

The Progressive Farmer.

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Raleigh, N. C. JULY 1, 1890.
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The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' Association and N. C. State Farmers' Alliance.

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A SMALL FAVOR ASKED.

Will the judges, members of the State Senate and members of the Lower House who have refused to accept free passes from the different railroad corporations in the State be so kind as to drop us a postal card to that effect? We would appreciate this little act of kindness very much.

In response to the above the following members of the Legislature and Senate have gone on record as having refused railroad passes:

- B. A. Wellons, Johnston county; J. D. Parker, Perquimans county; E. C. Beddingfield, Wake county; M. J. Ham, Wayne county; John Norwood, Orange county; N. Gibbon, Mecklenburg county.

THE GOOD OLD WAY.

MR. MILLS opposes the Sub-Treasury bill and published what he gave out as his views, even before he had read the bill. Senators Coke and Reagan say they oppose it. Mr. Herbert, Mr. Oates, Mr. Culbertson and Senator Ca lyle all oppose it. But for puerile sophistry and weak argument, the papers sent out by these gentlemen are a brilliant success.

And if Congress shall adjourn without such action, let the farmers of the country hold the members responsible for it, and let them rebuke such inexcusable neglect of duty by voting against them at the ballot-box.

Such advice to the hirelings of monopoly and the political whippers in may be called "treason," but it is the good old American way—the way of our fathers and the only way by which the people of the country can bring this body back to a sense of its duty and responsibility. Stand up in your primaries and conventions and stand at the ballot-box and assert and maintain your rights.

If these men tell you that the Sub-Treasury bill will not do, force them to tell you why they did not pass a bill that would do, or leave them at home. The day for dilly-dallying with these grave questions has passed and the time is at hand when the people should show their manhood and their loyalty to honest government.

INCREASED ACREAGE IN COTTON.

THE statistical returns for the month of June to the Department of Agriculture at Washington show an increased acreage in cotton in nearly every Southern State. The area, as compared with the acreage of 1889, is reported in the preliminary investigation as follows:

- Virginia, 98; North Carolina, 102; South Carolina, 103; Georgia, 102; Florida, 103; Alabama, 102; Mississippi, 102; Louisiana, 95; Texas, 105; Arkansas, 99; Tennessee, 100; average, 102. Average condition 88.8. The percentage of Virginia is 90; North Carolina 98; South Carolina 97; Georgia 94; Florida 92; Alabama 93; Mississippi 85; Louisiana 84; Texas 84; Arkansas 85; Tennessee 87.

The fair price prevailing, with the low prices for other products, stimulates an extension of planting. The overflows in Arkansas and Louisiana delayed the planting in those States and prevented the increase which

would otherwise have been made. There are locations where replanting to perfect stands injured by cold nights still continues, and in extreme cases, to the 15th of June. The sands generally are very good in Carolina, with exceptions in the low areas where frost or cold nights destroyed the plants. In the Mississippi Valley and Texas heavy rains, local frosts and inundations have caused an unusual amount of replanting, and on the Mississippi and other great rivers a delay of planting until the waters recede. In such cases the seed has been chopped in the mud, and the plants have appeared promptly, sometimes in four days from the planting.

Except on the Atlantic coast the excess of rain has retarded the chopping out and cultivation, leaving the crop somewhat grassy, though the recent fine weather has done much to secure clean cultivation. In the more southern latitudes the plants are beginning to bloom. While the entire breadth as a rule is late, the plants are healthy and growing rapidly.

BANK PROFITS.

HERE is an object lesson given by the Knights of Labor Journal that all will do well to study:

Does the national bank system tend to the concentration of wealth in the hands of the bankers? Let us look at this a moment. The best known bank in the United States is probably the Chemical National Bank of New York. Its original capital stock was \$200,000, and the par value of its shares was \$100. A little while ago ten shares of this bank were sold at auction and brought \$45,000. Now just figure this out. If ten shares are worth \$45,000, how much are 3,000 shares worth? \$13,680,000, is it not? No wealth concentrated in the hands of the national banks, eh! Where do you suppose the \$13,380,000 which represent the difference between the original investment of \$300,000 and the present value of the stock under the hammer, came from? Have you an idea that they planted the money in their back yard and dug it up again after the crop had ripened? Thirteen odd millions represent just so much of the wealth of the country that has been concentrated by this one bank. Another little fact which it may not be amiss to note just here, is that this bank pays dividends of 25 per cent. every two months and has been doing so for years. Oh, national banking don't pay; there's no profit in it. Bless you, no, no profit. It's no profit, it's larceny.

