

The Progressive Farmer.

L. L. POLK, EDITOR. D. H. BROWDER, BUSINESS MANAGER. Raleigh, N. C.

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The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' Association and N. C. State Farmers' Alliance, and the Virginia State Farmers' Alliance.

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THE PRINCIPLES OF THE FARMERS' ALLIANCE

WE give in part, the address of "Old Foggy" before the Alliance just organized at the Agricultural College, as it brings prominently before our brethren the principles and policy, adopted at St. Louis.

"We demand that the government shall erect warehouses at any point where a business of half a million dollars, yearly, is done. That the government shall take the products of the soil that are not perishable in their nature and store them, and issue to the farmer bills of exchange to the value of 80 per cent. of the products so warehoused.

"That the producer shall have the right to keep his goods in the warehouse for a year, or to sell at any time during the year.

"That the certificate issued shall be legal tenders for public and private debts.

"That the coinage of gold and silver shall not be limited.

"That the government shall own and control the railroads and telegraph lines of our country."

These are the cardinal principles of our order.

Supposing that we would ultimately need 2,000 warehouses and that the cost of these warehouses would be \$25,000,000, or double if you will, the very liberal estimate and make it 50 millions of dollars, yet, if the government were to charge half the rates now charged for insuring and warehousing, the receipts would, in five years' time, pay for the warehouses so constructed.

But suppose it did not. Has not the government built in all the cities of any size postoffices, at a cost of hundreds of millions? Has not the government for commerce and contractors passed appropriation bills, the amount of which makes our demands look insignificant by comparison? One of the arguments has been that where the government erected public buildings it gave employment to hundreds of mechanics and scattered money where the improvements were made.

You may be ready to say this is a new or novel plan. On the contrary, Joseph, the great Secretary of State for King Ptolephar, carried on the warehouse system centuries ago, the German and French governments have both practiced the plan, and at times when it seemed as if the State would go down in wreck and ruin, and they were saved by its adoption.

Every manufacturer of whisky can hold his goods for a market that suits him—hold for three years and the government owns, practically, 75 per cent. for taxes.

If the cost of collecting revenue internal is less than five per cent., we can safely assume that it would not be over 2 per cent. by our method.

Our national banks are conducted on the same plan. They deposit evidences of debt and get 90 per cent. in certificates which we call national bank notes. We, on the other hand, propose to deposit evidences of wealth, such products as the world cannot do without and we only ask 80 per cent. of their value.

Private warehouses or those owned by corporations pursue the same line. Wheat is deposited in elevators, sold on certificates of grade and you can sell thousands of bushels and not de-

liver one bushel in bulk. The government now issues certificates on gold and silver, so that there is nothing new in the plan, but it is strikingly new for the farmer, the mechanic and laborer, to ask for anything for their benefit?

You may be ready to ask what benefits are expected to flow from the adoption of this plan?

It would increase the price of all products, for the farmer need not sell his products until they would bring him a margin of profits instead of a clear loss as is now the case.

It would increase the volume of currency, and make it possible if such an amount were needed to make the total reach one billion of dollars.

Take our cotton crops—we could get 350,000,000 dollars, and yet not have sold one pound of cotton if the price was not such as would yield us a profit. We could raise cotton from 9 1/2 to 12 1/2 cents per pound, an increase of over one hundred millions in value in one year. It would raise wheat from 75 cents to \$1 per bushel, and wheat raising would once more be profitable. It would transfer the profits from the speculator to the laborer, from Wall street to the farm.

In short we propose to have a Sub-Treasury in each county and for the producer to receive from the government bills of exchange that shall be legal tenders for all the people. By adding to the volume of currency we would decrease the rates of interest and increase the values of the farmer.

Space will not permit of more extended extracts.

THIS IS FOR YOU.

ON the 10th of February, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER will have been in existence four years. Of the struggle it had in the beginning, of its undertakings on behalf of the people and its successes, of its loyalty and fidelity, of its hard, earnest and constant labors for the elevation and advancement of the agricultural interests, it is not for us to speak. Its readers know it all. While we feel that it has done a good work, yet it has not been all that we desired. We have been cramped for want of means and have been so thoroughly absorbed in official work that we could not give the paper the attention we felt it should have. But we intend to exert every effort to make it a better paper than it has ever been. We are proud of the support it has received. But we know that there are thousands of farmers and Alliance members in the State who should read the paper and who do not get it. There can be no objection to the price. We want to increase our circulation. We want help to do it. Will our friends interest themselves and aid us? Let our new volume, on the 10th of next month, open with a greatly enlarged list, and every one of them paid up. If any one owes us for the paper, let the money come forward by the 10th of February.

