

Farmers in Full Control in North Dakota

Bismarck, N. D.—North Dakota is now to hold for some time the center of the United States stage! A kind of government new on this continent or anywhere else is about to take hold of the machine here! It is a farmers' government from top to bottom and all the way across!

That is one novel thing about it. Then it is strictly nonpartisan, being chosen by the farmers for reasons of their own and without the least regard to party lines.

It is also a government that owes nothing to any politician on earth and no corporation, bank, railroad or interest has a single string on it.

Few of the men who are about to take office ever held office before. None of the men that put them there had any previous experience in politics.

At the last election the farmers, in revolt, captured the legislature, all the state offices except one and what is still more important, grabbed off the supreme court.

They will now rip the whole shooting match from A to Izzard.

They can pass any law they please and nothing this side of the supreme court of the United States can interfere.

It is the biggest revolution that ever occurred in any state in this union.

North Dakota has been from the beginning just a fine old pocket borough for the interests. The railroads, banks, elevators and grain men had an ironclad combination that ruled the politics of the state the way a bucko mate used to rule a Cape Horn. Do what you're told, keep still or get hurt.

Today there isn't a railroad politician, grain agent or corporation valet in the state that dares peep. The farmers are the whole cheese.

Also, they have introduced a new system for choosing men for office. They start out literally to let the office seek the man. When it became evident last spring that they were likely to win out, a fine crop of their dear old friends and college chummies sprang up all about the state offering the glad hand and pulling for this office or that.

All they ever got was the icy stare and the swift kick. Instead of listening to the dulcet notes of these charmers, the farmers went about hunting for good men that were on the level and not job hunters.

Their candidate for governor, for instance, Lynn J. Frazier, was steering a plow over his wheat lands when he was chosen. The committee wanted to telephone him and had to wait until he could be summoned to the house. He was the most amazed man in America and thought it was some kind of a joke.

But he quickly showed that no error had been made about him. He had never made a set public speech in his life, but he jumped into the campaign and turned out to be a crackerjack. He made more than 200 speeches. He got 81,000 in a total vote of about 102,000—that's all.

The name of the organization that put all this over is the Farmers' Non-partisan Political League. It is only two years old but has 40,000 enrolled members of the 50,000 farmers in North Dakota.

It works with a new scheme and new method. Every farmer that joins pays for his membership. Formerly the annual fees were \$6. Now they are \$16 for two years in advance, and practically every man whose first year's subscription has expired is renewing at the new rate.

New members are put on the rolls by personal interviews. The league owns 140 automobiles and keeps a corps of organizers always in the field. The money received is used to carry on this work and to publish the league's paper, the Leader.

This paper started in September, 1915, on a shotstring and now has 65,000 circulation. The league has lately acquired a daily paper at Fargo and owns the only photo-engraving plant in North Dakota.

Branch leagues are being formed in other states. The welcome the idea has received causes northwestern politicians to view the movement with pain and extreme disgust. It looks as if an entirely new deal was on in this part of the world.

Nobody can join the league except an actual tiller of the soil, so there is no chance for others to come in and get possession of the thing.

The thing that had most to do with the creation of the league was the deplorable state of the farmers in North Dakota as a result of 57 varieties of gouge and swindle practiced by railroads, banks, money sharks, elevator combines, commission men and others.

Government, as conducted by the interests, merely assisted the plunderers. The total annual gouge was estimated at

Farm Loan Act May Be Discussed Here

We believe that the new U. S. farm loan law will ultimately prove to be the greatest blessing the farmers ever received from congress. But it will not benefit those farmers who do not take advantage of its opportunities. As yet the farmers generally do not understand the details of the law, but it will be to their advantage to find out.

There should be several farm loan associations in Pickens county, and if the farmers show enough interest in the matter a meeting will be called to be held at the county seat and men who are familiar with the workings and provisions of the farm loan law will be on hand to fully explain all about it.

Those who join a farm loan association may borrow money for any length of time from five to forty years at a rate of interest not to exceed six per cent and probably less, and there are other benefits to those who comply.

The government has given the farmer the means whereby he may help himself. It is now up to the farmer. No other set of business men would pass such an opportunity by. We don't believe the farmer will.

Talk it over with your neighbor and have the meeting called so you may learn more about it if you want to.

