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### THE GRANGE

Conducted by  
J. W. DARRROW, Chairman, N. Y.  
Press Correspondent New York State  
Grange

#### THE GOOD ROADS QUESTION

Secretary Wilson Addresses the Good Roads Convention at St. Louis. Among the speakers who appeared before the good roads convention at St. Louis recently were Governor Bachelder of New Hampshire, who is lecturer of the national grange, and Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson of Washington, who is also a member of the Order. Governor Bachelder spoke of the great need of good roads and of their importance to the farmers. He discussed the best methods of improving roads and also how to interest the people in the subject. Secretary Wilson, who came on specially for the occasion, said, among other things, that roadmaking had not improved very materially since Macadam applied broken rock, and it has come to be a question of economic importance to the American people. Continuing, he said:

We have established within the department at Washington an office for the study of road material. We are calling upon young men who have graduated in engineering institutions to take practical work with us, so that we may be able to supply the demands coming from all parts of the country for men skilled in road-making.

Our laboratory is designed to assist each locality in determining the use of materials it may happen to possess. Few of our towns and cities have facilities for road building in the past due to the use of materials unsuited to the conditions of climate and traffic.

The work of the department of agriculture along the line of road building is intended to be educational and experimental, as it is along other lines in which it is engaged. I am well satisfied that the condition of the public roads at the present time is a correct indication of the amount of educational work that has been done along the line of road building. If what the department is endeavoring to do now with regard to helping to build object lesson roads (which has been done in half the states in the Union) and the study of road material for the information of the people had been done when our government was organized the people would have understood how to build roads long before this time—would have understood the values of the materials in all parts of the United States. And I am well satisfied also that when the several states and territories with regard to the science of road building there will be no hesitation in levying taxes to carry on the work.

Each section of our country has problems peculiar to itself, and, to the end that all should have consideration, the department of agriculture has a science agent in each of our great subdivisions, bringing them into touch with the laboratory at Washington.

The question will be with us always, and roadmaking will be cheapened as research adds to our knowledge of materials. The understanding of roadmaking will grow as related sciences are developed.

#### The Three Graces.

He must have been divinely inspired who conceived the idea of the three graces—Ceres, Pomona and Flora—presiding at each meeting of the grange. The glamour of mythology that envelops them, the mystical observances with which the most cultured of all people encompassed them, lend them a dignity and charm seldom equaled and rarely surpassed. The worship of Ceres "under the name of

the Eleusinian mysteries, in the splendor and solemnity of their observance, surpassed all other religious celebrations among the Greeks." While this is belittling the goddess who presided over the fields and bid them yield or withhold their increase, the ceremonies attending the worship of Pomona and Flora, while less splendid, were none the less sincere. To the highly poetic mind of the Greek each phenomenon of nature was symbolized by a deity or hero. To the more practical American the graces typify plentifulness, beneficence, beauty.—Mary E. Lee.

#### A Means, Not an End.

The grange is a means, not an end. It has no merit only as it accomplishes something. A machine is useless unless it works. The grange organization, or machine, is valueless except it works up better results for the farmer. In the early days thousands flocked to the grange, expecting to get rich through it in a few months; others thought the angel that guards the farmers' welfare would with one stroke sweep away all wrong and injustice. So today some people expect too much of the grange, expecting that the best work of all organizations takes time to ripen. The ripe fruits of educational work cannot be gathered in a day. Social culture, mental growth, moral force, the power that comes from co-operation, are not "Jack's bean stalks," to spring up in a night. It takes time for a grange to do its best, and many of its finest results are never seen in outward ways.—Mrs. Sarah G. Baird, Master Minnesota State Grange.

#### The Pomona Grange.

The work of the Pomona grange should be to look carefully after the interest of the subordinates within its jurisdiction, to see that no death or dormancy be allowed a lodging place, to have a live, active committee in the field to keep in close touch with the membership and be ever vigilant in planting granges in unorganized territory. The Pomona grange should attend to the business interests of the members.

The grange is formed upon the principles of fraternity, and its aim is to advance the interests of husbandry by increasing the intelligence of the farmer.

Worthy Master Horton of the Michigan state grange has withdrawn from the legislative committee on account of his prospective candidacy for governor.

President Smith of the Mormon church has been defending the mother-in-law. This would indicate that she is not so bad bunched as when taken singly.

When a man goes to hunt bear and does not turn up again, it is a reasonable supposition that he found the bear.

An invention has been made to give a man treadmill exercise. Hardly necessary. Put him on a newspaper.

There will never be a collar button trust, for the reason that the average collar button cannot be cornered.

#### Clever Detective Work.

A distinguished surgeon, who was also a detective in embryo, was called to perform an operation upon a man who had been shot by an unknown assassin. The position of the man and the mystery of the shooting rendered the case notorious. The man was unconscious at the time of the operation, and nothing could be obtained from him. When the doctor examined the wound, he said to his assistant:

"A pistol has been fired at him by a person who is left handed."

