The Progressive Farmer.

L. L. POLK, - - - EDITOR.
D. H. BROWDER, BUSINESS MANAGER.
Raleigh, N. C.

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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, Raleigh, N. C.

RALEIGH, N. C., AUG. 28, 1888.

[*This paper entered as second-class matter at the Post Office in Raleigh, N. C.*]

The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' Association and N. C. State Farmers' Alliance, and the Virginia 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 INTER-STATE FARMERS' ASSOCIATION.

This body met in Metropolitan Hall this city, on the 21st, and was composed of splendid material. Nine States were represented. A large number of visitors were present. The Local Committee of Raleigh, had left nothing undone for the comfort and pleasure of the Association. The Committee received, as it deserved the warmest thanks of the body for its courteous, vigilant and constant attention to its wants. The officers of the Association had secured the promise of a large attendance and had secured from the authorities of the railroads reduced rates—one fare for the round trip, tickets to be put on sale on the 19th, and good for ten days. This promise of the railroads had been officially communicated by the President to each delegate appointed in each of the States.

Of course they confidently expected to get these rates, but on the morning of the 19th, strange as it may appear, nearly all of the station agents east of the Mississippi River, to whom application was made for tickets, did not remember ever to have received any orders in regard to the matter; hence hundreds of applicants turned back disgusted and indignant, and did not attend. As President of the Association, and in justice to the Division Passenger Agent, Col. W. A. Turk, of this city, we desire to say that through his very courteous and willing aid, we procured the rates and published them, and all who were concerned expected the contract to be observed and carried out in good faith on the part of the roads, and it is our pleasure to say to the public that we are sure that Col. Turk was in no manner responsible for this strange proceeding. We are not in the business of running railroads, but we think we may safely admonish the managers of the roads that if their agents are as loose and careless in all their official duties, as they have shown in this matter, there is a yawning "wash-out" just ahead for their whole system, and the sooner they have a wholesale decapitation of "official heads" the better for the roads.

The Association was called to order at 11:30 a. m. on the 21st, and was addressed by the President, Governor Scales, Mayor Thompson, of Raleigh, Mr. John Robinson and Dr. G. W. Sanderlin. The response was made on the part of the Association by Hon. Robt. Beverly, of Va. It was a dignified, intelligent body of representative Southern gentlemen. Gov. Scales pronounced it "the most intelligent body of agriculturists he had ever had the pleasure to look upon."

It was a hard working body and much of importance was done, but with the short time intervening between the adjournment and the hour of going to press, it is impossible for us to present even a synopsis to our readers this week. From time to time, we shall lay before them the more important work done.

The Association attended the ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of our Agricultural College and visited the enterprising town of Durham, where it received a royal welcome. The universal verdict was that the occasion was a grand success from beginning to end.

The officers elected for the ensuing year are: L. L. Polk, North Carolina, President; Vice-President for the States at large: Hon. Robt. Beverly, of Virginia Secretary and Treasurer, J. I. Cheney, Montgomery, Alabama; Vice-President for the States: Alabama, Hon. R. F. Kolb, Arkansas, L. P. Featherston; Georgia, J. P. Fort; Florida, J. C. Pettersen; Louisiana, John Dymond; Mississippi, J. P. Henry; North Carolina, Elias Carr; South Carolina, E. A. McIver; Tennessee, Hon. B. M. Hord; Texas, Col. G. B. Pickett; Virginia, L. D. Yarrell.

Executive Committee,—Alabama, J. A. Callaway; Arkansas, B. D. Williams; Florida, W. S. Seabring; Georgia, Fred D. Wimberly; Louisiana, J. C. Beasley; Mississippi, W. R. Pillan; North Carolina, W. J. Green; South Carolina, Iredell Jones; Tennessee, Jas. Walker; Texas, B. C. Rhome; Virginia, A Brockenbrough. The Association will meet in Montgomery, Ala., on the third Wednesday in August, 1889.

THE BAGGING TRUST.

The general and wide-spread indignation which has been aroused throughout the Southern country among the agricultural classes, by the attempted Cotton Bagging Steal, is something interesting to behold, and certainly portends no good for the above mentioned delectable institution. Denunciatory communications and resolutions are pouring in upon us by every mail from every direction, and, to publish which, would consume almost our entire space; therefore, our friends will understand, that it is through no discourtesy that their contributions do not appear, but rather a want of space. A sufficient number of these articles were in type, however, before we discovered their volume, to give the reader a general idea of the tenor of all. That this stupendous outrage will be met by a solid front and resisted to the bitter end, by the farmers of the South, is certainly most apparent. The North Carolina State Farmers' Alliance and the Inter-State Farmers' Association, which held their annual meetings in this city last week and week before, each denounced this "trust" in the most unmeasured terms, and passed resolutions demanding of Congress that jute and jute bagging be placed upon the free list.

The official proceedings of our State Alliance will be published in pamphlet form and distributed to the various Alliances of the State as soon as possible. The number of copies to be sent, was fixed by the Alliance.

ALLIANCE NOTES.

