

# Anderson Intelligencer.

BY CLINKSCALES & LANGSTON.

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## FARMERS UNION MEETING

AN ENTHUSIASTIC GATHERING IN ANDERSON.

Anderson, August 26.—Twelve and a half cents for cotton. That is the golden promise that is now held out to the farmers of the State. Is that not enough to make good farmers think a great deal of their protective organizations and of President E. D. Smith, Mr. Frederick H. Hyatt, and the others who have in any way, in their opinion, contributed to the present, and the promised price of the fleecy staple.

This is naturally a prosperous and rich country, but is more so than ever with the prevailing good price of cotton. Happiness reigns supreme in Anderson. There was a call for a gathering of the Farmers' Union. Farmers and their wives and children were invited to a speaking and barbecue here, and how they did come!

Thousands and thousands came from far and near, and it was a record breaking gathering.

There must have been 5,000 people at the speaking, and what a lot of speaking there was from 10 a. m. until almost 6 in the afternoon. But why should the farmer tire to hear of ten cent cotton and the promise of better prices, with a lot of good jokes thrown in.

There is a large organization of the Farmers' Union in Anderson County. It is a different organization from the Cotton Growers' Association. The organization in this county is rather on the old Alliance lines, with lodge and secret manual, but it appears to be in sympathy with the Cotton Growers' Association, which is in the zenith of its glory in this and other States just now.

For some reason about a dozen speakers were invited and these all came. They came on the installment plan.

President Smith, F. H. Hyatt, Senator Latimer, Congressman Lever, Congressman Talbert, Senator Tillman, J. Belton Watson, Secretary Sherman were all invited to speak and then Major Stribling and President Glenn all spoke.

The trouble was that Messrs. Smith, Lever and Hyatt did not get here until the afternoon. President Glenn exhausted every available speaker before dinner, and then the throng went for the fatted mutton and thousands of pounds of barbecue. The meeting belonged to the Farmers' Union, and it was almost funny to note how the meeting would formally adjourn and reassemble so as to speed the dispensary and prohibition speeches, and get in another speech on farmers' organizations, warehouses and kindred topics.

The logical and eloquent speech of

the Farmers' Union was that of President Ed D. Smith, who is anxious to get one of his organizations in Anderson. He spoke for a full hour to an enthusiastic and appreciative audience. He is fuller of his crusade than Tillman is of the dispensary, and to-day Tillman was the good Samaritan and gave way to Mr. Smith, although he had every right of precedence.

Mr. Hyatt appreciated the situation, and talked very briefly and to the point, and Congressman Lever made a sensible and level-headed talk.

Col. Talbert first talked to the old soldier. He talked against time, as did Tillman and Latimer, while the gathering waited on the cotton growers' talkers. Major J. C. Stribling, also a time filler, made fun of Senator Tillman and related their first meeting at Bennettsville and jokingly said he then picked "The lousy calf for luck," and all through the meeting this phrase was bantered back and forth.

President Glenn, of the Association, seemed worried that all of the speakers could not get into the picture, but all talked to their heart's content except Mr. Sherman, who forfeited his place by his late arrival.

The burden of the arguments was for organization, confidence and warehouses. President Glenn first presented Col. Jasper Talbert, who made an eloquent talk to his old soldiers, companions.

Senator Latimer urged the importance of farmers' organizations, but he pointed out that farmers must realize that they can only succeed with the co-operation of the banks and merchants. With unity in the South the marketing of cotton is still a serious problem, because of the organization of the Eastern and foreign spinners.

He urged that reduction of acreage was the first essential and then come with the warehouses, bankers and all men. There is no help except by organization. He had consulted with Southern mill men and they all rather buy cotton at ten cents and keep a steady market, but the Southern spinner does not control just now. It is a matter of speculation in the purchase of cotton.

Providence has done more for the farmers than any organization. The organization and Providence together have brought about the present prices.

Senator Latimer advocates the building and use of warehouses. Cotton ought to be better prepared for market.

