

# PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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

Vol 5

RALEIGH, N. C., FEBRUARY 17, 1891

No. 50

## THE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

President—L. L. Polk, North Carolina, Address, 344 D. St., N. W., Washington, D. C.  
Vice-President—B. H. Clover, Cambridge, Kansas.  
Secretary-Treasurer—J. H. Turner, Georgia, Address, 239 North Capitol St., N. W., Washington, D. C.  
Lecturer—J. H. Willetta, Kansas.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.  
C. W. Macune, Washington, D. C.  
Alonzo Wardall, Huron, South Dakota.  
J. F. Tillman, Palmetto, Tennessee.

JUDICIARY.  
E. C. Patty, Macon, Mississippi.  
Isaac McCracken, Ozona, Arkansas.  
A. E. Cole, Fowlerville, Michigan.

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.  
The Presidents of all the State organizations with L. L. Polk *Ex-officio* Chairman.

NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE  
President—Elias Carr, Old Sparta, N. C.  
Vice-President—A. H. Hayes, Birdtown, N. C.

Secretary—E. O. Beddingfield, Raleigh, N. C.  
Treasurer—J. D. Allen, Falls, N. C.  
Lecturer—Thos. B. Long, Asheville, N. C.

Assistant Lecturer—R. B. Hunter, Huntersville, N. C.  
Chairman—S. J. Veach, Warsaw, N. C.  
Door Keeper—W. H. Tomlinson, Fayetteville, N. C.

Assistant Door Keeper—H. E. King, Peanut, N. C.  
Sergeant-at-Arms—J. S. Holt, Chalk Level, N. C.

State Business Agent—W. H. Worth, Raleigh, N. C.  
Trustee Business Agency Fund—W. A. Graham, Macphelah, N. C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE.  
S. B. Alexander, Charlotte, N. C.  
Chairman; J. M. Mewborne, Kinston, N. C.; J. S. Johnston, Ruffin, N. C.

STATE ALLIANCE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.  
R. J. Powell, Raleigh, N. C.; N. C. English, Trinity College; J. J. Young, Polenta; H. A. Forney, Newton, N. C.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

We are sorry to learn through a private letter that Mr. W. F. Daly, former business manager of this paper, is still in feeble health. We most earnestly wish he may soon recover his lost health.

On the 4th instant Mr. J. Lee Kirkpatrick, of Lexington, Ky., was married to Miss Ida D. Flippin, of Big Creek, Stokes county, N. C. The best wishes of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER attend the happy couple.

By a strange mistake an editorial item in our last issue was made up in the form as a part of the editorial article on the *Railroad Commission*. Read the last paragraph under that title as a separate item, and our meaning will be clear. Our foreman is the embodiment of pains-taking care. But his said, Homer sometimes nods.

"Poor Tom's" communication cannot be published because he did not sign his right name to it. We want the real names of all our correspondents—not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. All communications, without exception, which are not accompanied by the real names of the writers, go into the waste basket.

We assure Mann's Chapel Alliance that the time for the meeting of the legislature is fixed by law. The Governor can convene the legislature only in extraordinary session to meet some special emergency in public business. He has no power to prevent the legislature from meeting at the time fixed by law. To accomplish the end Mann's Chapel Alliance seeks will require a change in the law.

Mr. Julius A. Bonitz, founder, proprietor and editor of the *Wilmington Messenger* is dead. Mr. Bonitz was born December 22d, 1841, and died February 7th, 1891. The writer had not the pleasure of knowing Mr. Bonitz. But we have never heard anyone say anything about him that was not full of praise of his noble enlightened energy and many qualities. We regret his loss to the cause of journalism in the State, and we mourn the ab-

sence of his controlling and ennobling spirit from the *Messenger*. We tender to the stricken ones of our brothers household assurances of our profoundest sympathy. We commend them to Him whose tender notice regards the sparrow when it falls.

Some people in the Illinois legislature must be "awfully sot in their ways." For weeks the Senatorial deadlock has been on, and balloting has gone on from day to day with the same result, viz: no result at all. This is, in our opinion, meanness, pure and simple. Certainly there are good men in Illinois upon whom a majority can unite and break the deadlock, and put an end to this protracted farce.

The said Senator Blair will make a speech in the Senate explaining why he was not re-elected. We venture to suggest to the New Hampshire Senator that he failed of reelection because he did not get votes enough. If he will adopt our explanation he will save some time—an article that he has been in the habit of using rather recklessly—and avoid a diminution of the stock of public patience.

