

THE CAROLINA FARMER

UNION



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One Dollar a Year

BARRETT ADDRESSES THE QUITTERS

To the Officers and Members of the Farmers' Union:

This is a chapter on "quits," being for the benefit of the brother who is weak-kneed or faint-hearted, peevish as a chicken with the pip and ready to quit the Farmers' Union at the drop of the hat. A smaller percentage are yielding to these special reasons than ever before in the organization's history, but the number needs still to be lessened.

Just run your eyes over a few of these causes for "quitting," and if the temptation ever strikes you to use one of them as an excuse, remember that Barrett urged you to pay some strong man to take you back of the barn and give you what you used to get before you ceased to fit neatly over your father's knee.

You quit because we had stock companies, and you didn't believe in the principle.

You quit because you thought we didn't have co-operation in its true sense.

You quit because a little of your money was stolen and you imagined you couldn't get another honest officer, at the expense of a little effort.

You quit because somebody told you you would have a better standing if you didn't run with a crowd of "one gallus" fellows; you've since found out since what a lie that was, but perhaps you haven't the manhood to confess it.

You quit because you thought they shouldn't have pensioned Mrs. Gresham, one of the noblest acts the organization has to its credit.

You quit because they gave me a present of

one thousand dollars—and let me tell you I didn't want to take it, because I knew just how YOU would feel.

You quit because we were trying to do too much.

You quit because we were not doing enough.

You quit because a few salaries were raised, and you'd rather give your money to an outside faker than somebody trying to help you and bold enough to tell you unpleasant truths.

You quit because some organizer, or officer, told you a lie forgetting that the organization, and its principles, are bigger than any man or set of men.

You quit because you did not get any immediate personal benefit, forgetting that revolutions are not wrought overnight and that perhaps the fault was your's for not co-operating properly and sacrificing a little of your fancied independence.

You quit because there were so many poor, ignorant folks in the Farmers' Union, forgetting that every man is his brother's keeper, and that the son of that poor devil you turn your nose up at may be marrying your daughter tomorrow or giving you orders the day after.

You quit because women were allowed to join, yelping that they had no place in our meetings and "ought to be at home where they belong"—forgetting that the woman makes the home and that one of the first principles of the Farmers' Union is trying to better the home.

You quit when cotton reached a good price, or failed to reach a good price.

You quit because we didn't go enough, or too much, into politics.

You quit because there were some grand rascals among the members, especially the leaders, forgetting that there are just as many in the churches and the secret orders and that it's your business to stay in and help turn them out.

I could multiply these "quits" indefinitely. There isn't any use. You'll recognize a good many of them, and be too stuck up to admit it.

But just let me remind you, brother, that while in some states we are going to halt for a spell, and perhaps mark time, this organization is here to stay, from a National standpoint. It is here to transform rural life in America, to get a square deal for the farmer, to abolish mortgages on farms, to eliminate the demagogue, to make the government to which the farmer contributes so liberally return to the farmer a little more in taxes.

Take a broad view of the situation! Get off your own little ant-hill. Bear this in mind, as the final test—you wouldn't kill yourself if everything went wrong, your crops failed, and your faith in human nature petered out. Well—the Farmers' Union is just LIFE. So when you begin to meditate leaving it for some petty, fool reason, let it soak into your head that you are hurting yourself worse than the organization, and that you are losing the best chance in history to get a square deal for yourself, your wife, your sons and your daughters.

CHAS. S. BARRETT.

Union City, Ga., June 28th, 1911.

Gaston County Farmers.

A great crowd variously estimated at from 2,000 to 3,000 was present Tuesday, the Fourth, at the Sunnyside picnic on the occasion of the celebration by the Gaston Farmers' Union and Rural Letter Carriers. Mr. J. Z. Green, of Marshville, lecturer and organizer for the Farmers' Union made a good speech in the forenoon. His speech dealt principally with a short history of the rural free delivery system, the difficulties under which it was organized, the successes with which it has met. He traced the growth of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union from the Farmers' Alliance. He concluded his speech with a plea for better farming methods, more agricultural training and a deeper realization of the true wealth of the farmer. A bounteous dinner spread to the public on the grounds

followed Mr. Green's speech. After a recreation of an hour or so, the crowd re-assembled to hear Prof. J. A. Bivins, of Raleigh. His address was also along the lines of agricultural education. Both addresses were admirably suited for the occasion and were listened to with attention and pleasure.

Will Pool Tobacco Crop.

That the members of the Farmers' Union of this section will organize a pool of the tobacco crop next fall was the firm opinion of one who attended the big rally and picnic of the Union people at Rural Hall yesterday. He said the spirit of the pool was in the very atmosphere and unless all signs failed there would be unanimous action in the matter by the Union in this county in the not distant future.

Several hundred farmers and their families

attended the rally and an enthusiastic meeting was held. The chief feature was the address by Mr. J. Z. Green, State organizer of the Union and editor of the Carolina Union Farmer of Charlotte.

Other addresses were made by Mr. R. L. Nunn and Dr. J. T. Smith, both of Westfield. A big dinner was served on the grounds of the Rural Hall academy.

Another big picnic and rally will be held at Pleasant Fork today. Mr. Green will speak there also.—Winston Journal, 8th.

The Farmers' Union of Vance county will hold its next regular meeting on July 15th, in the courthouse at Henderson. At this time there will be discussed several important propositions for the farmers of the county and a large attendance is requested.