

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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The editor is not responsible for the views of correspondents.

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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.

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.

The date on your label tells you when your time is out.

I am standing now just behind the curtain, and in full glow of the coming sunset. Behind me are the shadows of the track, before me lies the dark valley and the river.

N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES. Swenson is not the only "boss" our North Carolina legislatures have had.

Dr. D. H. Abbott, of Perquimans county, was nominated for Railroad Commissioners to succeed Beddingfield, by the Republican legislative caucus Friday night.

Germany is showing a weakness for American apples by importing twenty times as many this winter as she ever did before.

The sole measure that this legislature has passed against railroad opposition is the fellow servant act.

The outgoing administration has been of, for and by the bond holders.

W. W. Clark, of New Berne, has been appointed by the President to fill the vacancy made by the death of Judge Seymour.

The North Carolina Christian Advocate opposes the law to tax old bachelors on the ground that there are already "too many married people in the State."

There is talk of an extra session of the legislature. Please don't, Governor Russell.

The Southern Railroad is to pay the State only 7 per cent. (being about 4 per cent. on the real value of the property) but the people must continue to pay the railroads 20 per cent.

California is another of the many States in whose legislature a bill is pending to reduce telegraph rates to ten cents for ten words.

A DANGEROUS PROPOSITION.

It ought to be plain to all reading, observing people that we are approaching a dangerous financial precipice.

The Banker's associations for several years have advocated, as the next best thing to follow the demonetization of silver, the retirement of the Treasury notes and "getting the government out of the banking business."

Now we will take it for granted that our bankers are no worse and no better than the average citizen in any other avocation, though it is natural that their hearts should grow callous while they are handling large sums of money daily.

That is exactly what they have started out to do. Their plans have been carefully, shrewdly made.

Q uick and decisive measures should be adopted to avert the pending disaster. Let the people regardless of party or avocation get together and resolve that the bankers shall no longer rule.

It was rumored on the streets that Abell, of Johnston, voted against all amendments offered by Senator Butler Friday, but after he found that the bill could be passed without his vote he changed and had his vote recorded the other way.

THAT BRADLEY-MARTIN BALL.

The rich say that you can't legislate money into peoples' pockets; they must work for it. This is doubtless just as true as a great many other things the plutocrats tell us.

The streets around the hotel were closed up by the police, the hirelings of plutocracy, and even guests of the hotel could not get to the building.

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a Solomon, and it is well that so much money was put in circulation. But how long will it be until that money will be legislated back into Mr. Martin's pocket? Not long.

But we are not sorry for those who are to blame—those who vote to keep such cattle in power by re electing men to congress and other offices who are known to be the tools of the trusts.

On last Friday the Senate passed a substitute for the House bill to refer the lease question to the courts in order to determine the legality of the lease by a vote of 26 to 24.

THE AMERICAN COTTON COMPANY.

The Manufacturers' Record, of Feb. 19th, contains a five full page account of the new method of baling cotton, with illustrations.

Our society is non sectarian and non-political. It bars no color, race or creed. It is as extensive as the limits of our country, being in nearly every State in the Union.

PEOPLE WILL NOT SUBMIT TO IT

The proposed amendments to the election law are not right. The plan to place the appointment of poll holders in the hands of three "supervisors," who, in all probability will be a Populist bolter, a goldbug Republican and goldbug Democrat, three of a kind, taking the whole machinery out of the hands of the three parties, is an outrageous proceeding.

The schemes to take the government of towns and cities out of the hands of the citizens of said municipalities are second only to "supervisor" plans.

FOR A FARMERS' TARIFF.

The great majority of the people of the United States are engaged in agricultural pursuits. The farming communities are now lowest in the scale of hard times.

ALLIANCE GROWING IN THE NORTHWEST.

The Minnesota State Alliance has just closed one of its most interesting sessions. The enthusiasm of the brotherhood seems to be reviving and everything points to a rapid advance along the original lines.

The following extract from the annual address of President L. C. Long will be read with interest by Alliance men and should give them renewed zeal for the work:

The time has arrived when the producers of wealth should band themselves together in a great national fraternal society, that will bring the tillers of the soil and the toilers of the city into one great brotherhood, to ward off the encroachments upon their liberties, to prevent the absorption of their substance by greedy and rapacious trusts, and combine, to inaugurate reforms, and place laws upon the statute books that will be for the interest of the masses rather than the classes.