The president of the organization ought to show its necessity. He said that it was foolish to suggest that politics should be kept out of this organization. Politics is in religion and everything else.

The loss of interest killed the Alliance. He was in favor of the Farmers' Union and joined, but he did

not want it given all the credit for present prices, because Providence had a large share, and he feared overplanting. With continued good prices, therefore, there was a serious time ahead for the organization. Mr. Latimer then took up the good roads proposition and spoke of the excellent work now being done. He explained the economies of road building and how his bill would operate and why the Government should build the roads.

He wanted the Farmers' Union to take a hand and call for good roads' legislation. He insisted on organization to help get up the warehouses and to run them.

He said he was not afraid of the Farmer's Union electing men. He wanted good business men in the Union and wanted the best talent in the Union.

Senator Tillman who was thrown in to help take up the slack, said he was invited to come here and talk the bridge off. If he had prospered it was the people's fault. If he looked fat and sleek and had the luck of a lousy calf, as had been said, he thanked the people for it.

He believed in organization, although he had not joined in this organization, and still had his cotton. He said he came with a speech in his stomach on the dispensary, and he had a great deal of fun about Stribling putting him in to take up the slack.

In his days the farmers' organization went into the political mill pond, and it drowned more little politicians than anybody else.

The organization could do much, but it will take work and sacrifice. The trouble, he saw, was the immense difficulty of getting all cotton growers interested. There were tens of thousands of negro farmers who had to sell cotton to pay their obligations. These poorer farmers will have to market their crops. The business is to have the crop marketed steadily and not glut the market.

The chief thing to do is to regulate the marketing of the cotton. This can now be better done because the farmers are out of debt. If the farmer be in debt there is no good in the organization.

There is now no reason why the cotton farmers should not be out of debt.

He said if the farmers will act together they can protect themselves. He had some money in the Alliance Exchange fund, but he never expected any of it back.

He wanted to see a big cotton warehouse built here, big enough to stock half the crop of the county. When the cotton is ginned put the cotton in the warehouse and get the receipts, and if you need money borrow on the receipts. If the weak brothers help help let the stronger brothers help them along. Such work will show Wall street that it cannot control the cotton market.

You have the situation in hand if you will only act on it. Tillman said he had only one thing to say and then he would quit, and that was for the strong and weak farmers to stand together and to realize that the merchants and bankers were their brothers. It did not take all the farmers to make a success of any undertaking.

Then Senator Latimer took another "spell," and explained how to build warehouses. He wanted good business men to run the warehouses and he did not believe in putting money into warehouses without good management. A good bonded warehouse will pay whether this organization failed or not. He wanted it understood that he would not advocate anything except a safe business proposition.

Senator Tillman: I ain't a politician, so help me God.

Senator Latimer said any man in office was classed as a politician. Senator Tillman said that was so, but he was no politician.

Mr. Latimer said if he was willing to put his shoulder to the wheel, help this organization, he would be regarded as a politician by some. He wanted more cotton mills in the South, higher wages.

Mr. J. C. Stribling was presented by Senator Tillman, and he joked a bit. He urged that one-fourth of the cotton could be held, the farmers could absolutely fix the price of that one-fourth. He said the foreign spinners bought old cotton at 10 cents rather than buy new cotton at 12; he thought the English spinners had shown sense in buying cotton at 10 cents; they are going to keep out the market at the first of the season. The only thing to do is to build warehouses and hold cotton.

Congressman A. Frank Lever spoke on "Organization." He said the farmers' organizations had all failed because of the suspicion of one farmer against another. He said the whole trouble was that one farmer was afraid his neighbor was going to make a dollar, and he not get the same. Another trouble was that as soon as the army was lined up and the army was charged to move the politicians took charge. The only way to succeed is to run this organization as a business proposition.

He told the people to buck on politics, and say that they will follow in business matters, but not in politics.

This organization can live notwithstanding the traitors. It is an uphill job to organize successfully. He wanted the farmers to know what strength they were up against. He thought Secretary Wilson was an honest man, and he wanted to see Wilson retained, and insisted that Wilson was a friend of the South, and it was a great injustice to Wilson to think he was not interested in the South. Wilson was an honest man. The only remedy was to put the grafters in the

penitentiary. He was in this movement as a private.