Any one sending us ten dollars with ten subscribers will get a copy free. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and the National Economist one year for \$1.75. For two cash subscribers to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER we will send the Economist Almanac.

DOES FARMING PAY?

YES, it pays handsomely. It pays the railroads—it pays the manufacturers—it pays the speculator—it pays the political tricksters, it pays the professional men, it pays the merchants, it pays the money barons, it pays the banks, it pays trusts, combines and other forms of legalized robberies; it pays almost everybody except the farmer. O yes, farming pays!

1890.

IN the beginning of this New Year, let us remember the errors, the disappointments and misfortunes of the past year, only to profit by them. As members of society, let us be more charitable and cheerful; as kindred and friends, more affectionate and genial; as citizens, more patriotic and manful; as Alliances and women, more faithful and fraternal; as farmers, more thoughtful and provident, and as Christians, more persevering and devoted to good works.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER sends greeting to its thousands of readers, and wishes each and all of them a happy and prosperous New Year.

RUIN AT BOTH ENDS.

ARMOUR & CO. and the railroads combine to control the beef market of the country. Armour & Co. form a combine and force the Kansas farmer to sell them his beef for less than it costs to produce it. They then telegraph their agent at Asheville, N. C., to offer beef so low that the farmers of Buncombe county can not sell their beef to the butchers and thus take entire possession of the Asheville market and establish a monopoly in beef. Who is profited by this arrangement? Armour & Co. and the railroads and possibly some of the consumers in Asheville. Who is hurt by it? The farmer in Kansas and the farmer in Buncombe, who are forced to raise beef for less than cost in order that capitalists and railroads may make money on it.

THE PEOPLE WILL NOT BE DECEIVED.

IT is amusing to note with what profound interest and concern certain trucking papers are endeavoring to throw dust in the eyes of the people in regard to the action of the St. Louis Convention. But the people will not be deceived. Some of these papers display, either wilful deception or inexcusable ignorance in their attempt to mislead the public. For example, the Farm, Field and Stockman, whose strong partisan bias gives color to all its discussions of questions of a national character, very adroitly manipulates and contorts the proceedings of that body with the evident intent to do injustice. It takes the action of the Knights of Labor, the Northwestern Alliance, the National Farmers' Alliance, and President Harrison's message and jumbles them all together, and gives this muddle out to its readers as the action of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union. It has fallen into line with other partisan, political papers and persists in the false statement that the Alliance and Knights of Labor consolidated.

We notify the people that there are papers which are mere tools in the hands of our enemies. They are the mouth-pieces of monopolists and railroads. They will assail us in every conceivable way. They will not hesitate to misrepresent us. They will claim to be the champions of the people's rights, and some of the people will be deceived by them. They will stand out and crack the whip of their political bosses over the heads of the people and strive to frighten and intimidate them. They will be in the service and at the bidding of monopolistic and corporate power. They will practice the same deceitful game that they have so successfully played for a quarter of a century, and which has impoverished the confiding, trustful farmer and well nigh ruined the whole country. But they had as well submit in good grace. The farmers of the land will stand loyally by the action of the St. Louis meeting, and will thereby save the country from the grasp of corrupt plutocracy and impending ruin. The people will not longer be deceived. We intend to shell the bushes and drive these bushwhackers into the open field, if possible, and force them to show their colors. Let the people be constantly on guard, for the enemy is marshaling his forces.

THE AMERICAN FARMER AND SECTIONALISM.

THE same causes which have paralyzed the energies of the farmers of Kansas have impoverished the farmers of Carolina, of Illinois and of New Hampshire. The same evils which confront the farmers from Maryland to Mexico, are at the doors of the farmers from Maine to California. The American farmer, in whatever State he may live, is weighed down by the same burthen. They must make common cause and come together in a common effort for relief. They must obliterate all sectional lines and divisions, which really and only exist in the prejudices of designing demagogues, and declare by their mighty and united voice, that henceforth the farmers of this great country will stand together in defence of their rights and their liberties as bequeathed to them by the patriot fathers of the republic.

HE WAS PUZZLED.