While he was explaining the reasons for his conclusion Mr. X's partner, a Mr. Y, entered the room. Something about his manner attracted the attention of the eminent surgeon, and he whispered to his colleague:

"If that man were left handed, I should at once suspect him of the crime."

The next instant he turned to X, and said:

"Will you kindly hand me that lint?" X did so, using his left hand. The man died. X was accused of the murder and upon being tried and condemned confessed his guilt.

#### Enforced Church Attendance.

In the reign of Edward VI. an act was passed which provided that every one "shall diligently and faithfully, having no lawful or reasonable excuse to be absent, endeavor themselves to their parish church or chapel accustomed, or, upon reasonable let, to some usual place where common prayer shall be used—on Sundays and holidays—upon penalty of forfeiting for every nonattendance 12 pence, to be levied by the church wardens to the use of the poor." As the years rolled on, however, the penalties for nonattendance became more and more severe, until in Elizabeth's reign such harsh legislation as the following was passed: "All persons who do not go to church or chapel or other places where common prayer is said according to the act of uniformity shall forfeit £20 per month to the queen, being thereof lawfully convicted, and suffer imprisonment until paid."

#### An Eastern Tale.

"In many cases," says Sir John Lubbock, "religious differences are mainly verbal. There is an eastern tale of four men—an Arab, a Persian, a Turk and a Greek—who agreed to club together for an evening meal, but when they had done so they quarreled as to what it should be. The Turk proposed azum, the Arab aneb, the Persian anghur, while the Greek insisted on staphyllon. While they were disputing—

"Before their eyes did pass, Laden with grapes, a gardener's ass, Sprang to his feet each man and showed, With eager hand, that purple load. 'See azum,' said that Turk, 'And see Better!' 'Nay, aneb,' aneb 'tis,' The Arab cried. The Greek said, 'This is my staphyllon.' Then they bought Their grapes in peace, Hence, be ye taught."

#### The Tibetan Bible.

The Kahgur, or Tibetan bible, consists of 108 volumes of 1,000 pages each, containing 1,083 separate books. Each of the volumes weighs ten pounds and forms a package twenty-six inches long, eight inches broad and eight inches deep. This bible requires a dozen yaks for its transport, and the carved wooden blocks from which it

is printed need rows of houses, like a city, for their storage. A tribe of Mongols paid 7,000 oxen for a copy of this bible. In addition to the bible there are 225 volumes of commentaries, which are necessary for its understanding. There is also a large collection of revelations which supplement the bible.

#### To Preserve Cat Carnations.

To prevent that premature bursting of the calyx which so often injures the appearance of several varieties of carnations, especially the cut blooms, turn down the calyx of each blossom and slip beneath it close to the base of the sepals and quite out of sight a tiny collar of soft silk or cotton thread. Tie and cut off the ends of the thread, then turn the calyx back to its natural position, smoothing it carefully over the thread collar, and the flower will retain its perfect shape until it fades and dies.—Ladies' Home Journal.

#### When Honeymoons End.

The late Mrs. John Ridgway of Paris was noted for her ready wit. At one of her receptions apropos of marriage Guy de Maupassant said:

"The honeymoon ends when the wife first asks the husband for money."

"No," Mrs. Ridgway retorted. "It ends when the husband ceases to ask the wife how much he can have the pleasure of giving her."

#### Strengthened His Suspicion.

Hugh Miller in "My Schools and Schoolmasters" tells us that while he was making his first after dinner speech he began to suspect that he was making a failure of it. This suspicion was strengthened when he took his seat, for the band at once began to play "A Man's a Man for A' That."

#### Attractive.

"Yes, his painting attracts a great many people."

"Great artist, eh?"

"No; just a house painter. He puts out a sign, 'Fresh Paint,' and every one touches it to see if it's dry."

#### Truth and Fiction.

Kwoter—After all, "truth is stranger than fiction," you know. Newitt—it may be stranger, but it isn't as successful. You never heard of truth going into "its twentieth edition in six months."—Philadelphia Press.

#### Easily Accommodated.

She—Have you a copy of Prometheus Bound? He—No, ma'am, but we can get it for you bound any way you like.—Minneapolis Tribune.

#### "Tattletale" Boys.

Both teachers and parents should discourage tattling among children. The practice is bad enough among girls, but is contemptible among boys. A boy who tells tales on others will doubtless be properly castigated by the courts of juvenile justice which convene in alleys and back lots, but he should not have the satisfaction of feeling that his punishment is in the nature of martyrdom nor should he be made a favorite with his teacher for doing that which most boys instinctively detest. Boys have always been educated to regard tattling as cowardice. This code of ethics has developed some pretty good men. It is good enough for the present generation of schoolboys.—Chicago Tribune.