[Members of the Alliance, when writing to us, will greatly favor us if they will always give the No. of their Alliance. We have given the sixth and seventh pages of our paper to the exclusive use of the Alliance. Use them, brethren. For all official orders, rulings, notices, &c., the brethren will examine these pages.]

Look out for our valuble premium in the next issue. We will offer big pay for some pleasant work.

The National Alliance will meet in Meridian, Miss., on the second Wednesday in October at 10 o'clock a. m.

Bro. J. F. Harrell, of Pleasant Hill Alliance, No. 73, Whiteville, N. C., draws certificate No. 1, of the Agency Fund. He is the first to contribute under the new plan.

Bro. G. B. Pickett, of Texas, has been engaged by our State Alliance to remain with us for a while as State Organizer. He will be aided in his work by our active and efficient State Lecturer, Bro. D. Reid Parker, of Trinity College.

We mail this week to each Secretary in the State the plan for establishing the Alliance Business Agency and also copies of our Constitution as amended by the State Alliance. The Secretaries are urged to lay these before their respective Alliances at the earliest time practicable.

Subordinate and County Alliances (where they have not done so) are admonished to elect their Business Agents. The best business men should be selected. The man selected should by all means be "a good clever fellow" but he should be a great deal more than that—he should have a good business head on his shoulders, and "not a lazy bone in his body." Attend to it, brethren.

SYNOPSIS OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE STATE FARMERS ALLIANCE.

We continue, in this issue of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, to give brief extracts from the proceedings of State Farmers' Alliance held in this city, August 14th, 15th and 16th.

After President Alexander delivered his address, (which was published in this paper last week) the Secretary presented his report as follows:

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE N. C. FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE, AUG. 14, 1888.

RALEIGH, N. C., Aug. 14, '88.

Bro. President and Members of the North Carolina Farmers' State Alliance:

In submitting this my first Annual report, as Secretary of our State Alliance, it may not be improper for me to give a brief review of the work accomplished through this office since our organization, October 4th, 1887.

Beginning without a dollar in our treasury, with only one hundred and thirty-two Subordinate Alliances, scatterred over the territory of eight counties, which were poorly equipped and imperfectly instructed, with no publishing house from which to procure supplies nearer than Dallas, Texas, with but few brethren in the order sufficiently informed in the written and unwritten work to act as organizers, the task of successfully organizing the State was indeed a formidable undertaking.

I effected an arrangement with Bro. E. B. Warren, Secretary of the National Alliance, for outfit supplies for newly organized Alliances until we should be able to print and furnish them from our own office. The expense and delay necessary, attending the shipment of supplies over such a great distance, and the active and constantly increasing demand for them made it imperative that this work should be executed at home. It was therefore deemed wise that the first receipts of the office, or so much as were necessary, should be appropriated to the furnishing of such portions of the supplies as were allowed to be printed under the rule of the National Committee on Secret Work. I accordingly made an arrangement, with the sanction of our brother President, with Messrs. Edwards & Broughton, of this city, for printing such matter as was required, and at lower rates than it could be procured from our National Publishing House in Texas.

Forms, blanks, working bulletins, circulars and books for the office to conform to the requirements of our Constitution, had to be prepared and distributed to the various Alliances, as well as outfits and instructions for deputy organizers. As new deputies were commissioned and new fields were opened, the correspondence and work of the office increased so rapidly that it was found to be impossible to meet the growing demands upon the office without additional clerical aid. The correspondence of the office has increased until for the past two months the letters received number from fifty to one hundred per day. I employed two first-class men, one an expert book-keeper, and with the marvelous growth of our order the work has so increased and enlarged that with constant and faithful labor, we find it difficult to perform it.

I procured a room for the office at No. 13, West Hargett street, from Messrs. Williamson & Upchurch, at a cost of five dollars per month. Its location is accessible and convenient, and thus far has answered the purpose.

THE PROGRESS OF THE WORK.

At our organization we had 132 Subordinate Alliances in the State; to-day we have 1018. We have 53 County Alliances in the following named counties: Alamance, Anson, Bladen, Brunswick, Cabarrus, Caswell, Chatham, Cleveland, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Davie, Duplin, Davidson, Durham, Edgecombe, Forsyth, Franklin, Granville, Greene, Halifax, Harnett, Iredell, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Lincoln, Martin, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, Northampton, Onslow, Orange, Pender, Person, Pitt, Randolph, Richmond, Robeson, Rockingham, Rowan, Rutherford, Sampson, Stanly, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, Wayne, Wilson and Yadkin, and the work of organizing eleven other counties is progressing.

The total membership in our State approximates forty-two thousand. Absolute exactness as to numbers is not attainable, since a number of Alliances have failed to report for the last quarter, but the above estimate is approximately correct.

