

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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

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No. 3

THE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

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PAPERS.

Progressive Farmer, State Ocean, Raleigh, N. C.
The Workingman's Helper, Pinnacles, N. C.
Farmer's Advocate, Salisbury, N. C.
Farmers Home Journal, Asheville, N. C.
Alliance Sentinel, Goldsboro, N. C.
Country Life, Trinity College, N. C.
Hickory, Hickory, N. C.
Whitaker, Whitaker, N. C.
Agricultural Bee, Whiteville, N. C.
Farmers Weekly News, Whiteville, N. C.

Each of the above-named papers are obligated 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.

THE INFLUENCES OF THE AMERICAN TOBACCO COMPANY.

MR. EDITOR:—In a conversation with a young doctor a few days ago, he said that Col. Polk was about to carry the Farmers' Alliance in this State into a third political party. (This young doctor was about as well posted as most anyone is who reads nothing but strictly partisan papers.) He was informed by your humble servant that he had got the thing down wrong; that it was the people who were about to carry Col. Polk into a new political party, and that Col. Polk with all his fact and genius, would be powerless to restrain them much longer. It is not Col. Polk, nor is it the Farmers' Alliance that is carrying the people into a third political party, but it is the trusts and corporations that are winked at by the old parties, that are doing the work. The American Tobacco Company and the Cone Export Company are doing more in one day to drive the farmers into a new political party than Col. Polk and all his Alliance Presidents and Lecturers are doing in a month. The low prices of tobacco is an evil that every farmer understands and feels the effects of. He knows that he is not getting more than half for his tobacco what he formerly did, when there were no trusts and the markets were open to free competition. Let a farmer cross a ferry and go to town with a load of tobacco, and then have to sell his wagon body to get back across the ferry to get home, and the Democratic and Republican parties sitting on the fence grinning at him and telling him to go home and raise so much tobacco and vote for the tariff, and then he will get a good price for his produce. That man can't need Col. Polk nor anyone else to tell him that there is something else besides tariff and over-production. That man knows that if there was but one load of tobacco in the United States, and but one man or firm to buy it, that the one load would not bring any more per pound than it could if there were a million loads. He also knows that if there was only one load of tobacco in the United States, there was open competition between the manufacturers, that the one who would sell for a fabulous price, sees that curtailing his crop would

do no good, for if there is a large crop he gets three dollars per hundred for his tobacco; if there is a small crop he gets the same, and if he wants thirty dollars, no matter whether the crop is short or long, he has to raise a thousand pounds of tobacco to get it. He knows that under the present condition of affairs curtailing his crop means curtailing his income also. He knows that he is in no humor to quarrel with the Democratic or Republican party, as the case may be, on tariff, when his family are living on corn bread and sorghum molasses and are clothed in last year's guano sacks. He knows his only remedy is a strong anti-trust law. But for lo! these many years the Democratic and Republican parties have been looking calmly and smilingly and serenely on and see trusts and corporations swoop down on the poor farmers like a bear on a bee-tree, devouring the honey and leaving the bees robbed of their hard earned gains; and when the bees remonstrate, the old bear says you must not suck so many flowers and make so much honey; you are over cropping yourselves. The forest is suffering with an over production of honey.

Yes, poor bees the forest is suffering with an over production of honey, but the bees are devouring the honey and the poor bees are starving because there is an under consumption among themselves.

Your humble servant dropped in a store a few days ago and the proprietor said to him: "Look here, we are suffering with an over-production of butter; the market is over-stocked with it and we can't find sale for what we have on hand, and I can't account for it, can you?"

I told him yes, I could account for it very easily in this way: The farmers were not getting anything for their tobacco, consequently they had to sell their butter and everything else they could live on something cheaper. It was not an over-production, but it was because they were not able to consume it. A few years ago, when tobacco was selling from ten to sixty dollars per hundred pounds, there was not a pound of home made butter to be had in your town, there would not be today if necessity on the part of the farmers did not compel it.

It is the same way with a great many other things; the labor of the farmer is going in the capacious maws of trusts, combines and corporations, and the farmers have to sell the best of everything they have and live on the barest necessities, not luxuries of life, and simply because they have to do that; they are taunted with the cry of over-production.

Yes, we are suffering with an over-production of money or tobacco or cotton or wheat or corn, but it is an over production of trusts, pools, syndicates, corrupt politicians, knaves and scoundrels and blind partisan fools.

Fraternally,
W. H. SCHOOLFIELD,
Lect'r Rockingham Co.

