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CONSTITUTION
OF THE
FARMERS'
STATE ALLIANCE
OF
WEST VIRGINIA.

ADOPTED AT CHARLESTON, W. VA.,
AUGUST 13th AND 14th, 1890.

PETERSBURG, VA.:
Fenn & Owen, Printers, Binders and Publishers,
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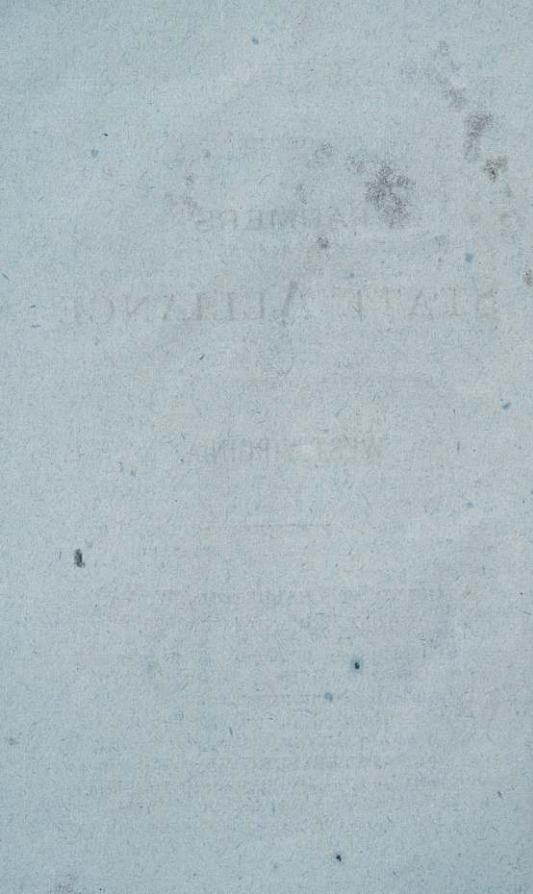
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CONSTITUTION.

PREAMBLE.

Profoundly impressed that we, the Farmers' Alliance, united by the strong and faithful ties of financial and home interests, should set forth our declaration of intentions; we therefore resolve,

1. To labor for the education of the agricultural classes, in the science of economical government, in a strictly non-partisan spirit.

2. To endorse the motto, "in things essential, unity; and in all things, charity."

3. To develop a better state—mentally, morally, socially and financially.

4. To create a better understanding for sustaining civil officers in maintaining law and order.

5. To constantly strive to secure entire harmony and good will among all mankind and brotherly love among ourselves.

6. To suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices; all unhealthful rivalry and all selfish ambition.

7. The brightest jewels it garners are the tears of widows and orphans, and its imperative commands are to visit the homes where lacerated hearts are bleeding; to assuage the sufferings of a brother or a sister, bury the dead; care for the widows and educate

the orphans; to exercise charity towards offenders; to construe words and deeds in their most favorable light, granting honesty of purpose and good intentions to others; and to protect the principles of the Alliance until death. Its laws are reason and equity, its cardinal doctrines inspire purity of thought and life, its intentions are "peace on earth and good will towards men."

ARTICLE I.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

Section 1. This body shall be known as the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union of West Virginia, and shall have power to make its own constitution and by-laws and rules of order and business.

Sec. 2. The Farmers' State Alliance and Industrial Union of West Virginia shall be composed of the following persons: A President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Lecturer, an Assistant Lecturer, a Chaplain, a Doorkeeper, an Assistant Doorkeeper, a Sergeant-at-Arms, a Business Agent and a State Crop Statistician, its standing and special committees and one delegate from each county having a membership of one thousand or under, and for more than 1000 one additional delegate.

Sec. 3. There shall be a County Alliance, composed of one delegate for every ten members or fraction thereof, from each Farmers' Alliance, and its standing and special Committees; provided any County Alliance may curtail its representation. Only

accredited delegates shall be entitled to vote.