Oolenoy News Notes

Miss Pearl Sutherland of the G. W. C. is spending a few days with homefolks.

Miss Hallie Jones, who recently suffered a relapse of measles and whose condition for a time seemed quite serious, is now convalescing.

Mrs. P. Bower Martin of Greenville is spending some days with her parents here. Her father, who has been indisposed for some time, is improving.

Messrs. Robert Baker and Ossie Hendrix were here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Keith of Pickens spent the week-end with the former's mother, Mrs. J. D. M. Kelth, whose condition, we regret very much to say, is unimproved. And in this regret we voice the sentiment of the entire community, for she is a woman much loved by this people.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Lynch were the Sunday guests at the home of S. B. Edens.

Miss Merle Hendrix of the Pickens graded school spent the week-end with homefolks.

Much Measles at Six Mile

There is a real epidemic of measles in this section now.

Garie Lee of Furman has been called to the bedside of his father, who has been very serious with measles.

We are sorry to report Mrs. B. H. Duncan is in a very critical condition at present. Several of the family have measles.

There are eight in bed with measles at Rev. J. E. Merck's. None of the family has ever had it.

Other families who have them are as follows: Bob Waldrop, A. R. Garrett, G. M. Masters, M. B. Evans, W. G. Pressley, R. L. Alexander, and others.

Born, unto Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Durham, a daughter. Mr. Isaac is a great farmer.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Pressley are visiting the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Evans.

Julie Durham and family of Seneca visited relatives in this section Sunday.

Mr. Forest Murphy of Praters is very sick with pneumonia.

NEWS-GATHERER

The Sentinel's Honor Roll

New subscriptions since last issue: S. L. Duckworth, S. A. Duckworth, Truman Rogers, G. E. Williams, B. A. Haggood, Rev. S. M. Jones, R. W. Sammons. Renewals: R. E. Steele, J. L. Loooper. We thank you.

about \$50,000,000 on the wheat crop alone. Between farmer and consumer about 50 cents on each bushel disappeared into hands that had no right to take it.

The league's program provides for salutary reforms in the state government, but nothing to scare anybody. State-owned and operated elevators, state hall insurance, state rural credit system, taxation reform, and the state development of the lignite deposits are the chief features.

The main object of the league is to secure a rational brand of government conducted for the benefit of the majority of the population instead of the benefit of railroads and banks. It will be a novelty for North Dakota—and some other regions.

SOUTH CAROLINA
Come-to-Sunday-School Day
February 11, 1917
For All Sunday Schools of All Denominations

The Sunday Schools of South Carolina Invite You to
Attend the Sunday School of Your Choice
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Large Posters, Programs, Blanks for getting new scholars and a sheet explaining how to make the day a success furnished free to any Sunday School on request to

The South Carolina Sunday School Association
802 Chapman Building, Spartanburg, S. C.

Mrs. W. R. McKinney Dead

Mrs. Sonora Lee Glazener McKinney died at her home in the Eastatoe section of Pickens county last Saturday, January 27, after a short illness. Death was due to the bursting of a blood vessel in the head. Funeral services and burial took place at Cross Roads church Monday afternoon and were conducted by Rev. S. M. Jones.

Mrs. McKinney was born at Brevard, N. C., July 8, 1889. She joined the church when about fourteen years of age and was a member of the Brevard Baptist church at the time of her death. She was married to W. R. McKinney, September 1, 1915, and is survived by her husband, father, two brothers and one sister. She was a daughter of B. N. Glazener, a prominent citizen of the Cross Roads community.

Mrs. Glazener will not only be missed in her home but in the entire community where she lived. Many friends sympathize with the bereaved, who are weeping for one whose place cannot be filled.

There is an epidemic of grip and pneumonia in this county at present.

Rev. A. S. Whitmire Dead

Rev. "Andy" Whitmire died at the home of his son, I. A. Whitmire, a merchant in the Pleasant Grove section of Pickens county, Friday afternoon, January 26, after an extended illness of a complication of diseases. Funeral services and burial were held at Oolenoy church Sunday, being conducted by Rev. J. E. Foster and attended by a large concourse of sorrowing friends.

Mr. Whitmire was 78 years old, a well known and pioneer Baptist preacher of the mountain section of Pickens and Transylvania counties and had been a consecrated church and Sunday school worker practically all his life. His church membership was at Peters Creek. He also served throughout the civil war as a Confederate soldier.

