

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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EDITORIAL.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Let each delegate to the State Alliance carry up a big club of subscriptions for The Progressive Farmer, and a big batch of orders for the Business Agency.

We congratulate our efficient State Chemist, B. W. Kilgore upon his election as President of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists at its meeting at San Francisco last month.

The editor regrets his inability to attend the meeting of the State Alliance—due to the fact that our Business Manager must attend and both editor and Business Manager cannot leave the office at once.

Some advocate of "man's rights" wishes to know why men should not be admitted to the State Normal and Industrial College now that girls are to attend the University and Agricultural and Mechanical College. To us the inquiry seems pertinent.

The people of North Carolina learn with joy that Judge Simonton can soon retire on full pay and will probably do so. We will gladly let him have full pay if he will only retire in favor of some one who will let North Carolina attend to her own affairs.

We want an energetic reliable man to distribute copies of The Progressive Farmer and solicit subscriptions for us at each gathering of farmers, and will give a liberal commission to any one who will so represent us. If interested, write us for further information.

A correspondent asks what the last legislature did for the Confederate soldier. We have examined the laws of 1899 and think it did neither more nor less than the average legislature does. It appropriated \$5,000 for replacing and erecting buildings at the Soldiers' Home; voted \$10,000 as an annual appropriation to that institution; allowed certain soldiers to leave the Home on reduced pensions, and placed the usual number of old soldiers and soldier widows on the pension roll.

North Carolina's failure to appreciate her great men is proverbial. A month ago Augustin Daly died. Though known throughout two continents as one of the greatest of all theatrical managers, perhaps not one per cent. of the citizens of this State yet know that he was a native of this State, having been born in Plymouth, Washington county. The great dailies and magazines have devoted many columns of space to sketches of his life, but few North Carolina papers have noticed his death. We notice that the August Cosmopolitan contains a 14-page, finely illustrated account of his career.

The following from Mt. Olive Advertiser is "the unkindest cut of all": "The North Carolina Press Association at its annual meeting last week, passed resolutions condemning trusts. What will those people do that are publishing ready made, paid for in advance editorials that advocate the establishment of the Round lap system of cotton baling. Some papers belonging to the Association condemn trusts in meeting and at the same time publish editorials advocating one of the most iniquitous monopolies ever devised for robbing Southern farmers." A rather pointed question. Who can answer?

Has it ever occurred to our Raleigh readers, or to those who, if not citizens of Raleigh, occasionally visit the capital city, that Raleigh is rapidly losing its right to the appellation, "City of Oaks"? Walk along our streets and find if you can a dozen oaks that have been planted within the past ten years. Maples are plentiful; so with a number of other kinds of trees. But our beautiful oaks of which we have so long boasted are growing scarcer and scarcer, and there are no young trees to take the places of the old for est monarchs which have fallen. Even if oaks are of slow growth, why can they not be planted between the maples, and the maples removed when the oaks become large enough?

One of the many evils of mob fury is well illustrated in the lynching case near New Orleans last Thursday. A negro was seen, who was suspected of being Val Bates, who is charged with outrage. He was chased by armed men and took refuge in a tree. While the crowd was waiting for a rope the negro climbed down and was shot dead.

Investigation disclosed the fact that the dead negro was not a rape fiend, but an innocent lunatic who had escaped from the State insane asylum at Jackson. And Georgia reports a lynching almost daily. What means this epidemic of lawlessness? The Scotland Neck Commonwealth is right in saying that "there ought to be some remedy for this double evil that is threatening the very safeguards of our government. The sight and smell of blood without warrant are getting too common in this country; and it remains for some one to bring about such provision of justice as will remedy the evil. Surely there ought to be a better way of appeasing the wrath of a justly outraged people than hanging and shooting without ceremony the all-too numerous criminals. Can't we have it?"

In our opinion the most thoughtful and encouraging address delivered at the recent meeting of the State Press Association at Carolina Beach was the oration by Mr. C. P. Sapp, of this city. Mr. Sapp is a young man and if all the new-comers in the newspaper field are actuated by such broad and many sentiments as those to which he gave utterance in his oration, the press of the country is destined to make even greater progress and exert more influence for good in the future than it has heretofore done, or is now doing. "The newspaper of the future," says Mr. Sapp, "will place a higher estimate upon principle and place truth above party interests. It will publish all the truth—not, as many papers now do, only so much of the truth as will benefit the political party to which it belongs." Let us hope that Mr. Sapp's ideal is not too high. It should not be.

