

SEMI-CENTENNIAL HISTORY
OF THE
PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

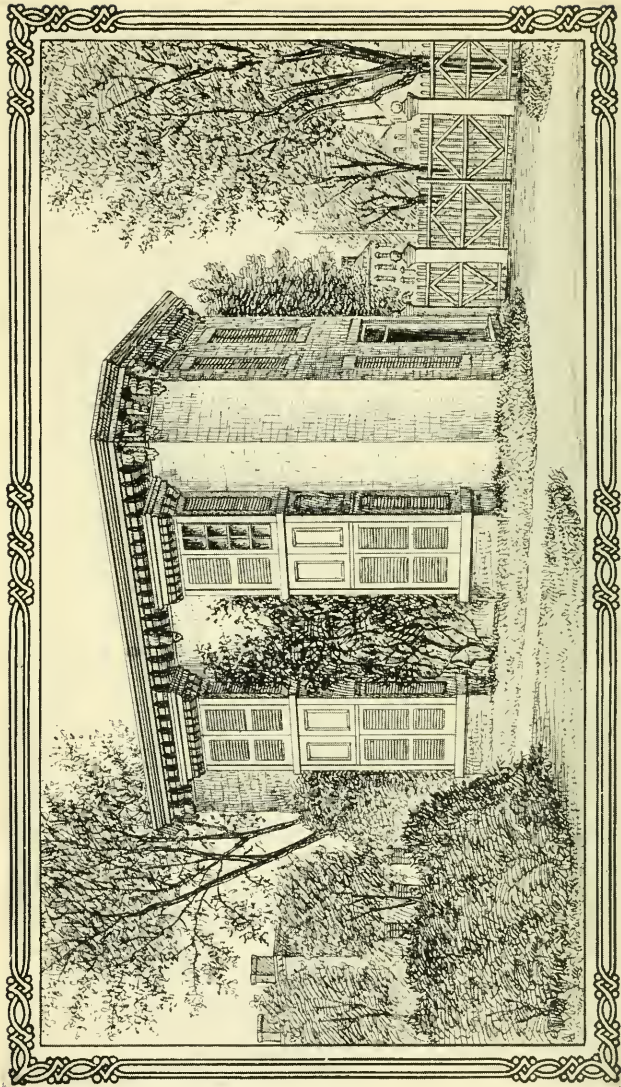
THOMAS CLARK ATKESON



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Office of William Saunders, Department of Agriculture, 4½ Street, near Missouri Avenue, Washington, D. C. *The Birth Place of the Patrons of Husbandry*, where the National Grange was organized, December 4th, 1867

Semi-Centennial History
of the
PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

By

THOMAS CLARK ATKESON

Master of the West Virginia State Grange and
Past Overseer of the National Grange



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PREFACE

At the close of the first half century of the existence of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, it seems entirely appropriate that someone should write a Semi-Centennial History of the Order. The author has but little inclination to undertake such an important and responsible task, but having collected a mass of material bearing upon the history of the Grange, and having been urged by many members of the Order to do so, I decided to go through this material and arrange it for publication.

I do not feel that any apology is necessary for presenting this book to the Grange and farmer public, notwithstanding its many imperfections. Its preparation has afforded me agreeable occupation, and I feel confident those who may read it will not be unprofitably engaged while doing so.

First and last, much has been written about the Patrons of Husbandry, the Grange, and the "Granger Movement"; but, aside from what has appeared in the newspapers and magazines and in the state and national Journals of Proceedings, nearly all this writing has been confined to the formative period and the decade from 1870 to 1880, and many of these writers seem to have reached the conclusion that the Patrons of Husbandry disappeared about 1880.

A number of books have been published dealing with the founding and early history of the Grange, and what they called the "Granger Movement," all of which have been more or less helpful in preparing this history. My trouble has not been to find material, but to determine what to use of the material at hand.

The last 35 or 40 years of Grange history has not been written, and the only source of information has

been a few Grange papers, an occasional article in the magazines, a chapter on farm organizations in some book or encyclopedia, and the Journals of Proceedings of the State and National Granges.

On going through these thousands of printed pages I have been gratified to find much richness of historical data, and I regret my inability to use the whole of it. Out of the great mass I have endeavored to select that which would most clearly show the attitude of the Grange upon the many social, political, educational and economic questions that have come before it for consideration.

In addition to these sources of information, I have been an active member of the Order for more than 30 years and my memory covers the whole period of Grange history, so upon it I have drawn, to some extent, for a correct interpretation of historical data and events. The temptation has been to draw even more heavily upon my memory, and give more of personal recollections of the people with whom my Grange work has thrown me in intimate contact; but, realizing that this is dangerous ground, I have indulged in this but little.

The statistical matter printed in the appendix will doubtless be found of interest to members of the Order and others who may be seeking information about the Grange.

I have included pictures and brief biographical sketches of all of the seven "founders of the Order." For the first time there are brought into one volume pictures and short biographical sketches of all the Masters of the National Grange. To secure these pictures and such data as I have been able to secure, required a good deal of correspondence, but as time goes on this information will be more and more valuable. I only regret that I cannot include pictures and sketches of all the men and women who for 50 years

have controlled and shaped the policy of the National Grange.

In the lists of delegates to the National Grange given in each chapter may be found the names of all the Masters of each State Grange from the beginning.

I have generally given due credit in the proper place in connection with the matter used, but I am under special obligations to Mrs. Eva S. McDowell for the data used in the sketches of the Founders of the Order, and to Mr. W. N. Howard for the original pictures of the seven Founders, as well as to a number of other sisters and brothers who have kindly assisted me in securing pictures and data for personal sketches and other information, to all of whom I extend my sincere thanks.

In the preparation of this history I have also had the invaluable assistance of my daughter, Mary Meek Atkeson, in collecting the data, revising the copy, and reading the proof as it came from the printers; and for her discriminating co-operation I make this grateful acknowledgment.

Trusting that this book may prove of interest and value to members of the Grange and to all true friends of agriculture, I bespeak for it a careful reading and indulgent consideration.

T. C. ATKESON.

Buffalo, W. Va., September 1st, 1916.

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INTRODUCTION

Early Co-operation and Organization Among Farmers

Writers on economic history are fond of referring to the early colonial period as the golden age of American democracy, because the pioneer age was remarkable for its spirit of friendly co-operation and organization of effort among the people. However, it is probable that this co-operation was more a matter of necessity than of choice. At first the danger from Indian raids forced the pioneers to settle in groups and organize their forces for mutual protection, and later these townships became political units, in which there was much neighborly assistance. All the neighborhood activities became of social and educational importance. Log rollings, husking bees, apple parings, stump pullings, house raisings, etc., all the hardest labors of the pioneer farms, both small and great matters, were taken care of by neighborly friendliness. And at these meetings, no doubt, amid the general gossip of the township, they discussed the changing methods of farming in the American wilderness as the pioneers adapted their European practices to the new conditions of soil and climate in America.

In the southern colonies, also, there was much co-operation—at first between the settlers—then between the country gentlemen on their great plantations. The plantation in Virginia, instead of the township, was the economic and co-operative unit. There the planter and his negro slaves worked together for the common good at the production of cotton and tobacco—the crops best suited to unskilled negro labor. The neighborhood meetings, however, were much less frequent than in New England and were chiefly for social, political, or religious purposes. Even when the Virginia gentle-

man took part in sheep-shearing contests, like that at "Arlington," it was not so much for helpfulness as a "social gathering to promote the sheep-raising industry."

Social co-operation, however, was well developed, and southern families were early noted for hospitality to all comers, very different from the close corporations of the New England townships. A negro was often stationed at the gate to extend a hearty invitation to all passers-by to stop at the "big house" for dinner, and the poorer people were no less generous with their simple fare. There were occasional agricultural fairs for general education, and gatherings at the county seats on county court days when a public market of live stock was held, horse trading was generally carried on, and later the horse races became both a social and an educational feature. There was also frequent exchange of negro labor for the heavier tasks of the plantation, and neighborly assistance in time of need.

Yet this early age, though perhaps golden in neighborly helpfulness, was far from ideal in general co-operation. Each group lived largely to itself, each family even was almost independent, except in times of special difficulties. The vegetables and grains for the family were grown upon the home farm, cotton or wool was spun and woven into clothing and household fabrics, various home trades were carried on and the surrounding forests supplied game or pasture for the settler's hogs. There was little visiting between townships; indeed, a man was not allowed to entertain his married daughter from another township without a special permit, strangers were "warned out" immediately, and all "foreigners" were prevented from buying land.

In the South likewise the food and clothing for the family and slaves were either produced upon the plantation or imported direct from England on the ships

which came over annually for the great crops of cotton and tobacco. In the West, where cotton, flax and wool were not generally grown, the skins of animals were more largely used for clothing, and with the settler's crops and forests full of game, rendered him independent. Except in the shipping of cotton from the South to New England, which began very early, there was little commerce or intercourse between the states, and no unified feeling in the country as a whole.

It was a period of contentment, however, for the new lands to the west held chances even for all; practically all the people were farmers, so there was no friction between classes or lack of equality before the law. Commerce was chiefly by barter or exchange between neighbors or directly with the English ships, and there was little competition between the products of different sections of the country. If farming did not prove profitable in one section the farmer could always sell out and move westward to virgin lands which were more productive. "No man," said Franklin, "who can have a piece of land of his own, sufficient by his labor to subsist his family in plenty, is poor enough to be a manufacturer and work for a master." These conditions all helped to establish the idea of the farmer as "lord of creation," the independent individualist who did things in his own way and "needed not to fear any king," and, together with his isolation, brought forth the self-sufficient type of American farmer who found so much difficulty in fitting himself into the changed conditions of a later period.

EARLY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

Washington and Franklin were among the founders of the first farmers' organizations in America. The Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture was established in 1785, and, patterned after it, there were about a dozen such societies by 1800. President Wash-

ington, with his broad vision, regarded the organization of the farmers of so much importance that he made it the subject of his last message to Congress, calling attention, especially, to the fundamental importance of agriculture, advocating agricultural fairs, a national agricultural society and government support of institutions making for rural progress. In 1858 there were over 90 agricultural societies in this country, and by 1860 the number had increased to about 1300, most of which were county organizations holding annual fairs.)

NATIONAL AID FOR AGRICULTURE

Washington had early recommended legislation to aid and encourage the fundamental national industry of agriculture. A bill was introduced in Congress creating a National Board of Agriculture, to be composed of the Judges of the Supreme Court, Members of the Cabinet and Members of Congress, but from some cause the bill failed to pass.

In 1839 Congress passed the first act in the interest of agriculture by appropriating the sum of \$500 to be expended by the Commissioner of Patents in collecting agricultural statistics. This arrangement made the patent office "the foster-father of agriculture," and small annual appropriations were made for this purpose until 1862. Each year the Patent Office annually made a report on agriculture. In 1862 the Agricultural Bureau was made an independent department, with a Commissioner of Agriculture at its head. This was the first really friendly act of Congress affecting agriculture, and, strange to say, was enacted in the midst of the Civil War.

ORGANIZATION

The idea of organizing the farmers had occurred to many agricultural leaders, and farmers' clubs of one

kind and another had been organized here and there throughout the country. Mr. William Saunders, horticulturist of the Bureau of Agriculture, had been engaged in organizing and conducting associations of gardeners and fruit growers, both in this country and Great Britain. As early as 1855 he published an article in the *American Farmer*, in which he deplored the lack of organization among the farmers, showing at length some of the unjust burdens the farmers were compelled to bear; "that, notwithstanding they were largely the majority of the laboring classes and far more numerous than all the professions combined, they were seldom represented in legislative bodies or cabinets, and had little if any influence in the government of the country." As a remedy for these conditions, he recommended "the formation of a national organization to embrace all persons interested in agricultural pursuits, in which to combine their power and influence and thus secure their full and proper share in the government of the states and nation."

Just what kind of organization Mr. Saunders had in mind at that time is not very clear, but that he felt and realized the importance of farmers getting together and doing things for themselves, there can be no doubt.

A FARMER FRATERNITY

Practically all the important events which make for human betterment have developed from small beginnings and have been the result of more or less slow growth rather than the outgrowth of some sudden inspiration or circumstance. Usually they are the result of human aspiration for better things, slowly taking shape through a long series of years culminating in the sudden presentation of some great necessity. The founding of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry was no exception to this general rule.

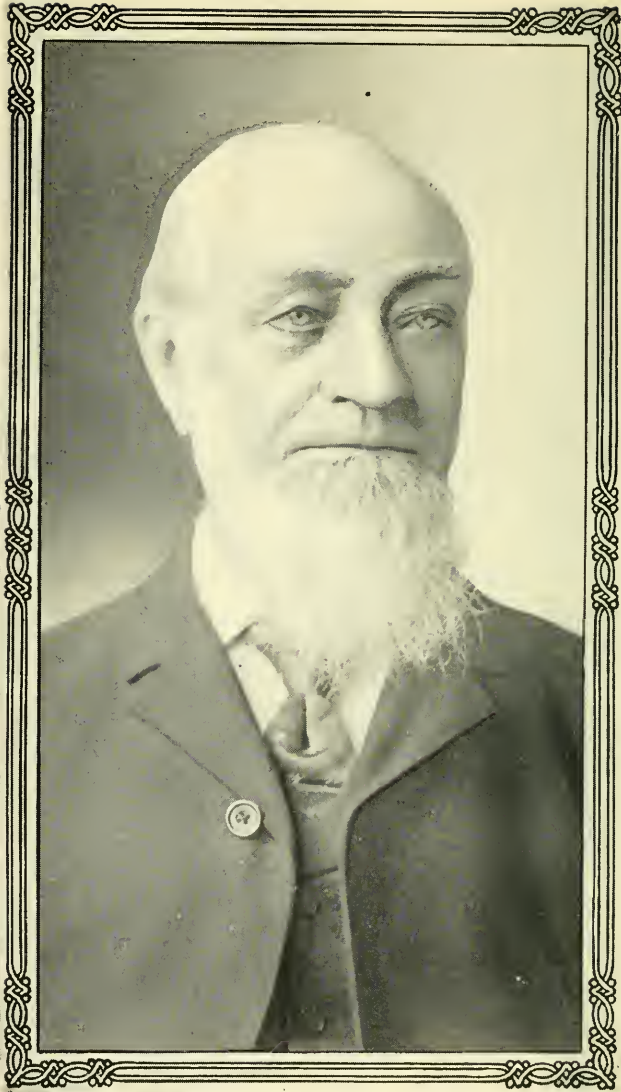
Every movement for human liberty and the uplifting

of mankind into higher civilization has been set in motion by some individual whom God in the fullness of time seems to have raised up for that particular purpose. Every important movement since the beginning of history, whether in politics, religion, or economics, has brought to the surface some great leader fully equipped for the occasion. Men do not make the occasion, but the occasion develops men; and in every great social upheaval natural leaders have been developed, and more frequently from obscurity than otherwise.

The man of destiny, so far as the Order of Patrons of Husbandry is concerned, was Oliver Hudson Kelley, and yet his conception was only that of applying the principle of binding together in a fraternal order the workers on the farms, as the builders of Solomon's temple were bound together in the oldest of all secret orders. Mr. Kelly's chief honor was not in conceiving the idea, but in the zealous heroism with which he made the conception a reality. With all this he could not have done his work alone, and full credit must be given all his associate founders and full meed of honor and praise must be extended to all the splendid army of men and women who rallied to the cause and contributed so grandly to make the Order of Patrons of Husbandry the greatest and most influential organization of farmers the world has ever known.



Oliver Hudson Kelley, one of the Founders and first Secretary of the National Grange.



William Saunders, one of the Founders and first Master of the National Grange.

CHAPTER I

Conditions Following the War—Beginning of the Order, 1865-1867

During the years while the struggle of the Civil War was in progress the whole machinery of agriculture and commerce was thrown out of gear. The drain into the armies carried away the labor from the country behind. Hundreds of thousands of the best men on each side of Mason and Dixon's line were at the front, while at home, in the factories and on the farms, were left the less efficient class of the community. After four years of strife the war between the states came to a close in the spring of 1865; President Lincoln was assassinated soon after, and the whole country was in political, social and economic chaos. Much of the best blood of the nation had been spilled upon the battlefield, and deep-seated hatred existed between the people of the North and the South.

However, the greatest factor in the restlessness and discontent was in the general economic change. For many years the tendency had been toward the factory system, as distinct from domestic manufacture, especially in New England. During the war large factories had been built to furnish clothing and other supplies for the Union armies, and the building of railroads had a further tendency to centralize the manufacturing plants. The multiplication of labor-saving machinery also greatly facilitated the concentration of the factory system, with the beginning of a combination of factories and the formation of large corporations. The improved labor-saving machines temporarily threw out of employment the workers in many departments of labor, which caused much dissatisfaction and restlessness among the labor classes. While these changes

were inevitable, their immediate effect was to produce a state of economic warfare, which resulted in a great activity among labor agitators and a large increase in labor organizations. The power and necessity of organization were being realized by both capital and labor, and both were organizing for defense and offense. Only the scattered and leaderless farmers were the helpless prey of all other classes and interests.

In addition to this the financial demands of the Civil War had resulted in the establishment of an unsystematic tariff law with high tariff rates. As a war measure this may have been justifiable, but its continuance after the war was largely secured through the influence of the protected manufacturers. "This tariff, as all high protective tariffs in a country whose production exceeds the demand for home consumption, bore with especial severity upon the farmers, particularly in the staple-producing sections of the South and West. The price which the farmer received for his cotton and grain was fixed by the sale of the surplus in the unprotected markets of the world, while the cost of nearly everything he consumed, whether imported or of domestic production, was vastly enhanced for the benefit of manufacturers. Even the home market idea proved a delusion when the agricultural production was continually in excess of the needs of the market." Particularly in the North and East the money of the country was largely concentrated in the financial centers, and mainly dominated and controlled by the protected manufacturing, transportation and other corporations, and manipulated by capitalists without much reference to the common welfare.

The extravagance growing out of and following the Civil War was manifest everywhere, not only in individuals, but also in the national, state, county and municipal governmental affairs, resulting in many instances in corruption and waste. Demands for more revenue became importunate and taxation was greatly

increased. The farmer's property, being almost entirely in land and tangible property, was taxed at its full value, while much of the wealth of the cities was intangible, and so almost entirely escaped taxation. The burden of taxation upon the farmers became almost unbearable, and a demand for tax reform and economy in the administration of government became insistent. The financial condition of the whole country was very unsatisfactory, and the farmers were beginning to feel it most sorely.

In the North the thousands of returning soldiers caused a sudden glut in the labor market. The farmers found their lands much depleted by wasteful farming, so that even with their nearby markets their scanty produce was not profitable. Many set out at once for the practically free land of the West, the most fertile section of the world. The result was immediate. The farm lands in the East began to depreciate, and a readjustment of eastern agriculture became a necessity.

As the flood of migration spread over the Mississippi valley and the vast fertile territory westward, the most vital problem through that great agricultural empire was how to send the products of the farm to the eastern consumer. The transportation problem in the United States had come to be a railroad problem, and with the close of the war the building of railroads was begun upon a gigantic scale. A network of railroads rapidly spread over the entire Mississippi valley, soon crossing the plains and the mountains to the Pacific coast. Railroads and railroad problems were uppermost in the minds of the farmers, for they were vitally associated with his life and material interests. A railroad was looked upon as a great blessing, and all sorts of wild inducements were offered to its promoters and builders.

After a few years under these conditions, however, many things connected with railroad management became far from just and equitable. Soon the railroads were charged with all kinds of unfair discrimination

in fixing traffic rates, and an arrogant and uncompromising attitude toward the individual shipper.

The mercantile system then in vogue throughout the West was conducted in such a conscienceless manner as to create a deep-seated antagonism among the farmers. A great cry went up for eliminating the middleman and for co-operation in buying and selling. The chief necessity of the pioneer farmer was for capital. This must be furnished by the eastern capitalist, who established a high-rate mortgage system, which spread widely over the farms of the Middle West. Soon foreclosures were frequent and great distress prevailed, causing much antagonism toward the eastern financier.

All these things were used by demagogues and politicians for the purpose of inflaming the farmers in particular, and the people of the West generally. One of the natural results of the condition was the proposal of a multitude of impractical remedies, which were quite naturally combated by the more conservative sentiment of the East.

In the South conditions were even more difficult. With the close of the war the Confederate soldiers returned with sad hearts to their devastated homes. Their land was only half its former value, and fully one-third of the male population had been killed or incapacitated for work. The once productive cotton fields were a desert waste, many of the homes had been destroyed, along with the fences, barns and other buildings. The freed negroes naturally gravitated toward the towns, and worked only under the compulsion of absolute want. The large landholder was unused to manual labor, and the lack of money made a wage system absolutely impossible. Moreover, the southern farmer was in general quite unacquainted with the methods of general farming as practiced in the East, which would have placed him upon a more nearly independent basis. The result of these condi-

tions was the fastening of a ruinous credit system upon the South. The credit system, based upon crop mortgages, fostered the growing of cotton until the market was continually glutted, caused a general raising of prices on mercantile wares, and often left the farmer at the end of the year in debt to the merchant who had advanced him credit. Not only must the farmer buy "protected" articles, but he must sell his cotton crop to the protected mills of the North at their own prices.

Unable as he was to control either capital or labor, product or market, the bitterness caused by what he deemed the unjust war brought on by "the Yankees" was increased by the extravagant and arrogant "carpet-baggers," government measures of reconstruction, and the difficulties with the freed negroes, and the southern farmer was prostrate under the conditions of his time. Well-meaning, patriotic and humanity-loving people in the North, as well as in the South, were giving their best thought to some solution of the problem, and it was much discussed in official circles in Washington.

The war had scarcely come to a close before the government authorities at Washington, and especially President Johnson and Commissioner of Agriculture Isaac Newton, were considering ways and means of getting more accurate information concerning the agricultural and economic situation in the South in order to be of service in the solution of its problems. The first move, however, in this direction was made in the following brief letter, which is of importance to the future history of agriculture, as well as of the Patrons of Husbandry:

"Department of Agriculture,

"Washington, D. C., October 20th, 1865.

"O. H. Kelley, Esq., Itasca, Minn.

"Dear Sir—I am exceedingly anxious to have you come to this city by the 1st proximo, if you can possibly arrange to be here by that time. I wish to see you on special business requiring your presence. I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"ISAAC NEWTON, *Commissioner.*"

Oliver Hudson Kelley, to whom this letter was written, was a native of Boston, who had in 1849 taken up a government claim at Itasca, Minn., and become a farmer, in which occupation he worked until 1864, when he went to Washington to accept a clerkship in the Department of Agriculture. Here he had met Commissioner Newton, who was so favorably impressed with his personality that he had selected him as the representative of the department to visit the southern states. In the spring of 1865 Mr. Kelley had returned to Minnesota to oversee his farming operations, where he remained until his receipt of the letter quoted above.

Mr. Kelley tells us in his "History of the Patrons of Husbandry" that he reached Washington early in November, and was assured that he should have an appointment to go South for the winter for the purpose of collecting information and reporting on agricultural conditions. Mr. Kelley expected the appointment to be made at once, but after waiting rather impatiently for several weeks he found Mr. Newton wavering in relation to the fulfillment of his promise. It is probable that the Commissioner, because of the political conditions then prevailing in the southern states, had become somewhat doubtful concerning the wisdom or expediency of sending a representative of the government among the people who had so recently been at war, and whose resentment toward northern men was still very bitter.

Mr. Kelley, however, was not to be turned from his purpose by any weakening on the part of his superior. After consulting with Dr. John Trimble, with whom he had become acquainted during his former stay in Washington, he succeeded early in January in getting an interview with President Johnson. He found the President very much interested in the project, and before the end of the interview had been assured that he should be appointed. On that very day Mr. Kelley

was given his commission, dated January 1, 1866, as agent of the Department of Agriculture "to proceed immediately through the states lately in hostility against the government, to procure such information, and report the same to this department for publication."

Mr. Kelley left Washington January 13, 1866, on his peaceful mission to the South. He visited Virginia and North Carolina and arrived at Charleston, S. C., January 29, where he remained for six weeks, visiting rice and cotton plantations and securing valuable information from the planters as to conditions in that section. Apparently he did not meet the resentment which the Commissioner had feared, although he says in his account: "In my intercourse with the planters it was evidently no disadvantage to be a member of the Masonic fraternity, and as such I was cordially received." The hospitality accorded him by virtue of his membership in the great Masonic fraternity gave him the first suggestion of the thought that culminated in the great farmers' organization.

In his contact with southern conditions he reached the conclusion that the politicians would never restore peace between the recently warring sections, and that the only solution of the situation was that the people of the North and South must know each other better, feel their human brotherhood and thereby abolish sectionalism in the nation. Wherever he went on his journey through the South the ruin, desolation, bitterness and disorder served to fix more and more firmly in his mind the idea of an association of farmers. Even the view of the Mississippi River served only to remind him of a great national organization in which all the tributary branches flowed into one great brotherhood.

Mr. Kelley returned to Washington April 21 and made his report to the department. Before returning to his farm he went to Boston to visit his niece, Miss Carrie A. Hall, a woman of very rare intelligence. While in

the South he had written her of his idea for a farmers' association and had been much encouraged by the ready sympathy and understanding of her reply. Now he laid before her his general plan as it had come to him from time to time, and asked for her criticism. Miss Hall's enthusiasm over the plan was as great as his own, and among other criticisms she suggested that women should be given full membership in the society. Mr. Kelley immediately realized the justice of this suggestion and incorporated it in all his future plans for the organization.