THE CAUSE IN IOWA.

THE following letter is from Bro. Alonzo Wardell, of the National Executive Board, and will be found interesting and encouraging. He says:

"I am down in this fair land, assisting Brother A. W. Page to introduce our Alliance insurance work, he having been appointed general agent for most of the State of Iowa, and an most visiting with Brother J. P. Furrow, President of the State Alliance, at his pleasant home embowered among forest and fruit trees, just expanding in leaf and bloom, situated a mile from the village of Garwin. Brother Furrow is a wide awake, progressive leader, and the Alliance is on an immense boom, over 600 new organizations having been effected in the past three months and still they come. They now number 1,732 subordinate Alliances with over 50,000 members. Brother Furrow is devoting his entire time to the work and is an ardent advocate of consolidation and thinks it will be consummated this fall. He has promised to attend our June meeting if possible. By the way, he is a Dakotan, having spent four years in Aurora and Jerold counties, where a son and son-in-law now live.

The Alliance of Iowa are worrying the politicians full more than they are in Dakota. The old time majority of the G. O. P. has desolved into thin air. A Democrat—sacrilegious thought!—sits in the chair of State. No man knoweth where those 50,000 Alliance votes are going. It is fair to presume that each party will be careful to nominate men that the farmers can approve and you may be sure they will hasten to include the Alliance platform in theirs. Whether that will fill the bill time alone can determine. There is a prevailing suspicion that neither party can be depended upon to carry out, in good faith, the reforms we demand and if Congress adjourns without adopting substantial measures of relief, and they are almost sure to dodge the issue, it is safe to say there will be a landslide that will overwhelm many an aspiring, would be statesman. The people are in no mood for further trifling."

The Mountain Post, published at Elk Park, N. C., whose editor, it seems, is much a matter of fact man, feels impelled to remark: "It is simply disgusting to see a candidate's card in a newspaper read: 'At the solicitation of many friends I have consented to allow my name to run before the nominating convention, etc.' If he wants the office why not come right square out and say so, and avoid the sin of lying?"

WRITE TO THEM.

WRITE to your Congressman and ask him to read the fifth chapter of the book of Nehemiah. If necessary you might suggest to him that it is to be found in a publication known as the Bible. He might possibly discover a similarity in the condition of the farmers of that day and the present. And as Congress seems to be deaf to the farmers and blind to their terribly depressed condition, it may be that they would soften a little in the light of this old biblical illustration.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

\* Prof. W. A. Withers has returned from Cornell University.

\* The free coinage silver bill passed by the United States Senate has been defeated in the House, and a conference has been ordered.

\* Mrs. Grady, widow of the late Henry W. Grady, of Georgia, and her daughter, are sojourning at the Greenbrier White Sulphur Springs.

\* Edward K. Valentine, the Republican nominee, has been elected Sergeant at Arms of the United States Senate, vice Col. W. P. Canady, of this State, resigned.

\* The grape growers of this vicinity evidently expect to ship grapes the coming season, the Grape Growers' Association having placed an order for twenty-five thousand baskets.

\* The absence of the associate editor will account for any imperfections in this issue of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. Mr. Ramsey is attending his brother, in Iredell county, who is critically ill.

\* The rumor that the cooks of this city have decided upon a general strike for higher wages, on the fourth of July, is not believed, and the reported "sensation" has entirely disappeared, if it ever existed.

\* It is said that Dr. Gatling, the inventor of the Gatling gun—who, by the way, is a native Carolinian—is at work on a new artificial ice machine which he believes will make ice at one tenth the present cost.

\* Bro. Demming, of Pennsylvania, says the brethren of that State have adopted the inspiring motto, "Look up and go up." And from the progress of the order in that State, they are living up to the motto.

\* A Saratoga, N. Y., telegram says: "The Court of Appeals' decision in the sugar case, handed down yesterday, is strongly against the trust. The judgments of the lower court dissolving the trust are fully affirmed."

\* Upon a request from the Courier Journal, Supervisor of the Census, Porter, has allowed Supervisor Spencer to give an approximation of the population of Louisville. In round numbers Spencer makes it 180,000.

