.

There is no economic fact that is more notorious and indisputable than that legislation, both State and National, has, for the past twenty-five years, been manipulated entirely in the interest of the rich and against the poor. The one per cent. money to the rich banker and the 8 to 40 per cent. money to the despairing poor, is unmistakable evidence of this lamentable fact.

The oppressive and unholy scheme inaugurated in pursuance of the demands of bankers has resulted most disastrously to the unfortunate debtor.

It has contracted the price of the products of the country, making money thrice as valuable in comparison with property as it was twenty years ago, making it twice or thrice as hard to pay a debt now as then, thus putting the debtor in the power of the creditor and passing his property into the hands of the creditor and usurer.

By these crooked and unhallowed methods more than half of the wealth of this nation has been concentrated in the hands of 2,500 unprincipled money oligarchs, each holding from one-half a million up to hundreds of millions of money which they use as a monstrous engine of oppression against their fellowmen.

It is calculated by statisticians that the wealth of this country has a yearly accumulation of about two billions. Just think of this, you struggling debtors and wage men and weep. No, don't weep, but consider what cursed fools you have been to vote for a system that permits and perpetuates such a terrible state of things.

Just consider that one-half of this accumulation of wealth is dumped into the coffers of 2,500 greedy, soulless millionaires, and over fifty-nine millions get the balance. Myriads of them are worth less than at the end of the year, with all their toil and scrimping, than at the beginning. It is not unlike throwing soup through a ladder—those who produce all this vast wealth get what the rounds catch.

Every philanthropist and political economist that has ever written prefaces his essay with this:

"The diffusion of wealth tends to the happiness and prosperity of the mass of the people; its concentration has the opposite effect."

Now all this menacing concentration of wealth has been brought about in the last twenty years by the unscrupulous activity of the moneyed class, and the apathy of the people, superinduced by blind, unreasoning party zeal. Voters have been and are today voting their prejudice instead of their sober judgment. The hot, passionate prejudice engendered during the war; the bloody shirt; and the tariff bosh have all been used to blind the eyes and befog the mind of the voters.

And year by year this will go on until men learn to cast away prejudice and follow the dictates of reason. And as the time passes rapidly along the wealth is going into the hands of the very few and the great mass are becoming abject slaves whose votes can be bought for cash, and thus is shown again the mighty power of money over the wage slave.—Ottumwa Iowa World.

A LAW AGAINST DRUNKENNESS

MR. EDITOR:—I may as well "break the ice" in THE FARMER as anywhere else; it has to be broken. A prohibitory law, enacted by our general government, might kill out the manufacture and sale of the numerous kinds of intoxicants, but when will we get it done? Our Representatives in the Houses of Congress (as a rule) are good and great men, but the little word liberty, for which our forefathers fought so long—they would be loath to infringe. And for a single State to undertake Prohibition, surrounded by other States—Maine and Kansas have tried that, fairly. Why, they say, they haul the "liquid hell fire,"—as Sam Jones calls it—into those States, ensconced in large pumpkins and pasteboard boxes in the form and labeled "family Bibles." We want a law against drinking to intoxication. Make it a misdemeanor, and when a man is seen unquestionably drunk, let any one notify an acting magistrate and let said magistrate send and bring him into his court and fine or imprison him. This will not touch his liberties any more than numerous laws now in full force. In towns and cities in our State when men are "drunk and down" they are taken into custody and punished by the government of said town. Being a free man and living in a free country will not excuse him; he has to lighten his purse, work on the street or go to jail. Our law now is that big towns and court houses may sell the sweet-smelling, yellow, (colored with tobacco stems,) fluid and little, one-horse towns like mine are protected from the traffic; but men may swagger along our street (having laid in a good caw full at town) cursing and slanging on Sunday or Monday and we have only to bemoan the abuse of liberty and the sacrifice of human character, and only think how much less we are incommoded than the trembling, heart-broken woman and weeping children to whom he goes home.

The North Carolina Legislature can make a law without any constitutional difficulty that will do more for the boys, and their fathers too, than ever the General Government need be expected to do. Make it a misdemeanor, worthy of punishment, to be seen drunk, and it will hurt the respectability of drinking and save thousands of our promising boys and young men from even entering these high-licensed, gilded hells with green screens, just inside the door. Many a noble-hearted fellow who has gotten into the habit unintentionally, goes to town with his tobacco and goes home to a weeping wife whom he promised God and her father he would tenderly care for during his or her natural life. Take him up, and put him to work on the streets, or fine him \$20, and he'll quit drinking. It will do him more good than all the temperance speeches I could make in a calendar year, and Gen. Fish to exhort after me, every time.

Two of the Northwestern States have enacted this law, and it is said that great good is being effected by it. North Carolina is now upon a "boom" in every conceivable respect; our farmers are coming to the front, (poor modest, down-trodden, horny-handed farmers! Who that lives about the front regrets it? They who feed the nations of the world, and grease the mighty wheels of commerce; they who constitute the great substratum of civilization; who denies that they should have a "place in the picture," of this rapidly growing country?) Improved methods, new enterprises, multiplication of colleges and churches, increase of State pride and fancy for the general good; all things and all conditions and classes of our people look to the State to curtail the growing habit of drinking to excess, and nothing will check it like punishment, publicly administered. Pocket and self-respect will do more to send a drinking man home to his family sober than all the high license the mayor can levy. I want the press of the State to help suffering innocence and agonizing mothers and crowded jails and inundated courts, by advocating punishment for intemperance as a means of its cure. Take out Pennsylvania and New York, and there is not a State on this broad continent whose press can grin at old Rip Van Winkle. Our broad vales and beautiful hills are the homes of as pure a population as ever the sun looked down upon. Save all classes of our honest people from the hell-originated habit of drinking, and our lovely skies, our balmy atmosphere and fruitful fields and generous population will win the fancy of the nations of the world. Truly, etc.,
J. W. VANDIVER.