Mr. Kelley spent the succeeding summer on his farm in Minnesota, but returned to Washington in November, and received an appointment in the Postoffice Department. In May, 1867, he made the acquaintance of W. M. Ireland, Chief Clerk of the Finance Office of the Postoffice Department, whom he found to be not only a prominent Mason, but also a man after his own heart in his enthusiasm for agriculture. Very soon Mr. Kelley was telling him all his plans for a great agricultural fraternity, and was so much encouraged by his sympathy that he even began penciling out a plan for a Ritual. The Degree of Maid was first written, read to Mr. Ireland, and then sent to Miss Hall for her approval.

During the summer he met William Saunders of the Department of Agriculture, a man who had had considerable experience as an organizer of gardeners' societies and an authority on agricultural affairs, and Mr. Kelley felt that on this account his indorsement of the proposed organization was of the very highest importance. He introduced him to Mr. Ireland, and the three talked over the proposed association in detail. Mr. Saunders was not so sanguine as were Mr. Kelley and Mr. Ireland concerning the success of the proposed association, probably because he had had more practical experience in organizing country people. He told them, however, that he was soon to visit St. Louis to

attend a meeting of the United States Pomological Society, and that if they would give him an outline of the proposed association he would submit it to some of those he should meet and see how it would take with them.

An outline of considerable length was prepared by Mr. Kelley, setting forth the general lack of interest in progressive agriculture—that the agricultural newspapers were very little read, and that the agricultural societies and fairs had failed to secure a real interest. He also explained how the proposed organization was to help these conditions by the teachings of the Ritual, by lecturers from the Department of Agriculture, by discussions among the farmers themselves and by binding the farmers together in a good organization. Mr. Saunders took this outline with him and later wrote to Mr. Kelley, "I have mentioned your Order to a good many, and all agree in considering the thing a *grand idca.*"

His letter gave a very decided pleasure to the two friends who had been anxiously waiting at Washington, for, as Mr. Kelley says, his disposition was such that it took very few cheerful words to stimulate him. He and Mr. Ireland, with happy hearts, met every evening in Mr. Kelley's room at the hotel and spent some time smoking and chatting over the plans and prospects for the Order.

In these meetings they were usually joined by Dr. John Trimble, whom Mr. Kelley had known since his first year in Washington. Dr. Trimble had formerly been a minister in the Protestant Episcopal Church, but was at this time a clerk in the Treasury Department, engaged in the settlement of war claims. His former residence in the South, as well as his knowledge of the general conditions following the war, gave him a keen interest in the proposed Order, although he saw the difficulties in its way.

Mr. Kelley admitted no difficulties, however. A letter of inquiry from Anson Bartlett of North Madison, O., one of the men to whom Mr. Saunders had talked, was answered immediately with a most glowing description of the Order, which was in twelve months to number its members "by the million." "I long," Mr. Kelley wrote, "to see the great army of producers in our country turn their eyes up from their work; stir up those brains, now mere machines; get them in motion in the right direction; make them discard their old almanacs and signs of the moon; and just imagine what a volcanic eruption we can produce in this age! Everything is progressing. Why not the farmers?" Among other definite plans for the development of the farmers, he said, "let the Department of Agriculture send out the most capable and talented men in the country to lecture before the lodges upon horticulture, etc., giving illustrated lectures." This statement is of especial interest because Mr. Kelley's suggestion has since developed into the farmers' institutes, movable schools of agriculture and agricultural extension work, which have become so widely popular.

Mr. Bartlett answered Mr. Kelley's letter promptly with so much enthusiasm and so many good suggestions that he was at once accepted as one of the councilors. Two other persons to whom Mr. Saunders had spoken, William Muir of St. Louis, Mo., and A. S. Moss of Fredonia, N. Y., wrote for information concerning the new Order. These letters caused Mr. Kelley to build "large air castles," much to the amusement of his friend, Dr. Trimble, who called himself the "official wet blanket" on the too sanguine spirits of his associates.

In order to interest the farmers in different parts of the country a rough circular statement was printed on cheap paper and sent broadcast to all the addresses they could find. The circular set forth that:

"A number of gentlemen engaged in agriculture and

its kindred branches in different states are now perfecting a Ritual for an Order, to be composed wholly of persons, male and female, directly interested in agricultural pursuits.

“The Order will secure to its members all the advantages of Masonry, but while it is speculative, this will be operative—its main object being to encourage and advance education in all branches of agriculture. . . .

“The whole, it is believed, will do much toward elevating our occupation, as well as establishing a unity of sentiment among the farmers of the country, and materially increase the circulation of publications devoted to the interests of agriculture, and consequent increase of knowledge. . . .

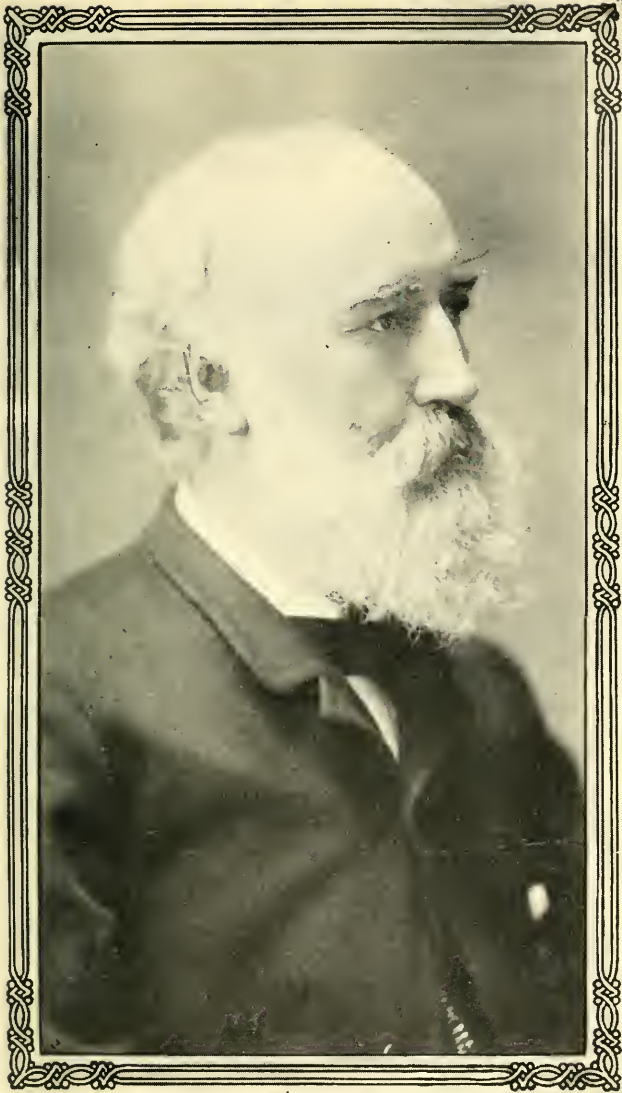
“Should such an organization meet your approval, and you see fit to offer any suggestions to enable the originators to make further improvements before it is introduced to the public, the same will be most cordially received and duly considered.”

Many persons answered, and a lively correspondence was begun with a number of farmers.

The proposed Order had not yet been named, although so many titles had been suggested that the vocabulary of agricultural terms was well-nigh exhausted. Among the names suggested by various people were: Independent Farmers; Independent Order of Progressive Farmers; Knights of the Plow; Knights of the Flail; Knights of the Sickle; Lords of the Soil; Sons of the Soil; Brethren of the Vine; Yeoman of Columbia; Order of Jacob—with a few facetious ones, like Rustics, Mushrooms and Fungi. The councilors, however, rejected each of these for various reasons. On November 1, 1867, Mr. Kelley wrote Mr. Bartlett suggesting the name “League of Husbandry,” and Mr. Bartlett, replying, added “Patrons of Industry” to the list. Mr. Kelley says in his history: “That will settle the question as to where the name originated, for, on

the receipt, I substituted the word husbandry, making it Patrons of Husbandry."

The name for the subordinate bodies was also the subject of much discussion. It was agreed that it should represent something about the farm, but what? Various people suggested Vineyards, Gardens, Groves, Fields, Farms, Bee Hives, Arbors, Temples and Homesteads, of which the favorite seemed to be Homesteads. About this time, however, the advertisement of a popular novel caught Mr. Kelley's attention, because it used the unfamiliar old word "grange" in the sense of "farmhouse." It appealed at once to his sense of fitness, and a study of the history of the word showed it so desirable that it was immediately accepted as the best word for the local branches. Somewhat later the motto of the organization, "Esto Perpetua" (Let it endure forever) was chosen from a long list of suggested phrases.



John Trimble, one of the Founders and third Secretary of the National Grange.



William M. Ireland, one of the Founders and second Secretary of the National Grange.

CHAPTER II

Organization of the National Grange—Extension of the Order—1867-1869—First and Second Sessions of the National Grange

When Mr. Saunders returned from St. Louis in the fall of 1867 with his report that everyone he had spoken to had been in favor of the project, the councilors were so much encouraged that they began to consider a real organization. Although there were but four of them in the city—Kelley, Ireland, Trimble and Saunders—who had been conferring about the Order, they considered that they could at least have the satisfaction of telling correspondents that the Order had been established. And, as Mr. Kelley said, "being a secret society, we could be excused for keeping our numbers to ourselves."

The meetings are said to have been "decidedly informal"; in fact, for some time seem to have been no more than the former gatherings for an evening smoke and chat over prospects and plans. From time to time they had mentioned their project to several others—among them J. R. Thompson, a clerk in the Treasury Department, said to be one of the first to whom Mr. Kelley mentioned his idea of the Order. (A. B. Gosh, "Mentor.") Mr. Thompson seems, however, to have had little active participation in the plans until the first formal session.

The first meeting at which formal business was transacted was held at the office of William Saunders in the Gardener's Lodge, November 15, 1867, "for the purpose of organizing an Order of Agriculture in the United States." According to their previous plan Mr. Ireland was called to the chair, Mr. Kelley was chosen secretary, and Mr. Saunders appointed a committee to

prepare a preamble setting forth the "objects for which the Order was established." A formal report of the work done since August 5 was made by Mr. Kelley, and official sanction was given to the name of "Patrons of Husbandry" for the national organization and of "Granges" for the branches. The meeting was then adjourned until December 4.

In the interim an important correspondence was opened by Mr. Kelley with F. M. McDowell, an orchardist of Wayne, N. Y., to whom Mr. Saunders had talked concerning the Order. Mr. McDowell had impressed Mr. Saunders as being a man of high character, and now showed such a real interest in their plans that he was soon admitted by correspondence to all their councils.

A lively correspondence was going on also with Mr. Moss, Mr. Bartlett, Miss Hall and others regarding the dues of membership. Some were in favor of very high dues, on the theory that the National Grange must have considerable money to carry out its plans; while others were busily figuring the amount of even small dues from the immense membership they expected. For instance, Mr. Bartlett wrote: "Suppose the Order should number one million members within one year from its organization, the 10-cent arrangement would give the National Grange quarterly \$25,000." Another question which came up in the discussion of dues was the unjust difference in wages for men and women—a question of inequality which has often appeared in Grange discussions since. It was because of this inequality of earning power that the fees for female members were set at half those for male members of the Order.

December 4, 1867, later fixed as the "birthday of the Order," the second formal session was held, and the National Grange officially organized. It had been Mr. Kelley's plan to elect Mr. Ireland as Master, but Mr. Ireland insisted upon withdrawing in favor of Mr.

Saunders because of the greater prestige of his connection with the Agricultural Department. The officers selected were as follows :

Master—William Saunders.
Overseer—Anson Bartlett.
Lecturer—J. R. Thompson.
Steward—William Muir.
Assistant Steward—A. S. Moss.
Treasurer—W. M. Ireland.
Secretary—O. H. Kelley.

The offices of Chaplain, Gatekeeper and the lady offices were left vacant. From this time forward the National Grange was to be presented as a reality and 1,000 copies of a new circular were printed to announce it to the world.

On January 7, 1868, a meeting, later recognized as the first session of the National Grange, was held, at which it was decided to organize a Subordinate Grange for the purpose of trying out parts of the Ritual as they were prepared. For this purpose Mr. Kelley and Mr. Ireland had interested six of their fellow-clerks of the Postoffice Department, who with their wives, were to receive all the advantages of the Order for their assistance with the demonstration of the Ritual. They were organized January 8, 1868, as a "school of instruction."

Mr. McDowell had arrived in Washington in time to attend this first Subordinate Grange meeting. The next day he attended the meeting of the National Grange, and, the Constitution coming up for discussion, made suggestions which resulted in an entire reorganization of their plans. At succeeding meetings the new plan of seven degrees was worked out. The Seventh (Demeter) was accepted as being the controlling degree of the Order, as founded on "an ancient association once so flourishing in the East," and Mr. McDowell was elected High Priest.

The reorganized plan was as follows :

SUBORDINATE GRANGES

- First Degree—Laborer (male), Maid (female).
 Second Degree—Cultivator (male), Shepherdess (female).
 Third Degree—Harvester (male), Gleaner (female).
 Fourth Degree—Husbandman (male), Matron (female).

STATE GRANGE

- Fifth Degree—Pomona (Hope). Composed of officers and Past Masters of Subordinate Granges, who are entitled, ex-officio, to the Fifth Degree.

NATIONAL GRANGE (COUNCIL)

- Sixth Degree—Charity. Composed of Masters and Past Masters of State Granges, who are entitled, ex-officio, to the Sixth Degree, and meet annually. They constitute the National Council.

SENATE

- Seventh Degree—Ceres (Faith). Composed of the members of the Council who have served one year therein, who, after the expiration of their first year's service in the Council, are entitled, ex-officio, to the Seventh Degree, to be conferred at the next or any subsequent session of the National Grange. All who have thus attained to this degree are thereafter members of the Senate, and entitled to seats and votes therein. All acts and resolutions originate in the Council (Sixth Degree), subject to the approval or rejection of the Senate (Seventh Degree).

"The Subordinate Granges in the District of Columbia elect on joint ballot, once in two years, a delegate to represent said Granges in the National Grange. He must be either a Master or a Past Master, and on receiving the degrees ranks the same as a representative of a State Grange.

"The Senate of the National Grange, having the power, may confer Degrees of the Order which they have received upon such persons as they may deem worthy; and may delegate that power, except as to the Seventh and last Degree, to one of their number, to be used for the purpose of establishing the Order in such parts of the United States where it does not now exist; but the degree of Ceres or Demeter shall not be conferred, unless in open Senate, at an annual meeting."

Rev. A. B. Grosh, a clerk in the Department of Agriculture, was elected Chaplain at this time. He had been approached concerning the Order some time be-

fore, and as he says, "both head and heart responded to the call." He at once signified his desire to be of service, and from this time forth was prominent in the work of the developing organization.

In February, 1868, Mr. Kelley, who could no longer restrain his enthusiasm over the new Order, resigned his position in the Postoffice Department so that he might give his whole time to its establishment. During February and March he devoted his time to perfecting the Ritual, with the assistance of Mr. Thompson, and he tells of an "exceedingly interesting meeting of Potomac Grange, when the first man ever regularly initiated in 'due form' received the first degree—Mr. Boardman of New York." A full set of officers were in their places and they worked from manuscript copies of the Ritual. The first real Subordinate Grange, Harvest Grange No. 2, had been organized, and much was continually being done working out the first four degrees and developing the floor work. A number of candidates were initiated, both men and women.

Late in March, when the first copies of the Manual were off the press, Mr. Kelley decided to start out on an organizing trip. "I shall start out," he said, "like an itinerant preacher and trust to find friends." His associates were inclined to think such an attempt rather premature, but Mr. Kelley was not to be persuaded from his purpose.

A special session of the National Grange was held on March 28, 1868, to prepare for him a letter of credit giving him power to establish Subordinate Granges, to issue Dispensations, and to confer the degrees necessary, "for the purpose of enabling him to visit the different states to organize the Order," It was also decided that Mr. Kelley, as Secretary, should receive a salary of \$2,000 per annum and traveling expenses—the money, however, to be collected by him from receipts from Subordinate Granges he should organize!

On the third of April, 1868, Mr. Kelley, with some

funds furnished by the Subordinate Grange, bought a ticket for Harrisburg, Pa., and with about \$2.50 in his pocket, set out upon his journey, determined to pay his way as he went.

Mr. Kelley was not, he tells us, particularly fitted for the work of organization—with no oratorical powers and being in general such a person as he would later have rejected as a deputy. He had, however, a great enthusiasm, a sincere belief in the Order and an untiring energy that, after a little experience, stood him in good stead. He reached Harrisburg April 3, spent a few days and then went on to Penn Yan, N. Y. At both Harrisburg and Penn Yan he had had correspondents who joined their efforts with his in the hope of securing an organization, but both attempts were unsuccessful. He left a dispensation with his correspondent at Harrisburg and received the fee of \$15, which helped him with his expenses. After a visit at Wayne, N. Y., with Mr. McDowell, from whom he received not only encouraging words but also financial help, he went on to Fredonia, N. Y.

There he was met by A. S. Moss, who had been one of the most active correspondents since the beginning of the movement, and April 16 they organized Fredonia Grange—the first regularly organized Subordinate Grange where every member paid his fee. Mr. Kelley says: "We may give Brother Moss credit for being the father of the first genuine Grange which lived, breathed and had a being." Fredonia Grange No. 1 has lived to this day, and is in a flourishing and thriving condition.

While at Fredonia Mr. Kelley decided to look into the agricultural situation in Ohio and visit Mr. Bartlett at Spencer. Although he did not succeed in organizing any Granges he found the sentiment of the farmers well disposed toward the Order. Several recent issues had shown the farmers that organization for protection was becoming necessary—among them their difficulties

with patent right swindlers. The loss from this one cause was said to be \$500,000 per annum. As Mr. Kelley wrote at the time: "Every kind of monopoly is now at work grinding the producer, and I find the people encourage our work, hoping to find relief." He instructed Mr. Bartlett in the method of organizing granges, and asked him to undertake the work in Ohio.

Mr. Kelley left another dispensation at Columbus, O., as he proceeded northward, and at Chicago instructed a few people who had been called together by the editor of the *Prairie Farmer*, but he did not effect an organization. Then he proceeded to Madison, Wis., where he also failed. His expenses had been paid up to this time by contributions and the fees for dispensations he had left along the way, but after this last failure he was compelled to borrow \$15 from the Master of the local lodge of Masons in order to pay his way home to Itasca, Minn., where he arrived May 1, 1868.

On his trip from Washington he had secured but one live grange, had left several dispensations, and though receiving several contributions for expenses, had arrived in Minnesota \$15 in debt—even Mr. Kelley's spirits were dampened by the shower. Soon after his arrival, however, a letter reached him from A. Failor of Newton, Ia., stating that a Grange had been organized there April 17. The draft for their dispensation liquidated Mr. Kelley's debt to his brother Mason and left him once more with a clean slate. This fact so raised his drooping spirits that he at once set about new plans for the future of the Order.

Meanwhile at Washington the other members of the National Grange were also having some experience with the discouraging side of the founding of a National Order. Mr. Kelley had taken with him for his expenses all the funds in the treasury of Harvest Grange, and no initiates presented themselves to replenish the treasury. The members of the National

Grange had already advanced more than seemed wise on so doubtful a project and had given considerable time to developing the plans for several months. The printers were presenting bills for printing circulars and refused to deliver the Manuals, for which Mr. Kelley was writing urgently from the West, until they should be paid for them. The rent for the hall in which they held their meetings was long overdue, and the creditors were dunning them every few days. They had hoped that Mr. Kelley's trip would bring an increase in membership that would relieve the treasury, but instead he was running behind and his "homespun" reports on his financial affairs were unsatisfactory to his more businesslike associates. It is little wonder that a period of depression and inertia ensued at headquarters, of which Mr. Kelley complains in his letters of this darkest hour in the history of the Order. As Mr. Kelley says: "If great enterprises must start from small beginnings, then our Order is all right, for its foundation was laid on 'solid nothing'—the rock of poverty—and there is no harder material."

About the first of August, 1868, however, the gloom began to lighten. Miss Carrie A. Hall, Mr. Kelley's niece, who had been an enthusiastic worker for the Order from the first, joined him in Minnesota and began acting as his assistant, thus giving him the help of her encouragement as well as relieving him from the great burden of letter-writing. About this time the friendly aid of five agricultural papers was announced, viz: *The Prairie Farmer*, Chicago; *Farmer's Chronicle*, Columbus, O.; *Ohio Farmer*, Cleveland; *Rural World*, St. Louis; *Farmer's Union*, Minneapolis; and a general friendliness was shown by many of the county papers.

The National Grange, after several months' inertia, held another special meeting October 5, and prepared the following statement as a help to Mr. Kelley in his work of organization:

"Patrons of Husbandry,
 "National Grange, Washington, D. C.

"At a special meeting of the National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, held on Saturday, October 3d, 1868, the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That our hearts are cheered by the hearty reception given to our beloved Order by the farmers and friends of agriculture in Minnesota, and by their ready appreciation of the advantages which our institution must yield to the tillers of the soil and the cultivation of its fruits, in co-operating with each other all over our land in securing to them the highest rewards of their labors, in elevating their position in society, and improving the morals, minds and social position of themselves and their families.

"Resolved, That our thanks are due the various editors in the West, who, with wise foresight, have pointed out the merits of our new order, and commended it to the attention of the agricultural public.

"Resolved, That we renewedly commend our beloved brother, O. H. Kelley, Secretary of the National Grange, to the kindness and confidence of our friends everywhere, as one of the earliest advocates of our Order, the most laborious worker in organizing it, and framing and harmonizing its Ritual, and now indefatigable in extending its borders and strengthening its influence in the western states, proving himself a workman in this new and important field that needeth not to be ashamed—the right man in the right place. May his success be commensurate with his diligence and perseverance, and the widespreading beneficence of the Order be his abundant joy and reward!

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, signed by the Master and Secretary, pro tempore, be forwarded to Brother Kelley, to be by him communicated to others interested therein, as he may have opportunity.

"WILLIAM SAUNDERS,
 "Master of National Grange, P. of H.

"Attest:

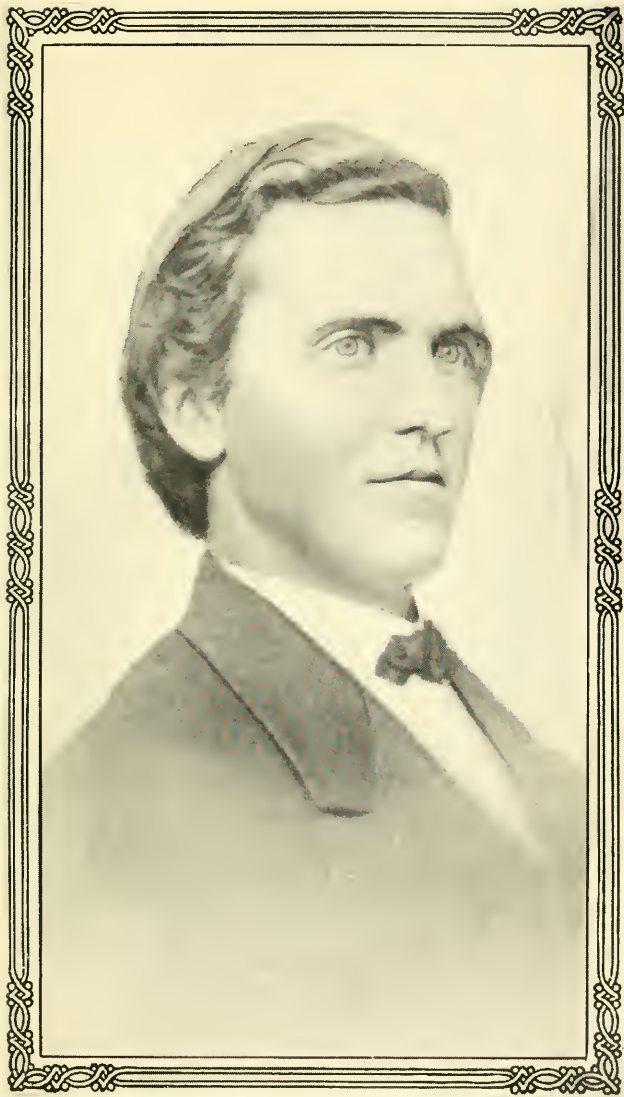
"WILLIAM M. IRELAND,
 "Acting Secretary."

While these resolutions were probably not of any great benefit to Mr. Kelley in organizing Granges, they were at least encouraging as showing some signs of life in the National Grange, and helped him in keeping up the fiction of a powerful central organization at the nation's Capitol

After Mr. Kelley's return to Itasca he had granted two dispensations in Minnesota, but in neither case was there a permanent organization. On September 2, North Star Grange, the first permanent Grange in Minnesota, was organized at St. Paul and at once took an active part in the development and spread of the Order. Indeed, they took so much interest that Mr. Kelley had much ado to keep them from finding out the real state of affairs at Washington, and the fact that he was frequently at a loss to answer their letters because of the lack of postage stamps! Yet somehow the letters were answered, and the new impetus given by this energetic Subordinate Grange and Mr. Kelley's renewed zeal soon brought results. Two more active Granges were organized in Minnesota before the end of the year, three others in January, 1869, and three in February.

On February 23, 1869, the Minnesota State Grange, the first State Grange, was organized, with representatives from 11 Subordinate Granges. Deputies were appointed for the extension of the work throughout the state and the spread of the Order in the West was really begun.