Sec. 4. A Farmers' Alliance may be organized in every sub-school district, and no Farmers' Alliance shall be organized with fewer than five members.

Sec. 5. Each Farmers' and County Alliance shall elect one President, one Vice-President, one Secretary, one Treasurer, one Chaplain, one Lecturer, one Assistant Lecturer, one Doorkeeper, one Assistant Doorkeeper, one Sergeant-at-Arms, one Business Agent, and one Crop Statistician.

ARTICLE II.

Section 1. The President's duties are to open the Alliance according to the Ritual; in case of a call meeting to state its objects, to preside over the body, to decide questions of order, to appoint committees, to cast the deciding vote in case of a tie, to temporarily fill vacancies by appointment, to conduct initiations and to expound the secret work and see that it is protected from exposure, and to close the Alliance according to the Ritual.

Sec. 2. The President shall have power, and may call a meeting of the Alliance at any time, when in his judgment it is for the good of the Order, and when petitioned by one-fourth of the County Alliances he shall call a meeting of the Alliance.

Sec. 3. In case of a vacancy in the office of President from any cause whatever, the chairman of the Executive Committee shall become *ex-officio* President, and if more

than six months intervene before the next annual meeting of the State Alliance, by and with the consent of the Executive Committee may call a meeting of the State Alliance and elect a President, and transact such other business as may be necessary.

Sec. 4. In the absence of any presiding officer at any regular meeting of any Alliance, any member in good standing may call the house to order, and the house may proceed to elect a president *pro tem.*, either by ballot or by acclamation, whose acts shall be binding. At the time appointed for any regular meeting of any Alliance if a quorum is not present the President, or any other officer present, authorized to open the Alliance, may adjourn from day to day until a quorum shall be present.

Sec. 5. The Vice-President's duties shall be to assist the President, and in his absence perform his duties.

Sec. 6. The Secretary's duties shall be to keep a record of the proceedings of the Alliance, conduct its correspondence, to keep a roll of its members, to receive all money of the Alliance and pay it over to the Treasurer, take his receipt for the same, to read all communications, reports, and petitions in open Alliance when necessary, to affix the seal of the Alliance to all documents requiring the same, to prepare for publication a copy of the proceedings of each annual State or called session immediately after adjournment, to distribute the semi-annual password to the Secretary of each

County Alliance, who shall distribute it to the President of each Farmers' Alliance, who shall give it to the members of his Alliance, and this password shall be given in no other manner. He shall have charge of the seal, books and papers of the State Alliance. His books shall at all times be open to the inspection of the President, Executive Committee, or any other committee appointed by the President to inspect the same, to keep a correct account between the State and County Alliances. He shall furnish the Secretaries of the County Alliances with a blank book, properly ruled, with suitable column heads for classifying and recording the contents of the reports from the Farmers' Alliances. * Also suitable blanks for making reports to his office and to the chairman of the Executive Committee, and a supply of blanks for the Secretaries of the Farmers' Alliances to report to the County Alliances. He shall also make a list of all the officers, standing and special committees of the State Alliance, with name and post-office address, which list shall be a part of the printed proceedings of the State Alliance.

Sec. 7. The Secretary of each Farmers' Alliance shall furnish quarterly to his County Secretary a report properly filled out upon blanks furnished by the State Secretary in accordance with the constitution, and said report shall be accompanied with the proper amount of fees and dues.

Sec. 8. The Secretary of each County Al-

liance shall classify and record the reports from the various Farmers' Alliances in his county, and shall make out a report of the same quarterly in triplicate, one copy to be sent to the Secretary of the State Alliance, one copy to the chairman of the State Executive Committee and one copy retained by the County Alliance.

Sec. 9. When a Farmers' Alliance shall fail to make its report as in Section 7 of this Article, and pay its dues to the County Alliance, it shall not be entitled to representation in the County Alliance, unless providentially hindered, and shall not be entitled thereto until said dues are paid; and if it remain in arrears for more than six months its charter shall be revoked.

