

The Progressive Farmer.

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Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 11, 1890.

The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' State Alliance.

Do you want your paper changed to another office? State the one at which you have been getting it.

Do you want your communication published? If so, give us your real name and your postoffice.

Our friends in writing to any of our advertisers, will favor us by mentioning the fact that they saw the advertisement in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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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:

- R. W. Scott, Alamance county; B. A. Welons, 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; J. L. Anderson, Hertford county; D. Alexander, Tyrrell county; A. Robinson, Duplin county; Jas. S. Surraat, Davidson county; J. A. Williams, Davidson county.

THE RESULT.

THE election is over. The result was better than the victorious party had expected. But the time has come when treachery to the interests of the people by any party, or organization or individual will be punished promptly. The people of this country are desperately in earnest. They will no longer put up with non-sense. Old party fossils have lost their grip. The people want men; they want live issues; they are going to have them. Sectionalism has governed the action of the men in power in this country to a great extent for more than 25 years. After sectionalism came corruption. The result of this election is only a beginning. Who can forestall the end?

Notwithstanding the fact that party feeling ran high, particularly so in some localities, there was no bloodshed. The work of the Alliance can be seen in this. The people are in a better condition mentally and morally than they have been for years. The only trouble was one or two rows in Northern cities where the influence of the Alliance cannot reach.

If the people of this country, particularly the farmers improve as rapidly in the next two or two years as they have in the past, the effect will be wonderful. The people expect no man to be perfect, but they will no longer be slaves to party tyrants. For instance, men like John J. Ingalls or Speaker Reed, will be hurled from high places just as soon as ballots can do it.

It is to be hoped that a great deal has been accomplished already, but it will not do to stop. Hold your ground and continue to think and act. In making the politics of the country better you will better yourselves. Watch as well as pray, and never lose sight of the fact that the primaries are the place to begin reforms. Whatever you do don't allow a man to be elected to any position with the expectation of his doing his duty after he is elected, when he is not willing to do it before his election.

A GIGANTIC SCHEME.

THERE is nothing new under the sun is an old and true saying. We learn from an exchange that nearly a dozen of the leading manufacturing firms of Detroit in co-operation with other concerns in the larger cities of Michigan have taken steps to form a gigantic alliance of capital, having for its object the entire subjugation of organized labor. This combination will be of an entirely secret character, and will regulate the wages of the respective employes, without reference to their right or demands. The trust was formed

in New York less than four weeks ago, and since that time has spread with lightning rapidity through Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Albany, Massillon, O., Zanesville, Columbus and Springfield which cities are stirring themselves in the same direction. A number of the largest manufacturing companies and corporations of Pittsburg have followed suit, including Carnegie's rolling mills and steel works, the Westinghouse company and all the large firms doing business below Pittsburg on the Allegheny river. The Colt Arms company, the Yale Lock company and the Broome Elevator works in Connecticut have all a share in this immense combination, and it is the intention of the promoters to extend the system from end to end of the United States. The avowed object is to crush the labor organizations, and to decimate the various trades unions of the country by refusing in a body to employ union labor. It is claimed that by thoroughly concerted action and the refusal to acknowledge collective effort on the part of the employes that the power of labor as a body can easily be broken by taking one city or district at a time, and utterly paralyzing the workers by a contribution of capital sufficient to starve the laboring class into a submission to the terms of the capitalistic league. They will then refuse to acknowledge any protest or petition which is not personal or individual. The scale of wages will be fixed by the league, as will all other important matters as to hours, etc. Should the employes of one firm demand as a body any change or amelioration of their condition such a motion is to be viewed in the light of a strike. Work is to be suspended, and the firm thus involved, together with all other firms engaged in a similar business, shall close down until the dissatisfied workers shall have submitted to the terms dictated by the league.

MINNESOTA MORTGAGES.