What more ennobling sentiment can be preached than the succor of our distressed brother; to visit the sick, to bury the dead, to care for the widow and orphan, to raise up and encourage a fallen brother; to pledge moral and temporal support to each other; to offer a safe substantial and cheap manner of life insurance to our members, by which the father will have the happy consciousness that his loved ones will be provided against any possibility of want or disaster by having \$1,000, \$2,000 or \$3,000 left to the sorrowing family when the Great Ruler calls him to his last account.

The fraternal plan upon which the F. A. & I. U. is built, appeals at once to lofty sentiments of mind and soul in this age of Christian civilization; its harmonious and elastic adaptation to all conditions, permits its members who may vary with each other in the most irreconcilable manner on religious, political and social views, to blend into one harmonious fraternal family whose motto is "One for all; all for each."

It should not be forgotten that certain prominent fusion Populists were just as anxious to fuse with the Democracy in the palmy days of Grover Cleveland as they are now.—Missouri World.

There are so many other ways by which this great organization can be made a source of profit and saving to its members, by co-operation and kindred enterprises along these lines, that we can safely say that the membership will save 25 to 50 per cent. on the goods they buy through the organization, and save some of the profits on the products of the farm which are now absorbed by middlemen, by selling direct to the consumer through a system of exchange depots where the products of the farm and the manufactured products of the city can be kept on hand, and exchanged for the goods of each other without the aid of the middlemen.

In the interest of God, religion, country, humanity, your families, and your citizenship, you are called upon set aside one day in this month, the day made sacred to Americans by the achievements of that great man sent by Providence to guide the destinies of this struggling nation in the dark days of its early history.

George Washington drove from our country a foreign foe, who was seeking to enslave and impoverish this people. We are to day enslaved and shackled to the same hereditary foe which our fathers of revolutionary days fought against in the battles of Lexington, Bunker Hill, and suffered in Valley Forge the biting blast of cold and hunger which many a poor creature is suffering to-day in this land of promise and plenty.

We therefore ask every citizen to observe the 22d day of February, George Washington's birthday, in the same manner by assembling in country districts at the district school house, and participate in some patriotic exercises, talk the social conditions over, which you labor under without partisan or political malice, commune with each other, reason, outline a mode of action that you think for your welfare, organize an Alliance or Union, elect your officers, send in word to the State Secretary, who will inform you how to proceed. This is the plan we wish to have followed by all districts which

have not an organization of the Farmers' Alliance in existence.

We also call upon each of the 1,431 Alliances now upon the roll of our books in this State to have its officers and members meet together at their usual meeting place in the past and discuss the question of joining the F. A. & I. U. National organization, re-organize your Alliance, elect your officers, and send in the action of your Alliance on this matter to this office at once, and arrangements will be made to have our organizers go into every locality and initiate the members into our great society.

AN ERROR CORRECTED.

Railroad Commissioner S. O. Wilson informs us that an injustice was done him in the minority report on the bill (Hauser's) to reduce fare and freight rates, etc., published in this paper last week and referred to editorially.

Commissioner S. O. Wilson states that he and Commissioner J. W. Wilson did go before the committee that had charge of the bill (by request) and gave their views, but claims that they took opposite sides on the question. S. O. Wilson favored nearly all of the bill he says, but did not favor the reduction of passenger fares to 2 and 1/4 cents per mile as he believed the reduction too great, and that it was unfair to make fares the same on trunk lines and branch roads.

CREAM OF THE PRESS

Hard Hits, Bold Sayings and Patriotic Paragraphs From Reform Papers.

There are hosts of people in New England who would be glad to trade off their confidence for something more tangible.—American Enterprise.

The wave of prosperity, brought about by a Democratic administration, will end March 4, but the country has been promised another wave by the Republicans.—Missouri World.

One thing can be said in favor of Judge Lynch: He doesn't make long speeches and get drunk at banquets and insult defenseless women like some other judges.—Albany Herald.

"The will of the people" may be the "highest law," but is of little consequence since the corporation owned courts usually declare it "unconstitutional."—Tulare Valley Citizen.

It should not be forgotten that certain prominent fusion Populists were just as anxious to fuse with the Democracy in the palmy days of Grover Cleveland as they are now.—Missouri World.

As an evidence of the political revolution that is in progress forty five new faces have been elected to the United States Senate since March 4, 1893. This is something before unknown.—Brockton Diamond.

That jingle of sound money that McKinley's election was going to bring don't jingle worth a cent in these parts. What has become of it? We are tired of waiting; wish you would hurry it up.—Cieburne Herald.

The Figaro, of Paris, France, says that a man in that city has managed for the past four months to live on four cents a day. If the financial conditions do not change soon in this country, that limit will be common here.—Southern Mercury.