FARMER Adkins: "I don't understand it. In 1870 I owed a man \$180 and brought one bale of cotton to town weighing 500 pounds and sold it and took up the note. I was owing another man this year the same amount and brought two bales to town and sold it to-day and it took the last cent to pay it. I couldn't for the life of me understand how it is that it takes just 1,000 pounds of cotton to-day to pay the same amount that it took only 500 pounds to pay in 1870. It required twice as many hard licks to make these two bales—it costs me twice as much as the one bale and yet they buy me no more money. Somehow or other it looks to me that just one-half my labor has gone for nothing and somebody has got it without paying for it." "Say, Allen, can you tell me how it is that I have to do twice as much work now for that \$180 as I had to do in 1870?" Allen: "Well, Adkins, money is like any other commodity in one respect, the scarcer it is the higher it is. Money was plentiful years ago and was cheaper, now it is scarce and it takes more of your labor to buy it. You say you are puzzled to know who got the half of your labor in making those two bales of cotton. Those who manage and control the money got it. The National Banking system and Wall street manipulators and speculators have conspired to make money scarce and thereby raise the price of the dollar. You see they hold the dollar and the higher value they can put on it the more of the products of your labor—your cotton for example—they can get for it. Our national debt is in the hands of these same money lords, and has undergone exactly the same process that your \$180

did. In 1866 the public debt could have been paid with 1,092,000,000 pounds of cotton; to-day it would require 16,930,000,000 pounds to pay it, although the debt is \$1,090,000,000 less now than it was in 1867. Now when these corrupt men and their hirelings tell you that the low prices of your products are due to overproduction, it is false. With our present financial system you can have no control whatever of the price of your cotton or anything else you produce, and farming in these United States is practically one vast system of tenantry. My advice to you, Mr. Adkins, is to take Alliance papers and read and study more about your business."

OUR THANKS.

FOR the many kind expressions and congratulations, conveyed to us through letters, telegrams and resolutions, from our own and many other States, we are profoundly grateful, and regret that the great pressure of duties has prevented us from responding to them. We hope to find time in the near future to express our warm appreciation, by letter, to our good friends.

OUR SUCCESSOR.

THE new Secretary, to be appointed by our State Executive Committee, will be announced in our next issue. We bespeak for him, whoever he may be, the same forbearance and the same zealous and loyal support from the brotherhood, that it has been our good fortune to enjoy. That he will be worthy and well qualified, no one can doubt who know the men whose appointee he will be. His will be no easy task. Encourage him, trust him and stand by him. We know not who he will be, but he will need your aid and your generous, fraternal support. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER can greatly aid him in his labors, and it will most cheerfully render any service it may be able

LET THE PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION.

IN 1860 the total wealth of the United States was \$16,000,000,000, of which labor owned \$7,000,000,000 and capital, \$9,000,000,000. In 1870, total wealth, \$30,000,000,000, labor owned \$11,000,000,000 and capital \$19,000,000,000. In 1880, total wealth, \$43,000,000,000, labor owned \$9,000,000,000 and capital \$34,000,000,000. It will be seen that in 1860 labor owned 43 per cent. of the wealth of the country, in 1870 it owned 36 per cent. and in 1880 it owned 20 per cent. The census of 1890 will show that capital owns nearly the entire wealth of the country. How is this alarming state of affairs to be remedied? By the people rising in their majesty and hurling from power those who have deceived and betrayed them with false promises.

ANOTHER BIG FIGHT.

THE farmers of the tobacco belt will meet in Oxford on Thursday, the 9th inst. They meet to take action in regard to the Tobacco Trust, composed of four cigarette manufacturing companies. Unless we are greatly misinformed, this Trust is founded on methods that would do credit to highway robbers, and we want to see the farmers throughout this land combine and utterly demolish it. Let them hoist their flag and grant no quarter and ask none. Against all these thieving trusts, which are designed to rob our honest farmers, let the war-cry be, "war to the knife and the knife to the hilt!" And we call upon the true and noble men of old Granville to take that flag and lead the charge. Men of Piedmont North Carolina! go to Oxford and show your manhood and your hatred of oppressors and robbers. We are ashamed to hear the name of a North Carolina firm connected with this disgraceful and iniquitous proceeding.

HENRY W. GRADY.