THOUGHTS FOR THE CONSERVATIVE VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The much-talked of year 1892 is with us, and it seems to me that it is time for us to begin to examine our ranks to see if we are united and ready for the great political battle that will be fought on the first Tuesday in November, next. I fear not, judging the future by the past; for it is well known that the two old parties will make the greatest effort of their lives, each to carry the election on that day for their party. Here in the South the negro will be the driving word used to keep the Democratic bosses in power; and at the North rebel will be the word used by Republicans for the same purpose—words used only to keep up sectional feelings and strife, which should have died long since, for it is a well established fact that there can be no prosperity when our people have to fight the war over every four years; not with powder and ball, but with abusive words, which are more lasting and dangerous than actual war, for we all know that the people of our once happy country are much worse off now than ever before since our government was established; and why is it so? Is it caused by the laboring classes of our people? Nay, not, for if so, there would not be so much of the laborer's products in sight throughout the country at this time. Still we are told by some of the leaders of both old parties that we must work harder and live more economically; for what? To make the rich richer and the poor poorer, in order that the bosses may be more easily control us on the day of election. Fellow-laborers throughout this broad land of ours, let us arise from this degrading position and say to all that we are citizens of these United States, and that we intend to be freemen and will support no man for office unless we honestly believe he will carry out one of the demands of the Farmers' Alliance, which is equal rights to all and special privileges to none. Give us leaders that have been standing on this plank in the past, if to be found.

OLD LEGION.

Stock is never injured when enclosed by a picket and wire fence. The Garrett Fence Machine that this fence is made by is in successful operation in every State and Territory in the U. S. and seems to be a universal favorite. Address S. H. Garrett, Mansfield, Ohio, for catalogue giving full description of machine and also wholesale prices of pickets, wire, &c., which he sells direct to the farmer.

PERSONAL POLITICS.

I will add a few lines to what I last said. Personal politics is the tap root out of which grows the bulk of our political corruption, official impotence, spoil hunting, neglect of the interest of the people and false hero worship. A political party ought to be a body of voters voting together for the time to advance certain principles defined. A political party now, mainly, is a body of voters bound together for the purpose of advancing the interests of certain men and classes. If this is not the main purpose, it is certainly often the main result. At any rate, principles are often advanced only as fast as they consist with the interest of certain men. There is one mob of newspapers that wish to advance the interests of the South only so fast as they consist with the presidential aspirations of a certain pot house politician named D. B. Hill. There is another mob that would retard the issue of financial reform until it consists with the political interests of Grover Cleveland (and Wall street).

What is the matter with such newspapers? They have just simply been filled up to the throat latch with personal politics. It amounts to a disease with them. It has been burnt into them by a score of personal campaigns. They have been made drunk with its miasma in a hundred political conventions. Many have had their zeal quickened by small dividends of the campaign fund. It is no wonder such a howl is raised for a "good organizer." A good organizer is a good provider of a campaign fund and a free distributor of it.

But how does personal politics get its main strength? It is by the marriage of the interests of countless thousands of office holders and office seekers with the principles of the party. The creation of any new office with a salary attached is hailed by organizers with delight, because it means more influence and an additional contribution to the campaign fund. But viewed in their true light such additions do not bring strength. "An element of weakness" remarked a shrewd politician to me once when he was trying to solve the problem of distributing the Federal offices in this district. It was right. The next nominating convention saw him defeated and the next election saw his successor defeated because of the feud engendered by the distribution of spoils. "Capua was a cannae to Hannibal," the ancient maxim was—that is, spoils destroyed the army which destroyed the Romans. The distribution of the pensions and party patronage has corrupted Yankeeedom. Yet we would follow in the same mad career. But the practical question comes up, "what is the remedy?" "You cannot stop men from wanting office and seeking it—in political parties or out of them." "This they have always done since the foundation of the world." No, but this passion like all others must be made amenable to law—must be guided in its exercise by some system or code or custom which will reflect the sentiments and protect the interests of the people at large. The remedy is the separation of local from national politics. Let the elections for State and Federal offices be in different months in different seasons—yea even as far as possible in different years! All clerical and ministerial offices, which are elective, should be totally divorced from legislative offices. This will break up partyism, or at least the monopoly of partyism. Conventions would then be composed of the friends of reform and not of the friends of candidates alone, or mainly.

