

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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

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No. 29

THE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

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PAPERS.

Progressive Farmer, State Organ, Raleigh, N. C.
Rural Home, Wilson, N. C.
Watchman, Salisbury, N. C.
Farmer's Advocate, Tarboro, N. C.
Mountain Home Journal, Asheville, N. C.
Alliance Sentinel, Goldsboro, N. C.
Country Life, Trinity College, N. C.
Mercury, Hickory, N. C.
Rattler, Whitakers, N. C.

Each of the above named papers are requested to keep the list standing on the first page and add others, provided they are duly elected. Any paper failing to advocate the Ocala platform will be dropped from the list promptly. Our people can now see what papers are published in their interest.

FROM PENNSYLVANIA.

A Brother's View of Some Correspondents' Letters.

SPARTANSBURG, PA., AUG. 8, '91.

MR. EDITOR:—In our Grange and Alliance agricultural papers we frequently meet a correspondent's article which is devoted to a very skillful method of sagging back in the breeching. Those correspondents are very solicitous for the welfare of the Alliance and the people, and are very anxious to counsel them not to do anything to injure the old party machinery. They say: "Don't ask for too much; a little is better than nothing; more slowly; if you get nothing in your lifetime, your children will certainly accomplish something if they only become educated; wait, wait, wait. Wait where? In a pit of quicksand, in a quagmire where every moment you are sinking lower? Wait where? Where the mud is up to your chin? Who says wait, when the people have waited twenty-six years and been robbed of their labor, their fortunes and homes, and every condition threatening a darker day in the future? It is the shysters, the plutocrats, the millionaires and their hiring bootlickers. They say: Don't leave your good old party now; there never was a time so important as the present to stick together. Just look and you may see we have no good old parties. They are the leaders of two new h—l—born and h—l—bound parties who have stolen the names of the old parties and through deception and fraud are running the people into poverty, anarchy, confusion and an imperial government. These imperial anarchists say to their constituents: Don't disturb us; don't turn us out of office, you will get honest men in that may disturb our schemes of money making and lessen the value of our millions. Some of us have only two hundred millions and our imperial company run down as low as two or three millions and it would be unjust to snatch the laboring class, the wealth-producers out of our clutches all at once. Go slow. Let the old people, that prize liberty, die off and the young people that grow up under our oppression will think we are the government and have a right to rule and have the right to own all the property, and then the conflict will be over. Menials, workers will then doff their hats, make their bows and obey orders.

What a strange thing it is that three-

fourths of the people of this republic were born and reared here and yet don't know that the government belongs to the people and that the officers of the States and Nation are the people's agents and are bound by Constitution and law to obey the orders of the people, to hear their petitions and grant their requests. The politicians know their duty, but manage to keep the people, through deception, divided as near equally as possible by the use of any quibble about money, or banks, or specie basis, or tariff, or public debt, or transportation, or railroad inequality, or pensions, or a railroad South against a solid North. No matter by what means it is done, so the fool people act and vote against each other. One of the imperial anarchists said: We will nominate our own friends in both parties and then let the fool people elect whichever of our men they please. What is all this talk about educating the people for? Does it mean that the people are in fact as ignorant and as pitiable fools as the national anarchists accuse them of being? Does it mean that a common laboring man cannot see or understand that a Democratic banker and a Republican banker will vote together on the banking questions, all real estate interests, all interests of the rich to rob the poor? If the people understand that we have two parties in elections for the purpose of deceiving the voters and only one party in office for the purpose of robbing them, then they know enough to unite themselves into one honest election party and by our solid vote turn the rascals out. Let us, by our acts, inform the knaves, liars and scoundrels that we have no further use for them as agents for the government, whether they are Democrats or Republicans. If we, the people, know that the leaders of the two old parties are but one party, organized for public robbery, and that they will not give the people their requests or demands, where is the wisdom in educating twenty-five years longer and letting their Democratic-Republican dog devour the heart and suck the blood of this republic? This all-consuming dog has two tails but only one body. It makes no difference to the millionaire, the syndicate, the banker, the bondholder, the land-grabber, the standard oil robber or the public treasury thief which tail is up or which is down, the dog devours all the same. Does a farmer or manufacturer know enough to discharge a hired man when he finds out that he will lie and steal? These public officers are our hired men. Look at their acts. The funding our money into interest-bearing bonds was a lie and the greatest steal that was ever perpetrated in the United States, save only its twin sister, the banking lie and larceny and triplet brother, reducing the currency to a specie basis. These national robbers stand out in plain view with these lies in their mouths, so large they cannot swallow them and with public money in their vaults so numerous that they cannot conceal it; and yet the bootlickers say: wait, educate; don't turn the rascals out! Every man that says money is king is the enemy of labor. Every man that says money will control is the enemy of those that earn all the money, because he places the product above the producer. Every man who has accumulated millions of dollars is in possession of what he never earned and does not own, and is the enemy of civilized society. Turn the rascals out the very next election and repeal the unjust laws by which such unprecedented robberies are committed.