A college in an adjoining State has just conferred the degree of L. L. D. upon Walter H. Page, who, if not, as the Charlotte Observer says, "the ablest man born in North Carolina in the last fifty years," has certainly achieved greater success as a literary man than any other North Carolinian of this century. As the Observer says: "Himself a writer of great power, he lifted The Forum from comparative obscurity to the front rank of American periodicals, and critics say that The Atlantic Monthly was never so good as since he has been its editor. One fit to succeed in the editorship of The Atlantic Monthly such men as Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes and James Russell Lowell, and thought by many competent judges to outshine either of them in this position, is no inconsiderable man. We are proud that he is a North Carolinian."

Prof. Edward W. Bemis of the Kansas agricultural college says that before the trust question is satisfactorily settled "there must be such a change in our attitude toward government as will no longer render it possible for Standard Oil influence to spend over \$40,000 a year in teaching the people economics and sociology, while the state of Illinois spends under \$5,000 for the same purpose, or which renders it possible for American states to be contented with commissioners, State attorneys, etc., worth two or three thousand dollars a year, while a sugar refinery or a railroad is ready to pay 10 times that amount for its talent wherewith to oppose or checkmate public control." There is much truth in Prof. Bemis' assertion—truth which should have the careful attention of all interested in the fight against trusts. The phase of the question to which he alludes has received far too little attention.

And Alger has resigned. Undoubtedly he made a bad record as Secretary of War, but we have an idea that many—a great many—far worse men now in politics have not suffered half as much abuse as he. Possibly he deserved all the censure he received, but if so we think many of our public men have failed to receive their share. Besides many declare with Senator Proctor that President McKinley is to blame for many of Alger's mistakes and that "General Alger had no responsibility at all for some of the policies or acts for which he is criticised." Alger was spotted by the yellow journals as a special object of abuse, and in this capacity we do not know who will succeed him. Of his successor as Secretary of War, Mr. Root, Theodore Roosevelt says: "He is absolutely disinterested, of singular and keen intelligence, absolutely conscientious and incapable of a mean and ungenerous action. He possesses will, tact and judgment, and entire fearlessness in standing up for the right. We can guarantee under him that no shape of wrong-doing will be allowed to exist." Already some papers have attacked Root, but we believe the people generally will form no hasty judgment. Let him prove his metal.

Two hundred and fifty tons of copper coins have recently been imported into this country from India to be melted and used for other purposes.

ALLIANCE OUTLOOK.

We have not yet received reports from all the county meetings, but the reports we have received are on the whole very gratifying.

Cumberland county reports a good meeting, and Bro. King, the Corresponding Secretary, says he has personal knowledge of two or three dormant Subs. that wish to reorganize. These Subs. should be looked after. Wherever a feeling of this kind exists, there the County Alliance should, if possible, send its lecturer or other organizer. In reality, however, there is no great necessity for an imported organizer. Wherever there are five or six farmers or other persons eligible to membership in the Alliance who wish to organize a Sub., there a Sub. can be started without outside interference. If further information is desired, write Secretary Hoover, at Hillsboro.

Orange county reports an interesting meeting and an increased membership. The good ladies of Orange have taken fresh interest in the Order, and when they resolve to push a thing, of course it goes. Let the ladies of other counties follow their good example. The Alliance has a mission and purpose worthy of the best efforts of the women of our land.

In Wake county there is room for much work. While the Order here has been inactive for some time, a number of brethren have resolved to put forth greater efforts and we look for an enlarged membership as a result.

Franklin, Catawba, Bertie and Washington counties had harmonious and enthusiastic meetings.

Washington county reports a better attendance than at any previous meeting for several years.

The meeting in Columbus county was the best of the year. The outlook there is encouraging.

Chatham county reports a good meeting, unusually large delegation, and two Subs. re organized and re instated.