SOME six months ago the Great West, St. Paul, Minn., alleged that 700 mortgages had been foreclosed in one county in that State in the past twelve months. Many of the papers made light of the statement. Since that the Great West went to the trouble of getting the exact figures and published them in the last issue of the paper. They find that the county has bonds outstanding for railroad facilities to the amount of \$300,000. The total number of real estate mortgages that have been recorded since the county was organized is 13,819. Of this number 7,272 have been satisfied or foreclosed, leaving 6,547 still in force. The total mortgage in indebtedness since the county was organized has been \$7,132,063.08. Of this amount, \$3,494,981.86 have been paid up or foreclosed. This leaves the vast sum of \$3,637,081.22 unpaid. The county has a population of about 30,000 people. It has 62 townships. So each township has an average of 106 mortgages amounting to \$58,692. The Great West finds that the average price of wheat in the county for the past twelve months has been about 50 cents per bushel. Now how long will it take these people to pay these debts with 50 cent wheat? That is not all. Nearly all the personal property in the county is under chattel mortgages. On the real estate mortgages above they have to pay \$360,000 annually in interest. Add to this the \$140,000 annual interest on the railroad bonds and other indebtedness and the total sum for interest is \$500,000 each year.

The above are facts. There is no guesswork about it. Can there be any further doubt about the sincerity of the Northwestern farmers in the great Alliance movement? The history of this one county is just a sample of the awful condition of things in that fertile region. Yet everybody except the farmers and laborers are prospering as they never did before. How long will this republic last at this rate?

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF RAILROADS.

SOME people scorn the idea of the government owning and operating all transportation lines. Like most things, there is two sides to the question.

In 1889 the railroads of Russia paid the government a net surplus of \$77,500,000. Taking this as a basis, the railroads in the United States would pay all the State and national taxes. India has 16,000 miles of government railroads, magnificent depots and iron telegraph poles. The poor working people of India average only 7 cents per day. The railroad fare is only one-seventeenth of a cent per mile. So they can ride 119 miles for the price of a days labor. The average price per day for labor in the United States is about \$1.50. There is a wide difference between 7 cents and \$1.50, yet the American laborer can only ride about 50 miles for a days work. The citizen of India can ride 69 miles further for the price of a days work than the American citizen.

We need passenger and freight charges put down on an equal footing with other charges. If it can be done by means of a railroad commission, all right; if not, then by some other means.

BROAD GUAGE PATRIOTISM.

DESPITE the fact that Congress suppressed discussion of our Sub Treasury bill, and that we cannot get those who oppose it to come out in a fair and manly way and discuss it before the people, the measure is gaining strength every day. The Sub Treasury plan has not been so strong and popular since its introduction into the Senate by Senator Vance, as it is at this very hour. Many of the brainiest business men and of the legal profession throughout the country are coming forward and supporting it. All the bosh about its unconstitutionality is being exposed and the people are beginning to see the hidden hand that is manipulating the opposition to this great measure of reform. Among the many sensible things that are being said of it, we find the following from Major A. O. Bacon, of Georgia, in response to a letter, urging him to become a candidate for the United States Senate. He says he is not a candidate, nor will he be, but he says some things which we quote below and commend to the earnest attention of the Alliance of North Carolina:

With you I share the earnest hope that the man selected to the position of Senator may be one prepared by capacity and conviction of purpose to stand in that high place as the champion of the agriculturalists in their present effort to lift from themselves the burden of unjust federal laws in force, and to secure the additional legislation which they deem necessary to insure their increased prosperity. No man would contend that the farmer's interest is the only interest to be considered in the selection of a Senator. Other interests are entitled to equal consideration. But this time this is the farmers fight. In this contest all other issues are subordinated, and the single recognized issue is, whether the man to be selected will, or will not, stand in the Senate to fight for the farmers, offensively and defensively, on the line of battle which they themselves have marked out. It is a clean cut issue, and those who are not with them squarely on that line are against them. For those who refuse to stand on the particular line marked out by the farmers, the only escape from the charge of hostility to the relief which they seek, lies in the vainglorious assumption that their wisdom exceeds the combined wisdom of the whole agricultural class, and that they know better what the farmers need than do the farmers themselves.

For 100 years the farmers of Georgia—in the majority in every legislature without exception which has assembled in the state—have elected United States Senators on all kinds of issues, and in the interests of various classes and industries. But never once in that time have they put forward and elected a Senator purely upon an issue for the particular benefit of the agricultural interest. After having borne for a generation the evils of the most iniquitous and discriminating Federal legislation, after having looked long and in vain for relief from many conflicting and unsuccessful legislative schemes and devices of others, they have themselves finally formulated and agreed upon a plan which they say and believe will give them the needed relief, and to the country. They, with their dependents, constitute a very large majority of the people of Georgia and own much the larger portion of all the property within its limits. The success of their industry is the foundation of all prosperity, and is absolutely vital to the continued existence of every other business in the State. Surely under such circumstances there can be no more reasonable demand than that which the farmers now make, that the Senator to be this time elected, while he will represent the interests of all classes shall be peculiarly and particularly the representative and champion on the floor of the senate of the particular legislation which they have themselves devised, and the enactment of which they demand in their behalf.