D. W. ELDERKIN.

PLAIN TALK.

AUGUST 23, 1891.

MR. EDITOR:—To show you which way the world is drifting, in a speech made by old man Robbins, a lawyer, of Statesville, he says the farmers are lazy and loafing around town, not working half the time, and the fool farmers want the government to loan them money and that the people would have to be taxed to get it. The national banks get it and we are as good as big a fool as you in '92, and then you will want to be in the Ramsey, Polk and Peffer crowd, but the door will be shut and the word will be given, "Depart from me ye workers of iniquity, we know you not." God bless you, brothers L. L. Polk and Ramsey and friend Peffer.

Tell Uncle Zeb, to pass the free and unlimited coinage of silver bill and the Sub-Treasury plan, if he don't when his time expires to sweep out the house clean for he will have to give up his seat in the Senate and we will send men there who will pass these bills.

Fraternally,
J. W. BOST.

FREE TUITION AT THE UNIVERSITY.

We are authorized by President Winston to state that the benefits of an education at the University shall be placed, as far as possible, within reach of every deserving young man in the State. The following help is offered:

1. Free tuition to the sons of ministers of all denominations.

2. Free tuition to any young man preparing to be a minister.

3. Free tuition to bona fide teachers of public schools.

4. Long time indulgence on tuition to all really poor boys, be repaid when able.

5. Scholarships to the needy, upright and talented.

6. Loans to the very needy and very talented and upright.

DISTRICT LECTURING.

Bro. P. H. Massey Completes His Work in Johnston County and Begins in Nash.

MR. EDITOR:—Having completed my work in Johnston county, I spent Sunday and Sunday night in the neighborhood of Watkins, and on Monday, July 20th, I started for my first appointment in Nash. At Chapel Alliance I met some as earnest and true Alliance men as are found anywhere. After the speech the good sisters presented this writer with one of the prettiest bouquets that it has been his fortune to receive. It was greatly appreciated by him. May God bless the sisters, who are bearing such an important part in the great work now before us. Passing on Stanhope, we met those who have been studying for themselves the great issues now confronting the people, and they are ready for the changes necessary to bring about the relief needed. Next we went to Nashville, where we met brethren from different parts of the county, many of whom expressed themselves much pleased with the work of the day. Some of the business men of the place came out to hear the speaking, and expressed their sympathy with the movement of the farmers. We gained some friends. At Cold Rock next day we had a small crowd, owing to rain and other things, but we think the meeting not fruitless. At Fishing Rock church you may always expect as good time, audience, and people as can be found anywhere, and we were not disappointed. They were there, some of them from eighteen miles away. After we had spoken to them for an hour they called out several of the brethren on the ground, some of whom responded with very timely, sound and appropriate remarks, after which the ladies spread a bountiful dinner, sufficient for all, and many baskets were taken up. On Saturday we met the brethren at Castalia, and after speaking to them for an hour, we listened to Bro. Ashton, County Lecturer for Franklin county, for another hour in which he presented some facts that must live. We left for Peachtree Alliance at 6 p. m., where we met a house full of true, tried and enthusiastic men and women. You can bank on Peachtree when it comes to the real issue. Thus ended a laborious week's work in Nash. We accepted invitations to conduct religious services on Sunday.

Bro. Ashton met us in the evening and took us to his home to spend the night and be ready for our work in his county on Monday. We spent a pleasant night and received every mark of kind hospitality. He accompanied us through the county and added much to the enjoyment and success of the work. He is deservedly very popular and on financial questions, is the ablest man we heard. The readers of the PROGRESSIVE FARMER will hear from him as to the work in his county.

Bro. Dunn has given you some facts in regard to Vance county, and to him I am under many obligations for kindness shown me while in that county.

It will require too much space to mention by name all to whom I am indebted for hospitality, kindness and special favors. All over the district they have opened their hearts and their doors, and greeted me with a reception that will ever be as a footprint on the rock which time can never wear away.