Sec. 10. When a County Alliance shall fail to make its report to the Secretary of the State Alliance, as specified in Section 8 of this Article, it shall not be allowed representation, and if it shall continue in neglect of that duty and not send its reports and dues within twelve months, it shall stand suspended. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the State Alliance to notify such defaulting Alliance of its suspension and the cause thereof.

Sec. 11. The Treasurer's duty shall be to receive all money from the Secretary, and pay it out on a warrant from the Secretary approved by the President. He shall file with the Executive Committee a bond for double the amount of money that is likely to pass through his hands.

Sec. 12. The Chaplain's duty shall be to conduct the religious exercises of the Alliance; to officiate at the funeral services on the death of a member of the Order.

Sec. 13. The Lecturer's duty shall be at each meeting to deliver or read a short address on some topic of interest to the Order. The duty of the Assistant-Lecturer shall be to receive and conduct the candidates, and in the absence of the Lecturer to perform his duties.

Sec. 14. The duty of the Doorkeeper and his Assistant shall be to guard the door, to take up the word, to see that all are properly clothed, to have charge of the property of the Alliance, and to keep the house in order.

Sec. 15. It shall be the duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms to assist the President in preserving order while the body is in session; to see that the members at the sound of the gavel take their seats and cease talking.

Sec. 16. If at any time after the Alliance is called to order by the President, a member refuses to comply with the foregoing section, or in any other way disturb the business of the body, he shall, after the second offence during the same day, be reported to the President, who shall publicly reprimand said brother, and if reported the second time during the day he shall be expelled from the house for that day.

Sec. 17. He shall see that the orders of the President are obeyed, carry all papers

or messages from the President or other officers of this body as he may be directed.

Sec. 18. He may have the privilege of appointing one or more assistants to assist him in performing his duties with the advice and consent of the President.

Sec. 19. He shall keep a sufficient supply of water for the use of the body.

Sec. 20. He shall be the custodian of all mail matter, and see that it is distributed to members.

Sec. 21. All expenses incurred in carrying out said resolutions shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Farmers' State Alliance, and said accounts must be itemized and approved by the Executive Committee.

Sec. 22. For the discharge of the duties herein enumerated he shall be entitled to and receive the sum of one dollar and fifty cents per day during the session of the Farmers' State Alliance.

Sec. 23. Each Alliance shall have an Executive Committee of three, whose duty it shall be to investigate the books of the Secretary and Treasurer, and to report on the same to the County Alliance semi-annually, and to the Farmers' Alliance quarterly. They shall audit all accounts and approve bonds.

Sec. 24. Each County and Farmers' Alliance shall be allowed to frame its own Constitution and By-Laws, provided they shall not conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of the State Alliance.

ARTICLE III.

Section 1. The Farmers' State Alliance shall meet annually on such a day in August of each year as the President of the State Alliance shall designate, and the delegates to the same shall be elected at the July meeting of the County Alliances. The County Alliances shall meet in January, April, July and October, and the delegates to the same shall be elected by the Farmers' Alliances at their first meetings in December, March, June and September, or as soon thereafter as practicable. Farmers' Alliances shall meet at least once in each month. The officers of the State Alliance shall be elected at the annual meeting in August, the officers of the County Alliances at their meeting in July, and the officers of the Farmers' Alliances at their first meeting in June, or as soon thereafter as convenient.

Sec. 2. Delegates from one-fourth of the County Alliances in the State shall constitute a quorum in the State Alliance. Delegates from one-fourth of the Farmers' Alliances in the county shall constitute a quorum in the County Alliance. Five members shall constitute a quorum in the Farmers' Alliance.

Sec. 3. A County Alliance shall be formed whenever there are five Farmers' Alliances in the County.