Soon after the organization of the State Grange Mr. Kelley went to Washington, visiting Fredonia Grange, which now had grown to more than 100 members. He arrived in Washington in time to attend the Second Annual Session of the National Grange, April 13, 1869. There were present at this meeting Brothers Saunders, Grosh, Ireland, Trimble, Thompson and Kelley. Mr. Kelley gave his report on organization, and was complimented upon his diligence and asked to go on with the same work. Miss Carrie A. Hall was officially recognized as his assistant and voted a salary of \$600 per annum. Some time before this she had been appointed Ceres of the National Grange by Mr. McDowell, High Priest of Demeter, so that she was the first woman to hold office in the National Grange. Steps were taken



John Richardson Thompson, one of the Founders and first
Lecturer of the National Grange.



Aaron B. Gosh, one of the Founders and first Chaplain of the National Grange.

toward providing suitable regalia and jewels for the Granges—though the sentiment of the body seemed to be that they needed members rather than decorations at this time. After passing a number of regulations, especially dealing with the relations of State Granges to the National and Subordinate bodies, the session was adjourned.

Mr. Kelley had brought with him sufficient Grange funds to settle the more pressing of the outstanding bills, and so to put the National Grange on a better footing at Washington, though after they were paid, as he said, "it required an effort on my part to leave the city in good order, without any aid from my associates."

CHAPTER III

Growth of the Order, 1869-1872—Third and Fourth essions of the National Grange

The energetic, newly organized State Grange of Minnesota was not long in developing new ideas concerning the Order. The people of the West, chafing under their wrongs against the railroads and retail dealers, were beginning to see that the new Order was the standard under which to lead their scattered, helpless forces to victory, and felt that there was nothing that they could not do through its agency. As one of the correspondents wrote at the time, the Patrons of Husbandry was to "make a blaze that will shine out on the horizon which will equal a prairie on fire," and the figure was not inappropriate to the later development of the Order.

A circular printed in St. Paul in September, 1868, had given among the advantages of the Order: "Systematic arrangements for procuring and disseminating, in the most expeditious manner, information relative to crops, demand and supply, prices, markets and transportation throughout the country, and for the establishment of depots for the sale of special and general products in the cities; also for the purchase and exchange of stock, seeds and desired help at home or from abroad, and situations for persons seeking employment; also for ascertaining and testing the merits of newly invented farm implements, and those not in general use, and for detecting and exposing those that are unworthy; and for protecting, by all available means, the farming interests from fraud and deception of every kind."

Mr. Kelley had, in his organizing work, given them a plan to prevent the farmers being swindled. "I tell

them," he said, "that in every Grange there is to be kept a Blue Book and a Red Book. In the former all swindling concerns they come in contact with are to be recorded, by vote of the Grange, and information transmitted to other Granges, by which we become a secret detective and protective organization. In the Red Book we record reliable establishments, and anyone receiving a letter of introduction by vote of a Grange, stating he is 'duly recorded in the Red Book,' is sure of a cordial reception. I also advocate a Business Agent in each Grange, to be elected by ballot, who shall keep a record of real estate, produce, stock, etc., that members have for sale, and also a record of such articles as outsiders wish to purchase, thereby saving our members valuable time now consumed in hunting up customers for their produce."

This plan seemed entirely too slow to the enthusiastic Patrons in the West, and on March 1, 1869, Mr. Kelley wrote to Mr. McDowell: "At the State Grange it was suggested that the different Subordinate Granges lease flouring mills in their respective localities, and flour their own wheat, keeping the bran and shorts for feed, and not send any raw material into the eastern market, but, instead, appoint a business agent at St. Paul, who should receive the flour and ship it to the agent in New York City, who shall sell it on commission." Mr. McDowell, however, was too wise and cautious to sanction such a movement, and replied: "*This* is a matter fraught with much good or evil—not only for individual Patrons, but to the Order itself, and for the present I should do nothing but discourage it, or at least take it on thought." And later, concerning some further plans from Minnesota: "If all who become Patrons were born again when they took the oath I should have some hope; but not at present. There is, I fear, too much human nature among us to die so quietly."

The matter of the State Agent, brought up in the

second annual session was tabled by general consent as premature. Notwithstanding this discouragement, the State Grange persisted in its course, and on April 26 Mr. Kelley wrote from St. Paul to Mr. McDowell: "Some of them say if they can't do as they please, and thus protect themselves against being swindled by the middlemen, they will withdraw from the organization in a body, and run it on their own hook. To quiet them, I told them to go ahead, that the National Grange considers it a local affair of their own, and not sanctioned by the Order at large. If any trouble arises, they must father it themselves." The appointment of a State Agent for buying supplies and farm implements was made and thus the first step was taken in what became one of the most important as well as the most dangerous of the activities of the Order.

The first Grange paper in the country was the *Minnesota Monthly*, issued at St. Paul, January 1, 1869, by D. A. Robertson, who had been chiefly responsible for the establishment of North Star Grange, and was Lecturer of the State Grange at this time. This paper at once became an important aid in disseminating Grange information throughout the West. The Secretary of the Minnesota State Grange, Captain William Paist, had opened an office in St. Paul, and nearly every member of the Minnesota Grange was interesting himself in spreading information concerning the aims and principles of the Order. They attracted so much attention that two or three northwestern church papers began to attack the Order openly—much to Mr. Kelley's delight because of the free advertising thus secured.

Meanwhile at the National Secretary's office Mr. Kelley and Miss Hall were busy sending out circulars and letters. He says: "Hardly a day but we send off circulars to some new quarter." Over 1,600 letters were written to editors in the western states during the year 1869. Although the returns from these letters were extremely slow, especially in a financial way,

they were helping to prepare the ground of the West for the later harvest of Granges.

Several deputies for organizing Granges had been secured. Mr. Kelley made several trips, usually returning to Itasca only when his supply of money ran out, and succeeded in organizing a number of successful Granges. In one month, November, 1869, 10 new Granges were added, one of them being the first working Grange in Illinois. This was organized at Nunda, Ill., November 27, 1869. Waukon Grange of Waukon, Ia., was organized in December, with Dudley W. Adams, later Master of the National Grange, as Secretary. It is claimed for Waukon Grange that it has held more meetings than any other in the country. Just at the close of the year Mr. Kelley organized the first Grange in Indiana, at Honey Creek, and a second soon after at Terre Haute. Thus the year 1869 closed with 38 new Granges and with several good Deputies enlisted in the work of organizing the farmers of the West. Besides this the Order was gradually developing in its plans and purposes as well as in numbers, and though still in financial straits, had secured a good foothold in the West.

A meeting of the National Grange had been called at Washington for December 8, 1869, and Brothers Saunders, Thompson, Grosh, Ireland and Trimble had assembled. Mr. Kelley was so much engaged with organization work that he found it impossible to be present at that time, and as the Secretary's report was practically the only purpose of the meeting, they adjourned until January, 1870, without transacting any business.

On January 25, 1870, the third (then called the second) annual session of the National Grange convened, with Brothers Saunders, Kelley, Grosh, Trimble, McDowell, Thompson and Ireland all present. These men were later recognized as the "seven founders" of the Order. Secretary Kelley made his "second annual re-

port." Concerning the growth of the Order, he reported that dispensations had been issued as follows: "Minnesota, 40; Illinois, three; Iowa, three; Pennsylvania, one; New York, one; Ohio, one. Of this number 39 were issued the past year, against 10 the previous year. Added to this is one State Grange—that of Minnesota."

In regard to future prospects, he continued: "From all whom I have met during the past 11 weeks the most encouraging words of cheer have been spoken. I have commissioned several to act as deputies, in hope of speedily extending the Order." He urged each member of the National Grange to give more attention to the work. As to the finances of the Order, he said: "While endeavoring to make my office self-supporting I have been under the necessity of incurring personal debts to the amount of \$300, mostly for printing, having confidence in the future prosperity of the Order." He also recommended the establishment of a newspaper as the "organ of the Order."

The Honorary and Associate members of the National Grange approved at the last session were: Col. D. A. Robertson, St. Paul, Minn.; Hon. Eugene Underwood, Louisville, Ky.; and H. D. Emery, Chicago, Ill. Now, on the motion of the Secretary, Geo. D. Hinckley, Fredonia, N. Y., Harvey D. Scott, Terre Haute, Ind., and William Paist, St. Paul, Minn., were made honorary members. After accepting officially the designs for jewels prepared by Mr. Kelley, and congratulating Mr. Kelley on his success in organization, the session adjourned.

No Master's address was delivered at this meeting, but as it seemed injudicious to publish a report of the proceedings for the general public, and yet important to advertise the Order, it was decided to have Mr. Saunders write a short "speech" for publication. This was prepared about a week after the close of the session and printed in the *Washington Republican*. Mr.

Saunders set forth in a very forceful manner the principles of the Order, and urged the establishment of libraries, supplied with books on agricultural and horticultural subjects. He then called attention to the necessity for social intercourse among farmers and their families, and stated that the admission of women to full membership was proving of incalculable value. "The time was auspicious," he continues, "for the introduction of this Order. The change of events which allowed the minds of the people to subside from the bustle and all-absorbing interest of the war to the calm and prosperity of peace called for new organizations, based upon the industrial arts rather than upon political theories—a basis that appeals to the patriotism and sensibilities of every cultivated and high-minded individual." The benefits that flow from such an association were enumerated, and he closed with an expression of hope for the usefulness of the Order and a belief in its growing prosperity.

This "speech" of Mr. Saunders was the beginning of what has since been the practice of the Master of the National Grange of delivering at the opening of each session of the National Grange the "Master's Annual Address."

After leaving Washington Mr. Kelley visited Mr. Bartlett in Ohio, and, with his help, organized the first Grange in Ohio at East Cleveland, March 2, 1870. Mr. Kelley had hoped to organize several granges on this trip, but a series of disappointments and delays on account of bad weather rendered his work unsuccessful. He arrived at Itasca March 19, much discouraged over the prospects. During his absence, however, a number of letters had accumulated which immediately raised his spirits with glowing reports of social pleasures of Granges in Minnesota, Indiana and Iowa and the growing interest in the Order among the farmers of the West. Many of the Subordinate Granges were taking up the work of advertising the Order by cir-

culars and newspaper articles, and inquiries were coming in from all parts of the country.

It was evident that the western Granges were finding the educational and social program, as given by the founders, rather tame. With the western farmer, they said, it was not so much a matter of raising crops as it was to market them. Why, they asked, should they study books on scientific agriculture and documents from the Department of Agriculture when corn was practically worthless in Indiana and Iowa because of middlemen's profits and exorbitant prices of transportation? As Mr. Kelley wrote to Mr. Saunders: "The idea of discussions upon how to raise crops is stale. They all want some plan of work to oppose the *infernal monopolies*. This seems to be uppermost in the mind of every member I have conversed with. The 'how to do it' is the rub. I think we can, by and by, introduce some system of insurance, so as to insure at cost."

About this time W. W. Corbett, editor of the *Prairie Farmer*, wrote to Mr. Kelley concerning a Producers' Convention to be held at Bloomington, Ill., brought about by the feeling of antagonism to the railroads. He hoped to make the permanent organization growing out of this meeting a part of the Patrons of Husbandry. He said of the Order: "It seems to me that we, as an Order, have a work to perform in the war that is to be waged in this country at no distant day, by the people against the monstrous monopolies that are overshadowing us. Railroads, insurance companies, warehouse and telegraph companies, are crushing the life out of the producing classes."

The farmers themselves were aroused over the situation. One of them said in a speech in a farmers' meeting: "Like rabbits, we are the prey of hawks by day, and owls and foxes by night. Is there no remedy for this? Is there anything in the occupation of agriculture that makes man a legitimate prey for all the human vampires that infest the earth? . . . The

railroad companies fix the price at which they will carry the grain to Chicago; elevators fix the price of handling it; and buyers finally agree how much they will give for it; and each one of these middlemen takes such a slice as he pleases; and the farmer timidly submits." Mr. Kelley agreed to add the fight against monopolies to the Grange program, and when the temporary State Grange was organized Henry C. Wheeler, advocate of the Farmers' League, the permanent organization of the Producers' Convention, was elected Secretary. As Mr. Kelley says: "This was boldly striking out in a direction that would find us an able adversary. I had some misgivings as to the result of such a war." Yet, as subsequent events showed, it was just such an issue and such an adversary that the Grange needed, as the times were ripe for it and the public mind ready for aggressive leadership, which the Grange proceeded to furnish.

On July 11, 1870, Mr. Kelley organized a temporary State Grange at Chicago, although it was necessarily made up largely of deputies. The first Grange in Tennessee was organized by letter at Stockton, June 10, and the first Grange in California, also by letter, at Pilot Hill, August 17, 1870.

Some time before, Mr. Kelley had begun, through Mr. Saunders, a lively correspondence with Thos. B. Bryan, a wealthy man of Chicago and "a thorough gentleman in every respect." When Mr. Kelley was in Chicago he expressed his sympathy with the movement, was initiated and became Treasurer of the temporary State Grange. He made many suggestions for the good of the Order, among them that the sending out of circulars should be kept up as the best means of getting its aims and principles before the people. For this purpose he placed from time to time considerable sums at Mr. Kelley's disposal—which resulted in the issuance of what were known as the "Bryan Fund Publications."

Through the invitation of N. J. Colman, editor of the *Rural World* of St. Louis, Mr. Kelley made a trip to Missouri, organizing the first Grange in the state at Glencoe, August 25, 1870. A second Grange was organized at St. Louis, and a temporary State Grange was effected. This brought into the Order Thomas R. Allen and William Muir, who later were instrumental in the spread of the Order in that state. On his way back to Minnesota Mr. Kelley met Gen. William Duane Wilson, formerly a member of Harvest Grange at Washington and then editor of the *Iowa Homestead* and *Farm Journal*, who had been appointed a general Deputy in Iowa, and together they organized two Granges in the neighborhood of Des Moines.

Thus at the close of the year 1870 there were 71 Granges in existence. During the year 19 new Granges had been organized in Minnesota, making 47 in all; and nine in Iowa, making 11 in all. Indiana had one new Grange, a total of three; Illinois the same; and New York one new Grange, with a total of two. Missouri had been added, with two Granges, and Ohio, Tennessee and California with one each. Temporary State Granges had been organized in Illinois and Missouri, giving a total of three State Granges. For a year's earnest work the spread of the Order would not seem particularly encouraging, but a wide correspondence with interested persons all over the country gave promise of better results in the future.

It had been Mr. Kelley's purpose from the beginning, as soon as the prospects of the Order would warrant it, to move the Secretary's office to Washington, D. C., because information emanating from the Capitol city had more prestige and would give the Order a better standing. The time would scarcely have seemed ripe to anyone else, for the funds from the Granges were still insufficient to pay the necessary bills for printing and postage, and Mr. Kelley was forced to borrow money in order to move his family. As usual, he was

building upon the future and seemed to have scarcely realized the wild venture he was making. The family reached Washington January 5, 1871, leased an unpretentious house on Sixth Street, and the Secretary and his assistant began sending out letters and circulars from the new home.

Circulars were sent to every Grange and to everyone who had written concerning the Order, stating that the Secretary's office had been moved to Washington. They also announced that the National Grange had adopted a new plan for organizing by letter, and that necessary information would be sent to anyone desiring to take an active part in the work. This arrangement had been accepted by Mr. Kelley because it seemed a necessity, as he had always believed that personal work and "talk" were necessary to the organization of good Granges. But now with inquiries coming in from all parts of the country it was an impossibility to have Deputies enough for the work.

The National Grange met for its fourth annual session at the office of National Master Saunders, January 4, 1871, with Brothers Saunders, Trimble, Grosh, Thompson and Kelley present. The Secretary made an informal report, but suggested that most of the business be postponed until he was located in the city and had opened his office. He read a number of communications from Granges. The Minnesota Granges suggested that County Granges be organized in counties with more than 10 Subordinate Granges, chiefly "to create a local corporation to buy machinery or goods and shipping produce." In consideration of the aid extended by Hon. Thomas B. Bryan of Chicago, he was invited to become a member of the Executive Committee of the National Grange. Then the meeting adjourned until the Secretary should have his complete report and his plans for the future to lay before them.

At the adjourned meeting, held at the Secretary's office January 25, little business was transacted, the

other members of the National Grange failing to agree with Mr. Kelley on his plan for organizing Granges by letter. They also objected to the "homespun" manner of his reports, and Mr. Ireland resigned his position as Treasurer.

After this the National Grange relapsed into inactivity for several months. Mr. Kelley and his assistant kept on according to their own plans and strove to maintain the confidence of distant Grangers in a strong national body back of them. In his history Mr. Kelley frankly admits his harmless fiction, but states that it was necessary for the good of the Order: "Everyone who wrote us expected a cheering answer; every application for a new Grange was supposed to be a companion to 20 others; and there could be nothing more discouraging than to write a Deputy he had sent in the only application received for the past week." There were even criticisms from the distant Granges concerning what was done with the "immense amount of money" which must be pouring into the National Treasury—when the whole support of the national branch depended from day to day upon the receipts.

The first co-operative purchasing was done by Master Hinckley of Fredonia Grange, New York, January 7, 1871, and on January 18, the first circular dealing with co-operative selling was prepared by National Master Saunders. This explained a plan for an advertising circular, for which firms recommended by the Granges were to be asked for advertisements of their wares. It was a good, conservative plan, but so far as is known was not tried by any of the Granges.

On January 12, 1871, the State Grange of Iowa was organized at Des Moines, with Dudley W. Adams as Master and General William Duane Wilson as Secretary. The first Grange in Wisconsin was organized January 5 at Plainville, and the first in Pennsylvania at Montgomery Station, February 22. New Granges were being added in the West—particularly under

General Wilson in Iowa, where the Order was doing much to develop an independent spirit among the farmers, "to bring out men who had never before taken an active part in any societies, and place them in the first rank." Thus leaders were being trained for the farmer's battles of a few years later.

About this time Rufus Hatch was publishing in the New York *Independent* some wide-awake articles upon the railroads watering their stock, and Mr. Kelley sent a few copies to the western Granges. They were received with such great interest that he later secured a considerable number of these articles and distributed them widely in the West, where the railroad question was rapidly becoming acute. He found these circulars "excellent 'fuel' for Deputies to circulate," for they showed clearly the necessity of organization among the farmers. "'Co-operation' and 'down with monopolies'," Mr. Kelley says, "were proving popular watch-words."

On May 25 the first Grange organized in the South was reported from Charleston, S. C., and a short time after (June 3) another in Rienzi, Miss., where it very soon became a powerful organization among the southern planters. Col. R. D. Powell of Columbus, Miss., became interested and proved an indefatigable worker and one of the most earnest friends of the Order in its spread through the South. The people of the South, though at first inclined to be suspicious of anything that came from Washington, were beginning to wake up to the fact that the Grange could be made of service to them in restoring peace and harmony between the sections which had been so recently at war. Col. Powell wrote to Mr. Kelley: "I am fully satisfied in my mind that this movement is the only thing to save the South, and bring it together in friendship and love."

Kentucky was placed on the list of Grange states August 11, and New Jersey December 26, 1871. On

July 4 the first Grange in Vermont, also the first in New England, was organized and seemed to give promise of a large growth in that section. But, although both J. R. Thompson and later Mr. Kelley visited the state they failed to organize any more Granges. Mr. Kelley also visited Boston, and, with the assistance of George Noyes of the *Massachusetts Ploughman*, attempted an organization, but was unsuccessful. Many of the Granges throughout the country held Fourth of July picnics and other demonstrations, and the newspapers, great and small, were talking of the Order—some of them favoring it and others criticizing and opposing it, but the publicity they gave did much to spread its influence and increase its membership.

During October, 1871, an effort was made to disseminate among the Subordinate Granges information relative to crops, machines, etc. Grange agencies were established in some of the leading cities, and a movement for opening local Grange stores was spreading over the country. This was the first great co-operative movement in this country, but in most cases it proved disastrous and much money was lost, which in some localities has done much to discredit the Grange to this day.

During the year T. A. Thompson, Master of the Minnesota State Grange, had much improved the secret work of the Order, and was asked to exemplify the work before the Subordinate Granges of his state.

The year closed with 130 new Granges, against 38 the previous year, and with a much more efficient force of Deputies at work. Seven new states had been added to the Grange list—Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Mississippi, Vermont, Kentucky, and New Jersey, making a total of 16. Two State Granges had been organized, Iowa and Wisconsin, and many energetic men in the West were working for the cause of the Patrons of Husbandry.



Francis Marion McDowell, one of the Founders and third
Treasurer of the National Grange.



Caroline Arabelle Hall, "equal to a Founder" and first Ceres of the National Grange.

CHAPTER IV

The Permanent Organization Effected, 1872-1873— Fifth and Sixth Sessions of the National Grange

The year 1872 opened with glowing prospects for the Patrons of Husbandry. On January 3 the National Grange held its fifth annual session at Washington, D. C., and for the first time the master of a State Grange was present—Master Dudley W. Adams of the Iowa State Grange. Although for several years announcements of the annual meeting had been sent out to all the Granges, the long, expensive journey from the West had prevented the attendance of delegates. The lack of attendance had, however, not been much regretted by the national officers, since the weakness of the organization would have been painfully apparent. There were present at the meetings, also, Master Wm. Saunders, J. R. Thompson, D. S. Curtiss, O. H. Kelley and A. B. Grosh.

Secretary Kelley made a written report in which he stated that everywhere Grange enthusiasm was spreading. "In examining the work that has been done by subordinate Granges," he reported, "we find that many of them have reaped large benefits in their dealings, in many cases the members receiving discounts in a single season, amounting to ten or even twenty times the cost of membership, while equally as large benefits are attainable in the future. The pecuniary benefit is a consideration in joining the order, and should be one inducement to promptness in the payment of dues.

"The educational and social features of the Order offer inducement to some to join, but the majority desire pecuniary benefits—advantages in purchase of machinery and sales of produce. To bring all the

Granges into direct communication, and to devise a system of co-operation, devolves upon the National Grange."

The legislation of the session was chiefly to put the relations of Subordinate Granges to the State and National Granges on a better basis for greater regularity and punctuality in making reports—the greatest difficulty in all new Orders. The Executive Committee was asked to prepare a simple form of by-laws for Subordinate Granges and many perplexing questions of local management were discussed.

The treasurer, W. M. Ireland, having resigned at the last meeting, J. R. Thompson was elected to fill the unexpired term. This made a vacancy in the office of Lecturer, which was filled by the election of D. W. Adams, who, in spite of his disillusionment concerning the size of the National body, had shown great interest and enthusiasm in the plans for the good of the Order. The roll of National officers was now as follows:

- Master*—William Saunders, Washington, D. C.
- Overseer*—Anson Bartlett, North Madison, Ohio.
- Lecturer*—D. W. Adams, Waukon, Iowa.
- Steward*—William Muir, St. Louis, Missouri.
- Assistant Steward*—A. S. Moss, Fredonia, New York.
- Chaplain*—A. B. Grosh, Washington, D. C.
- Treasurer*—J. R. Thompson, Washington, D. C.
- Secretary*—O. H. Kelley, Washington, D. C.
- Gatekeeper*—E. P. Farris, Henry, Illinois.
- Ceres*—Miss Carrie A. Hall, Washington, D. C.

The other lady offices were not filled.

Soon after the close of the session Col. D. Wyatt Aiken of South Carolina arrived in Washington to attend an agricultural convention called by Commissioner Watts of the Department of Agriculture. He had been previously appointed a Deputy in the Order, so he immediately visited the office of Secretary Kelley

and discussed with him the plans for organization. When he reached the convention he found the chairman and delegates smugly discussing vague general problems of education without any reference to the needs of farmers and the country life. He stood it as long as he could, then jumped to his feet and exclaimed:

“Mr. Chairman—This is ostensibly an Agricultural Convention, but I have not heard the word agriculture spoken since it convened. We seem to be gathered here in the interest of education. The wants of the farmer appear to be ignored entirely. This will not be the case always, however, for there is now springing up amongst the farmers of our country an organization that will teach them their rights, and knowing them they will dare maintain them. I mean the organization known as the Patrons of Husbandry.”

This was too much for the convention of pseudo-farmers. The chairman tried to call him to order, and, failing this, the entire speech was left out of the published proceedings. It was almost the first instance of the farmer speaking for himself and was a prophecy of the future work of the Order.

When Colonel Aiken returned to South Carolina from his trip to Washington he lost no time in getting his state into line with the new movement. Ten Granges were organized in the month of April, 1872, and on October 9 the State Grange was organized by Mr. Kelley at Columbia with Thomas Taylor as Master and Colonel Aiken as Secretary. By the end of the year there were 101 Granges in South Carolina, placing it next after Iowa in numbers. Mr. Kelley had also organized the Mississippi State Grange on March 15 with A. J. Vaughan as Master, and 55 Granges were organized in this state during the year. Kentucky organized one new Grange and Tennessee four. The first Granges were organized in other southern states as follows: Virginia, February 16; Louisiana, March

15; Alabama, July 15; Arkansas, August 3; and Georgia, October 2.

In the country as a whole the month of January, 1872, brought in 54 new Granges and by the close of the year 1,105 had been organized. Truly, the prairie fire was beginning to spread! More than half of these (652) were in Iowa, under the general direction of D. W. Adams, and 46 in Minnesota. The Illinois State Grange was reorganized permanently at Dixon, March 5, 1872, with Alonzo Golder as Master. The Order immediately became very popular in the state, and 65 new Granges were in existence before the close of the year. Indiana State Grange was organized February 22, 1872, at Terre Haute, with John Weir as Master, and 38 new Granges were established in that state in the year.

Since the organization of the State Grange in Wisconsin in 1871 difficulties had arisen between the officers of the State Grange and Deputy Burnham which for a time threatened the life of the Order in that state. Letters, both for and against the Deputy, were continually coming to the Secretary's office, and at last the complaints became so numerous that action seemed necessary. Mr. Kelley appointed J. C. Abbott of Iowa to investigate the matter, with the result that Deputy Burnham handed in his resignation. Then Mr. Abbott was asked to take up the work in Wisconsin, and, though the Order was for a time in bad repute, succeeded in increasing the number of Granges in that state very greatly before the end of the year.