It matters little who that man may be, provided he have integrity of character beyond question here or elsewhere; fidelity and constancy of purpose to honor him by their choice, and capacity for the high and responsible duties with which by their favor they clothe him.

Weighed in the balance against such an issue, the question of the personal political fortune of any one man is as insignificant as is fate of the vain and gaudy butterfly when compared with the full value of the farmers' crop. The world's progress has never yet stopped on account of the loss of the service of any one man. In the needs of the time there has always been found some one to bend the bow of Achilles.

THE CAUSES.

ALL of the papers are saying just what caused the great Democratic upheaval throughout the country. None of them are entirely correct, but they say it all the same. Perhaps the New York World is about correct in the following:

"This result is due to the conduct of the majority of the present House. The people have fittingly rebuked the partnership with monopoly and plutocracy into which the Republican party has forced the government.

They have rebelled against the additional burden of taxes with which they have been loaded for the benefit of the contributors to Republican campaign funds. They have uttered a protest against the Republican attempt to maintain their power in the Senate by the creation of rotten borough States. They denounce the extravagance of a Congress which has brought the Treasury face to face with a ruinous deficiency. They have given an adverse verdict on Mr. Reed's arbitrary denial of the rights of the minority and his destruction of the deliberative character of the House."

WILL THEY PASS THIS AROUND?

IT will be remembered that the opposition papers of the country, some weeks ago, published with great gusto a bogus telegram stating that S. B. Erwin, President of the Kentucky State Alliance, had repudiated the Sub Treasury bill and was out and out against it. This paper gave it no attention because it did not believe it. We knew Bro. Erwin to be a true, zealous and sturdy Alliance man and that in due time he would speak for himself. His only objection to the bill seems to be that it does not go far enough. Bro. Erwin speaks for himself through the columns of his paper, the Kentucky State Union. Will the papers that gave circulation to this falsehood correct it by publishing the following from the pen of Bro. Erwin?

Many thanks to you gentlemen for your complimentary letters, but neither myself nor the Kentucky State Union is fighting the Sub Treasury. The principle is right and must prevail. The present bill before Congress we do not favor because it does not reach far enough. As we have said before, in our congressional district composed of thirteen counties we would be entitled to but one warehouse. If the Sub Treasury bill will be so amended as to reach the men that need it—the class that need it is the wealth producers, though they may be worth but a few hundred dollars. We fully endorse the demands of the St. Louis platform as agreed to by the Knights of Labor and Unions. It is our purpose to relieve the oppressed, and that should be our aim. Let no one think for a moment that we are divided on the Sub Treasury principle. This is the leading feature of our order. We must have cheap money. We can only get it through a Sub Treasury. There is not an organization on earth that is more united on one principle than the Union on the Sub Treasury principle. The details is what we are discussing; consequently let the discussion go on, we will by and by get a bill that will reach the case.

SENATOR VANCE AND THE ALLIANCE.

IN the Eagle, of the 30th ult., is a report of the speech made in Dallas recently by Senator Vance, in which he is reported to have said, touching the Sub Treasury bill:

"He wrote to Mr. Carr and told him he could not support it, and then it was declared that the assaults began to be made upon him, but he declared that the Alliance as a body was not going back on him, and said that every candidate for the legislature except three were pledged to him. He said that as far as the Sub Treasury bill was concerned the Alliance was not agreed upon it, and that he demanded that the jury be agreed before they hang him for not supporting it. He said if he voted for it and it was not constitutional, the devil would get him, not them, as he had taken an oath to support the constitution."