Sec. 4. The President of the County Alliance may call a meeting of his Alliance when, in his judgment, it is for the good of the Order, and upon a call of five Alli-

ances he shall call a meeting. The President of the Farmers' Alliance may call a meeting at any time when he may see proper for the good of the Order.

ARTICLE IV.

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Section 1. No person shall be admitted as a member of this Order except a white person over sixteen years of age, who is a believer in the existence of a Supreme Being, and has resided in the State more than six months, and is either, first, a farmer or farm laborer; second, a mechanic, a country preacher, a country school teacher, or a country doctor; or third, an editor of a strictly agricultural newspaper.

Sec. 2. If any person seemingly qualified for membership under Section one of this Article, shall send in his application and it shall be shown to the committee of investigation that he has other interests that do not harmonize with the objects of the Order, they may either report adversely to his admission or make a statement of the facts in the case, in which case the Alliance is at liberty to receive or reject the application.

Sec. 3. No member shall be admitted to membership in more than one Alliance at one time.

Sec. 4. There shall not be any party or sectarian test for membership.

ARTICLE V.

Section 1. All fees and dues in the Far-

mers' Alliance are due and payable quarterly in advance. Members in arrears for dues for three months shall stand suspended without action of the Alliance, but they shall immediately become members in good standing by the payment of such dues.

Sec. 2. The initiation fee shall be fifty cents, and the dues shall be twenty-five cents a quarter, *provided* that 5 cents dues *per capita* for the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union shall be collected and sent with the fourth Quarterly Report, and *provided further* that all females shall be exempted from all fees and dues.

Sec. 3. The secretary of the Farmers' Alliance shall send, with his quarterly report to the County Alliance, twenty-five cents for each male member initiated during the quarter, and ten cents dues for each male member of his Alliance reported for the quarter. The Secretary of the County Alliance shall send with his quarterly report to the Secretary of the State Alliance, fifteen cents for each male member initiated in his county reported in good standing for the previous said quarterly term, and five cents dues for each male member in his the county reported in good standing for said quarterly term.

Sec. 4. The organizing officer shall receive for his services for organizing each Alliance the sum of six dollars out of the first initiation fees which shall be paid by the Farmers' Alliance at the time of organization, provided that the amount, if any-

advanced, may be retained by the Alliance out of the first money for initiation fees received into the Alliance.

ARTICLE VI.

Section 1. Any person wishing to become a member of the Farmers' Alliance shall offer an application at a stated meeting to the most convenient Farmers' Alliance, otherwise by the majority consent of the most convenient Alliance, stating occupation, age and place of residence; the application to be accompanied by the initiation fee, and the applicant to be recommended by two members in good standing. The application shall lie over from one stated meeting until the next for ballot.

Sec. 2. When an application is received the President shall appoint a committee of three to investigate the character of the applicant, and report at the next stated meeting. On the report of the committee the ballot on his petition shall be taken, and if clear the applicant shall be declared elected. If one black ball shall appear, the President shall immediately order the ballot taken again, in order to ascertain if there be a mistake; if one black ball shall again appear, the President shall announce that the ballot will be taken at the next stated meeting, during which time it shall be the duty of the person casting the black ball to impart to the President, personally, his reason for so doing. At the time of taking the final ballot the President shall

state to the Alliance the reason why the black ball appeared, carefully concealing the name of the brother or sister who cast it, (and always concealing the same), provided, however, if there should be no cause given to the President by the next regular meeting, the President shall declare the candidate elected without further ballot; but if the ballot should be taken again and only one black ball appear, the candidate shall be declared elected. If rejected, the Secretary will notify him in writing and refund the initiation fee.

Sec. 3. When an applicant is rejected or a member expelled, the Secretary of the Farmers' Alliance shall at once notify the Secretary of his County Alliance, who shall notify each Farmers' Alliance of his county.

Sec. 4. When an applicant is elected he shall be initiated within four stated meetings if not providentially hindered.