\* The Greensboro Patriot reports that one entire township in Guilford county was overlooked by the census takers. If half that is said about this recent census taking is true, the thing is a great fraud and failure, so far as this State is concerned.

\* The next meeting of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union will be held the first Tuesday in December, 1890. The place of meeting was changed from Jacksonville to Ocala, Fla., by the Executive Board, which met in Washington City on the 20th ult.

\* The Chamber of Commerce of the city of Winston has decided to invite the North Carolina Press Association to hold its meeting next year in that place. Winston is a live, vigorous little city, and, should the brethren of the press accept the invitation, they may expect a royal reception.

\* Rev. R. G. Pearson, the evangelist, so well known in this State, has had the degree of D. D. conferred upon him by the Cumberland University of Tennessee. This good man is not troubled by trifles, and in the future as in the past, will doubtless be the same grand expounder of the truth.

\* Mr. N. H. D. Wilson, formerly associate editor of the Christian Advocate, of this city, returned to his home in Greensboro on Tuesday last, from Vanderbilt University at Nashville, Tenn. Mr. Wilson graduated with distinction, receiving the highest honors of his class and winning the Vanderbilt medal for best scholarship, and a scholarship for the next term.

\* An item to the effect that Mr. W. Thomas Henderson, of Dallas, N. C., who was about to die from the loss of blood, caused by several lung hemorrhages, was saved last week by the transfusion of a quart of lamb's blood into his veins, is going the rounds of the State press. It is said that immediate improvement followed the transfusion and that the patient was soon out of danger.

\* A dispatch received in this city on Saturday last stated that there was great excitement in the city of Atlanta over a telegram received from Havana announcing the arrest and confinement in jail of Rev. A. J. Diaz, a missionary of the Southern

Baptist Convention. Diaz, although a native Cuban, is an American citizen, and his arrest is claimed to be religious persecution. The government at Washington has been appealed to in order to secure his release. Diaz was a very prominent character in the Southern Baptist Convention held recently at Fort Worth, Texas, and his arrest took place soon after his return to Cuba. Our government will doubtless demand his immediate release.

\* In his Charlotte speech Senator Vance gave the following interesting comparison of taxable values in North Carolina: In 1861 it was \$291,000,000; in 1865 it was \$120,000,000; in 1870 it was \$130,000,000; while now it is \$230,000,000—\$62,000,000 less than in 1861. The effects of the war were stupendous. Thus, in twenty five years North Carolina lacks sixty two million dollars of having recovered herself.

\* All editors who intend to be present at the next annual meeting of the North Carolina Press Association, which convenes in the town of Durham, July 23d, are requested to communicate at once with T. B. Eldridge, Esq., of the Durham Globe, and notify him of their intention to be present. The information is needed for the guidance of the committee having in charge arrangements for the entertainment of the association.

\* Henry M. Stanley, the celebrated African explorer, has been tendered and has accepted the Governor Generalship of the Congo Free State. He will not enter upon his duties until the beginning of 1891, unless he should be called upon to assume them earlier by King Leopold. After his marriage, which will soon take place, Stanley will come to the United States, where he will remain until summoned to enter upon office.

\* Mr. N. Gibbon, who was one of the members of the last Legislature, from Mecklenburg county, writes as follows: "I cannot say that I refused to accept a free pass from any railroad while a member of the General Assembly, because I cannot say that the railroads offered me any. But I did refuse to accept or use such a pass which was offered me by a party who had no connection with any railroad that I knew of. Likely it all amounts to the same thing."

\* During the past week the daily papers of the city have received and published the sad intelligence of the death of the wife of Rev. G. P. Bostic, which occurred at Shanghai, China, on May 8th. Mr. Bostic, under the auspices of the Southern Baptist Church, went to China as a missionary a few years ago. It is said that during one of his visitations, some distance from the mission, his wife was taken sick with small pox, and when he returned he found her dead and buried. This is a case which stirs the deepest sympathies of the people, and causes them to feel that a great reward is in store of these self-sacrificing men who go to foreign lands to preach the gospel. Mr. Bostic's little boy has been sent back to America and is on his way home.

A PROPOSITION TO THE SUB-ALLIANCES—READ AND ACT.

"The press is a power. Politicians recognize and act upon this truth. Thousands of our farmers are reading party papers, but do not read our own Alliance papers. We should flood the State with Alliance papers. It should be done right now. Every member of the order in North Carolina should read THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for the next three or four months. Can it be done? Yes. How? Let every Sub Alliance in the State, at its very next meeting, or the active, wide awake members thereof, send one or two dollars to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and order as many copies as we can get. The money, to be sent to those of the Alliance who do not take the paper. Let this be done and we will wake up the old State from one end to the other. What says THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER?"