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER had hoped that the Senator would so modify his views on this great measure as that good and true Alliance men could consistently give him their support. But he persists in declaring the bill unconstitutional. In short, Senator Vance cannot and will not support that measure, and yet he claims that "every candidate for the legislature except three are pledged to him." Senator Vance makes the issue clear—the Alliance must abandon this measure or it must abandon him. What answer will the Alliance of North Carolina make to this proposition? As the official organ of the order in our State, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER would be basely recreant and treacherous to its high trust if it faltered in the discharge of its sacred duty. It cannot and will not support any man for Senator who thus places himself in antagonism to a measure which lies so near the heart of this great order. We will not abandon the Sub Treasury plan, but we intend to do all in our power to secure legislation that will bring the relief to our oppressed people contemplated in this bill. So far as this paper is concerned, it will not give up this measure for any man.

Porter, the Superintendent of Census, evidently is not as smart as he thought he was. The New York World says that two months ago the Census Bureau gave an estimate of the population of the country, from the returns received, indicating a total of 64,211,264. The official figures now put forth reduce this nearly 2,000,000. As a depopulator Porter beats war and pestilence.

WE WANT A COMPLETE LIST.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER desires a correct list of all members-elect of the Senate and House of Representatives. Will some brother or friend in each county and Senatorial district in the State send us at once the names and postoffice address of each member of the House and that of the Senator? State, also, whether they are members of the Alliance.

HAVE YOU HEARD FROM KANSAS?

WHO is Polk, anyhow? Say, Mr. Crawford, have you ever heard of him? We put down the triumph of the party in Kansas as the most significant political action that has occurred in the history of our country, and it was precipitated and inspired by the bitter sectional speech of Senator Ingalls, in the Senate last February. The movement was organized only in May last and it is a remarkable fact that not a prominent politician was connected with it. It was literally a mighty uprising of the industrial classes to assert their manhood and they did it gloriously. They elected their entire State ticket—six Congressman out of seven and carried the legislature almost solidly. It is said that on joint ballot in their General Assembly there is a clear majority of 28 against Senator Ingalls. And thus endeth the first lesson!

EDITORIAL NOTES.

I. A. Pettersen, of Florida, sends remittance, but fails to give name of his postoffice.

It is said that it cost the government a million dollars to make the McKinley bill a law, and a wretched law it is.

"We didn't know the thing was loaded," says Ingalls, Crawford & Co, but it was loaded all the same, at both ends, with concentrated political dynamite.

We have about twenty letters on file with no postoffice given. What shall we do with them? Will the writers abuse us if they do not hear from them?

The People's Economist is a new Alliance paper that will make its appearance at Thomasville, Ga., on the 9th of November. Hambleton & Messey, editors and proprietors.

Mr. E. P. Hauser, of Kingston, teacher of vocal and instrumental music, has set the popular poem, "I Think I Think a Lie," to music and offers it for sale at a reasonable price.

The American Federation of Labor will meet at Detroit, Michigan, on the 8th of December. Delegates will be invited from all of the various labor organizations throughout the country.

We have received two letters in the past two weeks containing money, but not a scratch of a pen indicating from whom they came, nor for what. They are awaiting recognition and further orders.

One of our exchanges came with burned edges last week. It was the Mobile, Ala., Register. The paper was scorched in the depot which was burned in the great fire there week before last. Some of it was burned entirely up.

The Argonaut, which has been published at Nashville for sometime, has been moved to Rocky Mount, and has become an eight page paper. It is one of the most enterprising journals in the State and we wish it continued prosperity.

Our thanks are due the Building Committee of Trinity College for an invitation to attend the laying of the corner stone of the main building at Durham on Tuesday, the 11th inst. The address will be by Hon. R. B. Vance, of Buncombe county.

The New York World says that the "exploded fallacies of Free Trade" seem to have made terrible havoc in the Republican ranks. One or two more such "explosions" and nothing will be left of the G. O. P. except its owners—the 14,500 mill owners.

The North Carolina Intelligencer, a large and handsome paper, has recently been enlarged and is now printed on new type of its own. Mr. T. R. Jernigan, editor and proprietor, deserves much praise for getting out such an excellent paper, it being only five months old.

The Atlanta Journal is a great paper. It favors the election of Gen. Gordon to the U. S. Senate. This it has a right to do. But we earnestly protest against the way it is doing in trying to bring odium upon certain Alliance leaders in order to elect Gen. Gordon. This it has no right to do.