#### Cats in a Bombardment.

A lady who was in Port Arthur during the bombardments by Admiral Togo's fleet thus describes the curious effect produced on cats by the cannonade: "I was at my window during each bombardment by the Japs, but only through the day, because at night I did not dare stir out of bed. In front of me there was a little roof on which five or six cats of the neighborhood collected. Each time there was a bombardment the cats duly arrived, and, having observed them, I on the second occasion proceeded to watch them. With my family we passed the hours looking at them. At each gunshot the cats arched their backs and stiffened their legs and seemed both terrified and furious. Then when a hissing shell arrived it gave the signal for a frightful battle. They jumped at each other, raging like tigers, and seemed to hold each other responsible for what was taking place. The effect was so comical that we could not help laughing, although the occasion did not inspire gaiety. After having fought the cats retired for awhile, as though bewildered, but as soon as the bombardment began again they went through the same business. Each time it was always the same."

#### Left on the Cobbler's Hands.

Pointing to a row of dusty shoes on a shelf, the customer asked the cobbler: "How in the world did you collect all those shoes? Do you mean to say that people leave their shoes for repairs and then never come after them?" "Just that," replied the cobbler. "Sometimes after they have left their shoes they come to the conclusion that they'd rather spend a little more money and get a new pair overnight. Then again if they have a lot of shoes they don't miss the pair they've left in here, and they forget all about them. It's generally men who do that sort of thing, though. A woman seems to be more provident."

"No; the work on them is not a dead loss to me, for after keeping them a year I generally offer them for sale at a price in advance of the value of my work on them. Sometimes I reap quite a little money from my sale of deserted shoes, and many a poor person gets a slick shoe for about a third less than its worth."—New York Press.

#### A Good Samaritan.

A southern writer tells this story of a negro preacher's version of the parable of the good Samaritan: There was a traveler on a lonely road, said the preacher, who was set upon by thieves, robbed and left wounded and helpless by the wayside. As he lay there various persons passed him, but none offered to assist him. Presently, however, a poor Samaritan came by and, taking pity on the wounded man's plight, helped him on his mule and took him to an inn, where he ordered food and drink and raiment for the man, directing the innkeeper to send the bill to him. "And dis am a true story, brethren," concluded the preacher, "for de inn am standin' dere yet, and in de do' way am standin' de skeleton ob de innkeeper, waitin' fer de good Samaritan to come back an' pay de bill."—Harper's Weekly.

#### Love Among the Spiders.

"A spider's love for her children is pretty strong," said a biologist. "Take her children away from her and she will remember them for twenty-four hours."

will remember them for twenty-four hours."

"How do you know?"

"I have often made the experiment. Always, at the end of ten, twelve, twenty hours, a spider mother welcomes back the young that you have removed from her. After a full day has passed, though, she forgets. Keep her little ones away from her a full day and they are strangers to her on their return. She is liable to eat them. "Her marital is stronger than her maternal love. Take her husband from her and she will mourn him faithfully for a day and a half."

#### Certified Checks.

When one wishes to use a personal check to pay a note due at some other bank, it may be necessary to get the check certified. This is done by an officer of the bank, who stamps across the face of the check the words "Certified" or "Good when properly indorsed" under his name. Banks will usually certify any check drawn upon them if the depositor has the amount in the bank, as the check is immediately charged against the account when certified. A check certified and not used should be deposited, lest one's account be overdrawn.—New Idea Magazine.

#### The Korean.

The Korean is omnivorous. Birds of the air, beasts of the field and fish from the sea—nothing comes amiss to his palate. Dog meat is in great request at certain seasons, pork and beef with the blood undrained from the carcass, fowls and game, birds cooked with the lights, giblets, head and claws intact, fish sun dried and highly malodorous—all are acceptable to him.

#### Myrrh.

When the myrrh first exudes from the tree it is of a yellowish, whitish, buttery consistency that gradually hardens and assumes a reddish, semi-transparent color. It is used principally as one of the components of incense, and the best quality of it comes from the Somali country and lower Abyssinia, near Harrar.

#### Patience.

Patience is the most important factor in making a success of life. No great work was ever accomplished without a wholesome amount of this attribute practiced by the achiever.

Here is something you never see mentioned by the writers on etiquette: Every person's social obligation begins at home.—Athenaeum Globe.

The New York state grange exhibit of cereals at the world's fair is a very attractive one. Mr. J. H. Durkee is in charge. Something over 300 farmers are represented by the exhibit, the grains being neatly arranged in glass cases, occupying one corner of the New York state exhibit in the hall of agriculture.

Westland grange, Ohio, exemplified the grange principle of charity in a practical way by hiring a trained nurse for the family of one of its members who had a scourge of typhoid fever.

There have been organized in New York state since Jan. 1 nineteen subordinate granges, one Pomona and one juvenile. Three dormant granges have been re-organized.