WHITAKERS. We heartily thank our good brother for his wise and practical proposition. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER will meet him more than half way with this proposition: Any Alliance sending us before the first of August, one dollar for papers for its members, we will send five copies of the paper for three months; two dollars, eleven copies for three months.

A MISTAKE.

MR. EDITOR:—THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is mistaken when it says (June 17th) there are five lawyers in the 6th district trying to def. lawyer Rowland out of his seat. The fact is five other lawyers in the 6th district are helping lawyer Rowland to keep Capt. S. B. Alexander from getting that seat. N. GIBBON. June 21, 1890.

The Alliance men of Forsyth are talking of establishing an Alliance smoking tobacco factory in Winston, and at a recent meeting of those interested in the movement, it was decided to hold a mass-meeting July 14th for the purpose of raising the necessary capital.

OUR DEMAND CARDS.

The State Chronicle, of the 25th ult., devotes over two columns in trying to prove that the Alliance has made a mistake in asking candidates to pledge themselves. I rise to ask if the people have not a right to know what measures a candidate will support before they nominate him or vote for him? Have candidates a divine right to refuse to make promises? Shall they stand on their dignity when called on to say how they are going to vote on any question if elected? Are we to be met always with the answer "I will vote in accordance with the platform of my party" or "I will do my best for the relief of the people who elect me"? These answers that may mean anything or nothing will not satisfy the people any longer. Is it wrong to pledge candidates? Then why did the politicians have resolutions introduced into a number of county conventions two years ago pledging the legislative candidates to vote for Mr. Ransom for U. S. Senator? It makes a big difference whose ox is gored. The Chronicle says, in speaking of Col. Jones' refusal to sign, that "Mr. Jones did right." If Mr. Jones opposes the demands he did do right to refuse to sign an agreement to support them; but if he favors them he should have signed the card. If he favors a portion of them he should have signed the agreement to support that portion if elected. The people will be hard to convince that his refusal is not intended to keep them in doubt as to his true intentions in regard to these demands. One thing he has clearly demonstrated, both in his refusal to commit himself and in his letter, that is that he can not be depended on to vote for the measures asked by the Alliance for the relief of the people. He may do so if it suits him or he may not. The people are not in a condition to be kept in doubt. They have a right to know the position of all candidates and they will know before they give their support. It is time for the politicians to get rid of the idea that a candidate is any better than the people whom he asks to vote for him. Even after he is elected he is only a public servant paid so much cash for his services. We claim a right to ask such a person to sign a contract to work for our relief before we employ him. If he is unwilling to bind himself we may be unwilling to trust him with the work. The politicians say "there is no need of a written pledge." Why not? We are indebted that during the campaign two years ago a certain candidate for the State Legislature was asked while speaking if he was in favor of a railroad commission and he said he was. When the Legislature met he voted against a commission and when he was charged, by a gentleman who was present when he made the pledge of being false to it, he flatly denied having made it. If he had been pledged in writing, he might still have broken his pledge but he could not have denied it. His name written by his own hand upon the card would have been an unanswerable witness against him. His people would know he had lied and would never again be deceived by him.

The newspapers seem to take it for granted that the Alliance proposes to support every candidate who signs the cards. In this they are much mistaken. They will be presented to every candidate for Congress in this State, irrespective of party. Of course the farmers cannot vote for all if they all sign, but they can vote for those they consider the most likely to stand by their pledge and work as well as vote in the interest of the people. The charge cannot be made that these demands are wild or unreasonable; for the Chronicle itself says it "is in thorough and hearty sympathy with every effort made to carry them into effect." Most newspapers in the State speak favorably of them.

When the Alliance was first organized in this State it passed resolutions asking for relief. Nobody noticed the resolutions. The members of the Alliance next sent a great many petitions to the State Legislature. Politicians then began to take a little notice but put the matter aside saying "the petitions were sent out from headquarters," "the farmers haven't got sense enough to know what they want," etc. The Alliance next passed some demands. Politicians smiled. Next the demands were sent out for endorsement by candidates. Then came the deluge. Politicians excited. The newspapers indignant; party bosses dismayed; the dignity of office-seekers insulted. What does all this stir mean? Simply that they have found out at last that farmers are in earnest. There is no objection to the Alliance passing resolutions or even demands so long as they stop there; but when we take steps to carry out those resolutions, a howl is raised.