He is survived by his wife, who was Miss Rebecca Trotter before marriage, three daughters and two sons as follows: Mrs. Nelson of Michigan, Mrs. Laura Clark of Greenville, Mrs. J. S. White of Oolenoy, I. A. Whitmire of Oolenoy, and Eugene Whitmire, who is in the West.

May the God whom Mr. Whitmire served so well comfort the bereaved ones who have the sympathy of many friends.

THE PICKENS SENTINEL

With the "ALL WINTER READING" Club is our Biggest, Best Bargain.

Our paper contains all the Local, County and important State news, "The Weekly Kansas City Star" has the world and general news.

"The Progressive Farmer" is the South's leading Agricultural weekly, of which it is said, "you can tell by a man's farm whether he reads it or not." "The Farmers' Business Book and Almanac" is issued by the Progressive Farmer and is a simplified form for keeping farm accounts. Forty pages, card-board cover.

"Today's Magazine" is a monthly containing clean stories and much good reading for all the family, while "The Housewife," a monthly, will be found interesting to all and helpful to wife and daughters.

The Grapevines are of four varieties selected for Southern growing.

The total value of a year's subscription for our paper and a year each for the other publications of the "ALL WINTER READING" Club, together with the Farmers' Business Book and the Grapevines is more than four dollars.

"The Progressive Farmer" stands back of this remarkable offer and will supply the subscriptions one year each to all the publications except our own and will also send you the Farmers' Business Book and the four grapevines. We recommend your immediate acceptance of this offer as every publication named is clean, interesting and useful, while the Farmers' Business Book and the Grapevines will prove valuable to you.

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May Issue \$250,000 Pickens Road Bonds

"The Pickens county delegation expects to introduce a bill soon to authorize the issuance of \$250,000 worth of road bonds to be used for road building in this county," said Representative Findley, who spent Sunday and Monday with his family in Pickens. Continuing he said, "After the bonds are issued we also expect to get some money from the federal government for the same purpose. This will enable a good beginning to be made on the roads and if the people want more they may vote for it." Mr. Findley explained that a great number of his constituents had asked if the legislature could not give the county some early relief as to roads which the present road system could not give and the delegation had about decided that the above plan would be best. This will be interesting news to every citizen of the county. There is no doubt but there is a large and growing sentiment in Pickens county for better roads.

Mr. Findley states that so far the legislature has not done very much work. There will be so many prohibition bills introduced that he has not fully decided which one he will support, but believes the majority of the house members favor airtight prohibition.

Both Pickens county members of the house of representatives voted for the Bradford bill to submit to the people a constitutional amendment which would prevent the legislature from imposing a bond issue upon any county unless the people voted for it.

Messrs. Finley and Pickens both voted against the bill allowing each circuit judge \$500 extra for traveling expenses.

A petition asking for an airtight statewide prohibition law and signed by a large number of Pickens county voters has been sent to the Pickens county delegation at Columbia. Word from Senator O'Dell states that he favors such a bill and he is inclined to think that it will pass.

Mt. Carmel Locals

Division No. 1 of the Piedmont Association, W. M. U., held a very helpful and interesting meeting at Mt. Carmel Saturday, the 20th inst. The devotional service was conducted by the pastor, Rev. W. L. Coker, after which he turned the service over to the division president, Miss Mayme Williams, and Mrs. B. D. Latham, secretary. Mrs. A. G. King of Easley and Miss. H. H. Wright of Greenville made fine talks, and several interesting papers were read on the work by members. A fine program was carried out during the day and was very interesting to all present. A sumptuous dinner was served by the ladies in the W. O. W. hall nearby.

The C. C. club met Saturday evening at the hospitable home of Mrs. J. Bird Loooper, with Misses Mayme and Jessie Loooper as hostesses. It is needless to say they all had a fine time and enjoyed the evening very much. Refreshments were served and a good turnout was had despite the bad roads.

Married, by L. L. Smith, notary public, Mr. Lee Julian and Miss Cora Lee Smith, on the 21st day of January, 1917. May success and happiness attend this happy couple through life.