Mr. T. C. Williams, of this city, has purchased the interest of Mr. A. L. Ferrell in the Raleigh Visitor and has taken charge. We wish Mr. Ferrell the most abundant success in all his undertakings, and trust that Mr. Williams will reap rich reward for his labor in the newspaper field.

Forty two per cent. of the people of Maryland live in the city of Baltimore. In other words, the population of Baltimore is 434,000; population outside the city 606,000. Baltimore has a large trade outside of that State, but this is evidence that too great a number of our people live in cities. They must live and the country people foot the bill.

tion outside the city 606,000. Baltimore has a large trade outside of that State, but this is evidence that too great a number of our people live in cities. They must live and the country people foot the bill.

We hope that every County Secretary of the Alliance in the State will send us the name, party they belong to, etc., of each State Senator and member of the Legislature elected at once. State whether or not they belong to the Alliance. This is important, and we hope to get a prompt response.

The carriers for the Charlotte News had had luck lately. Three weeks ago one of them was knocked from a train as it passed a telegraph pole and died in a few hours. A week ago another fell through an elevator shaft and was nearly killed. Last Wednesday another one—Jesse Orr—was passing an engine house just as the fire alarm sounded and the reel horses dashed over him before he could get out of the way. He was badly bruised, but not dangerously.

How is this for a starter? The Alliance will have 38 members in Congress, besides 12 to 15, who are pledged to their demands. Our best approximate estimate from returns received up to this writing, shows the following: Georgia, 6; North Carolina, 5; Mississippi, 2; Alabama, 1; South Carolina, 2; Virginia, 1; Tennessee, 3; Kentucky, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 6; Nebraska, 2; South Dakota, 2; Iowa, 1; Minnesota, 1; Wisconsin, 1. We elect two Governors—Willets of Kansas, and Loucks, of South Dakota.

A REQUEST.

When you take up this paper please cast your eye up to the label on the paper which bears your name. You will see some figures on this label, and they mean something. Will you not kindly study them for a minute or longer if necessary, at least long enough to learn from them what they mean. If you find them thus:

11 NOV, 1890,

or any date before this, you are reminded that the time has expired for which you have paid for the paper, and you are most earnestly requested to keep us waiting for your renewal just as short a time as possible. It takes money and a great deal of it to run this paper, and out of the amount you pay there is but a meager one left after you have received your fifty two papers. You have much to be thankful for. Providence has smiled upon you and abundantly blessed your labors. We have waited patiently for the harvest. Now we ask you in all kindness to send in your renewal at once.

FINANCIAL REFORM.

Col. Polk Writes of His Trip Through the West.

Your polite and kindly asking me to give you a brief sketch of my trip West, received. My reception everywhere and on all occasions was exceedingly gratifying. The partisan press and speakers greeted me with the usual flood tide of slander and vituperation, while the people extended the warm right hand of cordial welcome and good fellowship. In Kansas, Missouri, Illinois and Ohio, I met large and enthusiastic crowds, and they evinced the deepest and most earnest interest in the great movement for reform. "FINANCIAL REFORM" is the slogan in the North West. They regard all other issues as of minor importance and will press this one question to the front until relief comes.

They stand squarely and firmly on the Sub Treasury bill, and regard it as the measure that must lead to the relief of the great industrial interests of the country. The members of our order in the great West feel deeply the absolute necessity of locking hands with the people of the South in this effort to break the shackles of corrupt money power and henceforth the "bloody shirt" will be powerless in arraying them on sectional lines. They sincerely and honestly desire unity and fraternity between the people of the sections. This is the first and grand work to be accomplished through this great organization. Party strife and excitement runs high. The masses of the people are rebelling against boss rule and the fight there, as in localities South, is between the people who make and constitute the parties and the leaders who have hitherto ruled the parties. The man is blind who does not see in this mighty uprising of the people, a revolution of industrial and economic thought which will go resistlessly forward to great changes and reforms. I was gratified to find that there is a growing conviction among the different farmers organizations that all should consolidate and unite all their efforts, energies and powers to the end that the demands of the times shall be met. The order throughout the whole country is in finer spirit and better and more firmly united than ever before in its history. Yours hurriedly,

L. L. Polk.

The Farmers' Alliance have organized a meat packing company at Macon, Mo. Capital stock \$10,000 in shares of \$5 each.