

NATIONAL GRANGE PLEDGES SUPPORT TO WAR PROGRAM

Danger of Government Centralization Gets Frequent Warnings at Convention.

Winston-Salem, N. C. — Seldom has the National Grange held a more outstanding convention than its 78th annual session just closed here with every state represented. Much zest was added to the convention from the fact that every one of the 36 organized states showed a net membership gain for the past year, the increase being well distributed entirely across the continent; with every indication that the 1945 gain will be even greater.

Emphasized over and over again at the meeting was the danger of government centralization, with frequent warnings against the usurpation of state rights by the federal government. The people of America were warned against growing bureaucracy and rapidly mounting expenditures; and the National Grange did not hesitate to express fear of the consequences if debts are allowed to pile up for other than war-winning purposes.

The National Grange pledged its entire membership to complete support of all war-winning activities, and urged every one of its 8000 subordinate units to even increase their programs of the past year in the sale of stamps and bonds, conduct of salvage drives and similar undertakings, support of the Red Cross and generous donations to blood banks.

Endorsement of an effective international organization to insure world peace; establishment of a World Court with adequate enforcement powers; meeting war expenditures by continued taxation rather than heavier indebtedness; and a firm demand that the labor of the farmer shall produce income commensurate with that of other groups—were among the most vigorous pronouncements.

Below will be found in condensed form the Grange platform for agriculture, unanimously adopted by the convention, together with an itemized summary of the principal declarations both favored and opposed by the National Grange.

1. Organized agriculture and the rural people pledge continued maximum effort for winning the war.

2. The Grange recognizes that permanent world peace is of paramount importance. Steps to achieve this should include:

- (a) An effectively implemented organization of sovereign states, including a World Court, but with the right to declare war retained solely by congress.
- (b) Development of international trade on an equitable basis.
- (c) Rehabilitation of productive industry in devastated lands.

3. The continued prosperity of America depends upon an economy of plenty, shared equitably by agriculture, industry and labor. The American farmer is entitled to the American market to the extent of his ability to supply it, and he should share with other groups the American standard of living.

4. It is recognized that agriculture in wartime has stepped up production beyond normal demands for its products. The price ceiling structure has prevented building reserves to tide over price declines, and it is therefore a national obligation to avert losses which lead to widespread depression, by a realistic program for meeting the surplus problem.

5. Support prices should be used to insure needed production and to prevent collapse due to temporarily glutted markets. Marketing agreements should also be used to maintain parity prices for those crops having occasional or regional surpluses.

6. On crops with exportable surpluses a two-price system of

fers a simple method to obtain parity of income for agriculture without using funds from the public treasury; the consumer to pay a price which would reflect parity on that portion of the crop consumed at home. Each farmer would then be free to determine the extent to which he would produce for the world market at world prices.

7. The obsolete parity formula by which farmers' prices are measured should be modernized and such formula should include farmers' labor costs.

8. Taxes must be maintained at high levels during the war to help pay war costs from current revenues and to aid in preventing inflation. Taxes should never be used as a means of promoting social reforms or for discrimination against any form of business, including cooperatives.

9. Continuance of certain controls to prevent inflation is recognized as necessary, but these should be relaxed as rapidly as conditions will permit.

10. Cooperatives afford the means by which individual farmers in the exercise of private enterprise may pool their efforts for economy and efficiency, and such cooperatives are of benefit to farmer and consumer alike. Cooperatives should be encouraged and protected from attacks, including unfair taxes and unjust discriminatory legislation.

11. A dependable system of sound farm credit should be administered cooperatively, with government supervision in the hands of a bi-partisan board. Crop insurance should be developed on a practical basis.

12. Agriculture must assume its responsibility in planning for the postwar period, in cooperation with labor, industry and other groups, for coordinated national economy and to assure well-balanced and lasting prosperity.

The National Grange favors: Federal aid for highways, apportioned to the states on the basis of one-third population, one-third post roads and one-third main roads.

Improvement of rural schools wherever they are below reasonable American standards, coupled with development of youth leadership training.

Extension of social security to include farmers and farm workers.

Continuance of a congressional committee to investigate un-American activities.

Termination of rebates on government shipping over land-railroads.

Conferences between agriculture, industry and labor for discussion of common problems, in the interests of national welfare.

Extension of rural electrification as rapidly as practicable, with continued support of the REA.

Revision of the Lend-Lease act to prevent its use for non-war purposes.

An amendment to the Constitution of the United States to divide the electoral vote within the states as nearly as possible in line with the popular vote.

Continuation of appropriations to help alleviate farm labor shortage.

A constitutional amendment to forbid citizenship to children of persons ineligible for citizenship.

Simplification of income tax return forms.

Assurance that all projects involving irrigation, reclamation and development of power be administered by the bureau of reclamation.

Development of voluntary rural health and hospitalization programs.

