The Progressive Farmer.

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Raleigh, N. C.

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RALEIGH, N. C., JULY 10, 1888.

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The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' Association and N. C. State Farmers' Alliance.

PLEASE NOTICE.

In writing to this office to change the address of a paper, our subscribers will do us a favor by stating the office at which the paper is received, as well as the one to which it is desired to be sent. Failure to do this puts us to a great deal of trouble and the necessity of going through a long list of names, involving not only much work, but much loss of time, when time is valuable.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Again we want to say to our correspondents that they *must* give us their real names if they expect us to publish their articles. We must have their names as a guarantee of good faith. And again, we must ask our friends—all—to condense what they have to say—boil it down. We are anxious to give as great variety as possible to our readers, and to do this the articles should be *short and to the point.*

THE GEORGIA STATE ALLIANCE.

This body met in special session in the city of Atlanta last week to consider the establishment of an Alliance Business Exchange for the order in that State. Fifty-two counties were represented by ninety-two delegates. The *Constitution* says: "The Convention was composed exclusively of farmers, and a more solid, intelligent, conservative body of men never assembled in Atlanta." Mr. Oswald Wilson, President of the Florida State Alliance, and Mr. E. H. Brown, representing the Business Exchange of Texas, were present. It was a most harmonious and enthusiastic meeting. It inaugurated steps for raising $1,000,000 to establish the Exchange. This fund is not to be borrowed, but will be raised by subscription and will create a permanent fund upon which the commercial rating and standing of the Exchange will be based. The *Constitution* says:

"The probability is that a State Exchange will be in operation in Georgia before the close of this year—perhaps in time for the cotton crop. Enough has been learned to justify this speculation.

One thing is certain. The farmers of Georgia mean business. They are determined to buy their supplies at the cheapest possible rates and to sell their produce at the best possible advantage. In other words, they propose to do business through new channels, created by themselves."

Gov. J. B. Gordon was invited to address the body. His appearance in the hall was greeted with enthusiasm, and he delivered a most eloquent, sensible and highly acceptable address. He said the object of the Georgia Farmers' Alliance was a most commendable one, and he fully indorsed the order and wished it abundant success. It was a union of the producers of the State for the

PROTECTION OF THEIR INTERESTS.

He saw no reason why the farmers of the land should not organize for the purpose of guarding their interests as well as the manufacturers or men engaged in any other branch of industry. As he understood it, the Georgia Farmers' Alliance was a non-political organization formed on a business basis for the sole purpose of ameliorating the condition of the producers of the State and thus adding to the general prosperity of the people.

It was a most laudable object, and it would give him profound pleasure to encourage all legitimate means for its attainments.

The session was short but business-like and very pleasant. The members returned home inspired with renewed confidence and hope and with a stronger determination to make the Business Exchange a complete success. Let the good news from our live, progressive brethren of Georgia encourage our brethren in North Carolina to broader and more determined effort, until we, too, shall have an Exchange equal in strength, efficiency and usefulness to the very foremost among them all.

We see that Bro. Pickett, on his return to Texas, admonished his brethren that the Alliance of the Lone Star State must look well to its laurels or they would be plucked by plucky North Carolina. Let our brethren continue to cultivate that harmony and fraternity which now so happily prevails in our order all over the State, and we will achieve results that will do us great honor.

A member of the Alliance tells us that Mr. Alexander, President of the order in the State, has called upon each member to pay in five dollars for the purpose of establishing a cotton house in England, and perhaps agencies in the State.—*Warrenton Gazette.*

The failure of the Grange exportation business don't seem to prevent the trial of such schemes again.—*Charlotte Democrat.*

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER has heard nothing of establishing a cotton house in England by the Farmers' Alliance of our State. There is a movement on foot to establish a Business Exchange, through which the members of the Alliance expect to have larger control of the products and profits of their labor. They have found that they are paying out millions of dollars annually, which can be saved. They see that they have been too dependent on the brains, energy and resources of others, to do for them things which they can do as well for themselves. They see that the time has come when they must look after their own interests and adopt means for checking the tremendous drain on their energies and their pockets, which have well nigh bankrupted the farmers of the land.

Realizing their perilous condition, they have resolved to depend more on themselves and their own resources, and to strike out manfully to work out their agricultural salvation. They are in earnest and even "the failure of the Grange exportation business" will not deter them. They have learned that even a "failure" is sometimes a blessing and is the best possible finger-board to success. They propose to profit by the failure to which the *Democrat* refers, by avoiding the causes which brought it about. It is a grand success in Texas, in Florida, in Tennessee, in Louisiana, in Arkansas, and wherever it has been established, and it will succeed here. With the zeal and interest manifested by the members of the order in our State, and with the best business brain, business integrity and business capacity to guide and direct it, that we can command, there will be no such word as fail. This important matter will be thoroughly discussed and maturely considered by our best men at the meeting of our State Alliance and our Alliance Business Exchange will be established.