Sec. 5. A petition cannot be withdrawn after it has been received without the consent of the Alliance.

Sec. 6. The petition of any person rejected shall not be again received until the expiration of six months, unless it appears that the rejection was illegal, in which case the trial and conviction of the offending parties will justify the retaking of the ballot.

Sec. 7. Any member clear of the books may make application for a dimit or withdrawal card, when the President shall order the ballot taken, and if clear the request shall be granted; if not clear it shall lie

over until the next stated meeting, and if no charges are preferred against him or her the Secretary shall issue his dimit or card.

Sec. 8. Any member holding a dimit or card and wishing to affiliate with any Alliance, shall present a written petition accompanied by the dimit or card, and upon a two-thirds vote in favor of the applicant he shall be declared elected, provided the fee of fifty cents shall accompany the dimit or card if it is six months old.

ARTICLE VII.

Section 1. There shall be a Judiciary Committee of three elected at each annual meeting of the State Alliance, whose decisions on all questions of organic or statutory law shall be final, unless notice of appeal to the National Judiciary Committee shall be given within ten days after said decision.

ARTICLE VIII.

Section 1. Each Farmers' and County Alliance shall appoint a committee of three on the Good of the Order. This committee shall be a board for the arbitration of differences of any nature that may exist between members of said Alliance.

Sec. 2. It is deemed contrary to the Order for brothers to go to law with each other; therefore it is earnestly recommended, when pecuniary or other differences arise between members, that they settle them amicably among themselves; failing to do so they leave the matter to the Board

of Arbitration, provided none of said Board are disqualified by interest or relationship in favor or against either of the contending parties. If this be the case a new Board may be appointed by the Alliance for the purpose of adjusting the difficulty.

Sec. 3. When any officer or member shall be guilty of conduct unbecoming an Alliance man, or when personal differences shall exist between members, and after reasonable efforts cannot be amicably adjusted, an officer may be impeached: charges and specifications, in writing, may be preferred by any member at a stated meeting of the Board of Arbitration: and when charges are preferred a copy of the charges and specifications shall be furnished by the Lecturer to the party charged. The Chairman of the Board shall notify the parties at variance, in writing, of the time and place at which they will take in writing all testimony of persons not members of the Alliance, and report the same at the next meeting of the Board, and upon the report and such other testimony as may be had in the Alliance, the Board shall proceed at once in the trial, and inflict such punishment on either or both of the parties as the Board may determine.

Sec. 4. All trials of the officers or members of the Farmers' Alliance shall be by the Board of the Farmers' Alliance; all trials of the officers or members of the County Alliance shall be by the Board of the County Alliance; all trials of the offi-

cers or members of the State Alliance shall be by the Judiciary Committee of the State. All appeals from the Board of the Farmers' Alliance shall be to the Board of the County Alliance; all appeals from the County Alliance shall be to the Board of the State Judiciary.

Sec. 5. All parties on trial for any offence shall have the right to defend themselves in person or by proxy. The Lecturer shall conduct the prosecution, and shall have the right to close, after which the decision shall be rendered determining the punishment, either by expulsion, suspension or reprimand by the Board.

Sec. 6. In case of an appeal all the proceedings in the trial, with the testimony properly transcribed from the records, shall be transmitted to the next meeting of the County or State Board, as the case may be, with the signatures of the Board and Lecturer. Whenever a person is convicted in a Farmers' Alliance and appeal is taken, the Lecturer of the Farmers' Alliance may still assist as prosecuting attorney, if it is deemed necessary.

Sec. 7. Any member suspended on charges, can be reinstated only by a two-thirds vote, after one month's notice on application in open Alliance at a stated meeting.

Sec. 8. Any member expelled can be reinstated only by application, as in the preceding section, and the same ballot required as on application for membership into the Order.

ARTICLE IX.