We print in this issue a letter from P. G. W. Walker, taking exceptions to our position upon the bill before the General Assembly, providing that intoxicants shall not be sold within two miles of any church or school house in North Carolina. We print the letter cheerfully, because we are willing to have all matters discussed fully. But we adhere to our position in relation to the bill referred to with the amendments we suggested. We are certain our correspondent is mistaken in his interpretation of Alliance principles, if he thinks those principles favor the liquor trade in any form. We are certain we are an Allianceman on the liquor question. Our correspondent threatens to cease taking THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, if we do not change our opinion in regard to the bill he opposes. This seems to be very childish to us. Does our friend think our opinion can be purchased by a one-dollar subscription to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER? Does our correspondent intend to read nothing he does not agree with? If so, it seems to us he will read very little in this world. We assure our friend that his threat to discontinue the paper has no terrors for us, terrible as it may seem to him. If he quits THE FARMER, we think he will lose a great deal more than we will.

SENATOR DAWES is said to have told the Sioux Indians now in Washington, in a speech he made to them, that the government could not prevent bad weather and the failure of the crops. Hasn't the government got control over General Greely? and can it not make him let the weather alone? We should like to know. We make no doubt at all that the assurance from the philanthropic Massachusetts Senator that the government is not responsible for bad weather will take the place at once of government blankets, and that his insistence that Uncle Sam had nothing to do with the failure of the crops had the effect to make every Sioux Indian present feel just like a man feels who has just dined upon porter-house steak and mushrooms. If any Sioux Indian ever dares to complain of cold and hunger again after this original and powerful assurance of the angelic innocence of the government of all responsibility for bad weather and poor crops, run out a Hotchkiss gun, and shoot him to death at once. We wonder if the Sioux Indians came to Washington to get the government to regulate the weather and give them good crops. We knew the Sioux Indians were savages; and we have understood that they are sometimes rather troublesome savages. But we never heard it reported that they were plain idiots.

## ALLIANCE CORRESPONDENCE.

Jan. 31, 1891.  
Abraham Lincoln said you could fool all of the people part of the time, a part of the people all of the time, but you could not fool all the people all the time.

A. H. GREGORY,  
Sassafras Fork Alliance, No. 591.

Resolved, That we endorse most heartily the visit and address of Bro. S. O. Wilson to us to-day, and hereby return our thanks to the Executive Committee for sending him to us, and further THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is hereby requested to publish the foregoing.

G. A. BENSON,  
Sec'y. Hertford Co. F. Alliance.

UNION RIDGE, N. C., Feb. 2, 1891.

MR. EDITOR:—Union Ridge Sub-Alliance, No. 1170, numbers 106, and still they come, we are here and that to stay. Rev. J. W. Holt will lecture for us at 11 a. m., on Feb. 14th. We have a good school which is taught in our hall by Rev. T. W. Stroud, of Chapel Hill, N. C., and Miss Lilly Stroud, of Elon, N. C. We feel proud of our school, our order and our paper. I send you a list of thirteen names, wish I could send one hundred. Wishing all success I am

Fraternally yours,  
R. W. FITCH, Sec'y.

WINTON, N. C., Jan. 30, '91.

MR. EDITOR:—I unhesitatingly say that Bro. Wilson's speech was the best and strongest he has delivered to us. Its teaching was such as to inform and confirm the membership in the aims and good results already obtained by the Alliance. It awakened more confidence and enthusiasm in the order in this county than we have had for some time. And as soon as we can get ten times as much money as we have, and that is what the Ocala Constitution advocates and demands, the circulation of \$50, where now only \$5 can be seen, we shall be safe.

Go on in your good work and has ten on the necessary legislation.

Fraternally,  
F. S. BLAIR, Co. Lec.

OAK FOREST, N. C., Jan. 24, '91.

MR. EDITOR:—If you have room in your paper please publish the following:

At a meeting of Center Point Alliance, No. 813, of Iredell county, N. C. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That we favor the abolition of the office of County Treasury of Iredell county, and the duties thereof made incumbent upon the Sheriff.

Resolved, That we favor a speedy and economic reduction of the fees and salaries of all county officers, if it has to be done only by adopting a fixed salary system.

Resolved, That we favor the plan of paying our Solicitor a fixed salary and urge our representatives to use their best efforts to secure this legislation at once.

Resolved, Further, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to our Representatives, at the city of Raleigh, and to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for publication.

J. A. GUNN, Pres.  
J. J. ATKINS, Sec'y.

FAITH, N. C., Jan. 30, 1891.