Delegates sent in the interests of principles will prefer such interests. Delegates sent in the interests of persons will prefer such persons. Delegates sent for one main purpose will swap and trade and bargain to accomplish it, especially if it is a selfish one. Most men in the heat of their agony for a friend who may serve them a good turn will "trade off" a better man or tone down a principle. A convention full of such men may produce a monstrosity both in men and measures. Let the delegates be ever so good they cannot serve two masters. Do you know how it is that often "black legs" and small ward politicians are sent to conventions to the exclusion of able and influential students of government? The black leg and the ward politician have agreed to prostitute their votes and influence in the convention to secure some person an office! They have found out who is or can be made, by "work," the strongest, and they unite on him. He unites on them. The question is not one of principle, for they have covered up all principle under such vaporous term as "good Democrat" or "good Republican," which the faithful understand, and which may mean anything, everything and nothing. They are sent there to try an issue between two or more persons perhaps equally qualified for office, and generally, of course, neither very well qualified. Having finished the main business of "ballotting" they have little time, talent, or disposition for devising means for relieving the people. This is why all the evils of which we now complain have greatly grown and keep growing. This is why the so-called leaders now stand aghast and are so ominously silent in the presence of these evils. Like the man in Scriptures who had not on the "wedding garment"—they feel that they are out of place, and like him, are "speechless." A corrupt tree does not bring forth good fruit, and a spoil-hunting convention cannot bring forth a reform? We must change our political methods or we cannot hope

for reform. We must whip these money changers out of the Temple of Liberty, or the stench of its defilement will reach up to heaven. Long ago there were found those who would make "serving tables" a fetter to religion—and this had to be made a separate business from preaching. So now the gross material, pecuniary, mercenary influences must be separated as far as possible from the principles of pure government, which are the life of the people.

Politics has become "a rotting mass of rank unwieldy woe." The people have allowed the temple of liberty to be overgrown with every noxious vine of selfishness. The corruption of a reeking capital spread unchecked in every State. The political methods of D. B. Hill and Tammany Hall are applauded in the backwoods of North Carolina—if only they win the spoils. Legislative offices—offices, State or national, through which laws are made and the policy of government is shaped must not be the reward of spoilsmen. They must not be bought and sold in the interest of men or parties. If such practical methods are here suggested cannot be adopted if the people cannot in a large measure unclench their interests now so bound up with those of individuals they deserve to have their interests ridiculed, set at naught or postponed, as the present Congress is doing. The people have preferred the interests of office seekers to their own, and the office seeker when he gets in office simply continues the preference. The people will not pay the expenses of their friends to conventions and then complain because the railroads do. Let the people, for example, use the same diligence to get their friends to the conventions that the railroads do and half this cause for complaint against railroads would be removed at once.

I regret as much as anybody to see the political and economic ills we suffer constantly increase, but nothing less could ever have brought the people to their senses.

I have waited steadily for ten years for an opportunity to attack partyism in the South, but never until now have I seen the popular mind in a suitable frame even to listen to such an attack. Never until THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER was begun, have I known a newspaper which has permitted such an attack in its columns. Even now the people in the towns and villages bear such attacks with impatience, although the ever increasing bankruptcy of the merchants is slowly bringing them to suspect that something is the matter besides the tariff. Experience keeps a dear school, but few of us will learn in any other. I have some much harder and more bitter truths than these to utter, and I will publish them when I think the fullness of time has come.

W. J. PEELE.
DR. DURHAM IN CALDWELL.

GRANITE FALLS, N. C.

MR. EDITOR:—Dr. Durham, District Lecturer of the Eighth district, began a series of lectures for Caldwell county to day at Granite Falls Academy, and while he gave but a short notice, he was met by a fair audience, a larger crowd than the famous Fort Worth anti-Sub-Treasury crowd. He delivered a most excellent lecture, and was congratulated by some of our best citizens outside of the Order.

After the audience was dismissed, the doctor met the Alliance in a private session and gave the members some good and timely advice, which encouraged them to stand by the Alliance and its demands. The Doctor's visit to Granite Falls has done much good. His speech was calm and plain, clear cut and exactly to the point, free from abuse and strengthened the Alliance with those who heard it, and impressed them favorably with its aims and purposes.

Our Alliance, No. 1,797, has fifty male and nineteen female members on its roll, with more to come.

At a recent meeting a vote was taken on the Ocala Indianapolis platform; the result was every member present except one voting for the demands. So you see, Mr. Editor, we are practically a unit on the Ocala demands.

If the present Congress fails to give us some relief, the place that knows them now will know them no more forever. We will in future send our demands to Congress with brains at one end and boots at the other.

Fraternally,
G. W. HAYES, Sec'y.

RESOLUTIONS.