From Jackson county alone have we received a discouraging report. Now a word to the brethren there and other discouraged brethren wherever they may be: Hold firm for another year. Resolve, each and every one of you, that not a man will drop out of ranks for a year, but on the contrary that each individual member will attempt to add at least one new member to his Sub. during that time. Make the effort and await results. "Do not give up the ship," certainly not in the year 1899, which has witnessed the organization of men of all other occupations. As a result the farmers and laborers will surely awaken to the true condition of affairs and will realize the truth of that ancient adage, "In union there is strength." Let the old guard stand firm.

Another thought: What of the rising generation? How many old Alliance men have sons eligible to membership who are still outside the Order? Think of this matter and discuss it at your next Sub. meeting. The young men should be taught the principles of the Order, should become members and take part in the work. As we stated a week or two ago, the Alliance can, besides its other benefits, give the young men the much-needed training in parliamentary laws and usage. Take the young men and ladies into the Order. There's a work for them. They need the social and business features of the Order, and the Order needs them. Think of this and act.

The State meeting is close at hand. It is one of much importance. Attend it if possible. Some important questions will come up for discussion—questions deserving careful thought and attention. Let these be discussed in that brotherly spirit which is the true Alliance spirit. Some new officers are to be chosen. These should be true, energetic men, qualified to lead, who show forth in daily life the spirit set forth in the only true Alliance chart, The Declaration of Purposes.

And let the motto of each Alliance man be "Forward and Onward." Our cause is just, our purposes noble, and sooner or later we must triumph.

A LITTLE MATTER.

We believe the best is none too good for our readers and the best we try to give them. In order to do this we are of course compelled to go to extra expense. In order to have the best we must have an all home print paper and select all the matter for the various departments expressly for this paper. By so doing we keep our news department clean, complete, fresh and reliable, with nothing suppressed and nothing stale; our fiction, poetry and household matter, helpful and high class—high in moral tone and helpful in spirit; our farming department, filled with the best matter, up to date and specially adapted to conditions in North Carolina and adjoining States, and our advertising columns, free from all humbug and objectionable ads. Nor do we, as some other so-called farm

papers do, serve our readers at the second table, giving them a hazy conglomeration of what has already been served in dailies. If so, we, too, could afford to send the paper at a lower rate. But our readers are not of the class who are satisfied with such mixtures.

And as we say in giving the best we incur extra expense. For instance, the average man sending us \$1 each year of his life cannot in a life time pay us enough to pay for the single item of setting the type for one week's issue of The Progressive Farmer! And were you to give us \$1 for each year that has elapsed since the birth of Christ, the sum would not enable us to pay our printers for one year's service! And besides typesetting we must pay for paper, postage, office rent, press-work, mailing and scores of other matters which, perhaps, you never think of. And our employees must be paid weekly and the cost is as great in summer as in winter. We trust that our subscribers, therefore, see the necessity of renewing promptly. While giving the best our subscription price is very low. We do ask for prompt renewals and if you owe us anything, please do not wait for another reminder, but send it in. We serve no party boss, and we therefore have no campaign fund to draw on.

ONE PHASE OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

We notice that a number of our correspondents oppose the proposed Constitutional Amendment because they fear that the grandfather clause will be declared invalid, leaving the remaining sections in force and thus establishing an educational test for voters of both races. At first we also held this opinion (and expressed such opinion in The Progressive Farmer) but have since carefully studied the question and have arrived at a different conclusion. We are therefore anxious to correct any false impression which may have been made by our first expression of opinion.

It is plain that if the people adopt the Amendment they adopt it as a whole—grandfather clause and all. Suppose then the Supreme Court should declare the grandfather clause unconstitutional. To do so and leave the other sections in force would establish an educational test for voters of both races. But would the Supreme Court or anyone else dare say that the people of North Carolina had declared in favor of this educational qualification for voters both white and black? Let us remember that in voting on the proposed Amendment the people do not even have an opportunity of expressing themselves on that question. And if they have not at that time so much as had the opportunity of voting upon the question, how could the Supreme Court in the name of either law, honesty, or fairness declare that the people had adopted such as the law of the State, as it would necessarily be, were the grandfather clause declared unconstitutional and the remaining sections left in force?