W. A. Pinkerton, head of the Pinkerton detective agency, declared in St. Louis the other day that the great increase of crime "is by men made desperate by their wants, by the lack of labor to supply the ordinary necessities of life."—Progressive Home.

Nearly every man who voted for McKinley has said he would like to have an office. There is one exception, a Kentuckian who lost his voice yelling for him during the campaign, but he has made signs to indicate his willingness to take one.—Pomeroy, Ohio, Democrat.

It is said that in Machias, Maine, a dozen eggs can be exchanged for a barrel of apples, while in Dallas, Texas, the exchange value is half a dozen apples for a dozen of eggs. The profits in making the exchange go into the pockets of railway corporations.—Chicago Express.

It is reported that the Prince of Wales has spent \$50,000,000 in 33 years and has nothing to show for it. Mark Hanna can beat that all hollow. He was only five months spending \$16,000,000, but he has a president and congress to show for his money.—American Enterprise.

The Advocate does not know what would happen to seventeen Populist members of the Legislature of Kansas if they had by their votes elected a gold standard Republican to the Senate, as that number of Populists necessarily did in North Carolina, but we incline to the opinion that they would have been impressed with the idea that a change of residence on their part would be desirable.—Topeka Advocate.



More "Paternalism"—Zeke Wants The State to Own Its Own Legislature. He Writes Some Spring Poetry.

B—"Hello! Mr. Editor." R—"Hello! Major. Did you succeed in lobbying through your charter for The Raleigh Tribune Railway?" B—"No, I haven't got it ter my neshun yet exactly. They wanted ter make it for ninety nine years, an' I ain't gotter favor that, fer it won't be doin' business that long. I'm wurkin' on another skeme now that will beat the band. I'm a paternalist frum away back. I'm in favor of the State ownin' an' appoin' its own legislature hereafter. Looks sorter like purty nigh half ov this legislature iz owned an' operated by the corporashuns. I believe that iz unconstitutional an' contrary ter law an' order. I'm tired ov sich business. My opinion iz that the legislature kin be run cheaper an' do better service if it is owned by the State, in other wurdz, the people ov the State. The folks hev ter obey the law or take the consequences. I wanner see the corporashuns an' the trust-put on the same footin'. We've bin tryin' fer a gude while ter git rid ov these fellers whut go around an' sweat blood fer the downtrodden people an' shed tears az big az walnuts durin' campaigns an' cum ter Raleigh an' go the other way. But it seems that we've struck a whole litter ov 'em this time. It must be stopped if Judge Lynch has ter be called on ter hold a session or two ov court. I'm not much ov a post, but this iz how it looks ter me:

The legislator blooms once in two years, Flowers bloom eve y spring; In campane he sheds many tears, At Raleigh he serves the corporashun king.

The moment the per diem stops He straightway home doth go; Though he laughs he skips an' he hops, He is not as pure as the beautiful snow.

Yours fer a change, Gudebye.

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP.

The following practical illustration of the advantages of public ownership is taken from the Roanoke, Va., Times, reproduced by the Richmond State: "The gas works in Richmond are owned and operated by the city. The city furnishes gas to its citizens at one dollar per thousand feet and from the proceeds thus derived turns into the city treasury fifty thousand dollars annually after lighting all of the public buildings of Richmond and many of the streets and outlying districts. The people of Richmond did not know what a good thing they had until a syndicate recently proposed to lease the works from the city and pay an annual rental of \$40,000. When all the facts as to the value of the gas plant as a revenue producer became known the syndicate's proposition was rejected. If a private corporation owned the Richmond gas plant the people of that city would be paying near two dollars per thousand feet for gas, and in addition to the loss of the fifty thousand dollars of profit would be footing a bill of about fifty thousand dollars annually for public lights. Yet there are philanthropists (!) who tell us it is not good for a city to own its own gas and water supply."

ONLY 7 PER CENT. TO THE STATE AND 20 PER CENT. TO THE "SOUTHERN."

The net receipts of the "Southern" Railroad in North Carolina, as returned by them for last year, was \$1,345,000—one million three hundred and forty-five thousand dollars. This sum is 20 per cent on the actual value of their property over and above the enormous salaries they pay their "general" officers. The Senate has refused to make them pay more than 7 per cent for the lease of the North Carolina Railroad. Cannot the legislature now have some mercy on the people and cut down passenger and freight rates so that the people shall pay the railroads less than 20 per cent a year (besides their \$50,000 salaries) to be carried out of the State to Rothschilds and Pierpont Morgan!

Open the factories and the mint will open, said the gold bug orator last fall. Now both are closed.—The Dawn