Elimination of abuses in manipulation of prices and weights in marketing of hogs or other products.

Modification of International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to give those who furnish the most capital greater control; also elimination of international monetary fund because better handled by the bank itself.

Making available, under royalty or otherwise, the use of any patents which have been withheld from the market against the public interest.

Establishing congressional agencies to provide congress with accurate information on current expenditures, disposal of government properties and similar matters.

Appropriations to pay expenses of OPA advisory committees so that no group may be barred from participating because of lack of funds.

Vocational training for youth and returning veterans.

Encouragement for credit unions, with wider distribution

Saved by Pillow



(Acme Telephoto) Mayor Hartley Knox of San Diego, Calif., shows how he held a pillow to his face when the TWA airliner in which he was riding crashed near Lockheed Air Terminal, Burbank, Calif., killing seven, injuring 16. Knox, least seriously hurt of the survivors, suffered cuts about his face but person in seat next to him was killed.

of literature explaining their purposes and possibilities.

Agricultural representation in all agencies authorized to make trade agreements.

The right of congress to revoke any trade agreement within a reasonable length of time after its adoption.

Establishment by local Granges of memorial forests in honor of service men.

The National Grange opposes: Continuation of interstate trade barriers.

Subsidies in lieu of fair prices. Continuation of daylight saving time.

Federal control of insurance. Attempts to bottle up the sale of public power.

Automobile use taxes and federal gasoline taxes, as an invasion of the rights of states.

Freight rate increases by the railroads.

Trend toward immoral motion pictures and literature.

A federal sales tax.

Sales of intoxicating liquors in public parks.

Restrictions on cooperative farm enterprises through taxation or otherwise.

Spread of corporation farming as a threat to the family-sized farm and to highest rural interests.

The annual conferring of the Seventh Degree—highest in Grange ritualism—drew a class of nearly 1300 candidates. It was voted to hold the 1945 session in the state of Kansas, with Kansas City the probable loca-

tion; in which event the state Granges of Kansas and Missouri will unite as joint hosts.

Daily Weather Report

Forecast: Medford and vicinity: Continued clear with warm afternoons and freezing temperatures at night.

Oregon: Clear today, tonight and Thursday with local morning fogs in valleys west of Cascades and little change in temperature.

Local Data: Temperature a year ago today: Highest 48; lowest 21 degrees.

Total monthly precipitation 10 inches. Deficiency for the month 99 inches.

Total precipitation since September 1, 1944, 5.59 inches. Excess for the season .69 inches.

Relative humidity at 4:30 p. m. 27%; 4:30 today 63%.

Tomorrow: Sunrise 8:31 a. m.; sunset 5:40 p. m.

Boise 33 15
Boston 46 29 01
Chicago 14 01
Denver 48 22
Eureka 70 43
Havre 41 27
Los Angeles 77 44
Medford 62 30
New York 46 32
Omaha 28 20
Phoenix 68 31
Portland 47 40
Reno 49 12
Roseburg 35 30
Salt Lake 36 15
San Francisco 67 41
Seattle 32 27
Spokane 36 17
Washington, D. C. 38 31
Yakima 34 19

Closing time for Sunday Too Late to classify 5:30 Saturday afternoon—Please remember.

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NATION FIRST TO KNOW ATTACK BY NEXT AGGRESSION

NAZI PRISONERS BALK, PENALIZED

Chicago, Dec. 13.—(U.P.)—Joseph C. Grew, former U. S. ambassador to Japan whose nomination to be new undersecretary of state is now under senate consideration, warned today the next aggressor who tries to conquer the world will seek to crush the United States first.

Twice in one generation, he said, the United States has shown the world that its war power potential is greater than any other country's—if given time to mobilize it. Thus a future aggressor's first goal must be to "crush us and not give us what we have always needed in other emergencies—time."

Grew spoke on the Dumbarton Oaks proposals for a world security organization at a luncheon sponsored by the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations and by the Chicago Association of Commerce. It was broadcast (CBS).

Grew said all previous plans for keeping the peace, including the League of Nations, failed because they were superficial—"they were like poultices applied for cancer."

This time, he suggested, world peace machinery must be geared to diagnose international ill health anywhere in the world long before it threatens a part or all of the world. He said the Dumbarton Oaks plan was designed for such a purpose.

NAZI PRISONERS BALK, PENALIZED

Fort Sheridan, Ill., Dec. 13.—(U.P.)—Several hundred German prisoners of war who refused to work were served bread and water only again today and seemed determined to go through the Christmas season on that fare.

The prisoners refused to report for work yesterday because one of the leaders did not like tasks assigned to him. They were

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told to work or go on a bread and water diet for 14 days which will carry them to December 26, the day after Christmas.

Each prisoner is given 18 ounces of bread per day, being fed three times daily. They may have all the water they want. In addition the prisoners were confined to quarters during the penalty period.

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