Suffer a word in conclusion. Since I had travelled through the district nearly two years ago, I found that the Order had gained much strength. There is more unity, more work, more determination to stand squarely by the principles and demands of the Alliance. There is greater knowledge of the situation, and a better understanding of the remedies. In 1892 the fourth congressional district will be in the field, and be there with the wants of the wealth producers of this great country, and there to stay until these wants are supplied, or a measure put on foot that will bring the relief for which we toil.

Fraternally,
P. H. MASSEY,
District Secretary.

STILL AWAKE.

WORTHMAN, N. C., AUG. 17, 1891.

MR. EDITOR:—I write to tell you and all Alliance brethren that we are wide awake even here in the backwoods of Western North Carolina. This is a new era in the history of the laboring classes. For long years they have toiled uncomplainingly, not thinking that another class reaped the fruit of their toils. But at last, thank God, they are rousing from their slumbers. Now is their time for united action, unless they wish to leave their children a heritage of poverty and vassalage. We have some bold, eloquent leaders, and we have plenty of Alliance papers to flash the intelligence along the line. A great awakening among the laboring classes now like

"The lightning's flash from pole to pole,
Nearer and nearer the thunder roll."

During the days of negro slavery it was against the law to teach our slaves to read or write, realizing the old adage that knowledge was power. Now it is essential that all the laboring classes read the Alliance papers. I wish the PROGRESSIVE FARMER and National Economist and other good papers could be read by the toiling masses all over the United States.

There is going to be one grand struggle between labor and capital. Farmers do not be deluded into the belief that you are going to get any relief from either of the old political parties. The aim of both is to keep in power and have all of the big paying

offices. Why, when our bosses get to Congress they are never willing to leave. It is big pay and little work, and they care nothing about the interest of the laboring classes.

In the garden of Eden the Almighty sent forth the edict that all mankind should earn their living and now think poor farmer and laborer, you are doing much now. You are supporting and enriching thousands who are literally doing nothing.

While they are holding their Bacchanian feasts, and idling away their time at luxurious summer resorts, or making big funeral trips with drunken horse races (which cost our government hundreds of thousands of dollars) you are plodding away on the farm, in the factory, in the mines, and the cream of all your labor will ultimately go into the pocket of the capitalist. I fully agree with Americus Proctor, of New York, in regard to what he said about the old political parties. Neither care a snap for the laboring man. All they ask is your support at the ballot box to keep them in big paying offices. Just now, remember Alliance man and laborer, that our political bosses are not going to give you up without a struggle. But remember, too, you still have a chance to redeem yourselves and children at the ballot box. If our next Congress fails to give the relief demanded then, by all of our laboring classes standing and voting together, we can change everything from the gulf of Mexico to Maine. We are all about to enter a bloodless warfare to struggle for our own God-given rights. Let all the laboring classes unite and rise in their might and not only ask, but see that they have equal rights, and they will rear to themselves monuments more enduring than all the marble and bronze that is being put up to Grant and Davis, for they won their laurels on the bloody battlefield.

I was in the Confederate army in the first regiment, and fought through the whole war; was in the battle of Bethel Church to the last battle, and now I would gladly extend my hand in fraternal greeting to any of the Union soldiers. The war is over between loyal soldiers North and South.

Our Alliance, No. 87, is alive and doing all it can. Hoping the PROGRESSIVE FARMER much success, I am

Yours fraternally,
P. M. MULL, President
Jacob's Fork Sub-Alliance No. 87.

FROM AURORA.

MR. EDITOR:—As I have seen nothing in your valuable paper from this part of the vineyard for some time, I write to let the brethren know that we are alive and marching on in the noble cause of reform. We number 87 males, a large majority of whom are fire-tried standing squarely on the St. Louis and Ocala platform and will allow no side-tracking. Our Alliance had the grandest picnic yesterday, the 20th, that it was ever the fortune of the writer to attend. The number present was variously estimated from 300 to 500, consisting of all classes except attorneys. Some of the best Alliance talent in the county had been invited to entertain us with speeches. As none of them were present the duty fell upon the "old war horse," Bro. J. R. Calloway, and I say with all candor that I don't think there was a brother present but what felt like he had covered the ground efficiently and to the perfect satisfaction of all present. Mrs. A. G. Lane opened the exercises with music by her school, which seemed to be very much enjoyed. After the speaking was over, the baskets were brought forward, and I never have seen as much good vituals at one time before in my life. If there was a single person there who did not satisfy his appetite, I know it was his fault, for I am satisfied that half the vituals were not eaten. It never has been my good fortune to be in such a harmonious gathering. I did not hear a profane word the whole day nor see a single intoxicated man.

