

# THE CAROLINA UNION FARMER



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One Dollar a Year

## "Old Rube" In Washington

Various and divers interests and classes have made their descent upon Washington, and with effect. Last spring the newspaper publishing combine got in its effective work, and secured section two in the Reciprocity law giving them free wood-pulp and print paper from the very day Taft signed the bill, regardless of whether Canada ratified it. So they got theirs. What they got was the duty removed from their imports.

This regular session a number of other special interests have visited the national capital, and the democratic house has responded most obligingly to their demands. First came the Jews, demanding an abrogation of our treaty with Russia, even though we were refusing to admit here Russian Chinese, polygamous Musselmen, and others from Russia having passports, and the house, senate, and the president, seemed to tumble over themselves to put an end to that treaty of peace and commerce with our old friend and ally of all these years.

Next came the old Union soldiers, who, although they are already getting over one hundred million dollars a year in pensions, were handed out, on a silver platter, scarcely for the asking, a dollar a day service pension. Then came organized labor, and the house proceeded to pass an eight hour law and will soon put through a workmen's compensation law, abolishing the fellow servant rule, assumption of risk, and other old common law principles.

And at the last reports the good roads were in Washington, the "Three A's," that is the automobile fellows, and were told by the democratic leaders of the house that all they had to do was to get together on a bill and get in behind it and it would be pushed through the lower branch of Congress.

Now, is it not time, high time, that "Old Rube" was marching on Washington? Maybe he is too late. Maybe all the concessions have been handed out. Maybe when the house increased its own membership forty members and thereby the expenditures of Uncle Sam over a million dollars a year, in order to save the seats of one member each from several southern state delegations, and did all these other things, it exhausted its ability and desire to do things. Maybe the old clodhoppers will arrive in Washington only to come back

again, like the King who marched up the hill only to march down again. But here's hoping that he will be treated at least as well as the last republican house treated him, which passed an anti-gambling-in-cotton bill, whose congressional commission recommended substantial restriction, which increased appropriations for agricultural purposes two million dollars, whose committee started a good investigation into the needs of a parcels post (just recommended by Taft and the Postmaster General). Yes, you, after all these years of promises individually and collectively, we know "Old Rube," our national legislative committee now in Washington, will be treated "right" by the democratic house. That body has been very generous to the old Union soldier, who some think will vote as he shot, it has been very good and promises to be still better to organized labor, give foreign-born Jews what they wanted, took the duty off print paper and wood pulp from Canada for the newspaper publishing class, took care of its individual members by increasing their number forty at an additional annual expenditure of over a million dollars, and we know we farmers who constitute over half the people of this country and who have been promised what we want are going to get it from this house. Our four legislative demands an anti-gambling law, a parcels post measure, the proper restriction of undesirable foreign immigration along the lines of the Immigration Commission's recommendations, and more liberal appropriations for agricultural purposes, will surely be looked after. But for fear some one individual congressman may have forgotten his promises, or may have overlooked our wishes and our interests in the matter, let every one sit right down and write a postal card or a letter to his congressman and two senators, at Washington, D. C., calling their attention to our legislative wishes. Tell them you want these things, and you are depending upon the present house and senate to do something for the farmers along these lines. Don't delay, write them today. If you don't happen to have their full names and addresses ask your postmaster or rural mail carrier, and then write them at Washington, D. C.

### Charity Local No. 194.

Dear Editor: As I haven't seen anything in the Carolina Union Farmer about our local I will tell you something about it.

Our Secretary-Treasurer was away at the end of the year when our meeting should have been held to elect officers, so it was postponed until January 13th, at 2:00 p. m. The officers for 1912 are as follows: President, M. E. Hedrick; Vice-President, S. D. Little; Secretary-Treasurer, C. L. Starnes; Organizer and Lecturer, W. J. Huffman; Chaplain, E. R. Hefner; Doorkeeper, T. A. Miller; Conductor, Pink Ekard; Executive Committee, T. E. Bowman, E. P. Killian and B. E. Fry; Business Agent, T. H. Bumgarner.

This shows us that our local is holding together, and I hope will do greater things this year than ever before. We should have a farmers exchange in Catawba county. The most important question now, is to market right, and this can be done if the farmers will act right and at the proper time. Not only the farmers of Catawba county, but elsewhere. The low price of cotton is sufficient evidence to show the farmers that they should get together, and try to plan to better their condition. There are farmers that think they know more about the Union than you do, and they will stand back and tell what the Union should do, and when you ask them to join and help do something, they will tell you if they know certain things they would not mind joining.

At the same time while this Union man is holding his cotton for what he ought to have for his labor, this non-union man, if he learns that cotton has advanced a quarter of a cent on the pound, he will get up at 3 o'clock and try to beat everybody to market, and in this way he keeps down the price. Just ask him to join the Union and he will tell you times are too hard, but he will go to the local fertilizer agent and hand him over from one to five dollars more than it would cost him if he belonged to the Union.

C. L. STARNES,

Secretary-Treasurer.

Hickory, No. 2.