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FILLINGS 50C UP

Dr. B. E. Wright

Portland Office, 342½ Washington street.
 Salem Office, Steusloff Building, corner Court and Liberty streets.
 Will be at Little Palace hotel, Independence, Friday.

THE GRANGE

Conducted by
J. W. DARROW, Chatham, N. Y.
 Press Correspondent, New York State Grange

HON. C. J. BELL.

Master of Vermont State Grange and Possible Candidate For Governor.
 The Hon. C. J. Bell of East Hardwick, Vt., stands at the head of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry in that state and is also serving his second term as a member of the national grange executive committee.



HON. C. J. BELL.

His grange career began in May, 1872, when he became a charter member of Caledonia grange, No. 9, and was elected its first master, in which office he served eight years. When the Vermont state grange was organized in July, 1872, he was chosen its treasurer and served in that capacity for twenty-three years and was present at every session of the state grange during that period. On relinquishing the office of treasurer he was chosen master of the state grange and is serving his fifth biennial term in that position. In 1900 he became a member of the national grange executive committee and is still one of its most efficient members and its secretary. He is likewise secretary of the Vermont state board of agriculture. So popular is Mr. Bell with the farmers of the Green Mountain State that they have persuaded him to stand for the office of governor next fall, and, if we are correctly informed, he will yield to their wishes.

A TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION.

The Apple, With Some Practical Questions About It.

The topic for discussion in the subordinate granges of Michigan one evening in March is the apple, and the following programme is suggested by the state lecturer. We give it for the benefit of other granges:

Music.
 Roll call. Responded to by naming a favorite fruit, giving a fact or quotation about it.

PRACTICAL AGRICULTURE.
 Topic—"The Apple." See special bulletin prepared by Professor U. P. Hedrick; also reference reading in "Practical Agriculture," pages 103-107.

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS.
 How are apples propagated?
 What are the differences between the crab apple and the common apple?
 What are the merits and demerits of Russian apples?
 Name the Russian apples commonly grown in this state.
 What is hybridization and how would you hybridize apples?
 Discuss the age at which different varieties of apples come into bearing.
 Make out a list of apples growing in a particular neighborhood.
 What is the formula for bordeaux mixture?
 What pests infest apple orchards?
 How is each treated?
 What purposes do cover crops serve?

Uniform County Programme.
 At the last session of the Jefferson county (N. Y.) Pomona grange it was voted to have a uniform programme for all the subordinate granges in the county. The idea prevailed that it would tend to draw the subordinate and Pomona or county granges closer together and systematize the work of instruction in the county. This is certainly an advance step, and yet is in the nature of an experiment. The plan is, however, not compulsory. If a subordinate grange prefers to arrange its own programme it may do so.

Once Had 2,200 Granges.
 Look at the state of Iowa. Once it had almost 2,200 subordinate granges. On the ground that all persons interested in agriculture were eligible to membership it commenced to take in lawyers and all other classes and professions. What was the result? Today it is one vast cemetery of dead and buried granges.—Obadiah Gardner.

We have an idea that if the Ceres, Flora and Pomona of state granges would propose uniform programmes for the observance of their special days in subordinate granges something would be accomplished that would fill a long felt want.

Lewis Smith, past gatekeeper of the Illinois state grange, died not long ago. He had served continuously as gatekeeper for twenty-one years. We do not believe this record is equaled by any one in that position in any state in the Union.

The grange arouses a social feeling among farmers by providing stated intervals for their meeting together, by holding the same principles, by striving for the same objects and by recognizing the same teachings.

Grange education has made its members better farmers. They know more of soils and fertilizers, of improved stock and cattle foods, of diseases of animals, trees, plants, etc., of markets at home and abroad.

THE GRANGE

Conducted by
J. W. DARROW, Chatham, N. Y.
 Press Correspondent, New York State Grange

GRANGE GOOD ROADS BILL.

Wherein It Differs From the Brownlow Measure Before Congress.

Notwithstanding a good many subordinate granges have adopted resolutions approving of the Brownlow good roads bill it is only reasonable to assume that many have done so without understanding its details fully. The legislative committee of the national grange not long ago met in Washington and went over this bill carefully and also certain others bearing on farmers' interests and discovered there in some features that the grange could not afford to approve; consequently they have had drafted and introduced in congress what is known as the grange good roads bill. Some of the marked differences between the two are outlined below:

The Brownlow bill provides for twenty-two members of the bureau and necessary assistants, on a total salary and expense roll of \$75,000, as compared with only three commissioners provided by the grange bill on a total salary of \$5,000 and necessary assistants, their salary and the expense total not stipulated, but left to the discretion of the bureau and the secretary of agriculture. The grange bill does not, as the Brownlow bill does, prohibit the use of funds for road building in municipalities of 15,000 or more people. This is also left to the bureau and secretary. Both bills leave to these authorities the decision as to the necessity for the highways applied for. The main point of difference between the grange and the Brownlow bills is that the grange bill provides that the applications must come from the states or territories through proper public road officials, while the Brownlow bill would allow any civil subdivision of a state to ask for aid if the governor does not ask for it. This might place the township or county over the state in some cases and thus give only a local importance to road building enterprises. Under the grange bill this objection is eliminated and the state must help in the undertaking.

