

LARGEST FARMERS' MEETING

PROPOSES CHANGES IN THE TEXT BOOKS

Members Judge Boise—Also Declare They Will Stand for No Technicalities

The largest farmers' meeting held in this valley in many a day took place Saturday at the grange hall, miles south of Jefferson in Linn county, where the Linn county council held an all day session.

A splendid picnic dinner was served at noon and there was abundance of good things for all the visitors.

Morning Star Grange.

It was started with the largest membership in Oregon on January 18, 1902. The present membership is W. A. Buckner, the grange Saturday was a county council. D. H. Bodine is President of the council; John Scott vice-president; May Palmer, secretary; Bert Palmer, treasurer; M. F. Wood, lecturer; and Cyrus H. Walker is Chaplain. The gate-keeper is F. D. Corbett. These county councils are held a month and differ from the normal grange in not conferring degrees, and concentrating attention upon practical subjects that pertain to farming and county matters.

Other officers of the Morning Star grange are: C. Houston, over-seer; Clarence Radford, steward; Bert Palmer, lecturer; Tom Farlow, assistant steward; F. M. Miller, treasurer; Mrs. C. C. Stratton, secretary; Clyde Meeker, gate keeper; E. Meeker, Pomona; Mrs. C. C. Wood, Flora; Ceres, Mrs. E. Meeker. They have a fine grange hall a north of Millersburg station. There were delegates present from all parts of Linn county.

Textbook Question.

Mr. Mitchell spoke on the subject of textbooks. He favored leaving it to the grange itself. County Superintendent Jackson also spoke. The best class of books should be secured. The grange was a body of representative citizens and was best to judge. He had been cannyed by textbook men and the common had sent out letters to get information as to what changes were necessary. Would the cost of any book be commensurate with the benefits derived? Mrs. Stratton of the education committee also spoke of school reforms. The natural, mental and physical must be developed together to get the best results. Mr. Wood opposed frequent changes on the ground of expense. There was a general expression of opinion among members in this same line of thought, and the grange as a whole is opposed to any material change of textbooks that is not universally demanded.

A grange excursion to Newport was set for Wednesday, June 19. There are to be at least 150 at \$1.50 for the round trip.

In the afternoon there was a short program under the control of the lecturer. There were a large number of farmers present at the session in the afternoon. Eugene Palmer read a resolution proposing against throwing out the referendum petitions on purely technical grounds. It condemned the actions as an invasion by state officials of the constitutional rights of the people.

He told how U'Ren and a university professor objected to the resolution and favored throwing it out on purely technical grounds. On vote of the state grange, which was attended by about 700 members, only 10 members but endorsed the resolution. Following resolutions were passed:

The Referendum.

Resolved, by Linn County Council in session assembled this day, 1907, that we express the thanks of the granges here represented to the committee and all workers and friends who have helped secure the people the right to take a referendum vote on extravagant and wasteful acts of the legislature. Resolved, that we regard the referendum vote on such measures as guaranteed us by the constitution, and attempts to defeat taking such measures of the people on purely technical grounds is an invasion of our fundamental law.

Memory of Judge Boise.

Whereas, the Supreme Architect of the universe has called from our midst our honored patron, Judge H. Boise, to his home in Heaven,

Resolved, That in the death of R. P. Boise the Linn County Council, Patrons of Husbandry has lost one of its most active and earnest friends; in fact the honored leader of the Patrons of Husbandry of Oregon.

Judge Boise was cradled in the principals of liberty, and carried with him to the close of his days an abiding love for humanity.

His interest in public affairs did not wither with age, and notwithstanding his length of years he was always active in the advocacy of measures which tended to benefit the Grange, the tiller of the soil, and the toiling masses. He was repeatedly honored by the people, not only as Judge of the Third Judicial district of Oregon, but by our beloved order. He was ever the most affable and courteous of men.

Resolved that the Linn County Council will ever hold in loving remembrance his wise counsel and his untiring efforts to build up the grange in Oregon and the Union.

Resolved that a copy of these resolutions be mailed by our secretary to the family of our departed brother, and that the secretary furnish copies to the press, and enter these resolutions in the grange records.