This statement proves the truth of the following assertion:

"That to declare Section 5 unconstitutional, leaving the remaining sections in force, would establish as the Supreme Law of the State that which the people, who make all constitutions, will have neither adopted nor voted upon."

The writer is not a lawyer, but he is convinced that to do this would be to violate the most common and sacred principles of law and government.

We wish to make this matter plain. The Constitutional Amendment deserves the careful, unbiased and serious consideration of every voter and as it is so grave and weighty a problem the people of all parties should frown down all attempts at deception and all efforts to arouse prejudice and passion in its consideration. It is a serious question to be seriously considered. And the people should study it this year—not delay its consideration until the campaign of 1900 with all its heat and confusion is upon us.

A subscriber writes: "I can get you some six months' subscribers for your paper if you will send the paper that long for 50 cents." Certainly, brother; send them in. And all other subscribers are invited to do likewise. We hope each reader will try to send us at least two new subscribers at this rate. Write for free blanks and sample copies.

A GREAT OFFER.

By special arrangement with the publishers, are enabled to offer a copy of "The Lives of Distinguished North Carolinians" in Library style, regular price \$2.50, and The Progressive Farmer one year, price \$1, both for only \$3. A copy of the "Lives" should be in every North Carolina home. If you wish this bargain, order at once. Number on hand is limited.

THE THINKERS.

LIFE MORE ABUNDANTLY.

A politician of national reputation recently asked a friend who had attained to a position of honor and dignity: "What does the dignity amount to, anyway? How much money is there in it? One must live, you know."

Yes, it is agreed that we must live. To live is the first great thing. But it is not the only thing. Live: but be a man, and man does not live by bread alone. Says a modern French writer, in a book of "counsel to the young":

"Woe to the society where each one's aspiration is for a livelihood only. It reduces life to inferior proportions, making of it a quarry of appetites or a commonplace formality. We must live, and if we would live as men, we must have as the first thing an aim, a love, a hate—in short, an ideal. If you do not try to find this when you are young, you will never find it, and you will not know life. . . . I consider utilitarianism in youth as a calamity. . . . The precocious utilitarian has no souvenirs. Consequently to him everything is possible, even shame itself, provided it pays."

Yes, we must live. But to live the full measure of life, in its highest possibilities, is as different from the utilitarian's conception as the blind, subterranean existence of the ground mole is from the full career aloft of the golden eagle.

Life without ideals is not worth the living. Once—so the story goes—a big, strong looking fellow approached Talleyrand on the streets of Paris and begged for alms. "Why don't you take a bath, and then look for work?" asked the elegant courtier. "Oh, I don't care anything for comfort or sentiment," said the beggar. "But I must live, you know." "Upon a second consideration of your case," replied the wit contemptuously, "I must say I don't know that there is any obligation, moral, intellectual, or physical, upon you to live. Better stop."—New Voice.

THE WRONG THING.

We are surprised to see in a paper published in a town where education has been especially emphasized, and which is famous for its excellent schools, an article strongly urging the establishment of a small cotton mill. It was stated that only \$75,000 would be needed to start on, and the writer insisted that such an enterprise was exactly what the town needed to insure its permanent prosperity. We are sure it is exactly what the town does not need. A fine sentiment has been created in that community in favor of educating the children, rather than compelling them to become bread-winners. The Lord never intended that the tender shoulders of childhood should bear the burdens of the family. What that town needs (and we happen to be very well acquainted with it) is a factory that turns out chairs, an other that makes sash, doors and blinds, a spoke and handle factory, and another for the manufacture of cheap furniture. These four can be set running for less than half the capital required to start a little cotton mill, and they will make more money than a cotton factory and, what is better, they will bring men into the community who will put their children in school and give them a chance to make men and women. It may be all right for some towns to establish cotton factories, but they are the last things in the world for a community that boasts of its educational spirit.—Charity and Children.

If there are any wrongs in the labor problem that may be righted by legislation, or any change beneficial to labor that may be effected by law, the remedy lies in the hands of the toilers. The toilers should be able to control every legislative body in the United States. It is the only method that offers any hope of success and they do not understand their own interests if they do not make use of this facile means of promoting them.—R. v. Thomas Donohoe.