MR. EDITOR:—At a meeting of Clark's Mill Sub-Alliance, No. 1,528 held February 6th, 1892, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The partisan press, or a large proportion of them at least, have persistently misrepresented Col. L. L. Polk as President of the National Farmers' Alliance. Be it

Resolved, That we reaffirm our confidence in and our esteem for him, and that we denounce in unqualified terms their action, and look upon it as an attack upon the Alliance and its principles.

2d. That we stand by and endorse the Alliance demands as were amended at the Indianapolis Convention.

3d. That while we are not partisan in our views we will not support any man for any high political office who does not stand on the Alliance demands.

4th. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for publication.

W. A. RUSS, Sec'y.

THE PROPOSED SILVER COMMISSION.

MR. EDITOR:—The free American citizen can now congratulate himself that he can find in the reform press a medium through which he can learn the naked truth without coloring and suppression to suit certain individual or partisan interests. This thing is so absolutely necessary to the maintenance of popular rights and of a republic that every man who wishes to be properly informed on political subjects should subscribe at once for some of the best reform papers. Here in passing we cannot help to note the marked improvement in the correspondents to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER. For mental ability and a logical conception of their subjects some of them are truly giants in the land. Now for my subject:

For what purpose is this proposed international silver commission? Once before the people became anxious for the free coinage of silver and their demands were delayed by the appointment of a silver commission to confer with the Kings of Europe on the subject, and anti-silver men were appointed on that commission and they did nothing. Will not the people are getting impatient and wrathful at this jugglery. Three commissioners at \$5,000 an expense simply for delay, jugglery and deception. What are they going to do? What can they do with the silver dollar of America? Will they make it smaller or will they make it larger, or do they expect to obtain free silver coinage among these kingdoms? They will not make the standard silver dollar smaller. For the bondholders are now under contract to take the present silver dollar of 412½ grains. Will they agree on the present dollar? No, they will not agree upon that because these kingdoms have vast sums owing their citizens, payable in the gold dollar or its present equivalent, and these kings are not going to agree to any proposition which will lessen the intrinsic value of these debts. Is there a white man green enough to suppose that after the citizens of these kings had spent millions in procuring legislation to depreciate the silver dollar and appreciate the gold dollar in these United States that they would turn on their heels and give up this bought advantage for naught? There is no one so silly except a dupe or a partisan.

Then what is left for this commission to do? Nothing but to enlarge the silver dollar, put in more silver. This will change the contract with the bondholders and all other forms of indebtedness. Will the people submit to having the dollar made larger with which they are to pay near thirty billions of debts? Will they submit to having all those debt contracts changed and they robbed of millions more? Many thanks to a reform press which will keep the people fully posted in these matters.

Then the only objects of the commission are delay and perardventure the enlargement of the silver dollar for the benefit of the bondholders and bankers of the country. If there is a member of Congress who cannot do justice to the people by the free coinage of silver and by ordering that bloated potentate, the Secretary of the Treasury, to pay off the bonds in silver which is the contract, let him step down and out. This will bring the two coins immediately to par. If it does not, the people should get the advantage of the disparity; for it was by wicked legislation against the rights of the people this disparity came about.

Is there any party afraid to advocate what is just and right for fear of defeat? If there be such a party, or if there be a man in Congress belonging to any party who for reasons of party success is willing to waive action in defense of the rights of the people, let such a party or such a member be condemned. Why should the capital be encumbered with such vermin?

Sorry are we to note the fact there was a time when America did not have to consult with the Kings of Europe in regard to her money matters; but now the republic has become so base and groveling, it is sincerely proposed to get their consent to an act of the free coinage of the silver dollar. What a base use have we come to at last! In 1837 there was a disparity between the coins and Congress promptly brought them to par by lessening the gold in the gold dollar. There was not a word heard about consulting the Kings of Europe on this subject. Why? Because we had men in Congress—we had honest men whose sole ambition was to represent the interest of the people. What have we now, with some few laudable exceptions? We have political marplots party hacks, whose sole ambition is party success and individual fortune. You cannot deny this. Every party journal says give us power and we will set all things right. If they are afraid to espouse justice and right before they gain power, will they not be doubly afraid for fear of losing power after they gain it? Who are you deceiving by such bosh as this? Not the people who are kept posted by the reform press. A small hide bound coterie who read only political slush, may not know any better, but they are learning the truth fast.