The first Grange was organized in Michigan, January 10, 1872, under E. M. Jones, and, with Mr. Abbott's assistance, several others were soon added. The first Nebraska Grange was organized by letter in January, and on August 2 General Wilson of Iowa organized the Nebraska State Grange, with William B. Porter as Master. He also organized the Kansas State Grange, with F. H. Dumbauld as Master.

Very little headway was made in the eastern states, except in Vermont, where Deputy Eben Thompson had organized 13 Granges by July 4, when Mr. Kelley established the State Grange—the first in New England—at St. Johnsbury, with E. P. Colton as Master. Deputy Thompson also organized the first Grange in Canada August 16, 1872, and two more were added before the close of the year.

The following quotation summarizes well the organization accomplished during the year: (Buck, "The Granger Movement.")

"State Granges were organized in six states—Indiana, Vermont, South Carolina, Nebraska, Mississippi and Kansas—and reorganized in Illinois and Wisconsin, thus making, in all 10 state granges in operation. In nine states—Nebraska, Oregon, Michigan, Virginia, Louisiana, Kansas, Alabama, Arkansas and Georgia—the Order found lodgment during 1872, so that, at the close of the year 25 states had active Subordinate Granges within their limits. Although the strength of the Order was, at this time, concentrated mainly in Iowa and Minnesota in the Northwest and South Carolina and Mississippi in the South, still its spread was so general and its centers so far apart, that it must be looked upon, even thus early, as distinctly national in character. In the North Central group, every state had now been entered, and the territory of Dakota alone remained untouched by the Order; while of the southern states, all had Granges except Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Florida and Texas. In the eastern or North Atlantic States little progress had been made, except in Vermont; while on the Pacific coast the Order had been introduced into both California and Oregon, though as yet these states had but one Grange apiece."

For the first time the funds of the National Grange were comfortably plentiful. As Mr. Kelley says, he was now able to "adopt the cash system in all dealings, and so carry out one of the great principles of our Order." The money advanced by Mr. Bryan and others was returned, all claims against the Order were settled, and it was at last upon a prosperous business basis. Early in October Miss Hall published a Grange song book, "Grange Melodies," with words set to

music for general Grange occasions, as well as special songs for the various degrees. This book, with many changes and additions, is still the official song book, and is used by many thousands of Patrons throughout the country.

Although the emphasis in all the Subordinate Granges was on the pecuniary side of the organization, much good was resulting from its social and educational principles. For the first time farmers everywhere were assembling with a common purpose, and the social pleasures of their meetings did much to lighten the dull routine and isolation of farm life. On special occasions they held celebrations and picnics, with processions miles in length and gatherings of thousands—ten thousand was reported from one place. The discussions in the Grange meetings were bringing to light the fact that the average farmer was quite ignorant of the scientific principles underlying his operations, and there was an insistent demand for information in this line.

The farmer and his family were beginning to realize their importance and power as never before in the history of the country. Indeed, before the end of the year even the politicians were beginning to realize the strength of the Patrons of Husbandry as a political force, and the dealers in farm supplies its importance as a selling agency. Everywhere there was frantic wire-pulling to secure initiation into the now powerful Order.

On January 8-11, 1873, the first regular delegate session of the National Grange was held in Georgetown, D. C., in the parlors of Mr. Kelley's home, just five years one month and four days after the recognized "birthday of the Order," December 4, 1867. Twenty-three men and four women, representing 11 states, came together for consultation for the good of the Order. The day of the fulfillment of the founders'

dreams was at hand, and the organization passed into the control of real farmers.

The Committee on Credentials at the opening of the session reported the following delegates present and their standing in the Order is given as indicated by Mr. Kelley in his "History":

William Saunders, Washington, D.C., Master National Grange.
 J. R. Thompson, Washington, D.C., Treasurer National Grange.
 O. H. Kelley, Washington, D. C., Secretary National Grange.
 Rev. A. B. Grosh, Washington, D.C., Chaplain National Grange.
 J. C. Abbott, Clarkesville, Iowa, General Deputy.

Dudley W. Adams, Waukon, Iowa, Master Iowa State Grange.
 D. Wyatt Aiken, Cokesbury, South Carolina, General Deputy.
 T. R. Allen, Allenton, Missouri, Deputy and State Master.

John Cochrane, Waupun, Wisconsin, Master State Grange.
 D. S. Curtiss, Washington, D. C., General Deputy.

O. Dinwiddie, Orchard Grove, Indiana, General Deputy.

A. Golder, Rock Falls, Illinois, Master State Grange.

F. M. McDowell, Corning, New York, General Deputy.

Wm. B. Porter, Plattsmouth, Nebraska, Master State Grange.

D. A. Robertson, Saint Paul, Minnesota, General Deputy.

E. R. Shankland, Dubuque, Iowa, Associate.

Joseph Seymour, Syracuse, New York, General Deputy.

Thomas Taylor, Columbia, South Carolina, Master State Grange.

T. A. Thompson, Plainview, Minnesota, Master State Grange.

G. W. Thompson, New Brunswick, New Jersey, Deputy and State Master.

John Trimble, Jr., Washington, D. C., Associate.

A. J. Vaughan, Early Grove, Mississippi, Master State Grange.

W. Duane Wilson, Des Moines, Iowa, General Deputy.

Although they were not mentioned in the committee's report, four women were also present at this session: Mrs. J. C. Abbott, Mrs. D. W. Adams, Miss Carrie A. Hall, and Mrs. O. H. Kelley.

At the opening of the session Worthy Master William Saunders delivered the first "Master's Annual Address" ever actually delivered to the National Grange. In this he made a brief review of the history of the Order and set forth as its chief duties for the future: 1st, to collect information; 2d, to dissemi-

nate it, as well as to judge the value of measures affecting the Order as a whole. To facilitate prompt action in times of emergency he suggested that an executive board be appointed to represent the National Grange.

The Secretary's report contained an itemized statement of expenses and showed all bills paid except a balance of \$3,321.74 due him on salary. In his "History" the Secretary says: "With this meeting the work of my assistant (Miss Carrie A. Hall) and myself virtually closed. We passed the temporary organization over to the incorporated body, and in so doing had the satisfaction of knowing it was free of debt, except what was owing to ourselves, and cash enough on hand to defray the general expenses of the session." One thousand one hundred and five dispensations had been issued during the year.

The salary of the Secretary up to this time had been \$2,000 per year, and of his assistant \$600. Now, however, the Secretary's salary was fixed at \$3,500 per year, which was to include the payment for all assistance and all work in and connected with the office. The Treasurer's salary was fixed at \$1,000, and he was required to give a bond of \$10,000. No other reference to salaries is made in the Journal.

To give the organization a legal recognition a Charter was obtained in the names of all the old officers and members present—William Saunders, O. H. Kelley, John R. Thompson, A. B. Grosh, John Trimble, Jr., F. M. McDowell, and Dudley W. Adams, and of D. A. Robertson of Minnesota and D. Wyatt of South Carolina, new members. It stated that the object of the "National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry" should be "to act as the governing body of the Order known as the 'Patrons of Husbandry,' which Order is an organization among farmers and those engaged in kindred pursuits in the United States, to secure to them the advantages of co-operation in all things af-

fecting their interests, and of mutual improvement.”

Up to this session the orders, rules and laws formulated by the “founders” had undergone many changes, and even yet were wholly inadequate to the needs of the rapidly growing Order. After much discussion and working over in committees the following Constitution and By-Laws were accepted and have been the basis for all legislation for the good of the Order ever since. The preamble was written by Wm. Saunders:

PREAMBLE

Human happiness is the acme of earthly ambition. Individual happiness depends upon general prosperity.

The prosperity of a nation is in proportion to the value of its productions.

The soil is the source from which we derive all that constitutes wealth; without it we would have no agriculture, no manufactures, no commerce. Of all the material gifts of the Creator, the various productions of the vegetable world are of the first importance. The art of agriculture is the parent and precursor of all arts, and its products the foundation of all wealth.

The productions of the earth are subject to the influence of natural laws, invariable and indisputable; the amount produced will consequently be in proportion to the intelligence of the producer, and success will depend upon his knowledge of the action of these laws, and the proper application of their principles.

Hence, knowledge is the foundation of happiness.

The ultimate object of this organization is for mutual instruction and protection, to lighten labor by diffusing a knowledge of its aims and purposes, expand the mind by tracing the beautiful laws the Great Creator has established in the Universe, and to enlarge our views of Creative wisdom and power.

To those who read aright, history proves that in all ages society is fragmentary, and successful results of general welfare can be secured only by general effort. Unity of action cannot be acquired without discipline, and discipline cannot be enforced without significant organization; hence we have a ceremony of initiation which binds us in mutual fraternity as with a band of iron; but although its influence is so powerful, its application is as gentle as that of the silken thread that binds a wreath of flowers.

ORGANIZATION

SUBORDINATE GRANGES

- First Degree—Laborer (man), Maid (woman).
 Second Degree—Cultivator (man), Shepherdess (woman).
 Third Degree—Harvester (man), Gleaner (woman).
 Fourth Degree—Husbandman (man), Matron (woman).

STATE GRANGE

- Fifth Degree—Pomona (Hope). Composed of Masters of Subordinate Granges and their wives who are Matrons. Past Masters and their wives who are Matrons shall be Honorary members and eligible to office, but not entitled to vote.

NATIONAL GRANGE

- Sixth Degree—Flora (Charity). Composed of Masters of State Granges and their wives who have taken the degree of Pomona. Past Masters of State Granges, and their wives who have taken said degree, shall be Honorary members and eligible to office, but not entitled to vote.
- Seventh Degree. Ceres (Faith). Members of the National Grange who have served one year therein may become members of this degree upon application and election. It shall have charge of the secret work of the Order, and shall be a court of impeachment of all officers of the National Grange. Members of the degree are Honorary members of the National Grange, and are eligible to office therein, but not entitled to vote.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.—OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of a Grange, either National, State, or Subordinate, consist of and rank as follows: Master, Overseer, Lecturer, Steward, Assistant Steward, Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, Gatekeeper, Ceres, Pomona, Flora, and Lady Assistant Steward. It is their duty to see that the laws of the Order are carried out.

Sec. 2. How Chosen.—In the Subordinate Granges they shall be chosen annually; in the State Granges once in two years; and in the National Grange once in three years. All elections to be by ballot.

Vacancies by death or resignation to be filled at a special election at the next regular meeting thereof—officers so chosen to serve until the annual meeting.

Sec. 3. The Master of the National Grange may appoint mem-

bers of the Order as deputies to organize Granges where no State Grange exists.

Sec. 4. There shall be an Executive Committee of the National Grange, consisting of three members, whose terms of office shall be three years, one of whom shall be elected each year.

Sec. 5. The officers of the respective Granges shall be addressed as "WORTHY."

ARTICLE II.—MEETINGS

Section 1. *Subordinate Granges* shall meet once each month, and may hold intermediate meetings as may be deemed necessary for the good of the Order. All business meetings are confined to the Fourth Degree.

Sec. 2. *State Granges* shall meet annually at such time and place as the Grange shall from year to year determine.

Sec. 3. *The National Grange* shall meet annually on the first Wednesday in February, at such place as the Grange may from year to year determine. Should the National Grange adjourn without selecting the place of meeting, the Executive Committee shall appoint the place and notify the Secretary of the National Grange and the Masters of State Granges, at least thirty days before the day appointed.

ARTICLE III.—LAWS

The National Grange, at its annual session, shall frame, amend, or repeal such laws as the good of the Order may require. All laws of State and Subordinate Granges must conform to this Constitution and the laws adopted by the National Grange.

ARTICLE IV.—RITUAL

The Ritual adopted by the National Grange shall be used in all Subordinate Granges, and any desired alteration in the same must be submitted to, and receive the sanction of, the National Grange.

ARTICLE V.—MEMBERSHIP

Any person interested in agricultural pursuits, of the age of sixteen years, female, and eighteen years, male, duly proposed, elected, and complying with the rules and regulations of the Order, is entitled to membership and the benefit of the degrees taken. Every application must be accompanied by a fee of membership. If rejected, the money will be refunded. Applications must be certified by members, and balloted for at a subsequent meeting. It shall require three negative votes to reject an applicant.

ARTICLE VI.—FEES FOR MEMBERSHIP

The minimum fee for membership in a Subordinate Grange shall be, for men five dollars, and for women two dollars, for the four degrees, except charter members, who shall pay—men, three dollars, and women fifty cents.

ARTICLE VII.—DUES

Section 1. The minimum of regular monthly dues shall be ten cents from each member, and each Grange may otherwise regulate its own dues.

Sec. 2. The Secretary of each Subordinate Grange shall report quarterly to the Secretary of the State Grange the names of all persons initiated or passed to higher degrees.

Sec. 3. The Treasurer of each Subordinate Grange shall report quarterly, and pay to the Treasurer of his State Grange the sum of one dollar for each man and fifty cents for each woman initiated during that quarter; also a quarterly due of six cents for each member.

Sec. 4. The Secretary of each State Grange shall report quarterly to the Secretary of the National Grange the membership in his state, and the degrees conferred during the quarter.

Sec. 5. The Treasurer of each State Grange shall deposit to the credit of the National Grange of Patrons of Husbandry with some banking or trust company in New York (to be selected by the Executive Committee), in quarterly instalments, the annual due of ten cents for each member in his state, and forward the receipts for the same to the Treasurer of the National Grange.

Sec. 6. All moneys deposited with said company shall be paid out only upon the drafts of the Treasurer, signed by the Master and countersigned by the Secretary.

Sec. 7. No State Grange shall be entitled to representation in the National Grange whose dues are unpaid for more than one quarter.

ARTICLE VIII.—REQUIREMENTS

Section 1. Reports from Subordinate Granges relative to crops, implements, stock, or any other matters called for by the National Grange, must be certified to by the Master and Secretary, and under seal of the Grange giving the same.

Sec. 2. All printed matter on whatever subject, and all information issued by the National or State to Subordinate Granges, shall be made known to the members without unnecessary delay.

Sec. 3. If any brothers or sisters of the Order are sick it shall be the duty of the Patrons to visit them, and see that they are well provided with all things needful.

Sec. 4. Any member found guilty of wanton cruelty to animals shall be expelled from the Order.

Sec. 5. The officers of Subordinate Granges shall be on the alert in devising means by which the interests of the whole Order may be advanced; but no plan of work shall be adopted by State or Subordinate Granges without first submitting it to, and receiving the sanction of, the National Grange.

ARTICLE IX.—CHARTERS AND DISPENSATIONS

Section 1. All charters and dispensations issue directly from the National Grange.

Sec. 2. Nine men and four women having received the four Subordinate Degrees, may receive a dispensation to organize a Subordinate Grange.

Sec. 3. Applications for dispensations shall be made to the Secretary of the National Grange, and be signed by the persons applying for the same, and be accompanied by a fee of fifteen dollars.

Sec. 4. Charter members are those persons *only* whose names are upon the application, and whose fees were paid at the time of organization. Their number shall not be less than nine men and four women, nor more than twenty men and ten women.

Sec. 5. Fifteen Subordinate Granges working in a State can apply for authority to organize a State Grange.

Sec. 6. When State Granges are organized, dispensations will be replaced by charters, issued without further fee.

Sec. 7. All charters must pass through the State Granges for record, and receive the seal and official signatures of the same.

Sec. 8. No Grange shall confer more than one degree (either *First, Second, Third, or Fourth*) at the same meeting.

Sec. 9. After a State Grange is organized, all applications for charters must pass through the same and be approved by the Master and Secretary.

ARTICLE X.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS

The duties of the officers of the National, State and Subordinate Granges shall be prescribed by the laws of the same.

ARTICLE XI.—TREASURERS

Section 1. The Treasurers of the National, State and Subordinate Granges shall give bonds, to be approved by the officers of their respective Granges.

Sec. 2. In all the Granges bills must be approved by the Master, and countersigned by the Secretary, before the Treasurer can pay the same.

ARTICLE XII.—RESTRICTIONS

Religious and political questions will not be tolerated as subjects of discussion in the work of the Order, and no political or religious tests for membership shall be applied.

ARTICLE XIII.—AMENDMENTS

This Constitution can be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the National Grange at any Annual meeting, and when such alteration or amendment shall have been ratified by three-fourths of the State Granges, and the same reported to the Secretary of the National Grange, it shall be of full force.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I.

The fourth day of December, the birthday of the Patrons of Husbandry, shall be celebrated as the anniversary of the Order.

ARTICLE II.

Not less than the representation of ten States present at any meeting of the National Grange shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE III.

At the annual meeting of each State Grange it may elect a proxy to represent the State Grange in the National Grange in case of the inability of the Master to attend, but such proxy shall not thereby be entitled to the Sixth Degree.

ARTICLE IV.

Questions of administration and jurisprudence arising in and between State Granges, and appeals from the action and decision thereof, shall be referred to the Master and Executive Committee of the National Grange, whose decision shall be respected and obeyed until overruled by action of the National Grange.

ARTICLE V.

It shall be the duty of the Master to preside at meetings of the National Grange; to see that all officers and members of committees properly perform their respective duties; to see that the Constitution, By-Laws, and resolutions of the National Grange and the usages of the Order are observed and obeyed; to sign all

drafts drawn upon the Treasury; and generally to perform all duties pertaining to such office.

ARTICLE VI.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of all proceedings of the National Grange, to keep a just and true account of all moneys received and paid out by him, to countersign all drafts upon the Treasury, to conduct the correspondence of the National Grange, and generally to act as the administrative officer of the National Grange, under the direction of the Master and the Executive Committee.

It shall be his duty, at least once each month, to deposit with the Fiscal Agency holding the funds of the National Grange all moneys that may have come into his hands, and forward a duplicate receipt therefor to the Treasurer, and to make a full report of all transactions to the National Grange at each annual session.

It shall be his further duty to procure a monthly report from the Fiscal Agency with whom the funds of the National Grange are deposited of all moneys received and paid out by them during each month, and send a copy of such report to the Executive Committee and the Master of the National Grange.

ARTICLE VII.

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to issue all drafts upon the Fiscal Agency of the Order, said drafts having been previously signed by the Master and countersigned by the Secretary of the National Grange.

Sec. 2. He shall report monthly to the Master of the National Grange, through the office of the Secretary, a statement of receipt of deposits made by him during the previous month.

Sec. 3. He shall report to the National Grange at each annual session a statement of all receipts of deposits made by him and of all drafts or checks signed by him since his last annual report.

ARTICLE VIII.

It shall be the duty of the Lecturer to visit, for the good of the Order, such portions of the United States as the Executive Committee may direct, for which services he shall receive compensation.

ARTICLE IX.

It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to exercise a general supervision of the affairs of the Order during the recess

of the National Grange; to instruct the Secretary in regard to printing and disbursements, and to place in his hands a contingent fund; to decide all questions and appeals referred to them by the officers and members of State Granges; and to lay before the National Grange at each session a report of all such questions and appeals, and their decisions thereon.

ARTICLE X.

Section 1. Such compensation for time and services shall be given the Master, Lecturer, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Committee as the National Grange may, from time to time, determine.

Sec. 2. Whenever General Deputies are appointed by the Master of the National Grange, said Deputies shall receive such compensation for time and service as may be determined by the Executive Committee: Provided, In no case shall pay from the National Grange be given General Deputies in any state after the formation of its State Grange.

ARTICLE XI.

Section 1. The financial existence of Subordinate Granges shall date from the first day of January, first day of April, first day of July, and first day of October subsequent to the day of their organization, from which date their first quarter shall commence.

Sec. 2. State Granges shall date their financial existence three months after the first day of January, first of April, first of July, and first of October immediately following their organization.

ARTICLE XII.

Each State Grange shall be entitled to send one representative, who shall be a Master thereof, or his proxy, to all meetings of the National Grange. He shall receive mileage at the rate of five cents per mile both ways, computed by the nearest practicable route, to be paid as follows: The Master and Secretary of the National Grange shall give such representative an order for the amount on the Treasurer of the State Grange which he represents, and this order shall be receivable by the National Grange in payment of State dues.

ARTICLE XIII.

Special meetings of the National Grange shall be called by the Master upon the application of the Masters of ten State Granges,

one month's notice of such meeting being given to all members of the National Grange. No alterations or amendments to the By-Laws or Ritual shall be made at any special meeting.

ARTICLE XIV.

These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the National Grange by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

The changes made in the laws of the Order in this new Constitution and By-Laws, although numerous, were by no means in opposition to the plan as laid down by the founders originally. There was no change in the principles, aims or leading measures, nor in the order and rank of degrees, officers or Granges. It was simply a matter of getting the general plan of the founders upon a working basis in the growing organization.

For the first time all the offices in the National Grange were filled for the term of three years, as provided by the Constitution, by electing the following:

- Master*—Dudley W. Adams, Iowa.
Overseer—Thos. Taylor, South Carolina.
Lecturer—T. A. Thompson, Minnesota.
Steward—A. J. Vaughan, Mississippi.
Assistant Steward—G. W. Thompson, New Jersey.
Chaplain—A. B. Grosh, District of Columbia.
Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, New York.
Secretary—O. H. Kelley, District of Columbia.
Gatekeeper—O. Dinwiddie, Indiana.
Ceres—Mrs. D. W. Adams, Iowa.
Pomona—Mrs. O. H. Kelley, District of Columbia.
Flora—Mrs. J. C. Abbott, Iowa.
Lady Assistant Steward—Miss C. A. Hall, District of Columbia.
Executive Committee—Wm. Saunders of D. C., D. W. Aiken of South Carolina, and E. R. Shankland of Iowa.

The session adjourned to meet at St. Louis, Mo., in February, 1874.

Up to this time no journal of proceedings of the sessions of the National Grange had been published, so no

record has come down to us except the references made to the sessions by Mr. Kelley in his "History." His references are often confusing, and we are left in doubt as to which of the various meetings he considered "annual sessions" of the National Grange. The journal of this session, however, was published as the "Proceedings of the Sixth Session of the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry" in a small pamphlet of 34 pages. Only a few copies were printed, and these became so rare that in 1898 a reprint was made by order of the National Grange, so that the record of this first delegate session would not become lost forever.

CHAPTER V

Dudley W. Adams' Administration, First Year 1873— Seventh Session of the National Grange

When the National Grange closed the labors of the day on the evening of January 11, 1873, it was fully equipped as a great national farmers' organization, with a full set of officers, including an executive committee, who were duly authorized to execute the laws of the Order until the next annual session. Dudley W. Adams of Iowa had been elected Worthy Master for a term of three years, as provided in the constitution just adopted, and he immediately began the work made incumbent upon him thereby.

The three years of the D. W. Adams' administration covered one of the most active periods in the history of the Order. The work of organization was going forward very rapidly, and many important economic, social and educational problems affecting the interests of agriculture were demanding solution and requiring the most far-seeing statesmanship.

The most important question which demanded attention at this time was that of transportation. Railroads were being extended in every direction, and being by nature a monopoly, they controlled the commerce of the country, with power to levy taxes and collect tribute from every individual who bought or sold. All sorts of evils had crept into the railroad business of the country, such as over-capitalization, "watered stock," discrimination against individuals and places, influencing courts and legislatures by free passes and otherwise, and many others. They assumed the prerogatives of sovereignty with a good deal of offensive arrogance, which was widely resented.

From 1871 to 1875 came the Granger revolt against railroad discrimination, extortion and favoritism. Up to the time of the enactment of the so-called "Granger laws," the railway corporations had boldly asserted their rights as owners and managers of the railroads to manage them arbitrarily. The Grange challenged the assumption that railways were private property and subject only to the arbitrary control of the managers and officers. The government had favored the railway theory, and in the beginning of the contest there was arrayed against the farmer nearly the whole legal and newspaper talent of the country, as well as the hostility of the political leaders of whom many had been seduced by the corruption of railway favors in the way of passes and other courtesies.

The result of the "Granger Agitation" was the establishment of the principle of state and national control of railways, and this principle has been the foundation of all subsequent legislation respecting the control of railways. It is manifestly inexpedient to discuss the great transportation problems here, but the Grange has won no more notable and far-reaching victory than the one cited above, and in his "address" to the seventh annual session of the National Grange, Worthy Master Adams suggested state and national control of railroads and railroad rates by means of state and interstate railway commissions. "It seems clear to me," he said, "that the same government which can take my land for the public good and fix the price thereof, can say to the railroads, 'The public good demands that you carry freight and persons at reasonable rates, which you henceforth must do, and we will decide what those rates shall be.'"

Throughout the year, the executive committee had taken an active part in the railroad agitation, and it is now recognized everywhere that the outcome of this early Grange victory was sound in principle and of

tremendous value to the whole country and every interest in it, as well as that of agriculture.