Some of the partisan press openly accuse the Alliance of using the demand cards for the purpose of helping corrupt men into office. This is a reflection upon the honor of the Alliance and is an insult to every member. The Chronicle does not say so. It is too fair and just to accuse the Alliance of dishonesty, but it makes the mistake of saying that there is danger of the cards helping corrupt men into office. There never was a time when

corrupt men did not have the power to promise everything. They can make promises just as well without the cards as with them, but the breaking of a written pledge is a far more serious matter than the breaking of a verbal pledge that may be forgotten or denied, or misunderstood, or explained away, or disagreed about. The press takes too much for granted when it supposes the Alliance is going to vote for any demagogue who will agree to sign a pledge; but we prefer a pledged demagogue to an unpledged demagogue. The Alliance does not propose to have demagogues at all if it can be helped. It proposes to support honest men and it proposes to pledge them, too.

I find the Chronicle claims it is unfair for the Alliance to pledge candidates as it does not represent the whole people. It is true it does not, but it represents a large majority of them. More than two thirds of the white men in this State are members of this organization. A majority has the right to claim anything they choose so long as they claim nothing that will oppress the minority. These demands do not contain anything that will injure anyone who is not an Alliance man. It asks no special legislation for itself; it asks for certain reforms for the relief of the people of every class and profession. The State press has never claimed that the passage of our demands into laws would injure anybody. Then we claim that as none can be hurt by our measures, we being a majority of the people, have a right to demand that candidates pledge themselves to support these measures. If a candidate is opposed to these demands he has a right to refuse to sign them, but he ought not to ask for the votes of a people if he cannot, when elected, conscientiously vote in accordance with the views of a large majority of that people. When a candidate gets too dignified to sign a pledge, he is too dignified to make a good public servant. We pay our public servants good wages and we intend to have them sign pledges for faithful service.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

There can be no question that in all the Southern States a very large percent of the Farmers' Alliance has always voted with the Democratic party. It is equally true that in Kansas and the Northwest the Farmers' Alliance is largely made up of Republican voters.

The Alliance has not asked any man North or South to forsake either church or party. The Alliance is non-partisan. The members of the Alliance do propose to vote as they please. The dictum of the party bosses will not control them; they propose to vote for their best interests and we do not propose to be led by party leaders just because they are party leaders.

Take Bro. Alexander's or Gramham's dietries for example. Has their Democracy ever been questioned? Is not their record clear? What then is the cause of all this fight? It is simply because the farmers proposed to nominate men who would look after their best interests and not be led by the illegitimate son of Rothschild.

August Belmont has led the Democratic party for years in its financial direction. We want free coinage of silver. We have demanded it. A majority of the Democratic Representatives and many of the Western Republicans are with us. Yet neither party is solid on our demands. We want a large increase of currency; we want a low rate of interest established for the benefit of the poor, for the benefit of our country. Neither party favors this. But because we do favor it, the capitalists east of the new Mason's and Dixon's line say we will whip these haysed socialists into our views, they must follow our leaders.

So that the fight is simply this: SHALL THE PEOPLE SELECT THEIR LEADERS OR SHALL WALL STREET?

LETTER FROM TENNESSEE.

KNOX CO., TENN., June 23, 1890. MR. EDITOR:—Not seeing anything from this part of Tennessee in the columns of your most valuable paper, I will give you a few items. Knox county was the last county in the State to organize Farmers' Alliances, but she is now moving grandly to the front, the people, especially the farmers, having become thoroughly aroused to the great necessity of organizing to secure equal rights with the rest of men.

The political pot is boiling in Tennessee. Hon. J. P. Buchanan, President of the Farmers' and Laborers' Union of Tennessee, is making the race for the Democratic nomination for Governor. The convention meets in Nashville on the 15th of July, and Bro. Buchanan will surely be nominated for 70 per cent of the population of Tennessee belong to the Union. To secure equal rights we must put men in office who will legislate rightly for the many and not for the few.

Col. L. L. Polk, will deliver an address to the farmers of this and the adjacent counties on Monday, July 21st, at Knoxville. A grand time is expected.

Yours fraternally, CHAS. M. LUTTRELL.