STATE GRANGE REPORTS

Some of the Proceedings Had at Hood River

(Following report is copied from the Sunday Oregonian, and readers of the Capital Journal are warned to accept same merely as information, not as an actual truthful report. Members of the grange should rely upon their own delegates to report.)

(From the Oregonian.)

W. S. U'Ren, father of the initiative and referendum, arrived here Friday night to defend the new amendments to the law passed by the last legislature. He complained that the assertion had been made in the State Grange Bulletin that the amendments were too costly and impracticable to be of benefit, a statement which touched him in a tender spot. By request, he was allowed to make explanation before the Grange and answered numerous questions.

The principal complaint of the Grange is that Mr. U'Ren did not consult its officers before making the changes. He admitted that he should have done this, but excused himself by saying he had done nothing in secret.

It was asserted that Thomas Paulsen, of the executive committee of the Grange, had made the charge that there was an attempt to deprive the people of their rights in the workings of the law. Mr. U'Ren's statements shed considerable light upon the hitherto obscure points, and was taken in good part by those of the Grange who had complained of being gold-bricked.

Mr. U'Ren said the bill was prepared by Judge T. A. McBride and himself, and after that U'Ren employed counsel to assist in perfecting the details of the law.

Mr. Paulsen made no attempt to justify or explain his charge.

Mr. U'Ren stated the charges to be: First, that the ballot title of every measure must be made by the Attorney General, subject to appeal to the courts; the reason for this change is that this power was abused by the use of misleading ballot titles prepared by the persons filing such petitions.

Second, a copy of every measure proposed by initiative or referendum petitions must be printed and mailed by the state to every voter, all measures to be bound in one pamphlet with such arguments for and against each measure as may be furnished by its friends and enemies at their own expense. The reason for this is that under the old law the county clerks did not, and, in practice,

could not, distribute the measures and arguments thereon to each voter.

The reason for requiring copies of bills to be detached from sheets of signatures in the presence of the persons filing the same, is to avoid any ground for charges that petitions or signatures have been lost in the office of the Secretary of State.

The method of proving signatures by county clerks' certificates was changed so that the circulator should make an affidavit on each sheet as to the signatures thereon.

The warning clause was made a part of the petitions because complaint had been made, especially by those who circulated the initiative petition for woman suffrage that some men signed fictitious names to such petitions.

The new law does not increase the expense of circulating and filing initiative and referendum petitions, but it does increase the cost of election on such measures by the amount it costs the state to mail copies.

Mr. U'Ren estimated the total cost to the state of voting on measures at a regular election at from \$12,000 to \$15,000, an increase of from \$5,000 to \$7,000 at each general election.

The new law makes no change in the provision as to attaching several sheets for signatures to one copy of an initiative or referendum petition.

Public Measures Favored.

Among the measures affecting the public welfare the grange goes on record as favoring a law which will place the inheritance tax in the common school fund. A resolution reaffirming demands for a parcels post was adopted. Another resolution favored employment of convict labor on public highways.

A resolution from Lents grange, favored by Rev. Hiram Vrooman, favoring a special grange tax commission, to study laws and methods of other states, said commission being empowered to draft equality laws, all at the expense of the State Grange, was defeated after a sharp debate. The Grange opposed new laws on taxation, insisting that enforcement of existing laws was all that is needed. As a compromise, however, the appointment of a committee of five was decided upon to look into the question and report at next session.

The executive committee was instructed to examine the laws passed by the last legislature, and, if necessary, bring matters opposed by the grange to notice of the next legislature with request for amendments or appeal.

The grange reaffirmed its opposition to the Tuttle and Johnson road laws and authorized the state master to draft a road law requiring the state to pay 50 per cent of road improvements, the counties 25 per cent and road districts 15 per cent. The bill is to be introduced in the next legislature and its passage requested. The state lecturer's suggestion of county trolley lines was endorsed.

Senator Bourne and Representative Hawley were endorsed in their efforts to secure justice to the settlers in the matter of the Southern Pacific land grants, extending from Portland to Marysville, and demand is made that railroad land be sold to settlers for \$2.50 per acre.