The work of the year closed with the meeting of the National Grange in its seventh annual session at St. Louis, Mo., February 4, 1874. In his address, the Worthy Master said: "The work of the National Grange has been almost exclusively one of organization. In this direction its success has been such as to excite the constant wonder of even its own members, while those outside the gates have beheld our growth with undisguised amazement." At the last session there were nine State Granges represented, but at this session there were 32 State Granges duly represented by the following delegates: Alabama, W. H. Chambers; Arkansas, John T. Jones; California, J. M. Hamilton; Colorado, R. O. Tenney; Dakota, E. B. Crew; Florida, B. F. Wardlaw; Georgia, T. J. and Mrs. Smith; Iowa, A. B. and Mrs. Smedley; Indiana, H. James; Illinois, A. Golder; Kansas, M. E. Hudson; Kentucky, M. D. Davie; Louisiana, H. W. L. Lewis; Maryland, J. T. and Mrs. Moore; Massachusetts, T. L. Allis; Michigan, S. F. Brown; Missouri, T. R. Allen; Minnesota; G. J. and Mrs. Parsons; Mississippi, A. J. and Mrs. Vaughan; New Jersey, E. and Mrs. Howland; New Hampshire, D. T. and Mrs. Chase; New York, G. D. Hinckley; North Carolina, Columbus and Mrs. Mills; Nebraska, W. B. and Mrs. Porter; Ohio, S. H. Ellis; Oregon, Daniel Clark; Pennsylvania, D. B. Mauger; South Carolina, Thos. and Mrs. Taylor; Tennessee, William and Mrs. Maxwell; Virginia, J. W. White; West Virginia, B. M. Kitchen; Wisconsin, John Cochrane.

"When the first Subordinate Granges had been organized," says Master Adams, "one of the first and most important subjects for discussion was how to make two blades of grass grow where one grew before." During these discussions the fact soon became prominent that how to sell crops was fully as knotty a

question as how to grow them. The Master emphasized the importance of admitting no one to membership except *bona fide* farmers, and called attention to the fact that a Grange was organized the last summer in the city of Boston composed of a class commonly known as "middlemen." This was a class of members never contemplated by the Constitution, and the Charter to this Grange was canceled. It is generally believed that the Grange would have been stronger if it had drawn the plumb line of agriculture a little more closely upon those admitted to the Order. On the whole, the Worthy Master's address was a strong, statesmanlike analysis of the general situation and the needs of the Order.

The Secretary's report showed the total receipts for the year \$132,151.20, with a total balance of \$52,818.05 on hand.

The Executive Committee declared in its report that "the high purposes and aims of the Order, the grand objects it seeks to promote and secure, and the modes by which they are to be advanced and retained are all founded upon a deep, studied philosophy and not upon temporary or indefinite expedients." In this same report it is proposed that agricultural statistics be gathered and that a national bureau of marketing be established. Congress may have gone back to this suggestion made in 1874 for the idea of a Market Bureau, which was established in the Department of Agriculture in 1913.

The salaries of officers for the year 1874 were fixed as follows: Master \$1,500 for the year 1873 (no salary fixed for Master for 1874); Treasurer, \$1,000; Secretary, \$2,500; Lecturer, \$5 a day and traveling expenses; Executive Committee, \$5 a day and expenses when on business for the Grange.

The term of E. R. Shankland as member of the Executive Committee having expired, he was re-elected for a term of three years. Mrs. O. H. Kelley having

resigned as Pomona, Mrs. Thos. Taylor of South Carolina was elected for the unexpired term. The office of Flora having been declared vacant, Mrs. Joseph T. Moore of Maryland was duly elected.

Among the numerous proposed amendments to the Constitution was one, which was later adopted, naming the following seven "founders of the Order": William Saunders, O. H. Kelley, J. R. Thompson, A. B. Grosh, W. M. Ireland, John Trimble and F. M. McDowell. Just why these men and no others should be recognized as "founders" and Miss Carrie A. Hall excluded has never been made very clear. Provision was made for the organization of county and district Granges. Important resolutions adopted favored the improvement of the Mississippi river with a permanent outlet to the Gulf; that Congress regulate commerce between the states; that laws be enacted restoring our foreign commerce to its former condition and efficiency.

The subject of business co-operation was given much prominence, and the declaration made that "it should be our purpose to arrange a business system by which an exchange of products may be made direct between the producer and the consumer without the intervention of an unnecessary number of middlemen." As we follow the records of the National Grange and see the advanced position taken by it upon economic questions, the more we are impressed with the value of its wise leadership.

The most important work done by the seventh session of the National Grange was the adoption of its splendid "*Declaration of Purposes.*" In Oliver R. Ingersoll's story of the writing of this historic production, which we have somewhat abbreviated, he says: "The Declaration of Purposes is a document which has excited the admiration of the world, and has never been even compared with any less document than the

Declaration of Independence by the Fathers of this Republic, written by Thomas Jefferson.

"This document is held by many competent judges to excel the older Declaration in the grandeur of its declarations, in the poetic beauty of its diction, the rhythm and cadence of sentences, the balancing of its parts, and its noble enunciation of purposes, firm and resolute, yet not dogmatic, and marked by a complete absence of everything bordering on braggadocio.

"It is a declaration of the enormous agricultural class of this great nation, who for the first time after so many long years of silence and separation from each other, came together 'in Congress assembled' from the North, South, East and West, and as one man solemnly, silently and unanimously adopted thus their *Declaration of Purposes*. It instantly challenged the respect of the world, and its influence is increasing, while its grand beauties become more and more appreciated as time rolls by.

"The idea of such a document, and even the name 'Declaration of Purposes,' instead of Principles, was that of Brother J. W. A. Wright, then Past Master of the State Grange of California, being its first Master. Brother Wright had no idea of doing such a work until the 9th day of February, 1874. The National Grange was in session at St. Louis, Mo., when Brother Hamilton, his successor as Master of the State Grange of California, requested him as Master of the State Grange to act in the Committee on Resolutions in his stead. Brother Dudley W. Adams, the Master of the National Grange, spoke of placing him there, and he had requested Brother Adams to appoint Brother Wright for the work. Brother Wright immediately took the matter in charge and spent upon it the greater part of two days and nights, it being between two and three o'clock in the morning before he sought rest.

"In preparing the document, he availed himself of the friendly suggestions of four, and only four, other mem-

bers of the Order. These were the Hon. D. Wyatt Aiken, M. C., of South Carolina, Past Master State Grange of South Carolina, and for so many years chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Grange; Brother N. W. Garretson of Iowa, who organized the State Granges of California and Oregon; Brother Ezra S. Carr, agricultural professor of the University of California; and Brother Jno. T. Jones of Arkansas, who with Brother Aiken was on the Committee on Resolutions at St. Louis. With Brother Garretson's consent (who was present) Brother Wright inserted words which he had given him in rough pencil notes in California, for that part under '*Specific Objects*,' which read as follows:

"To develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves. To enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachment to our pursuits. To foster mutual understanding and co-operation. To maintain inviolate our laws, and to emulate each other in labor, to hasten the good time coming. To reduce our expenses, both individual and corporate. To buy less and produce more, in order to make our farms self-sustaining. To diversify our crops, and crop no more than we can cultivate. To condense the weight of our exports, selling less in the bushel, and more on hoof and in fleece; less in lint, and more in warp and woof. To systematize our work, and calculate intelligently on probabilities. To discountenance the credit system, the mortgage system, the fashion system, and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy.

"We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, buying together, selling together."

"He slightly changed the forms of expression while engrafting the principles to make it all fit in symmetrically. Brother Jones of Arkansas (afterwards Worthy Master of the National Grange) asked Brother Wright to insert the following words, which he had written on a slip of paper:

"Hence we hold that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success, that their interests are intimately connected with our interests,

and harmonious action is mutually advantageous, keeping in view the first sentence in our Declaration of Principles of Action, that 'individual happiness depends upon general prosperity.'

"Brother Wright fitted this in under '*Business Relations*,' changing the introduction slightly. Under '*Education*,' the following words were suggested in a letter which Brother Wright received from Brother Carr of California a day or two before he drafted the 'Declaration of Purposes': '*Advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges that practical agriculture, domestic science and all the arts which adorn the home, be taught in their courses of study.*'

"Under '*Business Relations*' Brother Wright had written: 'We are opposed to *high* salaries, *high* rates of interest and *high* per cent profits in trade.' Brother Aiken suggested that it be changed to read: 'We are opposed to *excessive* salaries, *high* rates of interest, and *exorbitant* per cent profits in trade.' The change was at once accepted and appreciated as an improvement. *This is the plain, unvarnished record of the inception and completion of a document that reads as if inspired by a higher power.*

"The next day, February 11, 1874, Brother Wright was requested to read the Declaration before the National Grange.

"While it was being read the silence was oppressive, every ear was strained to catch each word as it fell from his eloquent lips. He read them in such an impassioned manner that all realized that he spoke from his heart and soul. That the Declaration voiced the longings and desires for "the good time coming" of all present, was apparent. For several minutes after Brother Wright resumed his seat the dead silence was continued. It was almost painful, too deep for expression, too solemn for applause. As soon as the spell which bound the assembly could be lifted the document was adopted unanimously by a full vote. These Declara-

tions have been read to thousands of Granges since that memorable day with similar effect. Time seems to add to their beauty and attraction. Not a word can be added to or taken from them, without detracting from their beauty and harmony."

At the session of the National Grange in Boston, November, 1885, a change was adopted substituting the word "all" for "the greatest number." In the session at Harrisburg, Pa., November, 1897, the original words were restored by unanimous vote. The words, "political or religious," which appear in the original form were later changed to "partisan or sectarian." No other change was ever made.

Below is the "Declaration of Purposes" in its original form :

DECLARATION OF PURPOSES

of the

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

Adopted by the National Grange at its Seventh Annual Session, held at St. Louis, Mo.,

February, 1874.

PREAMBLE

Profoundly impressed with the truth that the National Grange of the United States should definitely proclaim to the world its general objects, we hereby unanimously make this Declaration of Purposes of the Patrons of Husbandry:

GENERAL OBJECTS

1. United by the strong and faithful tie of Agriculture, we mutually resolve to labor for the good of our Order, our country and mankind.

2. We heartily indorse the motto, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

SPECIFIC OBJECTS

3. We shall endeavor to advance our cause by laboring to accomplish the following objects:

To develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood among ourselves. To enhance the comforts and attractions of our homes, and strengthen our attachments to our pursuits. To foster mutual understanding and co-operation. To maintain inviolate our laws, and to emulate each other in labor, to hasten the good time coming. To reduce our expenses, both individual and corporate. To buy less and produce more, in order to make our farms self-sustaining. To diversify our crops, and crop no more than we can cultivate. To condense the weight of our exports, selling less in the bushel, and more on hoof and in fleece; less in lint, and more in warp and woof. To systematize our work and calculate intelligently on probabilities. To discountenance the credit system, the mortgage system, the fashion system, and every other system tending to prodigality and bankruptcy.

We propose meeting together, talking together, working together, buying together, selling together, and, in general, acting together for our mutual protection, and advancement, as occasion may require.

We shall avoid litigation as much as possible, by arbitration in the Grange. We shall constantly strive to secure entire harmony, good-will, vital brotherhood among ourselves, and to make our Order perpetual. We shall earnestly endeavor to suppress personal, local, sectional, and national prejudices, all unhealthy rivalry, all selfish ambition. Faithful adherence to these principles will insure our mental, moral, social and material advancement.

BUSINESS RELATIONS

4. *For our business interests, we desire to bring producers and consumers, farmers and manufacturers, into the most direct and friendly relations possible. Hence we must dispense with a surplus of middlemen, not that we are unfriendly to them, but we do not need them. Their surplus and their exactions diminish our profits.*

We wage no aggressive warfare against any other interests whatever. On the contrary, all our acts, and all our efforts, so far as business is concerned, are not only for the benefit of the producer and consumer, but also for all other interests that tend to bring these two parties into speedy and economical contact. Hence we hold that transportation companies of every kind are necessary to our success, that their interests are intimately connected with our interests, and harmonious action is mutually ad-

vantageous, keeping in view the first sentence in our Declaration of Principles of Action, that "individual happiness depends upon general prosperity."

We shall therefore advocate for every State the increase in every practicable way of all facilities for transporting cheaply to the sea-board, or between home producers and consumers, all the productions of our country. We adopt it as our fixed purpose "to open out the channels in nature's great arteries, that the life blood of commerce may flow freely."

We are not enemies of railroads, navigable and irrigating canals, or of any corporation that will advance our industrial interests, nor of any laboring classes.

In our noble Order there is no communism, no agrarianism.

We are opposed to such spirit and management of any corporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people, and rob them of their just profits. We are not enemies to capital, but we oppose the tyranny of monopolies. We long to see the antagonism between capital and labor removed by common consent, and by an enlightened statesmanship worthy of the nineteenth century. We are opposed to excessive salaries, high rates of interest, and exorbitant per cent profits in trade. They greatly increase our burdens, and do not bear a proper proportion to the profits of producers. We desire only self-protection, and the protection of every true interest of our land by legitimate transactions, legitimate trade and legitimate profits.

EDUCATION

We shall advance the cause of education among ourselves, and for our children, by all just means within our power. We especially advocate for our agricultural and industrial colleges that practical agriculture, domestic science, and all the arts which adorn the home, be taught in their courses of study.

THE GRANGE NOT PARTISAN

5. We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic laws that the Grange—National, State or Subordinate—is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations, can discuss political or religious questions, nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings.

Yet the principles we teach underlie all true politics, all true statesmanship, and if properly carried out, will tend to purify the whole political atmosphere of our country, for we seek the greatest good to the greatest number.

We always bear in mind that no one by becoming a Patron of Husbandry gives up that inalienable right and duty which belongs to every American citizen, to take a proper interest in the politics of his country.

On the contrary, it is right for every member to do all in his power legitimately to influence for good the action of any political party to which he belongs. It is his duty to do all he can in his own party to put down bribery, corruption and trickery; to see that none but competent, faithful and honest men, who will unflinchingly stand by our industrial interests, are nominated for all positions of trust; and to have carried out the principle which should characterize every Patron, that *the office should seek the man and not the man the office.*

We acknowledge the broad principle that difference of opinion is no crime, and hold that "progress toward truth is made by differences of opinion," while the fault lies in bitterness of controversy.

We desire a proper equality, equity and fairness; protection for the weak, restraint upon the strong; in short, justly distributed burdens, and justly distributed power. These are American ideas, the very essence of American independence, and to advocate the contrary is unworthy of the sons and daughters of an American republic.

We cherish the belief that sectionalism is, and of right should be, dead and buried with the past. Our work is for the present and the future. In our agricultural brotherhood and its purposes, we shall recognize no North, no South, no East, no West.

It is reserved by every Patron, as the right of a freeman, to affiliate with any party that will best carry out his principles.

OUTSIDE CO-OPERATION

6. Ours being peculiarly a farmers' institution, we cannot admit all to our ranks.

Many are excluded by the nature of our organization, not because they are professional men, or artisans, or laborers, but because they have not a sufficient direct interest in tilling the soil, or may have some interest in conflict with our purposes. But we appeal to all good citizens for their cordial co-operation to assist in our efforts toward reform, that we may eventually remove from our midst the last vestige of tyranny and corruption.

We hail the general desire for fraternal harmony, equitable compromises and earnest co-operation, as an omen of our future success.

CONCLUSION

7. It shall be an abiding principle with us to relieve any of our oppressed and suffering brotherhood by any means at our command.

Last, but not least, we proclaim it among our purposes to inculcate a proper appreciation of the abilities and sphere of woman, as is indicated by admitting her to membership and position in our Order.

Imploring the continued assistance of our Divine Master to guide us in our work, we here pledge ourselves to faithful and harmonious labor for all future time, to return by our united efforts to the wisdom, justice, fraternity and political purity of our forefathers.

CHAPTER VI

D. W. Adams' Administration, Last Two Years, 1874-1875—Eighth and Ninth Sessions of the National Grange

February, 1874, the month in which the National Grange met in seventh annual session, was the banner month in all Grange history in the number of new Granges organized, with a total of 2,239. The whole number organized during the year 1874 was 11,941, and no year before or since has shown so large an increase. "All through the land Granges were springing up like mushrooms."

During that year the membership in the Grange had been more than doubled. The question of eligibility to membership had become a pressing question. According to the Constitution any person "interested" in agricultural pursuits was eligible. But that clause was susceptible of such varied interpretation that much confusion and misunderstanding resulted. Worthy Master Adams uttered a word of caution when he said: "To be a Patron of Husbandry is no longer of doubtful propriety, but the proudest in the land are knocking at our door. The Order has become recognized as one of the great powers in the land, and the gates are being besieged from ocean to ocean by hordes of speculators, demagogues, small politicians, grain buyers, cotton factors and lawyers, who suddenly discover that they are 'interested in agricultural pursuits'; but only as the hawk is interested in the sparrow. You would do well to give this matter a most careful review, and by law determine the proper construction of the Constitution so we may be able to keep our gates closed against those whose only interest is what they can make out of us. To have such admitted to our counsels can only result in evil and sow seeds of internal strife."

We are told by Mr. Aiken that "one Grange was organized on Broadway, New York, with a membership of 45, representing a capital of perhaps as many millions, and composed of bank presidents, wholesale dealers, sewing machine manufacturers, and Wall Street speculators, the only member who could lay the least claim to having an interest in agriculture being a merchant who owned a house and lot in the White Mountains where he usually spent his summers." In addition to a similar experience in Boston, in New Jersey near New York City, a Grange had a general of the army as Master, a stone mason as Secretary and the owner of a grain elevator as Chaplain. "These wily men," says Mr. Aiken, "of course sapped the very foundation of the Order and rendered it almost lifeless in more states than one."

Even to this day too many men are admitted to the Grange who have no substantial interest in agriculture and in more than one instance men have reached the office of Master of a State Grange who can lay little or no claim to being farmers. The Constitution has been made somewhat more stringent on this matter, but it is still variously interpreted, and in many Granges it is so liberally interpreted that a large part of the membership has little or no real "interest in agricultural pursuits."

Throughout the year 1874 much of the time and energy of the National Grange officers was given to the work of organization, and the many complications that naturally arose out of their efforts to discipline such an army of raw recruits.

The eighth annual session of the National Grange met at Charleston, S. C., February 3 to 16, 1875. All the officers were present:

Master—Dudley W. Adams, Iowa.

Overscer—Thomas Taylor, South Carolina.

Lecturer—T. A. Thompson, Minnesota.

Steward—A. J. Vaughan, Mississippi.

Assistant Steward—G. W. Thompson, New Jersey.

Chaplain—Rev. A. B. Grosh, Washington, D. C.

Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, New York.

Secretary—O. H. Kelley, Washington, D. C.

Gatekeeper—O. Dinwiddie, Indiana.

Cercs—Mrs. D. W. Adams, Iowa.

Pomona—Mrs. Thomas Taylor, South Carolina.

Flora—Mrs. J. T. Moore, Maryland.

Lady Assistant Steward—Miss Carrie A. Hall, Washington, D. C.

Executive Committee—William Saunders, E. R. Shankland, and D. Wyatt Aiken.

Thirty-three states were represented by the following delegates: Alabama, W. H. Chambers; Arkansas, John T. and Mrs. Jones; California, J. M. Hamilton; Colorado, R. Q. and Mrs. Tenney; Dakota, E. B. and Mrs. Crew; Florida, B. F. Wardlaw; Georgia, J. T. and Mrs. Smith; Illinois, Alonzo Golder; Iowa, A. B. and Mrs. Smedley; Kansas, M. E. Hudson; Kentucky, M. D. Davie; Mississippi, W. L. Hemingway; Louisiana, H. W. L. Lewis; Maine, Nelson Ham; Maryland, John T. and Mrs. Moore; Massachusetts, J. P. and Mrs. Felton; Michigan, J. J. and Mrs. Woodman; Minnesota, S. E. and Mrs. Adams; Missouri, T. R. and Mrs. Allen; Nebraska, W. B. and Mrs. Porter; New Hampshire, D. T. and Mrs. Chase; New Jersey, Mortimer and Mrs. Whitehead; New York, G. D. Hinckley; North Carolina, Columbus and Mrs. Mills; Ohio, S. H. and Mrs. Ellis; Oregon, Daniel and Mrs. Clark; Pennsylvania, D. B. Mauger; Tennessee, William and Mrs. Maxwell; Texas, W. W. Lang; Vermont, E. P. Colton; Virginia, J. W. White; West Virginia, B. M. Kitchen; Wisconsin, John and Mrs. Cochrane.

The financial statements made by the Secretary and Treasurer showed the receipts for the fiscal year from all sources, \$229,533.72, with a balance of \$53,054.02 remaining in the treasury, besides \$99,962.50 in government bonds.

That this large income was to continue was hardly to be expected. Thereafter the individual members

were to contribute but 5 cents a year each to the income of the National Grange, and most of its income at this time came from the \$15 charter fees paid by new Granges. That there must sooner or later be a reaction was inevitable, for everything indicated that the "wildfire" of organization that had been spreading over the country the last two years was already burning itself out in many places. Finding itself in possession of such a large income, the Grange passed an order authorizing the Executive Committee to lend each State Grange a sum equal to \$2.50 for each Subordinate Grange in the state. This required a total sum of \$54,825, which in addition to \$18,614.33, which had already been donated to certain State Granges, made a total of \$73,439.33. In the light of subsequent experience this action was worse than folly, as is shown by the following quotation from Mr. Aiken: "Scarcely had we grown to these huge proportions as an Order before mutterings were occasionally heard like the rumbling of distant thunder, and anon a storm cloud burst upon us which tested the elasticity and strength of our fraternal bands. Lack of discipline was everywhere manifest, jealousy and envy began to crop out among the rank and file of the Order, and rising like a gaunt and bloody specter, shook their gory locks in the faces of the leaders and demanded a distribution of the funds then in the treasury of the National Grange. To appease this unreasonable demand the faint-hearted, constituting a majority of the voting members of the National Grange at its eighth session held in Charleston, S. C., in February, 1875, yielded to the clamor and voted to disburse gratuitously \$54,825 among the Subordinate Granges throughout the Union. . . . The aggregate expenditure of that large amount in this manner was an extravagant squandering of the funds of the National Grange."

The Worthy Master was allowed \$2,000 salary for 1874, and his salary for 1875 was fixed at the same amount. The Executive Committee were allowed a salary for 1875 as follows: William Saunders, \$1,000; E. R. Shankland and D. Wyatt Aiken, \$1,500 each and actual traveling expenses when on business of the Grange. Salary of Lecturer and Treasurer, \$1,000 each and traveling expenses. Salary of Secretary was fixed at \$2,500 a year and ordered "that the Worthy Secretary have such assistance in his office as the Executive Committee may deem necessary and their compensation to be fixed by the committee."

The much-amended Constitution provided for a "Court of Appeals," to be composed of the Worthy Master and two members of the Executive Committee. It also provided for the enlargement of the Executive Committee from three to five members. The term of D. Wyatt Aiken as member of the Executive Committee having expired, three members were elected as follows, for a term of three years: D. Wyatt Aiken of South Carolina, Dudley T. Chase of New Hampshire, and John T. Jones of Arkansas, William Saunders and E. R. Shankland holding over.

The amended Constitution also changed the date of meeting from the first Wednesday in February to the third Wednesday in November.

In studying the Journal of Proceedings of this most remarkable session of the National Grange one is impressed with the tremendous amount of work it was cutting out for itself. No session before or since has seen such a great number of motions and resolutions offered for consideration, covering almost the entire range of human affairs. Evidently the farmers were alive, and the Grange had become a militant force which must forever leave its impress upon economic policies. The Grange was making history, and some of it was sad enough; but its ideals were high and purposes exalted. Full of zeal and heroic courage,

the members of the National Grange returned to their homes with their faces to the future. Farmers are slow to move, but the social, political and economic wrongs to which they had been subjected from time immemorial had developed a spirit of self-preservation among them, and through the Order of Patrons of Husbandry they were developing a leadership.

The ninth session of the National Grange met at Louisville, Ky., November 17 to December 2, 1875. All the officers were present but G. W. Thompson, Assistant Steward, and Mortimer Whitehead was appointed in his place. Thirty-one states were represented, Alabama, Arkansas, Maryland, New York, Nebraska and Oregon were not represented, and the following changes were made: Connecticut, Harvey and Mrs. Godard; Indiana, H. and Mrs. James; California, J. V. and Mrs. Webster; Montana, B. and Mrs. Reed; Delaware, J. J. and Mrs. Rosa.

Worthy Master D. W. Adams, in his "annual address," called attention to the fact that "in some localities Granges have from various causes languished and died," the high tide of Grange prosperity, at least in point of new Granges, was passed, and from that day forward the problem of dormant Granges was to remain with the Order, notwithstanding more than 2,000 new Granges had been organized during the past year.

At the last session of the National Grange the office of Secretary had been moved from Washington to Louisville, Ky., and the Worthy Master recommended the building or purchase of a permanent home for the Order in Louisville. This change of location did not become as permanent as it was then believed. The exact date of the removal of the Secretary's office from Washington to Louisville is not available, but the final decision was rendered "at the July meeting of the Executive Committee, 1875."

In their lengthy report, the Executive Committee had a good deal to say upon the subject of co-operation in buying, selling and manufacturing. In a large measure the Grange was breaking away from its original purpose and magnifying the co-operative and money-making features.

The total receipts for the year were \$102,143.07, and the total expenditures \$95,960.54, leaving a balance of but \$6,182.53. The National Grange was beginning to realize that it could not afford the extravagance of the last two or three years, for although the paid-up membership had more than trebled since the last report, the annual dues were now but 5 cents a member, as against the previous 10 cents, and the number of dispensations granted had decreased more than three-fourths.

A new set of officers was about to be elected, and the Finance Committee, to whom the matter of salaries had been referred, made a comprehensive report fixing salaries as follows: Master, \$1,200 and expenses; Lecturer, \$5 a day and expenses; Treasurer, \$600 a year and expenses; Secretary, \$2,000 a year and expenses; members of the Executive Committee, \$5 a day when on business for the Grange. It will be noticed that this was a decided cutting down of all salaries.

The terms of all the officers had expired, and by amendment to the Constitution the term of office had been changed from three to two years. The officers were duly elected for the term of two years.