Section 1. There shall be elected at each annual meeting of the State Alliance, one Executive Committeeman, to hold three years, whose duty, with the two holding over, shall be to examine the books of the Secretary and Treasurer and report on their condition at the State Alliance, with an itemized statement of all receipts and disbursements for the year ending on and including the 31st of July in each year.

Sec. 2. They shall supervise suitable bonds for the Secretary and Treasurer, and approve the same; they shall audit all the claims, and if allowed, so notify the Secretary, who shall draw his warrant on the Treasurer for the amount so allowed; and all warrants drawn on the Treasurer shall be signed by the Secretary and approved by the President.

Sec. 3. The Executive Committee shall have power to prepare suitable bonds for County and State Business Agents and approve the same, and increase, diminish, or cancel said bonds, said bonds to be made payable to the Secretaries of their respective Alliances; to dismiss and appoint a new Business Agent, when the good of the Alliance demands by reason of inefficiency, or failure on the part of the Agent to perform his duties, and to fix his salary.

Sec. 4. Each County Executive Committee shall approve the bonds and fix the salaries of the County Business Agents, and the State Executive Committee is to ap-

prove the bonds and fix the salary of the State Business Agent.

ARTICLE X.

Section 1. District Organizers are dispensed with except in such case or cases, if any should occur, where the President may deem the appointment of such an officer absolutely necessary for the good of the Order.

Sec. 2. The President shall have authority, upon good and sufficient reasons, to remove any organizer for incompetency, or for any other just cause.

Sec. 3. The District Organizer, if the President should deem it necessary for the good of the Order to appoint such an officer, shall have authority to appoint Assistant or Deputy Organizers in his district, and shall have the same authority to remove the same for sufficient reasons, and shall be responsible for the work of his deputies.

Sec. 4. The District Organizer, if any, shall have authority to correct all irregularities in the work (secret or otherwise) in his district, and shall be subject to the President, and when called by him into any part of his district to look after the interests of the Order, it shall be his duty to respond to said call. He shall be allowed by the Executive Committee legitimate per diem and mileage for said services done under the said special call of the President.

Sec. 5. Whenever an Alliance shall be-

come defunct, any member in good standing belonging to said defunct Alliance may join any Alliance in his reach without being required to pay a fee; provided, however, each Farmers' Alliance shall be judge of its own membership.

Sec. 6. Whenever an Alliance becomes so large as to become unwieldy, it may, by a two-thirds vote, divide and form two Alliances; and on petition of said Alliances, under seal, to the President of the State Alliance, he will grant a charter for a new Alliance. Whenever two or more Alliances deem it best for the good of the Order they may consolidate. The Farmers' Alliance may determine their name and number. Any member dimitted from a Farmers' Alliance shall be under the supervision of the Farmers' Alliance from which he dimitted so long as he remains within its jurisdiction, and he shall not be allowed to sit in open Alliance after the quarter expires in which he obtained his dimit.

ARTICLE XI.

Section 1. Any member who may hereafter disclose any of the workings of the Order, or who may impart the pass-word of the Order knowingly to any one not entitled to the same, shall, on conviction thereof, be immediately expelled by the body, and shall not be eligible to membership thereafter.

ARTICLE XII.

FEES OF OFFICERS.

Section 1. The President of the State Al-

liance shall be paid a salary of \$350.00 per annum, with all necessary traveling expenses. The annual salary of the State Secretary shall be \$500.00; Treasurer, \$250.00; State Business Agent, \$500.00; Lecturer, \$500.00; said salaries to be paid quarterly. The Executive Committee however, is empowered to increase the salaries of the above named officers, so as to reach a just and reasonable compensation, so soon as the financial condition of the State Alliance may justify the same. All amounts shall be paid out on warrants signed by the Secretary and approved by the President. Each member of the State Alliance shall receive the sum of \$1.50 per day, including going to and from the State Alliance, and six cents per mile one way, distance to be computed by the nearest traveled route. The members of the Executive Committee of the State Alliance shall receive three cents per mile when traveling in the discharge of their official duties, and \$3.00 only while so actually engaged with a reasonable amount for stationary and postage. All said sums to be paid from the treasury of the State Alliance.