A resolution was adopted thanking the last legislature for passing the bill giving women equal rights with men over community property.

It was resolved that the acceptance of fees by state officers was illegal and action to recover was demanded.

State University Referendum.

The grange council of Linn county headed by H. E. Palmer, succeeded in securing enough names to a petition, which has been filed with the secretary of state, to hold up the appropriation of \$125,000 for the State University. Other granges throughout the state had refused assistance and it was said an endeavor would be made to have the state grange endorse the action of the Linn county grange. The subject as introduced was a surprise, and the state grange is on record as favoring the hold-up, although in justice to many of the delegates, it may be said that they did not know what they were doing. The resolution referred to reads as follows:

Whereas, it has been intimated by some of our state officials that they intend to disallow the filing of referendum petitions which have been signed by several thousand more legal voters than the law requires; and,

Whereas, Their reasons for so doing are purely technical, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Oregon State Grange, in regular session assembled that refusal to file referendum petitions on purely technical grounds is to be interpreted as a deliberate act to defeat the usefulness of our referendum laws and to thwart the will of the people, and that it is to

be considered a moral crime against which we register our most solemn protest.

This resolution precipitated a hot debate, the first speaker being W. S. U'Ren, who said he would advise the secretary of state to refuse the filing of such petitions. He said that Attorney-General Crawford did not think the grounds for refusal were technical, but that the petitions did not comply with the law. E. H. Palmer said that all bills contained defects, and that many would be thrown out absolutely if such a precedent was established. He said the case warranted an expression from the state grange, as all such referendum petitions authorized by that body might suffer the same fate at the hands of the secretary of state.

Rev. Hiram Voorman, who introduced the resolution, defended the same, as did several others, and the grange adopted the resolution by an almost unanimous vote.

Initiative Invoked.

Two initiative laws were authorized and the executive committee was instructed to prepare them. The first came up in a report from the committee on education, advising the grange to help settle the Normal school difficulty. It recommended the adoption of the state lecturer's suggestion on a yes and no vote. A committee of three was also authorized to get information and facts relating to Normal schools from other states concerning learning and general educational systems and submit same to the executive committee as a help in preparing the proposed measure.

Upon this question there was a difference of opinion between the state master and the state lecturer. State Master Buxton was opposed to any initiative law upon Normal school matters, while State Lecturer Waldo favored such a procedure and advised the grange to take up a matter which the legislature had refused to settle. Mrs. Waldo said the people had been turned down by the legislature and state executive; that the grange represented the people, and should give them an opportunity to have a voice in the matter. She said the grange was only an instrument and offered to personally raise the money to defer all expense of initiation.

The other law to be initiated by the grange was taken up on a resolution by A. I. Mason, and a measure will be submitted which will deprive the legislature of all power in repealing a law made by the initiative.

The committee on legislation submitted a resolution to amend the initiative and referendum laws by inserting an emergency clause. It was contended that only one copy should be necessary for a person soliciting signatures and that the state should stand all expense. It was shown that if an emergency clause should be attached to any bill there would be no recourse, nor any danger of loss by technicalities, and that such a law should be part of the state constitution.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Opposition to any change in the Australian ballot law.

Representatives to National grange were instructed to vote for the establishment of a National Grange paper.

Friday, September 20, was chosen as Grange Day at the State fair.

It was recommended that active work be taken up in several counties where most needed as an experiment in deputy work, and \$2500 was appropriated for the same.

The secretary was authorized to have 650 copies of the session journal printed for distribution among the subordinate granges.

Officers of subordinate granges are not to be elected successively for more than two years, and all changes in by-laws were voted down.

Remarkable Rescue.

That truth is stranger than fiction, has once more been demonstrated in the little town of Fedora, Tenn., the residence of C. V. Pepper. He writes: "I was in bed, entirely disabled with hemorrhages of the lungs and throat. Doctors failed to help me, and all hope had fled when I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery. Then instant relief came. The coughing soon ceased; the bleeding diminished rapidly, and in three weeks I was able to go to work." Guaranteed cure for coughs and colds, 50c and \$1.00 at J. C. Perry's drug store. Trial bottle free.

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