I give the number of Alliances reported by counties as follows: Alamance, 8; Alexander, 2; Anson, 25; Bladen, 28; Brunswick, 11; Cabarrus, 12; Caswell, 17; Catawba, 4; Chatham, 46; Cleveland, 22, Columbus, 27; Craven, 9; Cumberland, 32; Davidson, 11; Davie, 4; Duplin, 28; Durham, 18; Edgecombe, 13; Forsyth, 8; Franklin, 29; Gaston, 3; Granville, 29; Greene, 9; Guilford, 1; Halifax, 21; Harnett, 24; Hertford, 2; Iredell, 27; Johnston, 34; Jones, 10; Lenoir, 19; Lincoln, 6; Martin, 7; McDowell, 1; Mecklenburg, 26; Montgomery, 13; Moore, 33; Nash, 27; Northampton, 13; Onslow, 22; Orange, 14; Pasquotank, 5; Pender, 15; Person, 17; Pitt, 10; Randolph, 16; Richmond, 14; Robeson, 42; Rockingham, 15; Rowan, 21; Rutherford, 11; Sampson, 40; Stanly, 12; Stokes, 3; Union, 30; Vance, 15; Wake 55; Warren, 17; Washington, 1; Wayne, 19; Wilson, 17; and Yadkin 6.

One hundred and seven deputy organizers have been commissioned, but several of these have tendered their resignations, and the commissions of others have been revoked.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS:

This office has received from all sources - -	$6,064.59
Disbursed as per vouchers in hand of Treasurer -	4,050.50
Balance in hand of Treasurer - - - -	2,014.09

The books of the office containing a detailed statement of the receipts and disbursements have been submitted to the examination of your Executive Committee who will report thereon. For a general statement of the purposes for which the expenditures were made, I respectfully refer you to the report of our Treasurer, brother J. D. Allen.

THE ORGAN.

It may be my duty, as editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, which paper was made our official State organ by the action of your body at its organization, to state that its success has been remarkable. At the date of its adoption as the organ of our State Alliance, its list of subscribers was about thirteen hundred; to-day we issue to regular subscribers about five thousand, five hundred and eighty copies, making it among the very foremost, if not the first paper in the State in point of subscribers. At no time has it been so prosperous as for the past two months, during which period it has received about nineteen hundred subscribers; and yet it may not be improper to state that not more than one-tenth of our membership are subscribers. The Virginia State Alliance, at its organization on the 12th ult., adopted it as the official organ of the Farmers' Alliance of that State.

The outlook for the order in our State is indeed hopeful and auspicious. The finest spirit prevails, and the hopes, aims and desires of the brotherhood are in the most thorough and harmonious accord.

REPORT ON THE STATE BUSINESS AGENT FUND.

On the 4th day of June last I mailed to the Secretary of each Subordinate Alliance in the State an address issued by our President and Executive Committee, to the membership of our order in regard to raising a fund for establishing a Business Agency for our State, a copy of which is hereto appended It was made my duty to receive the reports of such amounts as were pledged for this purpose and report the same to your body.

Up to this date in notes, payable not later than Nov. 1st, next, and a small amount of cash, the sum of - -	$ 5,897.25
I have received official notices of pledges and notes made by members, to the amount of - -	25,084.25
Total, - - -	$30,981.50

From hundreds of letters received, it is manifest that two causes have operated most seriously against a more prompt and liberal response on the part of the members:

First. The want of a clearer understanding as to how the fund is to be applied, how it is to be secured against loss, and the advantages which may accrue to the contributor.

Second. The continued drought which prevailed in many sections of the State, and which threatened serious disaster to the crops.

Happily the recent general rains have revived the drooping spirit, as well as the drooping plant, and it only remains for this body to devise such a system as shall fully meet the first enquiry to secure a general and most liberal response from the members throughout the State. The address of the Executive Committee has been received with hope, courage and enthusiasm, and if this body shall digest and present to our brethren a practical and safe plan for applying the fund for the benefit of the order, no reasonable demand will fail to be met promptly and liberally.

Respectfully and fraternally,

L. L. POLK,
Sec'y N. C. F. S. Alliance.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE N. C. FARMERS' STATE ALLIANCE, AUG. 14, 1888.

To the Officers and Members of the N. C. State Farmers Alliance:

BRETHREN:—We, the members of the Executive Committee beg leave to make the following report:

We have carefully examined the books and accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer of the N. C. State Farmers' Alliance and find them correct and satisfactory. We have also examned their reports submitted to you and find them also correct. On the 5th of February, 1888, a justified bond was required and approved of the Secretary for $5,000, and also a justified bond was required and approved for the Treasurer for $10,000, both of which are duly recorded in the books of the Register of Deeds of Wake county.

We would recommend that Sec. 2, Art. 9, of our Constitution relative to to appointment of County Organizers be so amended as to leave the recommendation for appointment of one or more County Organizers to the committee on the Good of the Order of said County Alliance.

We also beg leave to call the attention of the County Secretaries to provisions of Sec. 8, Art. 2, of our Constitution relative to reports, and urge the importance of their strict observance of same.

A WORD TO THE BRETHREN.

Inasmuch as the members of the various Subordinate and County Alliances of the State are enquiring, and desiring to know something of the State Alliance Business Agency, we deem it due them and ourselves to say that the Agency is in its *infancy.* You must not expect too much of the Agency, or expect it too fast. As a child must crawl before it walks, so the Agency must gain strength by the forth-coming of the fund which is expected to be raised. Without this fund the Agent has no commercial standing, and without commercial standing he is powerless in your hands. Much of this fund will not be paid in until the season will have too far ad-