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Patton's Sun Proof Paint and White Lead, and a good line of Wall Paper will be in to supply the Spring and Summer demand.

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And by so doing save money, and live in peace and harmony with your neighbor. Agents Wanted. For full particulars, address

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McMINNVILLE, - - - - OREGON

THE GRANGE

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

NEW YORK STATE GRANGE.

Proceedings of the Thirty-first Annual Session at Cortland.

The thirty-first annual session of the New York state grange convened at the opera house in Cortland, N. Y., on Feb. 2, Hon. E. B. Norris, state master, presiding. Nearly the full delegation, numbering this year 170, was in attendance, and Patrons visiting brought the number up to fully 500.

On the first day the annual address of the state master was given. On the subject of good roads he said there is a strong and increasing demand for a better system of road building. While we do not believe in a wanton expenditure of money to secure good roads, we do believe that wise legislation, with a just and economical expenditure, will result in enhancing the value of farm land. The great work before the grange is to see that wise legislation is enacted, also a reasonable amount of money appropriated by our nation and state, not to build expensive boulevards, but to construct them with a view to practical uses.

He called the attention of the grange to the fact that a careful inspection should be given to all the tax bills introduced in the legislature, and an active opposition should be pursued against any bill that does not fairly represent the agricultural interests in equity with others. Good road legislation will be pressed for passage in the present legislature. The canal appropriation bill submitted to the people at the last election for the expenditure of \$101,000,000 was ratified by a large majority. Although the grange did not believe it wise or expedient to bond the state for this large amount of money to enlarge the Erie canal, yet the will of the majority should be recognized, he said, and it now remains for the grange to see that the money is judiciously, economically and honestly expended.

The extension during the past year of free rural mail delivery secured by the earnest work of the grange is proof of its increasing popularity. The legislative committee in its recent conference with the postmaster general was informed that the rural service would be pushed with renewed vigor during the year 1904 and that an appropriation of \$15,000,000 would be required to maintain the service during the fiscal year. As the farmers of this great nation get in closer touch with one another through the channels of organization and with the modern methods of transportation, better facilities for mail delivery must essentially follow. Our Order is assuming a prominent place in legislation and will soon take its position among the industrial interests of our country.

As we review the situation, the annual receipts from agriculture bewilder our vision. Notwithstanding the new and enormous markets within our own borders and the increase in the consuming power, without doubt the time will come sooner than we expect when production will be far beyond consumption. Busy as we American people are today, the inevitable struggle for commercial supremacy in the markets of the world for our surplus products will be increased or modified in proportion to our preparation to meet the problem.

The secretary submitted his report, from which we take the following facts:

The report of the secretary ends Oct. 1, 1903, and at that time there

were 567 active granges in the state, 42 of them having been organized the past year. The total membership is 58,172, a gain of 8,136 the last year. This is the actual membership, as every grange that has not reported within the year has been placed on the dormant list, and no dormant or unaffiliated members are reckoned in the grand total of 58,172. There are 39 Pomona or county granges, 6 having been organized the past year. The grange is now represented in 47 counties of the state. The total cash receipts of the secretary's office were \$18,269.77.

The report of the treasurer, P. A. Welling, showed the total receipts from the secretary, excluding a balance on hand Jan. 1, 1903, of \$13,159, to be \$17,903; accrued interest, \$290.04; total, \$31,352.36. Total disbursements for 1903 were \$15,940.12, showing a balance on hand Jan. 1, 1904, of \$15,412.24.

At the evening session an address of welcome was delivered by Judge Eggleston of Cortland, which was responded to by State Master Norris. Other speakers were Hon. George S. Ladd, master of Massachusetts state grange, and Professor L. H. Bailey Cornell university. Readings were given by Miss Zoe Welch and Miss Rogers, and music was furnished by a male quartet from Cortland.

Hon. E. B. Norris, Sodus, N. Y., was re-elected master for the fourth term.

The grange in Michigan is certainly awake to the importance of instruction in agricultural studies not only in the agricultural colleges and in the common schools, but also in the subordinate granges.

Co-operation in buying fertilizers and grass seed is one of the simplest and yet one of the most satisfactory forms co-operation can take among Patrons.

Mrs. J. H. L. Roe of Wolcott (N. Y.) grange has been its secretary for twenty-two years. She must be fairly familiar with her duties by this time.

Convict Power.

In one of the convict camps of New Caledonia timber is brought down from the hills to the sea by means of an odd railway. When Mr. George Griffith visited Prony on his tour of prison inspection, he was invited to enter the state car of this railway.

There was no engine, but fifteen blue clad figures, each with a halter and hook rope over his shoulder, came from one of the dormitories. A long chain was shackled to the front of the car. The human beasts of draft passed the halters over their heads and hooked to the chain, seven on each side and one ahead. At first the line was almost level, but when we got into the hills came the collar work, and our human cattle bent their necks and backs.

For very shame's sake we got off and walked whenever there was an excuse, and at last, to our infinite relief, the journey was over. In a distance of a little over four miles those straining, panting men had dragged us up 1,500 feet. It took an hour and three-quarters to do it.

A Branch of Etiquette.

In Holland a woman is a secondary consideration, and a poor consideration at that. No Dutch gentleman who walking on the sidewalk will move out of his way for a lady. The latter turns out invariably, however muddy or dangerous the street. Ladies very rarely make any requests of the lords of creation. An American woman asked a Holland gentleman at a party to bring her a certain book from a table. The bewildered stare with which he favored her convinced her that she had committed a conventional offense. He brought the book, but quietly informed her that a Hollander would never have asked such a favor.