I am delighted to know that the galley shoes has got back with THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, for I don't feel like their places could be filled by any other kind with much success to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

R. H. LANE, Sec'y.

RESOLUTIONS.

At a large and enthusiastic union meeting of citizens and Alliancemen, held in the rooms of the Red House Alliance, this 22d August, 1891, representing Halifax county, Va., Person and Caswell counties, N. C., the following committee was appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sentiment of this meeting with regard to our future political course: Dr. W. G. Stephens, N. M. Richmond, Y. E. Jordan, Y. P. Rainey, H. T. Barker, W. G. Smith, Thos. S. Lea, S. S. Brandon, Wm. Lea, W. A. Hinton, Alex. Guthrie, V. L. Marton and B. S. Barker. Committee reported the following:

Resolved, That we demand reform in the administration of our government, and we will not co-operate with any party nor vote for any man for any political office that does not adopt the measures we approve.

2d, That we fully approve the Ocala platform.

3d, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the National Economist, PROGRESSIVE FARMER, Richmond Dispatch and Milton Advertiser with request to publish.

Unanimously adopted.
W. G. STEPHENS, Chm'n.
N. M. RICHMOND, Sec'y.

AN OPEN LETTER

To the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union of the United States.

OLIN, N. C., Aug. 14, 1891.
MR. EDITOR:—On lookers regard the above named organizations as a reform movement, and those identified with it as reformers. The writer is in sympathy with these industrial organizations; in fact, is a loyal member of the Farmers' Alliance.

So many abuses have crept into the body politic, that a correction of these evils seems to be an absolute necessity. Many efforts have been made by the suffering masses to get relief, legislative relief, through the old parties, but monopoly and plutocracy have these old parties so subsidized that all our efforts thus far have been unavailing; hence, an organization of the wage-workers of the country, whether found in the shop, factory, or on the farm for self-protection, is one of the imperative needs of the hour. All good men are in sympathy with these reformers, whether they approve of all their methods or not. At the same time thoughtful friends are aware that great changes lie out before them, and they feel that all those making a new departure in the interest of genuine and permanent reform, should feel their way carefully, and take warning from the mistakes that have been made in the past by the old parties. And why is it that the old parties have so miserably failed in coming up to the full measure of their duty as great national parties? It was not because of a scarcity of good men in either of them, but, as a rule, the unscrupulous men in both, worked themselves to the front as leaders in State and National affairs, and the good men were re-manded to the rear, and supinely surrendered the control of the party machinery into the hands of selfish demagogues and whiskey and corporation monopolists. And so tight a grip have these leaders upon these old parties that most of our best people have despaired of ever getting relief from either.

Now these new industrial reform organizations will have both good and bad men belonging to them, and if the good men don't march bravely to the front and control and run things in the interest of right, in the interest of the toiling millions, in a little while they will be as great a stench in the nostrils of all good men as any of these other organizations have been that we have so justly and severely criticised. These old parties have long since ceased to enunciate living and eternal principles in their platforms, State or National, too much risk in that sort of thing. Ask a candid and well-informed man in either of them what their platform of principles will be this year or next, and with a sly wink he will answer, "Get there." That's it, "Get there," in whatever way they can, and stay there when they get there. They will demand patriotism, manhood and right all to the rear if they interfere with them in getting there.

Now let us, friends, take warning from these mistakes made by others, most of us as individuals, as church organizations, as political organizations, have too tender a conscience about what others say and do, and not quite tender enough about what we say and do ourselves. That individual or organization of whatever kind, that is most careful to correct first, errors at home, will always serve his or its day and generation best, will always do most to build up the true manhood of the country.

A majority of those identifying themselves with these reform movements are in sympathy with temperance and prohibition reform, but that sympathy won't amount to much unless it crystallizes into definite action. A majority of both the old parties have been in sympathy, after a fashion, with temperance and prohibition, but what good has it done? The whiskey influence, as every well-informed reader knows, to-day, dominates our government, and both our great political parties more powerfully than any other influence in the country. And thus it will be with these new reform organizations, unless we bring our Christian manhood to the surface, put it into exercise, and demands our rights like men. Hence, while we are demanding economic and financial reforms, will it not be well, indeed, is it not our patriotic and Christian duty to demand national legislation to save our country from the thraldom of the liquor curse? This liquor traffic is not only a great moral evil, but it is a great financial, a great national evil. No greater one curses our fair land. If we tackle this along with other evils, all, or most good men will be with us, but if we dodge, then the cry will go up all over the country, "Cowards, no better than the two old whiskey parties, weighed in the balances and found wanting, bidding for the whiskey vote just like the Republican and Democratic parties have been doing for these years, "straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel" away with such reformers.