ARTICLE XIII.

Section 1. A special Lecturer shall be elected annually by each County Alliance, who shall have charge of the secret work, under the direction of the State Lecturer, and shall, as far as possible, be subject to a call of sub-Alliances to visit them for the

purpose of instructing them in the secret work, and otherwise to lecture on the merits of the Order.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the County Lecturer to keep himself thoroughly informed on the secret work, and exemplify the same uniformly in his visits.

Sec. 3. The County Lecturer shall be subject to the call of the State Lecturer to visit any Alliance in his County when the State Lecturer so directs.

Sec. 4. The County Lecturer shall be compensated for his services not otherwise provided for, the pay to be fixed by the County Alliance.

Sec. 5. The County Lecturer shall be constituted the permanent County Organizer, and when so engaged he shall receive the usual fee.

ARTICLE XIV.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Section 1. The President of the State Alliance shall, at each annual meeting, appoint a committee of three on Credentials, to hold office for one year, who shall be members of the State Alliance at large.

Sec. 2. The Committee on Credentials shall meet immediately after their appointment and select a chairman. Said committee shall receive all credentials of delegates to the State Alliance, and present them to the State Alliance alphabetically arranged, giving name, county and post-office address.

Sec. 3. The Secretaries of County Alliances shall make credentials in duplicate, under seal of office, presenting one to the delegates and the other shall be sent to the chairman of the Committee on Credentials at least ten days before the meeting of the State Alliance. In case the Alliance has no seal, the scroll of the Secretary must be attached. All credentials must be signed by the President and attested by the Secretary under seal.

Sec. 4. The committee shall meet one day before the meeting of the State Alliance, at the time and place of said meeting. Their report shall be attached to the proceedings of the State Alliance and printed with the same.

ARTICLE XV.

Section 1. The President shall continue in office not longer than two years in succession.

Sec. 2. When a member has been convicted in a Farmers' or a County Alliance, and sentence has been passed on him, an appeal to a higher tribunal shall stay execution of sentence until the appeal has been heard and decision rendered.

Sec. 3. The charter of an Alliance is its authority under which its work shall be done, and it is made the duty of the President to have charge of the charter, and to have it present at any meeting of an Alliance.

Sec. 4. The retiring officers of the State Alliance shall become honorary members,

and shall be entitled to mileage and *per diem* as other delegates for that session only.

Sec. 5. The Secretaries of each Farmers' Alliance shall keep a death record of its members, showing the age, cause and time of death, with the county and post-office address, and report them to the Secretary of the Farmers' State Alliance.

Sec. 6. The Secretary of the Farmers' State Alliance shall keep a well-bound book, known as the death record, in which he shall keep a death record, alphabetically arranged, showing name, age, time of death, with county and post office address.

Sec. 7. This Constitution may be changed at any regular stated meeting of the State Alliance by a two-third vote.

ARTICLE XVI.

RULES OF ORDER OF STATE ALLIANCE.

Section 1. The President shall take the chair precisely at the hour appointed for the opening of the State Alliance, and shall immediately call the members to order.

Sec. 2. The President shall have the general direction of the hall; he may designate any member to preform the duties of the chair; and he may preserve strict order in the proceedings of the Alliance.

Sec. 3. All committees shall be appointed by the President, unless otherwise ordered by the Alliance.

Sec. 4. Members and officers of the State Alliance are required to be constantly in attendance upon the duties of their offices,

and leaves of absence shall only be granted by the President, with the consent of the body.

Sec. 5. A member desiring to speak shall arise and respectfully address the Chair, and the President shall announce the member by name, and the member may then speak.