Up to this time the National Grange had donated to the State Granges the sum of \$86,218.67. There is no evidence that the State Granges ever received any benefit from this money, and the folly of this procedure soon became apparent. What became of the money no one ever seemed to know.

The subject of co-operation had received a good deal of attention, and much time and labor had been given to an effort to develop some workable plan. This sub-

ject is not a new one, but has attracted more or less attention since the beginning of history, and about once in a generation it flares up into new prominence because of some condition of "hard times," some general depression in business, or some oppressive conditions which develop a community of interest.

The Grange made its greatest growth during the panic years from 1873 to 1876, which drove it into a nation-wide attempt to counteract the cruel wrongs and oppression that agriculture was then laboring under, by co-operative protection of the farmers' community interests. Up to this time co-operation had been successful only under special conditions, when some community interest held the co-operators together. The Grange made the most gigantic effort at rural co-operation ever attempted and a detailed account of its experience would do much to illustrate the literature of the subject.

What is known as the "Rochdale" plan of co-operation was finally adopted. This complicated system seemed to work fairly well at first, but it was not long before it was discovered that for some reason it was breaking down, and that in a great many cases the efforts proved to be calamitous failures, while the losses, discouragements and bickerings that followed proved to be the utter undoing of many Subordinate Granges and many State Granges went down under the pressure, which threatened the life of the Order itself.

The subject of monopolies received much attention by this session, and the fight put up by "the embattled farmers" left a legacy to the nation that is worth many times what the Grange has cost.

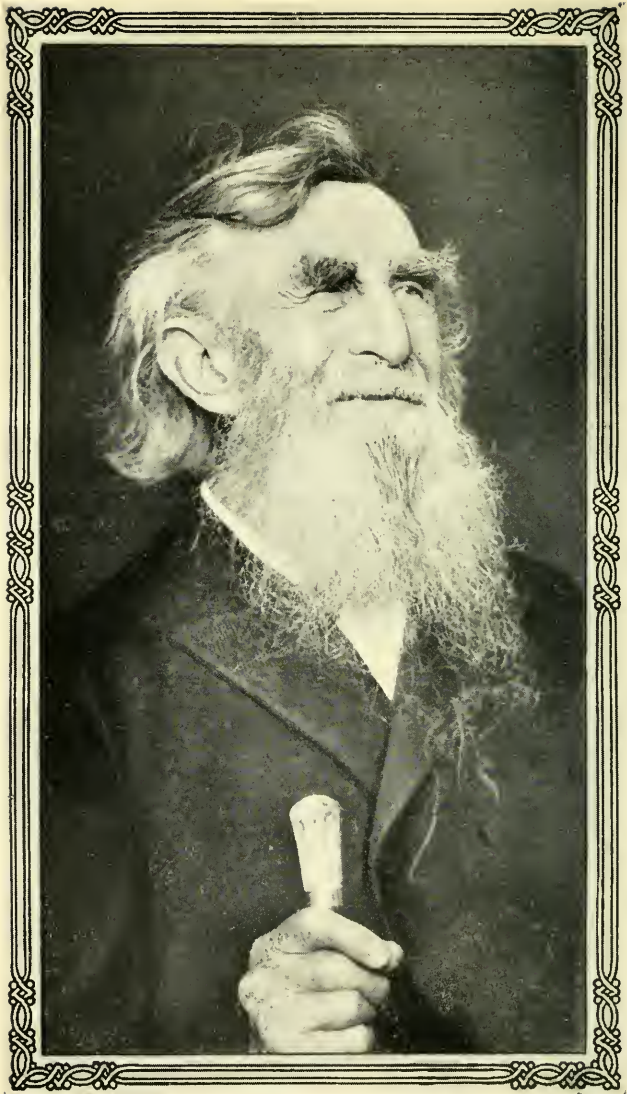
The money question was becoming important at this time, for the demonetization of silver in 1873 was largely believed to be responsible for the existing hard times. The subject was much discussed, but no definite action was taken.

A new "Court of Appeals" was created, to be composed of D. W. Adams, J. R. Thompson and John Trimble.

This was the longest session of the National Grange ever held, covering a period of full 16 days.



Dudley W. Adams, Iowa, second Master National Grange.



John Thompson Jones, Arkansas, third Master of the National Grange.

CHAPTER VII

John T. Jones' Administration, Two Years, 1876-1877 —Tenth and Eleventh Sessions of the National Grange

With a new Master and a new set of officers, the work of the year was entered upon with renewed zeal and energy. Much attention was given to the subject of co-operation. Major J. W. A. Wright was sent by the Worthy Master as a "Commissioner to Europe" with a dual mission to organize and establish Granges in foreign countries and to investigate the English Co-operative Association and to negotiate some plan of international co-operation. On his return from Europe Major Wright prepared a report covering many pages, which he submitted to the next meeting of the National Grange. Nothing substantial ever came of this "mission" across the sea. Mr. David Lubin, who was at one time an active member of the Grange, may have gotten his idea of the commission to study rural credit and co-operation in European countries from Major Wright's "mission."

At the close of this year of great Grange activity the tenth session of the National Grange met at Chicago, Ill., November 15 to 29, 1876. All the officers were present:

Master—John T. Jones, Arkansas
Overseer—J. J. Woodman, Michigan
Lecturer—A. B. Smedley, Iowa
Steward—A. J. Vaughan, Mississippi
Assistant Steward—M. Whitehead, New Jersey
Chaplain—S. H. Ellis, Ohio
Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, New York
Secretary, O. H. Kelley, Washington, D. C.
Gatekeeper—O. Dinwiddie, Indiana
Ceres—Mrs. J. T. Jones, Arkansas

Pomona—Mrs. H. Godard, Connecticut

Flora—Mrs. S. E. Adams, Minnesota

Lady Assistant Steward—Miss Carrie A. Hall, Washington, D. C.

Executive Committee—D. Wyatt Aiken, Dudley T. Chase, E. R. Shankland, Alonzo Golder and W. H. Chambers.

Thirty states were represented by the following delegates: Arkansas, John T. and Mrs. Jones; California, J. V. Webster; Colorado, J. E. and Mrs. Washburn; Connecticut, H. and Mrs. Godard; Delaware, J. J. Rosa; Georgia, T. J. Smith; Indiana, H. and Mrs. James; Illinois, A. P. and Mrs. Forsyth; Iowa, O. H. P. Buchanon; Kentucky, M. D. and Mrs. Davie; Louisiana, R. H. and Mrs. Ryland; Maine, Nelson Ham; Maryland, J. T. and Mrs. Moore; Michigan, J. J. and Mrs. Woodman; Minnesota, S. E. and Mrs. Adams; Massachusetts, T. and Mrs. Graves; Mississippi, W. L. and Mrs. Hemingway; Missouri, T. R. and Mrs. Allen; Nebraska, — Howe; New Hampshire, D. T. and Mrs. Chase; New Jersey, M. and Mrs. Whitehead; New York, G. D. and Mrs. Hinckley; Ohio, S. H. and Mrs. Ellis; Pennsylvania, D. B. Mauer; South Carolina, D. W. and Mrs. Aiken; Tennessee, A. B. Haynes; Texas, W. W. and Mrs. Lang; Virginia, J. M. and Mrs. Blanton; West Virginia, B. M. and Mrs. Kitchen; Wisconsin, J. H. and Mrs. Osborn.

This was the first session over which John T. Jones presided as Master, and considerable interest was manifested in the new Master. Previous to this time honorary members, Past Masters and officers had been entitled to vote, but the law had been changed so as to limit the voting members to Masters of State Granges and their wives.

The Worthy Master's address was unusually short and largely devoted to the discussion of co-operative problems. By way of justification he said:

"It may be thought by some who take a wholly sentimental view of our organization, that I am giving an undue prominence to its material objects. If so, I cannot think they have studied

the deep philosophy, pure morality, lofty virtue and genuine religion that underlie co-operative life. Rightly understood, it is the poetical realization of Christian ethics. The silent virtues of temperance, forethought, just dealing, and fellowship in work, will do more to correct the moral disorders which darken our land and have tainted our government, as well as trade and commerce, than all the penal statutes, that have been or can be devised. The material, social, moral and intellectual influences are in near connection with each other. The most material things have great influence on mental subjects, a sentiment that ages ago the poet Homer gave vent to in saying that 'when man becomes slave he loses half his virtue.'

The Worthy Master urged immediate action in securing a building in Louisville for permanent headquarters, stating that the funds available for such purpose are being "rapidly diminished by donations," which was followed by some pertinent remarks upon the subject of "donations" which had proved an unfortunate and demoralizing policy. From this time forward the policy of "donations" was discontinued, but not until more than \$100,000 had been dissipated in one way and another. The Worthy Master said: "While we have any considerable sum on hand urgent appeals will be made for donations." Evidently the Master thought that the "gray ghost of avariciousness" could not stand the sight of any surplus funds. If the funds dissipated in "donations" had been invested in a headquarters building in Washington, D. C., as was many times suggested, the property would now be worth many times what it cost and stand a monument to Grange foresight and frugality.

The report of the Treasurer shows the total receipts for the year from all sources, including the sale of United States bonds to the amount of \$6,298.75 and \$1,500 borrowed money paid back by E. R. Shankland, were \$69,735.65, and \$66,028.25 was expended, an expenditure of \$4,091.35 more than the regular receipts for the year.

The Secretary's report is full of interesting data

showing the condition of the Order at this time. He says: "Eight hundred and eighty-five new Granges have been organized during the past fiscal year and 24,800 since the origin of the Order. Of this number 650 have surrendered their Charters, 550 have had their Charters revoked at the National office, 7,000 are known to be delinquent in payment of dues to their respective State Granges, 800 have consolidated with other Granges, leaving 15,000 paying Subordinate Granges, and a total paying membership of 550,000 in the United States."

"This shows an apparent diminution of numbers since last year; but it must be remembered we then counted all, whether active or dormant, paying or delinquent." "The Order is without doubt stronger than it was twelve months ago." Whether Mr. Kelley's conclusion is correct or not is at least subject to some doubt, but we give his figures for what they are worth.

The question of establishing a "central wool and tobacco house" had received a good deal of consideration, and it was recommended that such "houses" be established in localities where demanded. Later such "houses" were established at several points, but ultimately all of them failed and in some cases, like the Steubenville, O., "Wool House," a good deal of money was lost and much harm was done the Grange by such failures.

Strong resolutions were adopted at this session demanding the establishment of a national "Bureau of Commerce." The outcome of the agitation begun at this time was the creation of the Interstate Commerce Commission by Congress and the creation of public service commissions, of one kind and another, in nearly all the states.

For several years the National Grange had demanded the creation of the office of Secretary of Agriculture, with the idea of placing a farmer in the President's Cabinet, but at this session the matter was more

strongly urged than ever before in a vigorous set of resolutions offered by Mr. Davie of Kentucky.

The Executive Committee reported that they had "obtained from the General Assembly of the state of Kentucky an act to incorporate the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry." The National Grange has ever since done business under this Charter.

The only election at this session was that of one member of the Executive Committee, and Henley James of Indiana was duly elected.

The "Land Grant" or agricultural colleges had heretofore received much attention, and the Committee on Education recommended the appointment of "a Standing Committee of three members, to be composed of the Worthy Master and two members, to be called a Committee on Education, whose duty it shall be to inquire into the use made of donations by Congress to the several states, to inquire what colleges have been established under the said act, etc., etc., and report to the next session of this body." This was the beginning of a thorough investigation of our agricultural colleges, which turned much needed light upon those institutions.

The following "essentials" were indorsed: "A Department of Agriculture in the National Government, the head of which should be a member of the Cabinet; the enactment of laws providing for a reduction of the legal rate of interest on money; the enactment of laws providing for the improvement of natural water channels; for the improvement of our patent laws; for the security of depositors in banks; for equal taxation; for equitable regulations controlling railroads."

All these subjects were to be presented to Congress, and later, in one form and another, they have been enacted into law. The salaries of all officers were fixed the same as the last year.

The year 1876 was noted for one of the most strenuous presidential elections ever held in this coun-

try. The minds of the farmers, as well as of other citizens, were distracted by the excitement of the campaign, which had closed only a few days before the assembling of the tenth session of the National Grange, and this, no doubt, had much to do with the falling off of Grange interest and growth. The result of the election was claimed by both sides, and final settlement was reached by the famous eight to seven compromise commission which decided in favor of Hayes, only a day or two before inauguration. Because of the unsettled condition existing up to the inauguration of President Hayes the first half of 1877 saw a great demoralization of the Grange, with disintegration manifest on every side. The political issues were acute, and the campaign had been waged with such vigor that the minds of the people were diverted from the great social and economic questions that had been occupying the thoughts of the farmers in their splendid efforts to settle them right. The fact that the Grange passed safely through this crisis demonstrated its right to live.

At the close of this eventful year the National Grange met in eleventh annual session at Cincinnati, O., November 21 to 30, 1877. All the officers were present. Twenty-nine states were represented. Arkansas, Georgia, Iowa, Louisiana, Nebraska, South Carolina and Tennessee were not represented. The following changes were made: Alabama, W. H. Chambers; New Jersey, W. S. Taylor; California, Mr. and Mrs. Steele; North Carolina, S. B. Alexander; Dakota, P. and Mrs. Chandler; Oregon, Wm. and Mrs. Cyrus; Kansas, Wm. and Mrs. Sims; Pennsylvania, V. E. Piolett; Mississippi, P. and Mrs. Darden; Vermont, A. B. and Mrs. Franklin; Missouri, H. and Mrs. Eshbaugh; Wisconsin, H. C. and Mrs. Sherwin.

Worthy Master John T. Jones delivered a comprehensive annual address, from which but two sentences are quoted: "At these annual meetings," said he, "we

look back to see what progress we have made, and carefully examine all parts of our vessel to see that she is well-found in every respect, and fit to ride any storm without loss of rope or spar. The retrospect is full of encouragement to us in advancing the mighty reforms we have initiated." The tone of the whole address is hopeful and most of it is devoted to the discussion of co-operative enterprises which had been undertaken by the Grange. The co-operative store system, which was widely in use at that time, was dwelt upon at some length. Already the rumblings of the coming disaster were plainly discernible. The effects of the panic of 1873 were beginning to wear off and the business of the country was assuming normal conditions.

The Executive Committee reported an unfortunate contract for the purchase of a cultivator patent, which cost the National Grange \$2,000. Several manufacturing enterprises were begun, but all of them failed. The Worthy Lecturer raised these questions: "Are the farmers of this nation capable of self-government and self-protection? Do they possess the requisite wisdom to enable them to carry forward an organization whose only aim and purpose is to unite together the men and women of like calling, of like interest, of like sympathies, in one great fraternity laboring together for the common good?" A complete answer to these questions is the fact that the Grange has continued to live and perform its splendid work for half a century. It has had its discouragements and failures, but so has every other human institution. In concluding, the Worthy Lecturer made a heroic appeal to the National Grange to lay aside nonessentials and devote itself to the practical questions so apparent, and especially to get in real sympathy with the real farmers who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow. The inference is that the National Grange had not at all times kept close enough to the people who till the soil and feed the nation.

The report of the Treasurer developed some porten-

tous facts. Receipts from all sources, \$46,901.16, which included the sale of United States bonds to the amount of \$12,337.50 and \$3,500 received from the Nebraska State Grange, borrowed money repaid. These two items total \$15,837.50, which, deducted from the total receipts, leaves \$31,063.66, while the total expenditures were \$43,430.48.

The necessity for retrenchment was becoming somewhat urgent, and this fact was recognized in fixing the officers' salaries for the next year as follows: Master, \$1,000; Treasurer, \$500; Secretary, \$1,500; and ordered "that the Secretary be made responsible for the archives of the National Grange, and that he locate the office at such place as will be most convenient for him." This action abandoned the "permanent" headquarters at Louisville, Ky., and the office was immediately moved to Appalachicola, Fla.

The Lecturer was allowed \$4 a day when employed under the direction of the Master and Executive Committee. The *per diem* of the Executive Committee was reduced from \$5 to \$4, and the *per diem* of delegates to the National Grange was reduced from \$5 to \$3.

As usual the Secretary had something of interest to say in his report: "In 1873 we began to attract much prophetic attention, and even today some of our newspaper friends assure us that unless we adopt their views this will be the last session of the National Grange. Let me say to you, 'Be not afraid.' The Order is not built upon whims and fancies. I have faith to believe it is already a fixed institution, bound to exert a strong and lasting influence." The cheerful optimism of Secretary Kelley is inspiring, but by this time he had reached the conclusion that "the American farmer is a peculiar individual."

While Secretary Kelley was re-elected at this session, he resigned in the middle of his term at the next session, and this was his last report to the National

Grange. It contained many things worthy of consideration by every friend of the Order, a few of which we summarize: Congratulates the National Grange on its escape from "any of the serious failures that have taken place among Grange agents and Grange enterprises"; keep the Order and build it up as an association of agriculturists; let the education of the masses be the great object; discourage the frequent changes in the Constitution; encourage industrial schools; recommend the teaching of agriculture in the public schools (this is notable for being the first known recommendation of this subject); recommend school gardens; give girls same opportunities as the boys; strongly advocate "back to the farm" movement; the establishment of courses of dime lectures in the country (same idea as present "agricultural extension"); make the educational and social features of the Grange paramount to all other considerations; make it the aim of every Grange to dignify agriculture and the farmers.

The history of the Grange demonstrates the wisdom of what he advised. It was manifest that the Grange ship was sinking from the weight of its own sordid materialism, and that it could only be saved from shipwreck by returning to the high idealism of its founders. "The keel of the Grange ship was well laid," says Mr. Aiken; "its majestic sides were ribbed by the mechanism of profound thought. Its spars, braced by fraternal cords, have never been shattered by the fury of the storm. Its sails are still whole, and have been whitened by the friction of popular criticism. Often has it buoyed in turbid waters. Still oftener has it glided gracefully and triumphantly over the billows of prejudice that lashed so furiously under its bow. Today it floats in placid waters. Its haven has not yet been reached, nor will it be until every farmer in the land shall have received some of the benefits of its launching."

A resolution was adopted asking Congress to modify "the treaty with China so as to prevent the further importation of Chinamen into the country." The Constitution was amended, reducing the initiation fees from \$5 for men and \$3 for women to \$3 for men and \$1 for women. The officers for the next biennial were elected.

The Constitution had been amended, reducing the Executive Committee from five to three and making the Master an ex-officio member. D. Wyatt Aiken, South Carolina, and S. H. Ellis, Ohio, were elected for two years, and Henley James, Indiana, holding over. The officers were duly installed and a new administration began with the close of this session.

CHAPTER VIII

Samuel E. Adams' Administration, Two Years, 1878-1879—Twelfth and Thirteenth Sessions of the National Grange

Samuel E. Adams was the fourth Master of the National Grange. Immediately upon the adjournment of the eleventh session he began the work of his administration. He was confronted with a critical condition in the history of the Grange, but he bravely took up the responsibility of tiding the good ship over the shoals of a depleted treasury and the period of reaction that had set in. Much careful planning and conservative good judgment were required.

The summing up of the year's work may be found in the Journal of the twelfth annual session of the National Grange which met in Richmond, Va., November 20 to 30, 1878, the first session over which Worthy Master Adams presided. More officers were absent from this session than ever before. The following officers and appointees were present:

- Master*—Samuel E. Adams, Minnesota.
- Overseer*—J. J. Woodman, Michigan.
- Lecturer*—Mortimer Whitehead, New Jersey.
- Steward*—Wm. Sims, *pro tem*, Kansas.
- Assistant Steward*—S. B. Alexander, *pro tem*, North Carolina.
- Chaplain*—Henry Eshbaugh, *pro tem*, Missouri.
- Treasurer*—F. M. McDowell, New York.
- Secretary*—W. M. Ireland, *pro tem*, Washington, D. C.
- Gatekeeper*—Isaac Williams, *pro tem*, Ohio.
- Ceres*—Mrs. S. E. Adams, Minnesota.
- Pomona*—Mrs. J. J. Woodman, Michigan.
- Flora*—Mrs. J. T. Moore, Maryland.
- Lady Assistant Steward*—Miss C. D. Palmer, *pro tem*, Maryland.
- Executive Committee*—D. Wyatt Aiken, South Carolina; Henley James, Indiana; S. H. Ellis, Ohio.

Twenty-eight State Granges were represented by the following delegates: Colorado, Levi and Mrs. Booth; Delaware, J. J. and Mrs. Rosa; Florida, W. H. Wilson; Georgia, T. J. Smith; Illinois, A. P. Forsyth; Indiana, H. and Mrs. James; Kansas, William and Mrs. Sims; Maine, D. H. and Mrs. Thing; Maryland, J. T. and Mrs. Moore; Massachusetts, B. P. and Mrs. Ware; Michigan, J. J. and Mrs. Woodman; Minnesota, S. E. and Mrs. Adams; Missouri, Henry Eshbaugh; Mississippi, P. Darden; New Jersey, J. W. and Mrs. Nicholson; New York, W. G. and Mrs. Wayne; New Hampshire, D. T. and Mrs. Chase; North Carolina, S. B. Alexander; Ohio, S. H. and Mrs. Ellis; Oregon, A. R. and Mrs. Shipley; Pennsylvania, V. E. and Mrs. Piolett; South Carolina, J. N. and Mrs. Lipscomb; Texas, W. W. Lang; Tennessee, T. B. Harwell; Vermont, A. B. and Mrs. Franklin; Virginia, J. M. and Mrs. Blanton; West Virginia, R. W. and Mrs. Baylor; Wisconsin, H. C. and Mrs. Sherwin.

Secretary Kelley, although he was in the city, was absent from the session. Some friction had grown up between Secretary Kelley and the National Grange authorities, involving chiefly the permanent office of the Secretary. In his first annual address Worthy Master Samuel E. Adams said:

“The adoption of the recommendation of the Executive Committee by the National Grange at the last session, simply making the Secretary responsible for the archives of the National Grange and allowing him to locate his office ‘at such place as will be most convenient for him,’ was in my judgment a grave error.”

He then says:

“Today we have an incubus binding and weighing upon the National Grange till January 1, 1882, in the shape of a lease of a building in Louisville, and we have contracted to pay rent according to the terms of the agreement amounting to nearly \$3,000, for which no benefit is received, but yet we have no headquarters—no home.” He calls attention to the fact that the Secretary’s office should be located at some central point so as to be accessible to the officers of the National Grange, then asks:

“Why should we vacate a sheltering tenement and subject ourselves to the howling winds and pelting storms of the open air? Wisdom demands that our steps be retraced, the present condition of affairs be rectified, and such legislation be had in this respect as shall tend to solidify and perpetuate the organization.” As a climax to what the Worthy Master had to say on this subject, we quote this sentence: “If the Order is dead, it would be fitting to dig its grave, deposit its remains, and permit some kind friend to erect a suitable monument to mark its resting place; if living, then it should certainly have a local habitation and a home, be it ever so homely.”

Agreeing with the Worthy Master, the Executive Committee said:

“It is our opinion that the migratory character of our headquarters, and the final leaving of the location of the Secretary's office to the whims of any brother whom we may elect Secretary, has proven to be a grand error, which should be corrected at this session.”

After some controversy Secretary Kelley tendered his resignation which read as follows:

Richmond, Va., Nov. 21, 1878.

To the Worthy Master and Members of the National Grange:

On account of the demands on my time by my private business, I hereby respectfully tender my resignation as Secretary of the National Grange.

O. H. KELLEY.

This resignation was later accepted. The Executive Committee went over the Secretary's books and reported a settlement. Secretary Kelley was at this time, and had been for a year or two, engaged in a large development enterprise at Carrabelle, Fla., which place took its name from the name of Carrie Arabelle Hall, his niece, who was so intimately identified with him in all his relations to the Grange. While Carrabelle, Fla., has grown to be a place of considerable importance, it is understood that Mr. Kelley lost considerable money in the enterprise.

The Grange will never cease to honor Oliver Hudson Kelley as its originator and most active founder, but

it will not undervalue the splendid work of his six associates, who helped him "hew the shaft and lay the architrave" of the Order.

W. M. Ireland, one of the "founders" of the Order, was elected Secretary to succeed Mr. Kelley, and a resolution was adopted "that the office of Secretary shall be located within the District of Columbia," which suited Secretary Ireland very well, as he lived in Washington. Henley James of Indiana was re-elected a member of the Executive Committee.

The Worthy Master said in his address:

"Much has been said, from time to time, relative to the disposition made of the funds of the National Grange. Curiosity has prompted me to examine somewhat into this matter, and I find there has been paid back to the several states about \$55,000, in the form of loan-donations, and for the adjustment of dues and charitable purposes about \$45,000, making in all \$100,000 which has been returned to the states from the treasury of the National Grange.

"In past years the expenditures may not in every single instance appear warranted by prudence and wisdom, still I apprehend the closest scrutiny will fail to discover any serious wrong or misappropriation of funds. It is, indeed, fortunate that the financial history will bear investigation, and not suffer from the inquest."

The report of Treasurer F. M. McDowell shows the total receipts for the year ending September 30, 1878, \$24,806.94, and the total expenditure \$20,188.61, showing a balance of \$4,618.33. With a view to the further reduction of expenses, the salaries for the ensuing year were fixed as follows: Master, \$500 and \$4 a day when away from his office on business of the Grange; Lecturer, \$4 a day when on duty for the Grange; Treasurer, \$500; Secretary, \$800. Necessary expenses of all these officers when on business for the Grange was allowed.

A resolution was adopted demanding more humane treatment of live stock in transit over the railroads. The outcome of this agitation was the adoption of such laws. Also, requesting that it be made the duty of

teachers in our public schools to instruct the children under their care to protect insect-eating birds and their nests, and to treat the lower animals kindly.