A word to the wise is sufficient, or should be. How many friends worth having would we, as Alliancemen, lose by taking a pronounced stand for temperance and prohibition? Would not our gain be three where our loss would be one? So think the most level-headed men in the land. This is a question worthy of serious consideration. It may be argued that it would be unsafe to undertake to do too much; that our chief object now is to look after economic reforms, and that to tackle the whiskey evil would carry us into the realm of

morals. That argument won't do; that has been the cowardly subterfuge of the old parties, and if we wish to avoid the rock upon which they have foundered, we must do different from what they have. An evil that absorbs \$900,000,000 a year directly, and as much more indirectly, nearly two billion dollars of the people's money, for which they get no return of value, every cent of which had better be burnt up than spent thus, must not be ignored by economic reformers. Our best people would not tolerate the ignoring of such an evil as this.

The writer is a friend of these industrial organizations, but he wants them to load up so as to stay there when they get there. We had better be a little longer getting there, freighted down with *manhood* and stay there, than to get there sooner without it and die a premature death. There is such a thing as going up like a rocket and coming down like a stick. No party can or ought to live long in this country, that ignores the greatest of all social, financial and national evils.

This letter is not written in a dictatorial spirit, but is sounded as a note of warning. The good men in these new organizations must come to the front and stay there. Not dead issues of the past, but the needs of the present, moral and economic, are what our people are interested in. The old parties have disgraced themselves by truckling to capital, to the whiskey and other monopolies, by cowardice. Let us act different from them and thus avoid their inglorious fate.

J. A. STIKELATHER.

LETTER FROM HERTFORD.

MR. EDITOR:—I herewith enclose ten dollars for you to continue to old and commence to new subscribers. May you multiply and replenish in the State and divide and radiate from Raleigh to every home and hut in the commonwealth.

A called meeting of Menola Sub Alliance to hear from the delegate and visitors from the State meeting at Morehead sat three solid hours last Saturday afternoon, hot and sultry as it was, to hear of the doings of the Sta e meeting.

To show the interest there is in our Alliance in the purposes and prospects of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, I state that beside the regular delegate four lay members paid their own expenses to Morehead City and back, and two others would have done so but for sickness. These four paid between \$40 and \$50 to attend the State Alliance as visitors. I regret that visitors went from no other Sub Alliance in the county. A number of Sub Alliances in the First district sent visiting brethren and paid their expenses. A high ly commendable course.

Our delegate to Morehead reported that though he had been a member of the legislature, and thought he knew much of the political trend of Democratic and Republican politicians of the State, and thought that the Alliance would be used only to forward party purposes, found he was greatly and gladly mistaken in the make-up of the Morehead meeting. He said "there is a deep sealed conviction in the people of this country to move on for the benefit of the toiling millions which cannot be stopped short of success by anything under heaven?" He was enthusiastic in his belief that the Alliance of North Carolina is determined to allow no political party to come between it and its declaration of principles, especially the Sub-Treasury plan, which he regards as the pith, the marrow, the financial salvation of the nation. So said we all, and amen and amen. He said further the State meeting revealed to him a regular stampede from the manners and customs of the past; that a man would sooner have stuck his head in the fire than to have gotten up in the State meeting to oppose the Ocala demands; that Polk's speech to the State Alliance of twenty minutes was equal to half a day of ordinary speaking; that he had a dignity and power wonderfully impressive; that he (Polk) has a greater place in the hearts of the American people than any other man; that the politician and trickster cannot down this movement by argument; party money and the party lash is all that can have a hindering effect, and that will eventually bring the consummation devoutly wished.

This gives you a little hint at the feeling and faith in our Sub-Alliance. Fraternally,
F. S. BLAIR.

LETTER FROM CUMBERLAND.

MR. EDITOR:—We (Wade Alliance) are still among the living and are enjoying good health. We are solid for the Ocala demands with the Sub-Treasury plan not excepted. There has been two recent occurrences in the Alliance circle of our State that especially please the brethren of this section. The first was the return of Bro. Ramsey to the editorial chair of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, the second was the election of Bro. Butler President of the State Alliance, though the advice and leadership of those and alike other brothers we feel sure that we will march steadily and firmly on to victory.

The majority of the brethren of our lodge used the N. C. F. A. Official Guano this year, and they all say that it has proven so far to be as good if not better than any other (standard) guano they have ever used.

I close with best wishes to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and its patrons. Fraternally,
J. C. B., Cor. Sec'y.