Some questions, may be asked here: Who does Congress represent, any way? Why this delaying and dodging on a sharply defined issue in which the people have an interest? The answer comes proving itself. Most of the present Congress represent capitalistic interests. They are in hearty sympathy with said interest and at the same time they dread the votes of the people. The capitalists know their advantages given them by the law, and millions of people do not know theirs—do not

know how much they have been deceived and plundered by law, sanctioned by both parties. The Congressman knows it is easier to deceive the people by the help of the party press, than to deceive the capitalists, therefore he panders to their interests and runs the risk of plying the party lash to the people. If the people revolt, having learned the treachery of their representatives, they have no choice; the opposite party is equally as bad. Here the people are caught between the devil and the deep sea—helpless, down trodden, stripped and plundered by these modern statesmen. The party organs, some more ignorant than the people, blow their praise long and loud, and those putting faith in these journals some times consider the most corrupt scoundrel the greatest man in the land.

For delay and to shun the wrath of an outraged people, the plutocrats must ask advice of the kings about silver. Thirty, forty or fifty years back in every sharply defined issue where the interest of the people and capital was in question, the people have been legislated against. Now to gain time they must consult the kings. The republic once had men so patriotic and honest she would have repudiated such a proposition with scorn; to day this sickly plutocracy become the bootlick of monarchs and make grinning grimaces before their nobility. How has thou fallen, oh land of the free! Once the pride and glory of every Republican in the world, now a hissing and a reproach to the name. But thanks be to those noble men who through all this base legislation against the people, stood manfully, without regard to party for their rights. They will be the jewels of history, while those others will make a blotch. Thanks be to the reform press which is giving forth words of truth and soberness, for they are fast redeeming the people from political ignorance and thraldom.

My fellow countrymen whose men are you? Do you belong to the people or the plutocracy? Are you going to take sides with the millions spoiled and robbed, or with the spoliating? If with the people, stand over on this side. Come, as fast as your eyes are opened come. Stand steadily; stand fast. This is the side of the republic. This is the side of the oppressed poor. This is the side of Heaven. The weight of all history rests upon you. The fate of coming generations gather around you. Living, stand. Dying, then be buried.

W. R. LINDSAY.

RESOLUTIONS.

FRANKLINTON, N. C.

MR. EDITOR:—Whereas, We, the members of Mt. Olivet Alliance, No. 466, are in favor of all creeds and faiths discussing the demands of the Alliance with a spirit of fairness; and whereas, we find the partisan press and politicians will not do so; and whereas, we find instead of a fair discussion they abuse and vilify our demands and national officers. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we will not subscribe for nor support any partisan paper that abuses the Alliance demands or national officers, without a just cause.

2d. That we will support no man for office in 1892 who abuses the Alliance demands or officers, without a just cause.

3d. That we have the utmost confidence in the integrity and honesty of our National President, Col. L. L. Polk.

4th. That we stand upon the Ocala platform of 1890, and as amended at Indianapolis in 1891, until something better is presented.

5th. That we are in favor of the Georgia railroad system, separate cars for white and colored, with some accommodations and a uniform traveling rates for each.

6th. That we are in favor of the laws of North Carolina being amended or enacted so that a man that is subject to poll tax shall not be allowed to vote unless he can show his tax receipt for the past year.

7th. That we heartily endorse the course pursued thus far in Congress by Hon. S. B. Alexander and Hon. A. H. Williams.

8th. That a copy of the above resolutions be sent to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for publication.

9th. That we respectfully request the Clinton Caucasian, Salisbury Watchman, Tarboro Farmers' Advocate, Asheville Mountain Home Journal, Goldsboro Alliance Sentinel and Agricultural Bee, Trinity College Country Life, Hickory Mercury, Whitaker's Rattler, Whiteville Columbus Weekly News, Raleigh Weekly State Chronicle, and Louisville Times to please copy. Done in regular meeting February 6th, 1892.

JOHN MAY, Pres't.
A. H. CATLETT, Sec'y.

A special bulletin has been issued by the N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station at Raleigh on the subject of the digestibility of cotton seed hulls and meal. This is No. 800, and being more technical than the usual reader cares to peruse, is not sent to the general mailing list. It will be supplied upon special application to the Station. From the experiments described in it, it is found that the following expresses the digestible portions of the different constituents: Protein, 24.6 per cent., fat 80.6 per cent., nitrogen-free extract 40.3, and crude fibre 27.1. The nutritive ratio was thus 1:23.6. Wheat straw, it will be remembered, is 1:43.7. A ration of 1 lb. cotton seed hulls and 7 lbs. meal was also investigated, and the nutritive ratio, was found to be 1:10.8. A Jersey cow, Belle of B. o. k. side, was used in the experiments conducted by the Station.