The following officers have been elected and installed to serve the Cross Plains W. O. W. camp for the year 1917: P. C., F. B. Ponder; C., W. A. Loooper; A. L., Rupert Parr; B., O. M. Green; C. L. L. Smith; E., J. N. Loooper; W., J. A. Hitt; S., M. R. Day; manager, G. W. Holcombe; physician, Dr. W. M. Ponder.

T. Holcombe and Homer Thompson are two of the most accommodating boys in the country. If you don't believe it, ask the Mt. Carmel school teacher.

Easley Negro Killed by Train

Easley correspondent of the Greenville News: Enoch Walters, a negro living on a farm near Easley, was found dead on the railroad track one mile east of town at an early hour Friday morning. His skull was crushed, having received a severe lick above one eye and the fingers of one hand were cut off. Walters secured a gallon of whiskey from the express office here yesterday and it is presumed that he became drunk and sat down on the end of a cross tie and grasping the rail with one hand when he was struck by some train, it not being known just what train gave the fatal blow.

J. J. Sammons, a highly respected citizen, died at his home near Greenville last week. He was the father of Thomas S. Sammons of Pickens county.

Congressman Finley of the Fifth congressional district of South Carolina died last week. His home was in York.

Farmers Urged to Order Fertilizer Early

The shortage of freight cars may seriously delay the fertilizer movement and defeat the "plant early" idea that is being advocated by everyone engaged in the anti-boll weevil campaign. As a rule, the average farmer does not concern himself over railroad problems, car shortages, etc., because relatively few of them ship in car-load quantities, but if the present car shortage exists at the time when the farmers usually order their fertilizer, no matter whether the quantity is one ton or a car load, if the cars cannot be had in greater numbers than the present supply, many farmers will be disappointed by not receiving his fertilizer in time to plant his cotton and other crops early and thus take the first practical step to get ahead of the boll weevil.

The Farm Improvement Department is trying in every way it can to induce all farmers to order out their fertilizer immediately in order that they may not be disappointed by delays owing to car shortage, congestion at terminal points and many other reasons which may cause serious loss if this important part of the farmers work is not attended to before it is too late. Next to early plowing and preparation probably there is no more important thing for the farmer to do than to order his fertilizer out in advance of the time he needs it.

Roanoke News

The box supper at Roanoke school house last Friday night was a grand success. There were several nice boxes and they all brought very good prices. About twenty dollars was realized and will be used to buy a new sanitary drinking fountain and for other school purposes. The school is progressing very nicely now under the supervision of Prof. Earl Givens.

Willie Sammons, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Sammons, left last Wednesday for Durant, Okla., where he will visit relatives.

Joel Allgood was visiting in the Montvale section last Sunday.

Messrs. Tom and Taylor O'Dell attended the singing at Bethlehem Sunday afternoon and report some fine singing.

The continued bad weather has gotten some of the roads in a bad fix. Hope we will soon get them worked out.

Robert Morgan of the Praters section was visiting friends in our section Sunday.

Pleasant Grove News

Rain and mud are most plentiful nowadays and farm work is at a standstill.

We are having the most sickness in this section the past three weeks that we have had for several years.

W. L. Green, who has been critically ill, is much improved at this writing.

Riley Moody and his little son Fred of Greenville were at the bedside of his father-in-law, W. L. Green, last Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. G. M. Fortner has been confined to her room several days with grip.

Henry Jones, our mail carrier on route 6, has been transferred to Dacusville to take charge of a daily mail at that place. We regret losing Mr. Jones on route 6, but hope our loss will be his gain. He has served us about eighteen months, and while on this route he won a good lot of friends and the confidence of the people.

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Pace of Marietta route 4 visited the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Fortner, last Sunday. P. G. S.

Born, unto Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Davis of the Pickens Mill village, January 27, a son.

Summary of the News in this Edition of The Sentinel

Pershing's troops have begun evacuation of Mexico.
Senate works overtime to clean slate.
Big British cruiser sunk.
Rivers-Harbors bill passes House.
Paper cost worries publishers.
Lansing protests to Carranza.
Fighting unabated near Riga.
New temporary quarters for American troops.
Villa and Zapata form alliance.
Doings of the State General Assembly during the past week.
May make starch of potatoes.
Bankers drop tax suit.
Cadets to attend inauguration.
Short state news items.
PICKENS COUNTY NEWS.