MR. EDITOR:—I desire to make known through the columns of your paper, the great and noble work that is now being done by the citizens of our county. In the fall of 1889 we concluded to have a fair at Mill Bridge, N. C. We did so. Colonel Polk came and made us a good speech which did a great deal of good in this section. Next year the Piedmont Alliance Fair and Industrial Union Association was organized in Rowan county. Grounds for the fair was purchased and en-

closed, a large hall and other buildings were put up, and on the 18th, 19th and 20th of Nov. last we held our first fair, which was a great success. Arrangements were made with the Richmond and Danville Railroad Co. to carry passengers on their cars to and from the grounds, arrangements are now being made to have one of the the largest and best fairs ever held in this part of the country. Your correspondent is getting up one of the largest collections of all kinds of mineral specimens and antiques known as the Alliance Department of Minerals, which will be placed in the fair free of cost to those donating them. They will be properly labeled, numbered and cared for. Upon receipt of orders to pay postage, I will send full particulars of our coming fair to be held this fall at Salisbury, N. C., Rowan county.

Respectfully,  
JOHN T. WYATT, Lock Box, 140.

COINJOCK, N. C., Feb. 3, 1891.

MR. EDITOR:—We are alive yet and want other Sub-Alliances to know what we are doing. Our lodge stood still for some time at first, but we now have some men that have every characteristic of live men, and we mean to come up in the front, we hold our meetings every Saturday and number sixty five, nearly all in good standing, we add from two to three to our lodge every meeting since we have got to work. Look out B. o. we are coming.

We have your most excellent paper read in our lodge and find that it does great good. We contemplate building a warehouse with a hall above this or next spring, then we will be felt.

Our aim is to throttle parison feelings and kill monopolies of course a little more time do it, the stout hearted are succumbing very fast.

We are glad to believe that our State will soon be to the front in her public schools through the auspices of Alliancemen.

Fraternally,  
H. S. SIMMONS, Sec'y.

Resolutions relative to changing our jury system, passed by the Richmond county Farmers' Alliance, Jan. 9th, 1891.

Resolved 1, That the County Alliance of Richmond county, do hereby request our State Alliance to send down to the Sub-Alliances of the State for discussion, the question of changing the jury system of the State, from the unanimous to the majority system, and publish the result as reported back by the Sub-Alliances.

Resolved 2, That the honorable legislature of North Carolina, is hereby overtured by the County Alliance of Richmond, to change the law governing jury findings, from the unanimous to the majority system, except perhaps in capital cases.

Resolved 3, That the Secretary be instructed to forward a copy of the first resolution to the Secretary of the State Alliance; also of the second a copy each to our Senator and Representative in the legislature to be by them presented to their respective bodies for consideration.

Motion carried—That the Secretary have the above published in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

B. F. M. GREGOR, Sec'y.

MR. EDITOR:—Our County Alliance at its January session appointed a committee on legislation whose duty it is to present to the General Assembly at its present session, certain measures, that the Alliance of Brunswick feel a very great concern about, foremost among which is the question of our county government. And, Mr. Editor, our people are desperately in earnest in their demands for a change in the present system of county government.

We think we have submitted to a great deal, to great impositions in or-

der to have things go along quietly, but we have gotten mighty tired of toasting this great big load of impositions and wrongs heaped upon us by taxation and increasing taxation, debt and increasing indebtedness, boss rule and the bosses' contempt for our demands for justice. No sir, we don't want any more of this kind of thing, and Bethel Alliance, by resolutions adopted and forwarded to the committee, has expressed her demands on this question, and her position is not to be compromised.

We ask this, "the farmers' legislature to give to the people the right to elect their county officers, the demand is just, it is right, there is nothing wrong about it, and our interest demands it and we expect this legislature to comply with this, an Alliance demand.

JOHN WESCOTT, Sec'y.

WILKESBORO, N. C., Jan. 21, 1891.

MR. EDITOR:—I have never seen any thing from Mulberry Alliance, No. 4141, so I thought I would write a line or so if no intrusion on your good paper, we have sixty members in our Alliance, all of the pure stuff, we are all in for the Sub Treasury bill or something better, don't believe in all the clauses of the Land Loan bill, think instead of commission of appraisers by the U. S., it would be better to issue Treasurer notes of the U. S. and divide them up between the States *pro rata*, depositing with the Treasurer of each State, and they dividing it between the counties, *pro rata* to the lands appraised by our own appraisers, and money loaned to half the value of the present appraisement, entered upon the tax list by the register of deeds, the amount loaned, at what time loaned, and charged up in the same manner at one per cent. per annum, and let the Sheriff collect, pay to State Treasurer, the State Treasurer to U. S. Treasurer, do away with national banks, make the Treasurer of each State a depositor, and States make branch depositors of each county without any tax, save the interest on loans, make each State Treasurer liable to U. S. for all moneys deposited.