At the after dinner session Mr. W. H. Hyatt spoke on standard warehouses. He insisted on the economy of warehouses and urged that warehouses could be built on a basis of \$2.50 per bale, with sprinklers. The warehouses are the army and navy of the farmer. He takes the position that the Southern farmers are now more independent of Northern money markets. He ridiculed the idea of competition with Southern cotton and said that the South has the world's cotton patch. He said the Farmers' Union and the Cotton Growers' Association all worked on the same line, there need be no friction.

Mr. Hyatt expected to see cotton kept up to ten cents.

President Glenn said he would present President E. D. Smith, who would close the Farmers' Union meeting. He made it plain that after the speech of Mr. Smith, the Farmers' Union would close, and that any other speakers would be under other auspices. Mr. Smith, chock full of fervor, said he had been unavoidably kept away from the meeting, and as the farmers' meeting had gone over its time he could not talk on a limited schedule.

He was full of his subject and said he had a lot to say, but he thought it best to give way to Senator Tillman and the other speakers.

Senator Tillman jumped up and said he would give way to Mr. E. D. Smith, he would speak later in the evening; the good farmers could go home by moonlight, if necessary. The crowd cheered for Mr. Smith and insisted that he go on speaking.

Senator Tillman said he and Mr. Talbert would give way. The crowd insisted on Mr. Smith's going ahead, and he finally did so.

Mr. Smith said he did not believe there was a man more loyal to the farmers than Ben Tillman. Then Tillman said he had been putting in good work in his absence and had been called a "lousy calf." Mr. Smith said Tillman was a full grown bull. Mr. Smith then went on to say that the farmer has always stood to that which was any good to him. There was nothing for the farmers to stick to in the old Alliance, for it was all talk and but little results.

He explained the Genesis of the present government. Mr. Smith went on to say that single-handed he jumped into the local cotton market as Mag-nolia and secured better prices, and how that gave him the idea of what could be done by organization. He said that he was the only man appointed at New Orleans to stick to the right, and that Jordan was about to give up the fight when he insisted on keeping at the fighting. He was laughed at when he said they could fight with more than a fourteen-million bale crop.

He showed how he interested the cautious banker and helped to bring

about ten cent cotton.

The farmers have no enemy. He wanted that understood. He is taken advantage of because he is soft snapp. The law of combinations and trusts is God's law, he held, and cannot be helped, and he had nothing against these combines.

If the cotton growers have a trust, then let the other fellows make the most of it.

Mr. Smith made a really beautifully eloquent peroration on the importance of the farmers standing together and getting the real value of their cotton. He said he had no favors to ask of the cotton mill men. They have to come in and join the army, he is now in. Cotton mills in the South must stand by the Southern farmer.

He said that the Southern mill men have been holding meetings at Charlotte to force the price of cotton down. A lot of people have said the weather did the work, but for forty years there has been rain and this year they have 10 cent cotton with over a fourteen-million bale crop. Conditions, he said, were no different from the usual conditions, and except that the farmers organized and held their cotton with the aid of the merchants and bankers. He held that the organization held the situation and he said the Association now wanted 12 1/2 cents for cotton.

Voice: Latimer said we couldn't get ten.

Smith: Yes, but where was Latimer when I got over ten.

Mr. Smith went on to ask where were some leaders and men when the association was fighting for very life. Some of these men sold for 7 and 8 cents, and they thought they would have the laugh on him and his friends.

Mr. Smith said he almost alone made the fight for the cotton planters. He punched the fellows who would sell in spite of the appeals.

Several in the crowd poked fun at Mr. Belton Watson for selling his cotton at 8 cents, and thought they could count on him next time.

Mr. Smith went on to say that not all men can be leaders, and that he had no idea of running for Governor or United States Senator.