Rutherford County Alliance will be organized on the 16th inst. by the Deputy Organizer of that county. He writes that he expects to organize with 15 to 20 Subordinate Alliances.

AN ENCOURAGING SHOWING.

With this issue of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER its age is just two years and five months. Of the hundreds of flattering and congratulatory letters received, and of the many kind and generous things said of it by its clever contemporaries, our readers will attest its modesty, in that it rarely reproduces anything which might be construed into self-laudation.

But it has hundreds and thousands of friends throughout this and other States, who are active and enthusiastic in its support, and who take the liveliest interest in its success. They are entitled to know how it is progressing

This is the record taken from our books, on the dates given:

915	Subscribers	Sept.	1st,	1887.
1,944	"	Jan.	"	1888.
2,376	"	Feb.	"	"
2,736	"	M'ch	"	"
3,024	"	April	"	"
3,432	"	May	"	"
3,648	"	June	"	"
4,608	"	July	9th	"

Since the last issue, we have put on our books 430 annual subscribers—one week's work. We thank our friends again and again for their noble support and encouragement. We must have 10,000 by the 1st of January, 1889, and we will get them, if our friends will continue their kind aid.

TWO CLASSES.

We live under a republican form of government, and he who would classify our people on the line of vocation or calling, and attempt to array them against each other, is an enemy to his people and to mankind. Whether a man drives the plow or wields the sledge hammer or jack plane, or holds the throttle of an engine, or sits in an editor's sanctum, or sets his type, or cleans the street, or occupies the seat of a judge, or sells goods, or preaches, or practices law, or manages a bank or a railroad, if he be honest and is a gentleman, he belongs to one class, and whatever position he may occupy, if he be dishonest, he belongs to the other class. In other words, there are two classes in this country—the honest and the dishonest—the just and the unjust. This is the scale in which the teachings and principles of the Farmers' Alliance would weigh all men. It will defend, loyally, the just and honest, and will fight the dishonest and the unjust, inside and outside its walls. We have to guard our doors and keep out the latter class, if possible, but should they elude our vigilance and enter under false colors, they must be reformed or rejected. Let the members be true to the great and eternal principles of the Alliance, and they can but be true to themselves and their country.

"A NIGGER IN THE WOOD-PILE."

Thomas Morrison, a colored man from Merry Oaks, deputied by the proper authorities, is now in Moore county organizing Farmers' Alliances among the colored people. He organized an Alliance here last Thursday evening and expects to spend some days among the colored people in this county in the interest of that order.—*Sanford (Moore county) Express.*

It has been said, heretofore, that no one but white men were allowed to join the Alliance concern. How is it now about organizing the negroes?—*Charlotte Democrat.*

For the informotion of our esteemed contemporary, the *Democrat*, we refer him to Sec. 1, Art. IV, of the Constitution of "the Alliance *concern.*" It reads as follows:

SECTION 1. No person shall be admitted as a member unless he has been a citizen of the State of North Carolina for six months past, and not then unless he be a farmer, farm laborer, mechanic, country school-teacher, country physician or a minister of the gospel, be of good moral character, believe in the existence of a Supreme Being, be of industrious habits, is a white person and over the age of sixteen years.

We repeat what "has been said heretofore that no one but white people are allowed to join the (our) Alliance *concern.*"

Capt. S. B. Alexander, your worthy and highly esteemed fellow-citizen, is President of our "Alliance *concern,*" and there are, possibly, two thousand of your good people in Mecklenburg, who belong to our "Alliance *concern*"—any one of whom can and will tell the *Democrat* that negroes *do not* and *cannot* belong to the "Alliance *concern.*"

We understand that the negroes in Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi, have an organization regularly chartered, and which, in its general features, is somewhat similar to the Farmers' Alliance, and that this organization is rapidly spreading among the negroes of the South. We learn that it is being introduced into this State.

But it is a separate and distinct organization from *our* "Alliance concern." It is a different "*concern*" altogether, but if it shall make them more industrious, more frugal, more reliable, more thoughtful, more faithful and a better people and better citizens, our "concern" and all other good people will bid them God-speed.

STILL THEY COME.

The State Alliance of South Carolina will be organized at Florence on the 11th inst. by L L. Polk, First Vice-President of the National Alliance. The State Alliance of Virginia will be organized on the 12th inst. by Hon. G. T. Barbee, Organizer of the 7th Congressional District of that State.

Thus our noble order moves steadily and grandly forward in its great and glorious work of unifying and consolidating the aspirations and purposes and interests of the farmers of our beloved South-land. May the day speedily come when they shall recognize and realize the potency and power of genuine, fraternal co-operation.