J. M. MITCHELL.

WILKESBORO, N. C. Jan. 22, '91.

MR. EDITOR:—I notice in the Governor's Message to the legislature that the Governor recommends an assessment board; first, the county Commissioners, second the State to appoint one, say one member from each Congressional District. I am an old Democrat and believe in State rights, county rights, school district rights and individual rights. Now, if his Excellency had dwelt with a little more emphasis upon a plan to reach the taxation on salaries and incomes, corporations and trusts, we surely would have thought as much of him, and not be trying to prepare a place for some of the legal lore pets, if such a board was established it would be a Fowl board indeed. The county Commissioners could not possibly assess the lands at a true cash value in their county, much less the men who never saw them, and why should the Governor or legislature distrust discreet men of the different township. I know it is a difficult matter with them, but why are they not as capable as any one else? Could a Fowl board do better, besides the poor farmers are bearing all the burden, now we are taxed to death until every body that can quit farming is doing so. Why don't the Governor recommend equalization of taxation?

Not a farmer scarcely in our whole country who makes \$2500 worth of produce but he has to pay all the same, 1st, for farm, 2d, for mule and horse to plow with, 3rd, for corn, fodder, oats, grass or broom sage they eat; 4th, for tools to work with; 5th, wearing apparel, gun to mind the crows off the farm together with the bible and

prayer book for family use. This is all right for the support of an honest government, but let us have that pet salaries and income corporations and trusts bear their part, and the farmers will be the last ones to complain. Let salaries and fees be reduced, No. of officers be reduced, lets have no more hunting places for pets, but go to work. One half of the land in the State is doubled taxed to-day in the shape of mortgages. Farmers, look sharp, take care, the blind eat many a fly.

CLOD HOPPER.

MR. EDITOR:—At a meeting held by the Shiloh Academy Alliance, No. 1,834, January 24, 1891, the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, Owing to the insufficiency of the school fund to run our public schools more than about three months in a year, the children of the country are growing up in ignorance; and whereas, we think it the duty of the State to see that her sons and daughters do not grow up in ignorance; and whereas, the Alliance is an educational organization; therefore

Resolved, That we, the members of Shiloh Academy Alliance, demand of our Legislature, now in session, that it enact such laws that shall increase our public school fund sufficient to run the schools not less than five months in each year.

Resolved, That it enact such laws that shall provide for building better school houses than are in most of our country districts.

Resolved, That every child between the ages of six and sixteen be required to attend school not less than four months in each year, unless sick or otherwise disabled.

Resolved, That one committeemen instead of three be appointed, and that he shall receive pay for his service.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for publication, and a copy be sent Hon. Z. V. Waiser, the Senator for this county.

D. C. CRAVER, Pres.  
H. HELMSTETLER, Sec'y.

LEXINGTON, N. C., Jan. 23, 1891.

MR. EDITOR:—I say hurrah for Senator Stanford. He seems to be the friend of the needy laborer. He has solved the problem of how to benefit the suffering on the spot, with "spot cash."

Without an army of well paid officers to help eat up our profits, and manipulate politics, to say nothing of the enormous expense of building warehouses.

Brethren, his plan is business on bed rock principal. No ware, no waste. No chance for fretting, fuming or grumbling.

Yes, some one will say, how will the poor man get help if he does not own land? I ask, how will the poor man get help that has no produce to put in the warehouse?

I answer, both by assistance of their good brothers, one just as easy as the other. Don't bother about that point, no law can be made that will just exactly suit every case, but all laws can be made to operate by co-operation.

If any reader of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER has failed to read Senator Stanford's bill and argument, be sure to look it up, and carefully study it in every feature, and if you do not find it about as near perfect as we could ask, then you may call me anything you please with impunity.

Permit me to say, I love this bill because sixteen years ago I broke from my party and advocated this plan, also that I wrote a communication to the PROGRESSIVE FARMER last May, advising this idea. (It went in the waste basket.) Perhaps these former ideas may bias my judgment. Yet I have the satisfaction of knowing one man is of my opinion.

I for myself, will let Vance and the warehouse bill go, and do all in my power to push Senator Stanford's bill to its final passage.

A. M. HUNTER, Sec'y  
Smith Alliance, No. 518.