It was also demanded that the patent laws be so amended "as to protect innocent purchasers in the use of any article or implement manufactured and sold in the market, making the manufacturers and sellers alone responsible for infringement of patent rights." This was the beginning of the famous Grange contests in the courts, which resulted in a notable victory.

There has been some controversy over the question of the beginning of the agitation for teaching agriculture in the public schools, which is now so generally adopted. Secretary Kelley had recommended this idea one year before, but the first specific action taken by the National Grange was the adoption of a resolution on November 29, 1878, offered by Mr. Harwell of Tennessee, demanding the teaching of elementary agriculture in the public schools. We have no record of any public action upon this subject previous to this time, thus once more vindicating the Grange's claim to leadership.

The Committee on Education declared "that agriculture is a science, and we had as well expect a correct English composition without a knowledge of the rules of grammar or a skillful physician without even a smattering knowledge of the principles of medical science, as a successful agriculturist who is equally ignorant of the principles which underlie his vocation."

The first record of the appointment of a National Grange Legislative Committee was the appointment at this session of D. Wyatt Aiken of South Carolina and A. P. Forsyth of Illinois, both of whom were members of Congress.

The National Grange had now brought its expenses within its income, and the future looked encouraging and the permanency of the Grange seemed assured.

The thirteenth session of the National Grange met

in Canandaigua, N. Y., November 19 to 28, 1879, with all the officers except the Lady Assistant Steward present.

Twenty-nine states were represented by the same delegates as at last session, except that Virginia was not represented, while California and Kentucky were, and changes in North Carolina and Ohio as follows: California, B. R. Spillman; Ohio, J. H. and Mrs. Brigham; Kentucky, W. J. Stone; North Carolina, W. H. and Mrs. Cheek.

Worthy Master Samuel E. Adams, in his "annual address," discussed the history of Grange attempts at co-operation very fully and thoughtfully, reviewing the action of the National Grange upon that subject from the first up to that time. He reached the conclusion that "one mistake has been that too many have supposed the material or business plan of the work was the end and aim of the Order. The Grange is not in itself a business organization, but a school of instruction. Pecuniary advantages derived from co-operation in making purchases and sales are the *incidents resulting from our organization.*"

After devoting pages to the general discussion, he epitomizes the whole subject as it then seemed to him, in this way:

"Local stores organized in the interests of the Order are in successful operation all over the country, saving money in purchases and in sales, because the members 'buy together and sell together.' State agencies are established, where the services of the ubiquitous middlemen are chiefly dispensed with, orders for merchandise aggregated, produce disposed of in bulk, and efficient aid and support are rendered to tributary associations. By co-operation the products of a state are conveyed to market without suffering from excessive rates. By co-operation the decision of the supreme tribunal of our country has been obtained affirming the right of the people to regulate through their Legislatures, to a healthful extent, the tariff imposed by transporting corporations. By co-operation oppressive local exactions have been subdued and the burdens of general government more equitably distributed. By co-operation Aid Societies have

been formed in various parts of the country, so that families of deceased members reap the benefits resulting from real insurance, and are no longer subjected to the losses and robbery of bankrupt societies and defrauding officials. By co-operation the Grange press is sustained, its subscription list is increased, its usefulness extended, information pertaining to our organization imparted, the editorial corps encouraged and paid, and the proprietors made jubilant. By co-operation the Order of Patrons of Husbandry was instituted, its aim and purpose promulgated, its members strengthened, enlightened and united, and by clear, rational and comprehensive views of its principles, and by stern adherence to its teachings, will success and perpetuity be assured."

These were large claims for co-operation, and yet it is only a fair statement of what the Grange was trying to do, and was accomplishing in some measure at least.

From year to year we have included in this history the amount of receipts and disbursements, because there is no surer way to illustrate the true condition of the Order, as would be the case with a business house or corporation. The falling off in income does not indicate an equal falling off in membership by any means. In the early years of the Order the bulk of the income was from the Charter fees paid by new Granges. During the year 1874 there were organized 11,941 Subordinate Granges, while during the year 1879 there were but 17 organized.

The Treasurer's report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1879, gave the total receipts as \$20,249.04 and the total expenditures as \$18,899.82, leaving a balance of \$1,349.22. Of the earlier accumulations there was still \$45,000 invested in United States bonds.

The Executive Committee said: "One year ago your Executive Committee reported our organization languishing in many of the states. Today they feel apprehensive that unless the tide be turned the requiem of our Order will have been sung in more states than one before this body shall again assemble."

In order to bring the expenditures within the income, the salaries of the officers were still further scaled down,

as follows: Master, \$500 and necessary expenses; Treasurer, \$300 and expenses; Secretary, \$600; Lecturer, \$4 a day when employed under direction of the National Grange or Executive Committee. Compensation of Executive Committee \$3 a day and expenses; the *per diem* of members of the National Grange was reduced to \$3.

A resolution was adopted providing "that a special committee of five be raised who shall take into consideration the state and condition of American agriculture, and to report such measures and policies as, in their judgment, will tend to afford relief from the weights, hindrances and difficulties that now beset it, and to suggest such methods as will restore to American farmers greater prosperity and promote their political and material welfare." This resolution involves the whole idea of the "Rural Life Commission" later appointed by President Roosevelt, once more demonstrating the leadership of the Grange.

Resolutions were adopted "asking Congress to enact a law creating a National Board of Control, invested with full power to fix and regulate the freight rates which may be charged by railroad companies and other corporations engaged in interstate commerce." This was the beginning of the agitation that finally resulted in the creation of the "Interstate Commerce Commission," which has always been classed as a Grange victory. The teaching of agriculture in the public schools was again indorsed, and the compulsory attendance of children recommended, a pioneer action on the last proposition.

The following Grange platform was promulgated: "Stirred with a just sense of right and supported by the integrity of our purpose, the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, in the name and interest of the farmers of the United States, strongly demands:

1. That the Department of Agriculture shall be made an Executive Department, and the Commissioner a Cabinet officer,



Jonathan J. Woodman, Michigan, fifth Master of the National Grange.



Samuel Emory Adams, Minnesota, fourth Master of the
National Grange.

2. That the agricultural department shall be sustained and supported by annual appropriations commensurate with the importance of the great and permanent industry it represents.

3. That commercial treaties shall be made with all foreign countries, giving to American products equal and unrestricted intercourse with the markets of the world.

4. That governments be administered in a cheaper and simpler manner, consonant with the conditions of the people.

5. That a more rigid economy in the expenditures of public moneys be established.

6. That the laws shall be plain and simple to the end that justice shall be speedy, crime punished and good government maintained.

7. That the creation or allowing of monopolies to exist is in violation of the spirit and genius of free republican government.

8. That the tariffs of freights and fare over railroads and all transportation companies shall be regulated, and all unjust discriminations inhibited by law.

9. That taxation shall be equal and uniform and all values made to contribute their just proportion of the support of the government.

10. That the revenue laws of the United States shall be so adjusted as to bear equally upon all classes of property to the end that agriculture shall be relieved of the disproportion of burdens it bears.

11. That the patent laws of the United States be so revised that innocent purchasers shall be protected and fraudulent vendors alone held responsible for infringements of rights and infringements of law.

12. That a system of elementary agricultural education shall be adopted in the common schools of the country.

13. That we are entitled to and should have a fair representation in the legislative halls of the country chosen from the ranks of the farmers.

CHAPTER IX

J. J. Woodman's Administration, First Term, Two Years, 1880-1881—Fourteenth and Fifteenth Sessions of the National Grange

Immediately upon the close of the thirteenth session of the National Grange Worthy Master Woodman took up the discouraging work before him with great energy. The growing impression was that the Grange was going the way of all other efforts to organize the farmers. About this time the statement was made in "The Story of Labor" that "agricultural guilds have never in the history of the world scored a continuous success. We have seen one of the most promising experiments in this direction flourish and fall in the Granger organizations. There cannot, in our condition of society, be formed successful trade unions of farm workers. All of the circumstances are against them." That would probably have been true had not the Grange been more than a trade union. Discouragement confronted the new Master and his official associates in every direction. Many Subordinate Granges were becoming dormant, and here and there a State Grange was dropping out. The most rigid economy was necessary to keep the National Grange above the financial flood.

Notwithstanding all this the work of the year was courageously entered upon, and every effort centered upon a determined purpose to stem the tide of disintegration and reach solid ground where a new foundation could be laid upon which to build a more enduring structure. Some progress had been made when the fourteenth annual session of the National Grange met at Washington, D. C., November 17 to 27, 1880.

The officers elected at the preceding session were all present:

- Master*—J. J. Woodman, Michigan.
Overseer—Put Darden, Mississippi.
Lecturer—Henry Eshbaugh, Missouri.
Steward—A. J. Vaughan, Tennessee.
Assistant Steward—Wm. Sims, Kansas.
Chaplain—S. H. Ellis, Ohio.
Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, New York.
Secretary—W. M. Ireland, Washington, D. C.
Gatekeeper—Oscar Dinwiddie, Indiana.
Ceres—Mrs. H. H. Woodman, Michigan.
Pomona—Mrs. Mary L. Darden, Mississippi.
Flora—Mrs. E. M. Nicholson, New Jersey.
Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. H. A. Sims, Kansas.
Executive Committee—D. Wyatt Aiken, Henley James and W. G. Wayne.

Thirty states were represented by the following delegates: California, B. R. and Mrs. Spillman; Colorado, Levi and Mrs. Booth; Delaware, J. J. and Mrs. Rosa; Florida, W. H. and Mrs. Wilson; Georgia, T. J. and Mrs. Smith; Illinois, A. P. and Mrs. Forsyth; Indiana, Aaron and Mrs. Jones; Iowa, D. W. Jones; Kansas, William Sims; Kentucky, A. B. and Mrs. Smith; Maryland, H. O. Devries; Massachusetts, J. and Mrs. Draper; Maine, D. H. and Mrs. Thing; Michigan, J. J. and Mrs. Woodman; Minnesota, S. E. and Mrs. Adams; Mississippi, P. and Mrs. Darden; Missouri, H. and Mrs. Eshbaugh; New Hampshire, G. A. and Mrs. Wason; New Jersey, J. W. and Mrs. Nicholson; New York, W. A. Armstrong; North Carolina, W. H. and Mrs. Cheek; Ohio, J. H. and Mrs. Brigham; Oregon, R. P. and Mrs. Boise; Pennsylvania, V. E. Piolett; South Carolina, J. N. Lipscomb; Tennessee, T. B. Harwell; Vermont, A. B. and Mrs. Franklin; Virginia, J. M. and Mrs. Blanton; West Virginia, R. W. and Mrs. Baylor; Wisconsin, C. D. and Mrs. Parker.

All the "founders of the Order" except Mr. Kelley were present. Following the opening ceremonies the Worthy Master introduced Hon. William Saunders, first Master of the National Grange, and one of the "seven founders," who delivered a long and

interesting address dealing mainly with the early history of the Order. The whole address is bristling with points of historic interest.

It has been said without sufficient authority that Mr. Saunders severed all active connection with the Grange when it moved the headquarters to Louisville, Ky. In this notable address, he said: "We have waited patiently the course of events which would enable us once more to greet the National Grange at the home of its childhood. We regretted its departure and have refused to be comforted. Our staying hope has been that it would sooner or later see the error of its way and endeavor to regain the prestige it had lost by the action. We do not know whether or not that time has come, but we *do* know that if ever the Order of Patrons of Husbandry fulfills the objects of its originally proposed missions the National Grange must again assert its original position in the framework of the organization.

"The Founders of the Order never entertained the idea of a probability that the National Grange would, at any time, consider it necessary to change its original location. The very nature of the organization seemed to them to preclude the possibility of any change in that respect. It appeared to them that the National Grange would always be found at the National Capitol, and I can assure you that all impediments and drawbacks which we have encountered seemed trivial and inconsiderable in comparison with the shock which startled me when I first learned, at the seventh session in St. Louis, that the removal of the headquarters of the National Grange was a matter under consideration. As a member of a committee appointed to consider and report on the question I did not hesitate to state my opinion that such removal would greatly impair the usefulness of the National Grange and prove to be injurious, if not disastrous, to the best interests of the Order, and I had reason to believe that my earnest ap-

peals in behalf of the Order prevented further action on the matter at that time. But all appeals were ultimately of no avail, and the Grange, at the following session, consummated action which led to the removal of the National Grange, a proceeding which has not, on the whole, benefited the Order."

Worthy Overseer P. Darden of Mississippi replied to the address of Past Master Saunders in a happy manner. Said he: "No higher compliment can be paid you, the founders of this Order, than to point to the splendid results already accomplished by your followers. You have done much to liberate the minds of the farmers from the shackles of party spirit and to fix them upon the good of the country and the development of its national prosperity. While much has been done, much still remains undone. Having passed the dangerous period of organization, we feel that we can safely say that henceforth our course will be onward and upward to the accomplishment of still greater victories. With the significant words of education, agitation and co-operation emblazoned on our banners we will never cease the struggle until justice and equality are secured to our class, and the husbandmen become the 'true nobility of the land.'"

These were brave words, but the battle has been longer than the orator probably imagined it would be. It is still on and the conflict is irrepressible. J. R. Thompson, also one of the founders of the Order, speaking on this occasion said: "It will always be with me, and I doubt not that the sentiment is shared by my associates in the work, a cheering and sustaining reflection that, however short our other aspirations may have fallen of fulfillment, and however fruitless our other efforts through life have been, our work in giving the Grange to the world has conferred benefits upon humanity which warrant the belief that we have not lived in vain." Referring to the founding of the Order he said:

"The founders wrought for nearly five years with slight encouragement of success, but against indifference, opposition and discouragement, with a faith that never faltered and a patience that never tired, contributing oftentimes of their ill-spaced means, they worked on, believing that the necessities of American agriculture demanded the existence of the Order, and that the times were propitious for its introduction. They were not discouraged for want of progress, for they realized that

"Heaven is not reached by a single bound,
We must build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies
And mount to its summit round by round."

With a happy reference to the parable of the sower and the seed and a reference to the seen and unseen difficulties, he goes on to say:

"As a mountain climber with every step of upward and onward progress sees the horizon expanding around him, so may the Order in its onward progress discover new fields and spheres of usefulness. I trust it may be so, and whatever they may be, I believe that it will be ever equal to its occasion. I have an unshaken faith, an undoubting hope and an abiding confidence in its future. It has come into the world to brighten, to bless, and *to stay*. Though we grow faint or faithless, weak or weary, the principles upon which it is founded can never die. When the memorial tree shall cast its grateful shade upon our resting place, other heads and hearts and hands will continue our work until the final harvest. I believe the Grange will outlast and outlive us all—

"Knowing this that never yet
Share of truth in vain was set
In the world's wide fallow.
Other hands may sow the seed
Other hands o'er hill and mead
Will reap the harvest yellow."

Some have said: "They builded better than they knew," but one is inclined to agree with Mr. Saunders when he says: "The facts were that we were 'building better than they knew.'"

Following these general exercises Worthy Master J. J. Woodman delivered his first "annual address." After dealing at some length with the history of the Order and its past rapid growth he said:

"A reaction was inevitable. A great brotherhood organized for the education and elevation of a class could not live and accomplish its mission without system, discipline and united action. The Order must pass through an ordeal, in reorganizing and consolidating Granges, enforcing discipline and systematizing its work, that would reveal its weakness and inefficiency or demonstrate the correctness of its principles and establish its strength and perpetuity. Through that crisis we have passed, though somewhat depleted in numbers, yet better organized, better disciplined, and better prepared to make the principles of our Order understood and appreciated. There can be no better evidence of the vitality of our organization and the value of its principles than is to be found in the fact that under such circumstances so many Granges have lived and prospered and that so many intelligent and high-minded men and women all over our land are still laboring in its ranks, and advocating its principles."

He went on to say: "For this great work of educating and elevating the agricultural classes of this country, and to save them from the impending fate that has befallen the agricultural classes of the old world, was our Order created; and its future prosperity will depend largely upon the legislation of this body in connection with that of the several State Granges."

After discussing a number of topics of interest to the Order only he had this to say of a subject upon which the Grange was taking a lively interest at that time: "The recent establishment of experiment stations and agricultural colleges in some of the states, and the growing popularity of the agricultural colleges, heretofore established, is another sign of progress, and indicates that the good seed which has been sown is becoming fruit. Let us continue to sow the seed, in full faith that we may hereafter reap an abundant harvest."

Like Banquo's ghost, the subject of monopolies, corporations and transportation companies, would not down. Quoting the "Declaration of Purposes," the Worthy Master said: "We are not enemies of railroads or of any corporation that will advance our industrial interests. . . . We are not enemies to capital, but we oppose the tyranny of monopolies, and such

spirit and management of any corporation or enterprise as tends to oppress the people and rob them of their just profits."

"This is the most important question of public policy," said he, "that now agitates the minds of the people. That our efforts to enlighten public sentiment upon the unjust discrimination made by transportation companies, and to induce Congress to regulate interstate commerce by National Legislation, so as to protect the industrial interest from unjust extortions, were based upon well-grounded causes," he cited a number of specific cases. Quoting from Horace Greeley, he said: "I can see no reason for doubt that the same power which sufficed to give the farmers' houses and lands to a company at a price virtually fixed by the state will insure the farmers the right to use that railroad at prices likewise fixed by the state." The doctrine was surely sound. Following a lengthy and enlightening discussion of railroad problems he declared: "We have assumed the aggressive, and let no backward step be taken"; and in concluding this discussion, he said: "The conflict is upon us, and every member is expected to do his whole duty. It remains to be seen whether this country is to be controlled by the rapacious railroad transportation companies, managed by a few men 'who recognize no responsibility except to their stockholders, and no principle of action except personal and corporate aggrandizement,' or by the sovereign people."

The Worthy Lecturer brought the encouraging word that: "The effort made by the National Grange at its session last year to secure legislation on the subject of transportation and patent rights has been a great stimulus to the Order in many sections of the country, the members realizing the fact that it was in the direction that carried with it a hope for relief. It has inspired new courage, more perseverance and greater cooperative effort in the good work so well begun."

Bearing upon this same, and at that time all-

important subject, it was resolved "that we demand that the Congress of the United States investigate our grievances, and so legislate in the interest of interstate commerce that transportation companies shall be placed under the control of the government, and the tariff on freight be so regulated by law that positive protection to the producers may be furnished in the future, and they be exempted from the extortion so long and so patiently borne." All this demonstrates the persistency with which the Grange stuck to what it believed to be right.

Much of the time of this session was taken up with the consideration of proposed Constitutional amendments and plans for strengthening the Order. The report of the Treasurer showed the total receipts to be \$15,200.78, which included a sale of government bonds to the amount of \$3,701.35, with total expenditures of \$13,736.47, leaving a balance of \$1,464.31. The Secretary reported that "during the previous year but 17 new Granges were organized, while during the year just closed the number reached 44." And during the same time it is fair to assume that a good many dormant Granges had been reorganized. The indications were that the wheels of disintegration were having the brakes thrown on them hard.

A "Committee on Memorializing Congress on the Subject of the Cattle Plague" was appointed. This was the beginning of what has grown to be the large and important "Bureau of Animal Husbandry" in the Department of Agriculture.

Again it was demanded that the Commissioner of Agriculture be made a Secretary of Agriculture and be made a member of the President's Cabinet. The Reagan Interstate Commerce Bill was indorsed. Able and vigorous committee reports were made covering the whole field of agricultural and Grange activities, indicating that the Grange had, indeed, become a school of economics and sociology and that its

thoughtful membership was rising to a far-seeing and wholesome statesmanship.

The only election at this session was that of Henley James of Indiana to succeed himself on the Executive Committee. For the first time the National Grange declared in favor of a graduated income tax, and that "we cannot urge with too much force the supreme importance of suitable representation for agriculture in the law-making bodies wherein its interests are necessarily involved. Such representation cannot be had through the selection of men ignorant of its necessities. They must be in fair proportion, at least, selected from the body whose interests are committed to their keeping." This reasoning is clearly just, but the "proportion" has steadily grown less and less, until it has almost entirely disappeared from the National Congress and is a disappearing quantity in most State Legislatures.

The salaries for the ensuing year were fixed at the same amount as the preceding year, except that the Secretary was given \$800 instead of \$600.

The fourteenth session came to a close with a spirit of hopefulness pervading the members, and the work of the next year was taken up with renewed vigor and prosecuted with constructive discretion.

The fifteenth session met in the city of Washington November 16 to 26, 1881, this being the first time the National Grange had held two consecutive sessions in the same city. All the officers were present. All the Founders but Mr. Kelley were again present.

Twenty-nine states were represented, by the same delegates as at the last session, except that Colorado, Georgia, Indiana and Oregon were not represented, and the following changes were made: Alabama, B. C. Harrison; Minnesota, T. T. and Mrs. Smith; Arkansas, J. C. Scott; Pennsylvania, L. and Mrs. Rhone; California, D. and Mrs. Flint; Texas, A. J. and Mrs. Rose; Michigan, C. G. Luce.

Worthy Master Woodman delivered a strong address dealing with many matters of passing interest to the Grange and the farmers of the country. As we have seen, the National Grange had repeatedly demanded the elevation of the head of the Department of Agriculture to a Cabinet position. A bill to that effect had been pending in Congress for some time. Worthy Master Woodman said that the bill had met with serious opposition from the chairman of the committee on agriculture, yet a majority of the committee reported it favorably, and placed it in charge of Mr. Aiken, who was a member of the committee.

By his perseverance he succeeded in pressing it to a final vote, and 162 members voted for it and 84 against it, lacking but two votes of the necessary two-thirds required to pass it. Many of those who opposed it did so on the ground that the new department should include commerce, labor, railroads and other things. "With that done," said Mr. Reagan, "its great agricultural interests, its commercial interests, its great manufacturing interests, its great mining interests, would receive the supervision and direction of a first-class man and undoubtedly they deserve the services of such a man."

The Worthy Master saw in this "the policy which we may expect to incorporate into a bill to answer the demands of the agricultural interests of the country, as indicated by the resolution adopted by this body. Would not such a course be in harmony with much of the previous legislation of the country, ostensibly to benefit agriculture, but really to aid and build up other interests at the expense of agriculture, and fasten upon the country some of the most oppressive monopolies that ever cursed any people?"

"Passing over the inference that an agricultural department could not stand upon its own bottom, could not 'be presided over by a first-class man,' and

admitting that a department for the further protection of the combined and incorporated interests with agriculture attached as a 'side show' could be, is anyone credulous enough to believe, in view of the history of the past and the influences which generally control such appointments, that such a department would ever be presided over by one either qualified or disposed to give agriculture the consideration which its importance demands? Might we not rather expect a repetition of that policy which ignores the representatives of the farming interests in Congress and selects a chairman of the Committee on Agriculture from the legal profession of a large city where agriculture is not supposed to be extensively practiced or well understood?" It may be remarked here that this is not the only time the same thing has occurred, nor have the real farmers been always represented in the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Covert, the chairman referred to above, strongly opposed the bill. His remarks are hardly worthy of the head of the Congressional Committee on Agriculture; but upon the Constitutional question he declared that "there was simply no warrant in the Constitution for the so-called elevation of the Department of Agriculture, or even for the establishment or existence of the department as it stands today," and that "the department as it stands today is an illegitimate child of the government," deserving support only "during its infancy" or while the act creating it "remains unpealed."

To this Congressman Hatch of Missouri, author of the Hatch Experiment Station Law, replied: "If this department is an illegitimate child, then, in the name of the great agricultural interests of the country, let the forty-sixth Congress of the United States do today the greatest act of its official life, and legitimize this child of agriculture. Illegitimate! If it be so, it has done more for the country than any other child that

has been born to it since the Declaration of Independence. It is the foundation of our wealth, the cornerstone of our prosperity and the fruitful source from which we derive our richest and surest revenue."

Worthy Master Woodman concluded that, "the favorable consideration and large support which this measure received should encourage us to again press the matter in its original form before the next Congress, and to oppose and resist every effort made by friend or foe of the measure, to consolidate the agricultural department with the incorporated interests of the country."

At this time Dr. Loring was Commissioner of Agriculture, and in an address before the National Grange took issue with that body on the question of consolidation with other interests. With a view to harmonizing the ideas of the Commissioner and the National Grange, a committee of ten was appointed to confer with the Commissioner. This committee called upon the Commissioner, but received scant courtesy at his hands.

At this time the National Grange was giving much attention to the agricultural colleges, and in the report of the Committee on Education it says: "We must be allowed to express our regret that the agricultural interests are too frequently merged, in these colleges, into the ordinary college course. The usefulness of the agricultural college is too often dwarfed, perhaps, however, by no fault of its own, and yet these colleges are too often agricultural only in name." This was certainly a just complaint at that time, and the course subsequently pursued by the Grange had much to do with curing the condition. At this session the Masters of State Granges made their first reports to the National Grange, by order of the previous session. These reports were from twelve to twenty lines in length and limited entirely to reporting the condition of the Order in the several states.

The report of the Treasurer, which was always an interesting feature, shows the total receipts to be \$17,658.14, including a United States bond sale to the amount of \$2,627.50, leaving a balance of \$40,000 invested in United States bonds. Total expenditures were \$15,403.59.

The Secretary reported 57 new Granges organized during the last year, against 44 organized the year before.

CHAPTER X

J. J. Woodman's Administration, Second Term, Two Years, 1882-1883—Sixteenth and Seventeenth Annual Sessions of the National Grange

Worthy Master J. J. Woodman was the first man to be elected to that office for a second term. With an experience of two years he entered zealously upon the work before him.