The worst possible lesson to teach any citizen is contempt for the law. Laws should not be left on the statute books, still less put on the statute books, unless they are meant to be enforced. No man should take a public office unless he is willing to obey his oath and to enforce the law.—Theodore Roosevelt.

DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH.

One of the great metropolitan dailies predicts that the census of 1900 will show 75 million people in the United States possessing a wealth of 110 billion dollars. This would be an average of a little over seven thousand dollars for each head of family. As wealth is usually the result of year-by-year accumulations the average for a young head of family would probably be one

or two thousand dollars, while for the man of sixty it would be fifteen or twenty thousand dollars. The man who has not been equal to the average in industry, management and saving should not expect to have the average of wealth. If a person has been indolent, wasteful and not watchful, that is if he has been more so than the average man he should not complain because he does not possess the average wealth. If he has been more industrious, saving and watchful than the average man he should be possessor of more than the average. It is just the average man who should be worth fifteen or twenty thousand at the age of sixty. The average is made up from taking all the men—the intelligent and the ignorant, the hustlers and the slow pokers; the busy and the idle, the skilled and the unskilled, the sick and the well, the good manager and the poor manager, the frugal and the spend-thrift the ex slaves and all. Reader, are you an average? If so, have you fifteen or twenty thousand dollars worth of property? Probably you have but how many of your acquaintances have? We mean those of your 60 year old acquaintances who have been an average in industry, saving and management? If you have been more than an average you should have more than the average; if you have been much more than the average, you should have forty or fifty thousand dollars. Perhaps you have but how many of your neighbors have? Bear in mind you have in your locality those above the average, as well as those below. Our special object in writing this article is to call the attention of the "successful merchant," the "successful physician," the "successful farmer," the "successful man" generally to the fact that though he has been far, very far above the average in intelligent work, industry and economy, he has as a rule been unable to accumulate the average amount of wealth. We want him to reflect upon the fact that the success that he is proud of, success achieved by making himself a slave to his business, has been a partial failure.—Ex.

ELECTION OF SENATORS BY POPULAR VOTE.

The policy of ignoring the people excepting on election days, which has prevailed to a great extent during recent years, is giving place to a strong reactionary influence in favor of letting the people govern by direct methods. This fact is illustrated in the growing popularity of the initiative and referendum which have proved so eminently successful in the government of New England towns since the settlement of our country, and which have given almost universal satisfaction in the Republic of Switzerland, where they have been fully tested on a large and all including plan. The recent adoption of one or both of these measures by various States illustrates the rapid change in public opinion, as does also the growing demand for the election of United States Senators by the direct vote of the people.

In this country officials in high places are not in the habit of favoring new measures until there is a very strong sentiment demanding the innovation. In view of this fact, the recent annual messages of several of the governors of the different States are significant. Governor Hastings, of Pennsylvania, strongly urged popular election of senators, declaring that "political power can nowhere be so safely lodged as with the people themselves." The Governor of Michigan favored the election of senators by direct vote; the Governor of Minnesota advocated direct legislation; the Governor of South Dakota referred approvingly to the recent adoption of direct legislation by his State. It is very evident that a wholesome reaction is setting in in favor of the principles of democracy; and if the educational work which has been carried on for the past few years be steadily pushed forward, the day is not distant when government will be lodged directly with the people, and thus a more ideal republic will be realized than has yet been enjoyed on this side of the Atlantic.—The Coming Age.

The only position to be taken by law-abiding and law respecting people is this: That lynching for any crime whatever is itself a crime against civilized society. Wherein does civilization especially differ from barbarism? In civilized society we have laws for the protection of person and property, for the administration of justice and the punishment of crime. Under barbarous and savage conditions brute force rules and revenge dictates punishment. To say, then, that in the South or anywhere else in our country it is necessary to lynch any class of persons for any crime whatever is to confess that our laws are defective, and administration of justice uncertain and our boasted Christian civilization to that extent a failure. The remedy for this condition of affairs is certainly not in lynching, for every mob transpires the law under foot.—J. J. D. Dreher.