AMERICA'S most brilliant orator is dead. Atlanta mourns him as its favorite son; Georgia, as one of its truest and most devoted citizens; the South, as its most powerful and eloquent advocate, and the whole country, as one whose broad patriotism was bounded only by the horizon of his native land. May his dying message to his countrymen, the greatest effort of his brilliant life, enshrine his name in imperishable remembrance!

—Bro. W. H. Smith, Secretary of Cedar Run Alliance, No. 1,487, writes encouragingly and says all the members are thorough Alliances and will hold out to the end. They are weak numerically and financially but are strong in the faith and have contributed to the business agency fund to the extent of their ability. The writer regrets that their president cannot attend the meetings at present. A wound received in the late war necessitated the amputation of his leg a few days ago, but he is improving and it is hoped he will soon be able to resume the duties of his office. The brother calls loudly for a speaker. His appeal is "Send us a lecturer."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

\* Bro. C. T. Richardson, of Earpsboro, N. C., calling in to renew his subscription, says that he always raises his own molasses and likes the crop better every year. He says it is an excellent substitute for brown sugar, in preserving, &c.

\*\* There is an earnest interest among the members of our order in the subject of insurance. We are enabled to say that a system of insurance, for the use of the whole order, will be presented in the near future, which is pronounced by those competent to judge, to be most admirably adapted to the wants and wishes of our people.

\*\* It is claimed that an error occurs in the proceedings of the St. Louis meeting as published elsewhere in this paper and as it appears in other prints. That a substitute was adopted in lieu of Sec. 20 of the Statutory Laws. That matter is being investigated by the proper authority and will be corrected, if an error has been committed.

\*\* The employees of our office worked hard and faithfully during the year just past, and were entitled to the usual respite, which is almost universally accorded, hence we issued no paper last week. We roll up our sleeves and start into the year's work before us with a determination to give our kind friends a better paper during 1890 than ever before.

\*\* Our readers would do well to file this issue of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and preserve it carefully as it contains the Constitution and statutory laws adopted at St. Louis and other very important acts of that body. Let every member of the order study the Constitution and laws carefully. Read and re-read the report on the monetary system which was adopted. The last issue and this one contain the full proceedings of the St. Louis meeting.

\*\* The State Grange of Kansas, which met recently in the city of Topeka, appointed a committee to confer with the Farmers' Alliance of that State to arrange, if possible, for harmonious and united action of the two bodies. It was also ordered that the demands of the St. Louis Convention should be submitted to the subordinate Granges of Kansas for ratification or rejection. And thus the great reform movement is going forward with increasing force and power.

\*\* The National Grange and a number of farmers' organizations have called for the Superintendent of the U. S. census to collect and report in the next census the amount of indebtedness, mortgages, etc., which hang on the farms of the country. It will be seen by reference to another column that Bro. C. W. Macune, the able and vigilant Chairman of our Executive Board, waited on Mr. Porter in person, and obtained from that official the promise to include these important items in his next report. A good days work for our Executive Board.

\*\* The semi-annual Word and Secret Work of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union will be sent out at an early day. The new Constitution and Rituals will also be ready for State Secretaries in a short time. The Ritual will contain a form of prayer for use in opening and closing the meetings and also a form of burial service. The Constitution and statutory laws will be published in connection with an order of business, and a simple form of parliamentary law for the use of the order. These publications will appear in neat and durable style and will be sold to the brotherhood at cost through the State Secretaries.

ALLIANCE NOTES.

[Always give the name and number of your Alliance, your postoffice and your county, plainly, when you write to the President, Secretary, Trustee, Business Agent or Chairman of Executive Committee of the State Alliance.]

—We are sorry to hear of the serious illness of Bro. Albert Wicker, of Camon Falls Alliance, No. 130.

—Bro. W. M. Taylor is President of Graham County Alliance, and Bro. L. M. Medlin, of Welch, N. C., is Secretary.

—Bro. J. W. Heston, writing from Clarkton, N. C., informs us that Bro. Marks, of that place, died on the 3rd of December.

—Bro. J. F. Brinson writes from Pamlico county to say that his Alliance endorses the insurance feature of the Alliance.

—Bro. J. M. Miller writes from Troutman's Alliance, Stanly county, that they are moving along slowly, but are "getting there, Eli."

—Surry County Alliance was organized Dec. 4th, 1889, with A. L. Bunker as President and J. C. Cooper, of Dobson, N. C., as Secretary.