He said he had already done the farmers more good than all the Governors and Senators; that was pleasure enough for him. He was asking for nothing, and would have rather had a hand in raising the price of cotton than pass a few laws. The fight is not yet ended. He was not afraid of high priced cotton jeopardizing the mill interests. They had no care for the farmer when he had to sell four cent cotton.

Mr. Sherman, secretary of the National Association, arrived on the scene very late, but he could not be heard, as he had lost his position, and then the meeting of the Farmers' Union was turned over to the liquor discussion, which is given elsewhere.

Mountain Creek News.

Good rains have fallen throughout our neighborhood which we were in need of, for cotton, corn and other crops are cut off to a large extent—some think about one-half.

Some of our people attended the Farmers' Barbecue at the race track, and say it was the grandest they ever saw, and if they conduct their meetings in that manner they don't want to belong to it.

Some of our people attended the picnic at Starr and report a nice time. We are pleased to see Hon. E. M. Rucker come to the front and announce himself as a candidate for the House of Representatives, and hope he will be elected, for we could not send a better man, and one that will do any more for the welfare of the masses.

Mrs. A. S. Masters and little daughter, Evaline, went on the Smith excursion to Atlanta.

Miss Lucy Carter, of Hopewell, has been visiting friends in our community recently.

Mr. Patrick Major, one of Denver's young men, spent Sunday with friends and worshipped at Mountain Creek.

Miss Ley Webb and Miss Julia White, two charming young ladies of Hopewell, are visiting friends and relatives in this community.

Mr. Clifton Burris and charming bride are visiting relatives here.

Mr. John Burris is at home for a visit.

Mr. E. O. Burris, of Anderson, spent Sunday with his parents.

The protracted meeting began at this place Sunday. Rev. Hawkins will be assisted by the Rev. Mr. Burris, of Piedmont. Mr. Burris is a good man and a splendid preacher, and we hope that we may have an abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and that a lot of good may be done for the cause of Jesus.

Only a few more days until the election, which shall decide the fate of the dispensary. Which will you have, either to vote it out and cleanse your town and county of the greatest enemy of our land, or will you let it stand and continue to wreck the homes of our land, and send the young men and boys into disgrace and ruin. Union County has now come out for prohibition, and it seems to me what other counties have done Anderson might do. It is going to be an out and out battle between drunkenness and sobriety, and it seems to me now is the time for preachers and church members to take hold, for this is an enemy of every Christian, of every home, every person and of God.

The drinking habit is one of the most overpowering agency of the devil, and if something is not done to arrest the evil, it will wreck and ruin our homes and our government. There are many who say if we vote out the dispensary we will vote in the bar-rooms, but don't you think if we can get the dispensary out we can keep the barrooms out? And now let me beg every father and every voting man in this county to take sides before it is too late, take sides before your sons are sacrificed to that demon drink, take sides before your homes are ruined, take sides while your voice, your pen, your prayer, your vote may have an influence in arresting the despoliation of our county and our homes.

August Kohn, Georgia.

## WATER POWER and LAND SALE!

**HIGH FALLS PROPERTY**, on Little River, in Oconee County, is about ten miles from Walhalla, S. C., and ten miles from Seneca, and only a few miles up the river from Newry. This property contains 1,331 acres of Land, and has a natural Waterfall of 29 feet 5 inches, with available H. P. 274. 615 H. P. can be secured by developing a double discharge. **TIMBER AND GRANITE!**—Most of this Land is heavily timbered, and the demand for timber is increasing every day. The Land, with the timber off, will produce fine Cotton, as the part under cultivation indicates. There is an abundance of Granite and sand for building purposes on the Water-power Tract. 1,100 acres of this property will be sold in Tracts of 100 acres each, to the highest bidder, at—

**WALHALLA, S. C., ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1905.**

**TERMS**—One-third Cash, balance in one and two years, with 8 per cent. interest per annum, secured by First Mortgage, or all cash, at option of purchaser. **THE WATER POWER**, with 231 acres, will be sold to the highest bidder, on the same date, at WALHALLA.

For further particulars apply to the undersigned.

**J. W. ALEXANDER, Spartanburg, S. C.**

