# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

#### 908 (16) "The Thinkers of the Country Are the Tobacco Chewers "said one of the greatest thinkers this country ever FARMERS MUST FIGHT FOR produced. **RURAL CREDITS LEGISLATION** No Farmer Should Be a Mere Silent Supporter of His Party But a Vigorous Fighter to Make It Represent the Great Plain People-Stay in Your Party But Keep it Straight [President H. Q. Alexander of the North Carolina Farmers' Union is out in a vigorous appeal to the farmers in all parties to put fire behind their party leaders and get a just rural credits law on the statute books. Read his message herewith.] ONGRESS will not enact any constructive reform legislation that will relieve the masses of the people from the power of the money JUDGMENT monopoly unless the people through an aggressive cam-There's no better aid to heavy paign compel such action. Politicians thinking than a light tobacco. and legislative bodies dominated by politicians, move in the HCNIC WISTS line of least resistance. The money interests never sleep. Their "watch-DR; ALEXANDER man" is ever on the job. Their friends and their attorneys have been **CHEWING TOBACCO** in charge of our Government for a generation and they still have suffigives you what you've been looking cient strength in both parties in Washington to prevent any real confor-a long-lasting, mellow-mild, soft structive financial reform legislation. chew. PICNIC TWIST tastes better It is hardly necessary to argue the than strong, rank tobacco, without havtruth of this statement. Every man ing its "after-effects" on the nerves.

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Our Farmers' Union Page Devoted to Education, Organization, Cooperation and Marketing

J. Z. GREEN, E. W. DABBS, C. C. WRIGHT, Contributing Editors

acquainted with the history of reform legislation knows it is true. But let us present a little evidence. Beginning in 1864 a function of govern-. ment and a right which belongs to

crease of 11 per cent in 20 years; the annual income of one-half of one per cent of the people is greater than that of 75 per cent of the people.

## Farmers Do Not Get a Square Deal

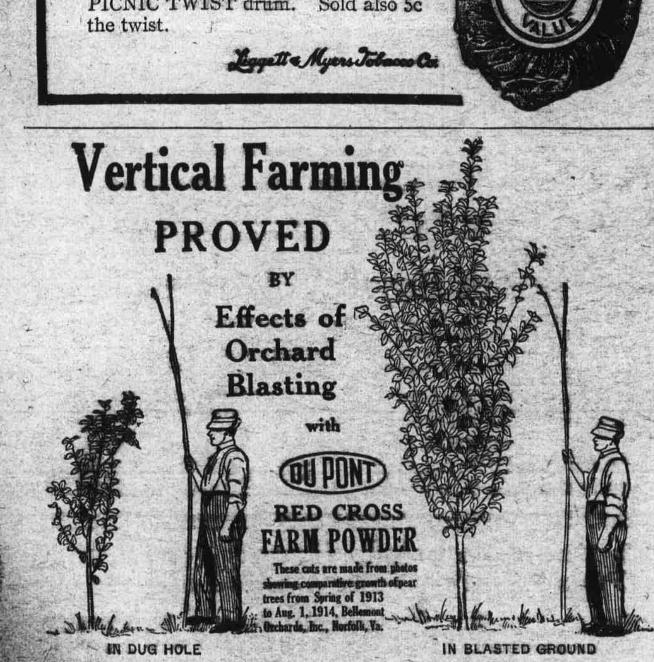
TT IS said there are more than 4,000 I multi-millionaires in this country but not one millionaire farmer who made his million by farming. These men did not earn their millions. They secured them by preying upon the masses of the people through privileges and immunities granted or permitted by our Government; and there has been no great demonstration made about it by either party except just before elections.

And we might mention the fact that all the principal governments of the world had a parcel post many years before the United States. The express companies were permitted to prey upon the people year after year and no great protest made by either party until the organized farmers of America got behind Congress and demanded relief.

And what did Congress do last fall to save the cotton crop to the men who produced it? Nothing at all. It is true that the Secretary of the Treasury issued emergency currency to a few National banks, but it did not reach the masses of the farmers who needed it most. The Government refused to fix any loan value whatever on cotton in the farmers' hands but after the speculator got it this same Government insured that cotton at \$70 per bale.

#### Keep Fighting Inside Your Party

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the people was taken away from the people and delegated to individuals and corporations for private profit. The most important of all public utilities, money, was turned over to the few that they might levy tribute on the many; and the few have done it.

I have read that Secretary Chase who conceived that banking system, advocated it only as an emergency measure to create a compulsory market for United States bonds to get money to carry on the war. And I have been told by a Congressman that President Lincoln said he would rather cut off his right hand than to sign the bill if it was to be a permanent banking system.

#### What Indifference by the Masses Has Brought Us to

A NOTHER reason for my saying A that neither party will give the people constructive reforms unless the people demand it is this: I have read and re-read the new Federal Reserve law and I do not hesitate to measures demanded by the people. I say that it is a bankers' law, written would substitute an intelligent, volby bankers for bankers. It is a law. untary party adherence for blind unin favor of bondholders. It provides reasonable party fanaticism. I would for refunding the 2 per cent bonds of the National banks and substituting licans from intelligent conviction and therefor 30-year 3 per cent bonds, in- not from past party affiliations or terest payable quarterly. The banks the party lash. I would have the parstill control the issuing of money, a ty the willing and efficient servant of right which belongs to the people the people and not the people the through Congress, and under the Constitution Congress had no authority to delegate this power to private corporations for private profit.

The people have allowed corporation lawyers and professional politicians to dominate the Government and years. It has steered clear of partigrant special privileges and immunities to corporate wealth and the result is that today we find 2 per cent zation is not for any party nor of the people own 60 per cent of the against any party. It is working for National wealth; 65 per cent of the the development of the people and of people own less than 5 per cent of the the resources of our state. All of the wealth; 44 families each have an an- prestige, power and influence of the nual income equal to the total yearly organization will be brought to bear wages of 100,000 workingmen; farm on legislative bodies and rulers, both tenantry and landlordism are in- state and National, to secure all neccreasing every year; nearly two- essary constructive legislation for thirds of the total population are the establishment of a government renters; 43 per cent of the farmers of that is really "of and for and by the North Carolina are tenants, an in- people." We have never had that

should be studied separate and apart from party influence to determine whether or not it is right and for the good of the masses. Then work with all your might to make the party adopt it. If you fail do not bolt the party and go to another where you would have less influence and less hope of success but "gird up your loins" and fight the enemy in your own household. Do not condone the wrong or overlook the wilful failure of your party to do its duty by the people. Expose it if need be before an intelligent people. Arouse a righteous public sentiment that no party will dare ignore. Inform the people and get them to do their own thinking.

This is what I have tried to do. I would see such independence of thought and speech among the rank and file of both parties that the leaders of neither party would dare do anything against the welfare of the people, or refuse to enact reform have men to be Democrats or Repubsubjects of the party.

### We Can't Get Rural Credits Unless We Fight

THE Farmers' Union is already in politics and has been for several san politics and will continue to do so. The Farmers' Union as an organi-