ONE OF MANY.

The following extract from a private letter of a good brother, shows the spirit of our order all over the State. We trust and believe that at the meeting of our State Alliance, the system for our Business Exchange will be perfected, and that it will be a grand success. Let every member of the Alliance come to the support of the agency with a calm determination that it *shall* succeed, and there will be no such word as failure. We are constantly receiving letters from all sections of the State, of which the following is a fair sample:

"Every member of our Alliance over 21 years of age, we think, will subscribe to the Business Agency Fund. Already 42 of the 56 members over 21 have subscribed and the others will do so. I have not enough blank notes. Please send me 25 more. Every member of our Alliance has entered heartily and enthusiastically into the Business Agency movement, and every one will cheerfully do his part in furthering all the legitimate enterprises of the State Alliance. There are 25 subscribers to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER in our Alliance and we will increase the number shortly.

BRING YOUR FRUITS.

All sections of our State will be represented at our State Alliance by good men—progressive citizens. The State Fruit Fair will be held at the same time, and it will be an excellent opportunity to have the largest and best display of the various fruits of our State, that has ever been seen. Let those interested in the matter (and all patriotic citizens should be) begin and make arrangements for the delegates from their respective counties to bring with them specimens of their fruits for the exhibition. It will cost but little time or trouble, and the fruits will be transported free of charge by express. Let our people from all sections send in their fruits and show what our State can do, and compete for some of the handsome cash premiums. For information as to details and premium list, address Mr. W. R. Womble, Raleigh, N. C.

WAKE COUNTY ALLIANCE.

This body met in this city on the 6th inst. The roll-call showed two hundred and nine delegates present, and a large number of visiting brethren, representing forty-three Sub-Alliances. The annual election of officers resulted as follows: A. C. Green, President; S. Otho Wilson, Vice-President; C. H. Clark, Treasurer; D. P. Meachum, Chaplain; and the re-election of the remaining officers. S. Otho Wilson was elected delegate to the State Alliance, and J. J. Dunn was elected Business Agent. Committee on investigation of machinery for oil mills and fertilizer factory made a lengthy and elaborate report.

Resolutions of importance were adopted bearing on the general welfare of the order, among them one endorsing the utility of the Secretaries Association. A resolution looking to a reduction of the representation in the County Alliance was deferred to the adjourned meeting of the County Alliance on the third Monday in August at 10 a. m., when the installation of the newly elected officers will take place, The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Wake County Alliance hereby reasserts and reaffirms its confidence in our State Organ, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, and if its future course shall be what its past has been, it shall have our continued and hearty support.

Resolved, That we deprecate any efforts by political parties, or parties acting for them, which are calculated to create dissensions in our ranks.

The call of the State Executive Committee for a fund to establish a Business Exchange, was discussed by various brethren, and the Alliance adjourned to meet in this city at 10 a. m. on the 20th of August.

It was a splendid body of our best farmers and citizens and the meeting was characterized by the best of good feeling and harmony.

COMMITTEES OF THE STATE ALLIANCE.

The following named committees were appointed at the last meeting of our State Alliance:

Committee on Demands and Resolutions—S. B. Alexander, J. D. Allen, L. L. Polk, C. McDonald, A. F. Bizzell, J. A. O. Kelly and P. J. Wray.

Committee on the Good of the Order—W. H. Tomlinson, J. L. McLean and O. H. Dockery.

Committee on Statutory Laws—Geo. Wilcox, J. P. Hodges and Henry Haney.

Committee on Printing, Binding, Papers and Periodicals—R. B. Caldwell, W. G. Allen and Stephen Wall.

State Judiciary Committee—J. N. Hubbard, W. D. Smith and Henry Haney.

Committee on Macune Agency System—R. B. Caldwell, J. S. Holt, J. N. Hubbard and W. D. Smith.

Committee on Constitution and By-Laws—L. L. Polk, W. L. Williams, D. H. Senter, W. C. Cole and R. B. Trotter.

Under the provisions of Sec. 2, Art. 1, of our Constitution, the members of standing and special committees of the State Alliance are members of that body, and of course are expected and required to attend its meetings.

THE GREAT FARMERS' ASSEMBLY IN AUGUST.

Letters are being received from the different Southern States which indicate that there will be a large gathering in this city on the 21st prox. Col. Seabring, Vice-President for Florida, gave us a pleasant call last week and spoke most encouragingly for that State. Letters from Texas, Alabama, South Carolina, Georgia and other States, from distinguished gentlemen, lead us to hope that such an assembly of prominent agriculturists has never been seen in our State. Senator J. H. Reagan, of Texas, will deliver an address, and other distinguished Southerners will be present to discuss the great and important questions which the Association will have before it. Let North Carolina be strongly represented in the person of her true and progressive sons.