Subordinate granges hereafter, in passing resolutions relative to roads, will do well to distinguish between the Brownlow and the grange good roads bill. The latter is one they can approve beyond a doubt. One feature of the bill which we consider decidedly better for the farmers' interests is that the secretary of agriculture is really made the chief executive officer of the road commission that the bill calls for; indeed he has almost supreme control. Knowing Secretary Wilson as most members of the Order do, by reputation at least, as being most heartily in sympathy with the farmers and working for them in every possible way, they can feel safe in trusting to him and the commission over which he would preside to carry out the provisions of the bill.

A Suggestion For Pomona Grange Masters.

We do not know that it is the custom generally for masters of Pomona granges to make annual addresses at the last meeting of the Pomona in the year, but we think it is a good idea. This is done in the national and state granges, and the masters are thus enabled to give concise statements of the work accomplished through the year, with outlines and suggestions for the year to come. This is quite as essential in the Pomona grange as in the state grange. A concise statement of the work of the Order in the county is beneficial not only to the grange assembled, but, if published in the local papers, enables those not members of the grange to see at a glance what the Order is attempting to do in the county. We commend the suggestion to the consideration of Pomona masters throughout the country.

DISTRICT DEPUTY SYSTEM.

Some Facts Relative to This Important Feature of Grange Work.

From an able report presented at the last meeting of the New York state grange on the above subject we make liberal extracts.

The district deputy system is in operation in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine and Michigan. In New Hampshire and Massachusetts the district system has been in use for several years and has proved its great value in promoting the growth and welfare of the grange. Its establishment in Michigan and Maine is more recent, but the results are very satisfactory.

New Hampshire has a general deputy, two Pomona deputies, four special deputies and thirty-three district deputies, each of the latter with eight subordinate granges in charge. The system has been in use twenty years. Each subordinate grange is visited twice each year by the district deputy and instructed in grange work. A detailed report of each inspection, for which printed blanks are furnished, is made to the general deputy, in which the efficiency of the degree work and literary work of the grange is recorded by the deputy on the scale of 100. The Pomona deputies also make similar inspections of the Pomona granges and report to the general deputy.

The state grange offers annual prizes to the Pomona and subordinate granges for excellence in literary work. A series of competitive programmes is arranged

whereby the subordinate granges in each deputy district compete in pairs, each grange being represented by two members at alternate meetings. The district deputy scores the work. Prizes are also offered for degree work in both Pomona and subordinate districts. The deputies are paid \$2 for each of the two visits they make annually to each grange, they paying their own expenses. The state grange pays the deputies' actual expenses for attendance at two general conferences, one day in January and one in October, for instruction.

Master Ladd says of the deputy system in Massachusetts: "I consider our deputy work as a very essential part of our grange work. We have one general deputy, three Pomona deputies and twenty state deputies, who have the entire charge of the secret work. My deputies have the work very nearly letter perfect, but we meet once a year for drill, etc. Each deputy is assigned eight or ten subordinate granges to inspect, the state master making the assignments. The principal feature of the system is having the deputies and state master know the secret work alike. We used to have, years ago, more or less friction because no two in the state could give the work alike. You would indeed be surprised to note the improvement of the work of granges since we have begun to be thorough in our unwritten work. At our state session I have four of the deputies give the secret work by degrees."

Master Horton says of the deputy system as organized in Michigan: "We have had such a large growth of granges and members during the past few years that a new department has been created which is entirely free and independent from the organizing part of our work. This new department is called a supervising or supporting department. The state is divided into thirteen districts and a visiting deputy is selected for each, and the whole is under the charge of one general deputy. These district officers are to visit all of the granges, giving necessary attention to the weaker ones as different cases may require."

Master Gardner of Maine in speaking of the deputy system says: "The state deputy system is in force in our state now, and every deputy acts directly under orders from the master, with a sufficient number to thoroughly compass the state. We got the very best results we ever had under this system, for the master knows where each deputy is at work and where and what the results are, thus keeping his hand on the lever at all times."

There are some points to be gained from the study of the district deputy system, the principal features being the higher attainment reached in degree work and the greater uniformity of the unwritten work. This is largely brought about by the semiannual state conferences of the deputies, which are devoted to the interchange of ideas and drill in the unwritten work, at which the deputies' actual expenses are paid by the state grange.

Co-operation Fundamental.

Co-operation is a fundamental grange principle, says Worthy Master Gaunt of New Jersey. Patrons believe in meeting, talking, buying and selling together and in general working together for mutual protection and advancement. To do this successfully members must understand and have confidence in each other. Circumstances must determine to what extent and in what ways this principle can best be put in practice. It has been thoroughly demonstrated in our state what can be accomplished by co-operative effort. There is a grange fire insurance, now twenty-three years old, which has been the cheapest, best and safest in the state.

National Lecturer N. J. Bachelier made the statement in his annual report to the national grange that every grange in his state conferred degrees without using the manual.

A Progressive Grange.

Stockholm Depot (N. Y.) grange is doing good work. It has a well organized literary programme for the year. It has a membership of 200, owns a building lot and has \$340 in the treasury. At a recent meeting it was unanimously voted to unite with other organizations of the county to form a county dairymen's association.

The Kansas state grange reports show that the balance in the treasury is greater than at any time during the last twenty-five years. At the last meeting, held at Arkansas City, Hon. E. W. Westgate was re-elected master of the grange.

There is nothing that will add more to the attractiveness of the grange than good music, and every grange should make it a matter of first importance to secure a good choir to lead in the singing.

New York state has, approximately, 60,000 members of the Order; Michigan second on the list, with nearly 44,000, and Maine third, with over 42,000.

Michigan state grange will have headquarters at the next state fair where meetings can be held.