

JUDGE BOISE'S ADDRESS

The following is the address of Hon. R. P. Boise, Worthy Master of the Oregon State Grange, as delivered to the State Grange, at Salem, on May 23d:

Fratres:—This being our tenth annual session, we are reminded that we now have the history of one decade of the Oregon State Grange. Our archives have accumulated, and have a valuable experience and some precedents to guide our present and future action. It is wise to heed the lessons of experience and try to improve from their teachings, for cultivated society, and, indeed, all human progress is built up from the materials gathered from time to time as we journey on through the passing years.

Our harvests have again been gathered, and the surplus product sold and given to swell the traffic and make up the business of another year. And we have great reason to be grateful to the Great Master that our lands have yielded generous harvests and our State been spared from destructive storms and droughts such as have visited and distressed other sections of our country. Though during the past winter unusual frosts blight-d our promising wheat fields, an early spring and favorable weather has enabled us to mitigate the great loss, and now we enjoy the pleasing prospect of an abundant harvest, which will place us beyond the fear of want, and enable us again to see a large surplus on the market. This surplus is the greatest factor of our commerce, and brings to our State nearly all the wealth that comes hither from foreign lands; without it the ships of foreign nations would not, as now, within our harbors and rivers, and our active and rich metropolis be deserted and silent.

As our class contributes nearly all the materials for the manufacture of our transportation, at home and abroad, and with foreign lands, it behooves us to look well to our great industries and see that they are guarded and protected from unjust taxation by those who handle and transport our products to the distant markets where they are consumed. The work of the State Grange is to look after the general welfare of the order and suggest such methods of work as will increase our numbers and influence and unite farmers more closely in their social and business relations, and induce them to a more general knowledge of their profession, and of their duties to their country and mankind. In our work we should not be content merely to plod on in the old ruts worn by experience; we must be inventive and aggressive, trying to establish new and better methods of business, such as will enable us to keep pace with the advancing improvements of the age. We should endeavor by our action here to give direction and impulse to every subordinate grange, that it may not only be more useful to its members, but become an active part of our entire order, working with all other granges in the promulgation of our principles and the fulfillment of our great ends. The time for earnest work has come. It has been so declared by the National Grange, and the spirit there manifested, I see, now animating the State Granges to greater zeal and a more earnest determination to be aggressive, not only in controlling to a greater extent than formerly, through co-operation, their business interests, but also in correcting abuses which have, by our negligence, been allowed to creep into our commercial regulations and legal enactments, imposing, under the semblance of custom and law, heavy and unjust burdens on our industries.

In considering all questions that may come before the grange for discussion, I invoke harmony and moderation in all your councils and confidently hope that your deliberations at this session will result in great good to our order and the State. It is said by those who are not familiar with our history and progress, that our principles are good, but that farmers are slow in carrying them into execution. They are daily ridiculed in the public journals for their laxity in asserting their power, assuming a more prominent position in society, demanding the just profits of their labor, and exercising a controlling influence in public affairs.

It is too true that the farmers as a class have been slow to provide the remedy for many of the unnecessary evils that beset and depress their property. But, through the instrumentality of the grange, much light has been shed abroad among them, a better understanding of their interests has been gained, and many important advantages already secured, and the prospect of future enlightenment and advancement is still more encouraging.

I am glad to see that others have seen our wrongs, and appreciate our power to correct them—and that they ridiculed us for our stupidity and folly in suffering others to control and tax us as will and then join at us for not exerting our just impositions and resenting the indignities imposed on us. Let it not be long until all respectable farmers hasten to take away this wrong approach, and intelligently and honestly asserting and exercising the power and influence that of right belongs to them.

The National Grange which met at Indianapolis last November, in its sixteenth annual session was attended by representatives from more than thirty States of the Union, and from Dominions of Canada; also by a very large number of visitors who were members of the order, and had come from Indiana and adjoining States to witness and assist in its deliberations.

At an open session on the first day Bro. Foster was present and gave the patrons a very hearty welcome to the capital of the State. Other States were also present, and all manifested the kindest regards for our work, and the highest admiration for our principles. The spacious hall in which we assembled was filled to overflowing during the earlier days of the session, and the sixth degree was conferred by the Worthy Master on a large number of brethren, three times as many as at the session held at Washington two years before. All seemed animated with the assurance that we were moving grandly forward in our work. The personal appearance of the members was good and would have been pleasing and impressive to any stranger, who could admire plain manners, strong self reliance and modest elegance without affectation. All seemed inspired with good will; for they had come up to their annual gathering from all parts of this great Union, to give and receive kindly greetings, and work together for the good of their class and their common country. They met to discuss the various questions that interested them, and to kindly consideration of one another, and that they represented the patrons of their respective States. From the beginning they opened acquainted and acted together as though in the harmony of long tried friendship.

Several amendments were proposed to our original law most of which were rejected, only two amendments were adopted and are herewith submitted to you for your consideration, and are as follows:

Article I, Section 1. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 2. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 3. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 4. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 5. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 6. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 7. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 8. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 9. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 10. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 11. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 12. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 13. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 14. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 15. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 16. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 17. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 18. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 19. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 20. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 21. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 22. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 23. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 24. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 25. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 26. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 27. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 28. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 29. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 30. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 31. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 32. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 33. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 34. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 35. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 36. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 37. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 38. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 39. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."

Article I, Section 40. In the second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "any fourth degree member in good standing."