—Jenkins X Roads Alliance, No. 416, Union county, recently passed resolutions concerning the loss, by fire, sustained by Bro. J. S. Little in the burning of his chair factory. His loss is about \$1,000, and they ask that each Alliance in the State send

him 50 cents to help him rebuild. Send contributions to J. S. Little, Zoar, Union county.

—Bro. W. W. Gibbs, of Dinwale, Polk county, wants Mr. George Hollifield, of Burke or McDowell county, to write to him at the above address.

—We are glad to see Bro. J. B. Holman, of Iredell, R. P. Hunter, of Mecklenburg, and 'spt. W. A. Darden in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER office last week.

—Bro. H. W. Phelps, Secretary of Scuppernon Alliance, No. 1,801, Washington county, writes that his Alliance now has 64 members, with several applications on file.

—Bro. J. W. Aldridge, writing from Friendship Alliance, No. 545, says that with 86 members, half of them ladies, they have paid \$160 to the business agency fund.

—Bro. J. A. Harris, writing from Seaboard, Northampton county, reports crops almost a total failure in his section. He fears that many of the poor people will suffer.

—Bro. Geo. S. White, of Ryland, Chowan county, sends three subscribers to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and says that his Alliance now numbers 60 male and 25 female members.

—Bro. A. G. Person has moved from Fremont, N. C., and will make Luling, Texas, his home in the future. The best wishes of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER go with him to his new home.

—Bro. S. C. Lassiter, Secretary of Walnut Ridge Alliance, No. 1,308, Randolph county, writes that his Alliance now number 45 excellent members and that his county is on a big boom.

—Bro. J. F. P. Harton, Secretary of Smith's Creek Alliance, No. 35, Warren county, writes that crops are very short in that county, cotton not making more than a bale to ten or twelve acres.

—Bro. J. F. Crowder, of Wadeville, N. C., in renewing his subscription to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, remarks that he thinks the members should read their State organ and keep posted.

—Bro. P. D. Bridgers, of Lovejoy Alliance, No. 981, Cleveland county, writes that his lodge now numbers 43 members, and that they have contributed liberally to the business agency fund.

—Bro. R. P. Holmes, Secretary of Harmony Hill Alliance, No. 1,067, Iredell county, informs us that his Alliance is moving along slowly, but they have contributed \$30 to the business agency fund.

—Bro. W. R. McKee, Secretary of River Bend Alliance, Orange county, sends us resolutions in regard to patenting the Alliance tobacco warehouses. That is sensible. Stick to your warehouse, brethren.

—Bro. W. W. Wash, Corresponding Secretary of Hurdle's Mills Alliance, No. 796, Person county, writes that his Alliance has 70 members, and that they would like to have some brother to deliver them a lecture.

—Bro. E. L. Crowder, Corresponding Secretary of Dyson Creek Alliance, No. 212, writes that his Alliance has been organized 2 years, has 74 members on roll and has not been visited by death since its organization.

—Bro. Alfred Gates, writing from Asbury, Warren county, says that the cry of "hard times" is heard in New Jersey just as often as it is here in the South, and attributes the cause to high taxation.

—Bro. W. M. Pearson, writing from Apex, Wake county, says that corn is not more than a half a crop and cotton one-third in his section; that he killed a Jersey pig ten months old recently which weighed 307 pounds.

—Bro. W. E. McCoy, Secretary of South Mills Alliance, No. 1,213, writes that his Alliance now numbers about 66 members. They have contributed \$15 to the business agency fund and expect to give at least \$1 each.

—Bro. P. G. W. Walker, of Toffs Creek Alliance, No. 1,670, Rockingham county, writes to say that his people are well satisfied that the Alliance has come to stay, and that the State Business Agent is the right man for the place.

—Bro. W. H. Neal, Secretary of River Bend Alliance, No. 35, Pittsylvania county, Va., writes that they fully endorse the proceedings of the Border Alliance in endorsing the fertilizers offered by the North Carolina Business Agent.

—Bro. B. J. Archibald, writing from Gold Rock, Nash county, recommends that all Alliances read the Bible and THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, and to be sure and "practice what they preach." He especially advises them to read the 4th chapter of 2d Corinthians.

—Bro. J. S. L. Ward, Secretary of Bethel Alliance, No. 703, Pitt county, informs us that Bro. W. A. James, President of his Alliance, is soon to move to Asheville. At their last meeting they passed resolutions warmly commending Bro. James to the people of that city.