Sec. 6. In all cases the member who shall first receive recognition by the Chair shall speak first ; but when two or more members rise to speak at the same time, the President shall decide who shall speak first.

Sec. 7. No member shall speak more than once on the same question, nor more than ten minutes, unless by consent of the body, and shall be confined to the question under discussion, and shall avoid personalities.

Sec. 8. Any question may be discussed in open Alliance in a non-partisan and non-sectarian sense.

Sec. 9. Any member may call for a statement of the question under consideration, which may be stated by the President or Secretary.

Sec. 10. Any member may call for a division of the question. The President shall decide as to its divisibility, subject to appeal, as in questions of order.

Sec. 11. Every member present when the question is put shall vote, unless excused by the vote of the body.

Sec. 12. While the President is stating a question or addressing the body, no one shall walk across the hall ; and while a mem-

ber is speaking no member shall pass between the speaker and the Chair. No member, or other person, shall go to and remain at the Secretary's table while the yeas and nays are being taken or ballots counted, except the Secretary and his Assistants.

Sec. 13. As soon as the Alliance shall be officially declared open for business, the Secretary shall call the roll of membership by counties, and one-third of the counties entitled to representation shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. 14. All motions and resolutions shall be made in writing. When such motion is made and seconded, and shall have been stated by the Chair, it is then the property of the house, and cannot be withdrawn without the consent of the house.

Sec. 15. When a question is under debate, no motion will be received but to adjourn, to take a recess, to lay on the table, for the previous question, to postpone, to amend, to postpone indefinitely, which several motions shall have precedence of each other in the order in which they are arranged.

Sec. 16. A motion to adjourn is always in order, but being decided in the negative shall not be again entertained until some motion, call or order shall take place. The motion to adjourn, to take recess, to lay on the table, to take from the table, and all questions relating to the priority of business shall be decided without debate.

Sec. 17. No motion or proposition differing from the subject under consideration

shall be admitted under color of an amendment.

Sec. 18. If any member in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the rule of order, the President shall or any member may, call the member to order, and the member called to order shall take his seat if required to do so by the President, until the question of order is decided. All questions of order shall be decided by the Chair without debate, subject to appeal to the house. No member shall speak on the appeal more than once, and only five minutes, unless by leave of the body, except the party appealing, who may speak twice.

Sec. 19. All reports of committees shall be made in writing, and be signed by such members as concur therein, and the report, with the names of members signing same, shall be read at the Secretary's desk, by the Secretary or member making the report, without a motion.

Sec. 20. Cushing's Manual and Law of Legislative Assemblies shall be received as the rule in all cases not provided for in the foregoing rules.

APPENDIX.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Calling the roll.
2. Reading the minutes.
3. Applications for membership.
4. Report of investigating committee.
5. Balloting.
6. Initiation.
7. Is there any member sick or in distress ?
8. Unfinished business.
9. Reports of standing committees.
10. Reports of special committees.
11. New business.
12. Business with County Alliances.
13. Business with State Alliances.
14. Lecturing.

F O R M S .

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

To the . . . Alliance . . . County, W. Va.

Having formed a favorable opinion of your Order, the Farmers' Alliance, and desiring to become a member, I send in my petition, promising, if elected, to abide by the Constitution, By-Laws and rules of the Alliance.

Age, . . . ; occupation, . . . ; residence, . . .

Recommended by

Date, 18 Name.

DELEGATES' CERTIFICATE.

..... Alliance, County, W. Va., ... 18

At a meeting of Alliance, held on 18 , Bros.....

..... members of this Alliance in good standing, were elected delegates to represent us in the Alliance to meet at on , 18

....., President.

..... Secretary.

 DIMIT.

..... Alliance, ... County, W. Va., 18

At a meeting of Alliance, held on the above date....., a member of this Alliance in good standing was on application, granted a DIMIT from this Alliance.

....., President.

..... Secretary.