The Grange was now confronted with active rivals in the National Farmers' Alliance in the Northwest and the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union in the South. These organizations were making sensational appeals to the farmers, which were interfering, more or less, with the progress in rebuilding the Grange along conservative and safer lines. Safe and sane leadership was always necessary to keep the Grange off the rocks on which other farmers' organizations have gone to wreck. The destiny of the Grange was in safe hands, and it went about its appointed business in a spirit of co-operation, but shunning all possible entangling alliances.

Agricultural colleges were beginning to prosper and the science of agriculture was becoming better understood through their teaching and the educational policy of the National Grange.

The press generally had become more friendly to the Grange, the interests of agriculture were receiving more attention and favor at the hands of Congress and the State Legislatures than ever before, and the good work of the Grange was manifesting itself in many departments of government. Prejudices against the Order were giving way, and confidence in the Grange as a permanent institution was being

restored, while the great purposes which it was seeking to establish were becoming better understood.

One of the paramount Grange measures, the placing of a Secretary of Agriculture in the President's Cabinet, had passed the House of Representatives and was pending in the Senate, and a satisfactory amendment of the patent laws had also passed the House and gone to the Senate when the sixteenth session of the National Grange met in Indianapolis, Ind., November 15 to 23, 1882.

Master—J. J. Woodman, Michigan.

Overseer—Put Darden, Mississippi.

Lecturer—Henry Eshbaugh, Missouri.

Steward—William Sims, Kansas.

Assistant Steward—J. J. Rosa, Delaware.

Chaplain—H. O. Devries, Maryland.

Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, New York.

Secretary—W. M. Ireland, District of Columbia.

Gatekeeper—James Draper, Massachusetts.

Ceres—Mrs. H. H. Woodman, Michigan.

Pomona—Mrs. Mary L. Darden, Mississippi.

Flora—Mrs. E. M. Nicholson, New Jersey.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. H. A. Sims, Kansas.

Executive Committee—D. Wyatt Aiken, Chairman, South Carolina; J. M. Blanton, Virginia; J. H. Brigham, Ohio.

Thirty-two states were represented by the following delegates: Alabama, B. C. Harrison; Arkansas, J. V. Scott; California, D. and Mrs. Flint; Delaware, J. J. Rosa; Georgia, H. R. Deadwyler; Illinois, E. A. and Mrs. Giller; Indiana, Aaron Jones; Iowa, D. W. Jones; Kansas, Wm. and Mrs. Sims; Kentucky, J. L. and Mrs. Neal; Louisiana, Daniel Morgan; Maine, F. and Mrs. Robie; Maryland, H. O. and Mrs. Devries; Massachusetts, J. and Mrs. Draper; Michigan, C. G. Luce; Minnesota, T. T. Smith; Mississippi, P. and Mrs. Darden; Missouri, H. and Mrs. Eshbaugh; New Hampshire, G. A. and Mrs. Wason; New Jersey, J. W. and Mrs. Nicholson; New York, W. A. Armstrong; North Carolina, W. H. and Mrs. Cheek; Ohio, J. H. Brigham; Oregon, R. P. and Mrs. Boise; Pennsyl-

vania, L. and Mrs. Rhone; South Carolina, J. N. Lipscomb; Tennessee, T. B. Harwell; Texas, A. J. and Mrs. Rose; Vermont, A. B. and Mrs. Franklin; Virginia, J. M. and Mrs. Blanton; West Virginia, R. W. and Mrs. Baylor; Wisconsin, S. C. and Mrs. Carr.

The thoughtful "address" of the Worthy Master dealt exclusively with routine matters, with a hopeful spirit pervading it from start to finish. The real condition of the Order is shown more fully in the Treasurer's report than anywhere else. It does not show the sale of any United States bonds this year, and therefore shows a falling off in the receipts which total for the year \$14,144.50, with a total expenditure of \$11,948.47. The Secretary reported "a steady increase of new Granges, with a total of 77 for the year."

The reports of Masters of State Granges made to this session of the National Grange were somewhat longer than those of the year before, and in the main were hopeful and indicated a strengthening of Grange support. Gradually the Grange was adjusting itself to the new conditions which were now confronting it and the economic changes that time had wrought in agriculture and the country's affairs. The policy of regularly appointing a National Grange Legislative Committee, to present Grange measures to Congress had not yet come into practice, but in a few instances individuals had been selected for that purpose. During the last session of Congress the Worthy Master had appointed W. G. Wayne and J. G. Shepard of New York to appear before the Commerce Committee of the House of Representatives and urge upon that body the necessity of regulating by law transportation through and between the several states. In their report they say: "But all arguments and appeals fell upon 'leaden ears.' The committee was nearly solid in the railroad interest, a majority of whom were stockholders in, or attorneys for, these corporations. But we do not despair of ultimate success in railroad

transportation reform. The sense of public justice will not always slumber, and when fully aroused the people will surely provide a remedy for public wrongs, and a protection for popular rights."

In some measure, at least, this prophecy has come to pass and the railroad magnates do not assume the arrogant attitude toward the public they once did. The appointment of the above committee by the Worthy Master was indorsed and a large discretion given him in the appointment of persons to give similar service during the intervals between the annual sessions, much liberty and discretion being essential to guard the interests of the Order. The expenses of this committee were paid by the National Grange. The only election at this session was one member of the Executive Committee—J. H. Brigham of Ohio was elected to succeed Henley James of Indiana.

After a year of constructive work the seventeenth session of the National Grange met at Washington, D. C., November 21 to 30, 1883. All the officers were present, with the exception of Pomona and Flora.

Thirty states were represented by the same delegates as at the last session. Arkansas and Georgia were not represented. The following changes were made: California, S. T. and Mrs. Coulter; North Carolina, W. R. Williams; Delaware, H. and Mrs. Thompson; West Virginia, J. E. Hall.

Five of the founders attended this session, A. B. Grosh and O. H. Kelley being the two absent. William Saunders, one of the founders, delivered an address of welcome, replete with sound advice and patriotism, in which is this significant paragraph: "I am aware of the sensitiveness of the members of the Order with regard to entering upon questions seemingly of political significance, but there is no possible reason for ignoring questions of purely political economy. And in this connection I

would say that it cannot but be a source of gratification to the membership of the Order, as well as to all who feel interested in its success, that it has so effectually maintained its integrity with regard to the strictly partisan political questions of the times. In this respect it has greatly disappointed those prophets who foretold the early dissolution of the Order which was to follow the political wranglings in which, in their opinion, it was sure to engage. But the Order has bravely withstood all enticements to enter into what is called the 'political arena,' and for this it deserves the highest praise."

J. R. Thompson, another of the Founders, closed his address with this related statement: "My friends and brothers from the North, South, East and West, we meet as members of a common brotherhood; we come together under no restraints of any political party; we are wedded to no sectarian belief, but we place 'faith in God,' the 'great Patron of Husbandry.' We are citizens of one great Republic, loyal to the same flag and Constitution; let us endeavor to exemplify the Divine command, 'Love thy neighbor as thyself.'"

The Worthy Master said many excellent things in his "address." After giving the history of the introduction of business co-operation into the Grange he has this to say:

"Hence it appears that the system of co-operation, which proved such a signal failure and operated so disastrously to the Order in some of the Western and Southern States, did not originate with the National Grange, but practically with the organizing deputies. Members of the Subordinate Granges had become such by promises of great financial benefits. Money flowed into the State Grange treasuries which they had paid in fees and dues, and the demands went up to the State Granges to use it in business enterprises. Some State Granges yielded to the demand and engaged in milling and manufacturing enterprises with the funds in their treasuries and upon their own responsibility.

"It was not until the National Grange became a 'representative body' that business co-operation received its sanction and encour-

agement. State agents, under bonds for faithful work, were recommended at the ninth annual session, and at the same meeting a resolution for the establishment of 'National Business Agencies' was defeated by the decisive vote of 35 to 8. I call attention to these facts to show that the National Grange has ever been conservative on this question of co-operation, and that all systems recommended or indorsed by it have been thoroughly matured and well guarded. Had the advice of a majority of the founders of the Order and the recommendations of the National Grange been heeded and practiced, these business failures and calamities would have been avoided. The principal cause of failure was in placing business enterprises backed by the funds of the State Grange into the hands of agents who were wanting in business experience and qualifications necessary to manage them.

"Correct business habits and *real co-operation* among the members of our Order are as essential to its prosperity and perpetuity as breath is to physical life, and as indissolubly connected with its educational system as household economy, the production of crops, care and management of domestic animals or beautifying and adorning our homes. It cannot reasonably be expected that persons who have had no practical experience or special training in mercantile business, milling or manufacturing, can be qualified to successfully manage such enterprises. Business men do not spring up like mushrooms, but grow like the stately oak, which gradually rises and spreads its branches under the genial and vivifying influence of the sunshine and the rain, and strikes its root deeper and more firmly into the earth when beat upon and swayed by the wind and the storm. So men must be educated for any business avocation in life, and be made strong and well grounded by experience derived from successes and losses.

"Business co-operation should have a place in every Subordinate Grange, however small the beginning and limited the means, and if well managed and patronized, it cannot fail to prosper, and not only benefit the members financially, but educate them into correct and practical business habits."

In view of the numerous failures of so-called Grange co-operative stores and other business enterprises throughout the country, this was an important statement, which would indicate that many of the failures which proved so disastrous to the Grange itself should not have been charged to the Grange.

The Worthy Treasurer reported the receipts for the year \$15,412.25, which included the proceeds of United

States bond sales to the amount of \$2,577.50, leaving a balance invested in United States bonds of \$38,000. The total expenditures for the year were \$12,704.89. The interest on the United States bonds owned by the National Grange for a number of years had been between \$2,000 and \$3,000, and in addition to this it had been necessary to sell \$2,000 or more of the bonds themselves annually to pay current expenses. It is easy to see what would have happened to the National Grange if this source of income had not been available during these trying years. In spite of this, however, the outlook was encouraging for the future. The Worthy Secretary reported 97 new Granges organized during the year, an increase of about 26 per cent.

The political unrest in the country was beginning to manifest itself in the Grange and among the farmers generally. It came up in this session of the National Grange, and a "Special Committee on Political Economy" was appointed, which made a report that after much discussion and more or less amendment was adopted. Because of its significance, and because it clearly defines the present position of the Grange upon the subject, the report adopted is reproduced.

"While we firmly adhere to the cardinal principles enunciated in our Declaration of Purposes that in the Grange there is, and can be no partisan politics, yet as the Church teaches pure morals, and, without partisan bias, seeks to advance Christianity for the good of us all, so we, to better conserve those great interests of our class, which, if properly guarded and fostered, will bless all mankind, must give heed to those public questions and laws which affect our calling; and we may, without just cause of criticism from any other class or party, seek such political reforms as will promote our interests, and relieve our industries from unjust burdens. In heeding the admonition of our Ritual to promote the welfare of our country and mankind, we do not do our duty as patrons and citizens if we neglect to call public attention to political abuses or cease to strive to correct them. The political reforms we ask for and the laws we seek to amend or enact are in no wise partisan.

"The innocent purchaser and user of patented articles, who has to pay an unjust royalty, suffers in the same degree, whatever

may be his political affiliations. The establishment of a Department of Agriculture, now so necessary to aid in the proper development of our industry, and raise it up to a higher level of respectability, and increase our influence in the affairs of the nation, has no partisan taint. So, also, is the transportation question—the railroad monopolies levying their unjust exactions alike on citizens of all parties. As they are said to be without souls, so they are without partisan affiliation, except to accomplish their own selfish purposes. In this regard they are most aptly described by Jay Gould, in his testimony before the Hepburn Committee, when he declared that, when seeking to get his friends elected to office in a Republican district, he was a Republican; in a Democratic district, he was a Democrat. As Patrons, it is our duty to discuss all questions of political economy; to become acquainted with questions of revenue and taxation; to learn the extent and necessity of public burdens, and look into the efficiency of every public service; to seek to regulate, by proper laws, all corporations who do business for the public; to look after the general welfare of agriculture and endeavor to have all unjust burdens imposed on it removed, and, when necessary, by legal enactment, to strive to have our principles and measures adopted by all political parties; to strive to secure the election of men to office and places of trust who believe in our principles, and will endeavor to maintain and make them practical; to carefully scrutinize the characters of all men who are candidates for office, and pledge them, as far as may be, to support the measures recommended by the Grange; to insist that those engaged in agricultural pursuits be elected to political offices and places of trust in a ratio commensurate with the interests they represent. To create and maintain a public sentiment that shall ostracize and make infamous, as guilty of moral treason, any legislator who shall refuse or neglect to subserve the known interests of the whole people, or other officer who shall betray a public trust.

“Therefore, *Resolved*, That, because of the burdens, resulting from subsidies in land grants, transportation, patent laws, unequal taxation, boards of trade, and for the want of a properly equalized tariff system, the farmers of America, in self-defense, and for the protection of the wealth-producing classes, should take a positive stand against all monopolies.

“*Resolved*, That the National Grange doth most earnestly recommend that, in all State and Subordinate Granges, those questions of public policy and national import, as they relate to agriculture, be discussed, making them prominent both in and out of the Grange, and thus aid in arresting the evils which threaten the agricultural interests of our country.

Resolved, That the National Grange, at this, its seventeenth annual session, places itself upon record in vindication of the foregoing policies; and through its representatives from 30 states of this Union, now assembled, declares its devotion to questions of public policy rather than partisanship, and its future purpose to be adherence to principle. That we will, by our influence and vote, support measures and men for office who will labor to subserve the best interests of the whole people.

Resolved, We urge that farmers always take an active part, and thus make their power felt in all primary meetings, looking to the selection of delegates or candidates to represent the people in town, township, county, state or national councils. And that our efforts be further directed to the suppression of buying and selling votes at any and all elections."

The agricultural colleges were receiving marked attention from the Grange, and, in pursuance of a determined policy, the following resolutions were adopted:

"1. That we favor the introduction into our public schools of primary instruction in agriculture and of the natural sciences, this being alike, in our judgment, for the best interests and advantage of the children of all classes.

"2. That we hold it should be in fact, and is in accordance with the spirit of the organic art, that it should be the leading object of all agricultural colleges established under act of 1862, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts; and that the obligation is equally binding upon all state students to study these branches, which either relate to agriculture or the mechanic arts, whilst claiming the benefits of the endowment fund by which the colleges are supported.

"3. That we favor, further, such a reorganization of these colleges as will furnish the youth of the country with good common school education, as is the case in medical, law and other schools, to enter them and begin at once the study of practical agriculture as taught in them, and who shall continue the study as long as they remain in the college, or until the course is completed."

For a number of years thoughtful members of the Grange had realized the mistake the Order made, in the early years of its prosperity and plethoric treasury, in not erecting a permanent headquarters in Washington. Repeated efforts had been made to secure a lease or a donation from Congress of the land on which the build-

ing stood where the Grange was organized. This effort failed. At this session a special committee was appointed to report a plan of raising money to erect a "Temple to Ceres" in the city of Washington for Grange headquarters. Voluntary contributions were asked for from individuals and Subordinate Granges, but only about \$700 was ever contributed, which amount was afterwards carried as a "Temple Fund."

No change was made in officers' salaries. The date of meeting of the National Grange was changed by constitutional amendment from the "third Wednesday" to the "Wednesday after the second Monday" in November.

CHAPTER XI

J. J. Woodman's Administration, Third Term, Two Years, 1884-1885—Eighteenth and Nineteenth Sessions of the National Grange

Elected to his third term as Worthy Master of the National Grange, J. J. Woodman continued the policy of his two previous terms, the chief work of which was the establishment of the Grange upon a solid financial and economic basis, thereby securing the support and confidence of thoughtful people.

The eighteenth session of the National Grange met at Nashville, Tenn., November 12 to 19, 1884. Officers elected at the preceding session were:

- Master*—J. J. Woodman, Michigan.
- Overseer*—Put Darden, Mississippi.
- Lecturer*—Henry Eshbaugh, Missouri.
- Steward*—William Sims, Kansas.
- Assistant Steward*—John J. Rosa, Delaware.
- Chaplain*—Henry O. Devries, Maryland.
- Treasurer*—F. M. McDowell, New York.
- Secretary*—William M. Ireland, District of Columbia.
- Gatekeeper*—James Draper, Massachusetts.
- Pomona*—Mrs. Mary L. Darden, Mississippi.
- Flora*—Mrs. E. M. Nicholson, New Jersey.
- Ceres*—Mrs. H. H. Woodman, Michigan.
- Lady Assistant Steward*—Mrs. H. A. Sims, Kansas.
- Executive Committee*—D. Wyatt Aiken, Chairman, South Carolina, and J. M. Blanton, Virginia, re-elected; J. H. Brigham holding over.

Thirty states were entitled to representation and twenty-eight were represented by the following delegates: Alabama, B. C. Harrison; California, S. T. and Mrs. Coulter; Delaware, Henry Thompson; Georgia, Daniel Gillis; Illinois, E. A. and Mrs. Giller; Iowa, J. E. Blackford; Indiana, Aaron Jones; Kansas, William and Mrs. Sims; Kentucky, J. L. and Mrs. Neal; Louis-

iana, Daniel Morgan; Maryland, H. O. and Mrs. Devries; Massachusetts, J. and Mrs. Draper; Michigan; C. G. and Mrs. Luce; Minnesota, S. E. and Mrs. Adams; Mississippi, Put. Darden; Missouri, J. M. Sneed; New Hampshire, W. H. Stinson; New Jersey, I. W. and Mrs. Nicholson; New York, W. A. Armstrong; North Carolina, W. R. Williams; Ohio, J. H. Brigham; Pennsylvania, L. and Mrs. Rhone; South Carolina, J. N. and Mrs. Lipscomb; Tennessee, W. H. Nelson; Texas, A. J. Rose; Virginia, J. M. and Mrs. Blanton; West Virginia, J. E. Hall; Wisconsin, S. C. and Mrs. Carr. Maine and Vermont not represented.

The Worthy Master delivered a long and carefully prepared address dealing with current Grange and other matters in a thoughtful manner. He said about the condition of the Order:

“As far as I am able to judge, we have no cause for discouragement in the general condition and work of the Order. While it is true that in some sections it seems to languish, in others it is strong and prosperous. The financial condition of our treasury seems to indicate a general increasing prosperity. The presidential campaign just closed has so engaged the attention of all classes of our people that it would be strange if it had not detracted from the interest of Grange work. But no instance has come to my knowledge where the Order has departed from its wise and well-defined non-partisan policy and lent its influence to aid the special interest of partisanship. There have been encouraging indications of an increasing interest among Patrons in the general politics of the country; but the Order has held its course steadily onward, battling for the right and for men and principles rather than party.”

The report of the Treasurer showed total receipts of \$15,584.74, and total expenditures of \$10,205.52, leaving a balance of \$5,379.22.

No change was made in the compensation of the officers for the next year. The following legislative committee was appointed to present matters which had been considered and recommended to Congress: E. F. Jones, New York; J. M. Blanton, Virginia; H. O.

Devries, Maryland; Leonard Rhone, Pennsylvania; and John Trimble, District of Columbia.

The nineteenth session of the National Grange met at Boston, Mass., November 11 to 20, 1885. Twenty-nine states were represented; Louisiana, Maryland and Virginia were not represented, and the following additions and changes were made: California, Wm. and Mrs. Johnson; Minnesota, W. S. Chowen; Connecticut, S. and Mrs. Kimberly; New Jersey, R. and Mrs. Coles; Indiana, M. and Mrs. Trusler; Oregon, R. P. and Mrs. Boice; Kansas, W. H. Toothaker; Vermont, A. B. and Mrs. Franklin; Maine, F. and Mrs. Robie. Secretary W. M. Ireland had resigned March 28, 1885, to take effect April 15. In a letter accompanying his resignation, he said:

“My other business engagements, which, by the way, are of a life tenure, require so much of my time, and are constantly increasing, and so frequently require my absence from the city for indefinite periods, that I cannot now give the attention to Grange matters that I would like to do, or that they require. Therefore, I feel that justice to the Order, as well as to myself, requires that I no longer continue to hold the office of Secretary. Feeling in this way, I have today sent to the Executive Committee my resignation and inclose to you a copy. I have been connected with the Order since its earliest inception, and with the exception of two years, have attended every session of the National Grange, and at all of them but one have prepared the journal of proceedings. Since 1878 I have filled the office of Secretary. During these many years I have seen the Order grow from a puny infant to the stature of a giant; have seen its strength and power almost gone, and again brought from the verge of the grave until it stands today in the full vigor and strength of manhood. During all the years of existence my faith in the ultimate triumph of its noble objects and principles has never for a moment wavered. I have ever endeavored to serve it faithfully wherever and whenever my services were needed, and now that its dark days have passed and it seems to be prosperous in every way, I feel that I can lay aside my official robes with a consciousness that my duty has been done. But in thus asking to be relieved of the duties of Secretary, I only sever my official connection with the Order. Personally, I shall always be one of you, and in every way in my power will aid in advancing the interests of the Order.”

The Executive Committee accepted the resignation and appointed John Trimble, Washington, D. C., to fill the unexpired term.

This session closed the third and last term of J. J. Woodman's administration, and the thirteenth year since the first delegate session in January, 1873. The Grange had made a good deal of important history, and had impressed its influence upon public questions in such a way that it could never be erased, whatever might be the future fate of the Order. In his last address to the National Grange Worthy Master Woodman, after briefly citing the history of the Order and the conditions which brought it into existence, fittingly summarized some of its achievements, as follows:

"The true mission of the Order is indicated by the necessities and events which brought it into existence, and is clearly expressed in its Declaration of Purposes; that document has been before the world for more than a decade, eliciting admiration and challenging criticism. It will, therefore, be seen that our organization was founded upon the necessities of agriculture, and the principles which underlie it, if carried out, comprehend all that is required to place our interests and our class on a plane of prosperity approximating to that enjoyed by other great interests. It was never intended that its work should be to tear down but to build up; not to level the palace, but to change the hovel to a pleasant and comfortable home; not to deprive the favored ones of a single advantage they now enjoy for literary acquirements, but to bring the means of obtaining a higher education, more suited to the farmer's calling, within the reach of all the children of rural homes; not to take from any class or interest a privilege or right which legitimately belongs to them, but to secure for ourselves and our posterity the social, moral and intellectual privileges which rightfully belong to us, and to enjoy without hindrance the fruit of our labor; not by the power of numbers to assume political control and arbitrarily attempt to shape the policy of the nation, but to bring farmers to the front, that their voices may be heard and their influence felt in the councils of the nation.

"For the accomplishment of these objects have its officers and members labored, and the result must be apparent to every observing mind.

"In 1873, when farmers were moving in the work of organiza-

tion, and the Order had obtained a foothold in nearly every state, the agitation of the question of correcting by legislation the abuses which railroad corporations were practicing in freight charges, began. The farmers of the great Northwest had voted taxes upon themselves, subscribed to stock, and mortgaged their farms to build the roads, in the vain hope that they would realize not only interest and dividends upon stock subscribed, but better prices for their farm products. But in all this they were doomed to disappointment. The money was used, stock absorbed, and farms sold under the mortgages, and a system of spoliation in freight charges established by the companies which would have disgraced the feudal ages; and the managers of the corporations were raised, as if by magic, from gentlemen in comfortable circumstances to millionaires. No wonder farmers organized to resist these encroachments upon their rights. No wonder that, for once at least, they tore themselves from party ties, held conventions and nominated and elected men pledged to represent their interests. And it was not strange that legislative bodies thus elected should pass laws for correcting, as far as possible, these abuses, and giving relief to a wronged and oppressed people. Laws thus enacted were resisted by the companies, under the plea that they were operating under general laws and special charters, and were therefore above and beyond legislative control. There was scarcely a statesman or lawyer in all the land that did not coincide in this theory. The companies were prosecuted, however, and the cases went into the courts. The parties to the suit were, practically, the farmers of the country, in their newly organized capacity, versus the great railroad corporations. These cases elicited great interest among all classes. Statesmen, attorneys and journalists gave thought and study to the questions involved. Horace Greeley was the first man of national reputation who espoused the farmers' cause, followed by Senator Carpenter of Wisconsin, Senator Windom of Minnesota, Judge Black of Pennsylvania and others.

"The National Grange met in St. Louis in February, 1884, and the first appeal to Congress to regulate interstate commerce was made at that session by the Order through its national organization. The Senate appointed a committee, of which Senator Windom of Minnesota was chairman, to investigate the complaints against the railroad companies and report to that body. The report was made, and more than sustained all the charges and complaints made. The report has passed into history, and every member who signed it, save one, has been retired from his seat in the Senate, and most of them, it is alleged, through the influence of railroad managers. The cases in court finally reached

the Supreme Court of the United States, and from that high tribunal came the decision, which was hailed with joy by the people everywhere, that 'when private property is taken for public use it is subject to public regulation'; and 'that the power to regulate the same is in the legislative department of the government.'

"The Board of Railroad Commissioners of Massachusetts, in their first annual report after the decision was made, paid a very high compliment to our Order, in declaring that the action of the farmers of the West, in prosecuting the railroad companies and obtaining this decision, is worth more to the country than their organization had cost. On the other hand, the president of the Central Pacific railroad of California denounces the decision as 'a most flagrant violation of the principles of free government, and entirely in harmony with the theory of government which rests its foundation on might and asserts the divine right of kings.' He further declares that 'the communists and the agitator Kearney advocated no doctrine in regard to property more atrocious than the principles embodied in the Granger cases and the laws they sustain.'

"This was our first triumph over the 'tyranny of monopolies,' and if the advantages gained have not been followed up and maintained by the necessary legislation to remove all the evils complained of, the fault has not been with the Order, but with the farmers themselves in failing to use it as a medium for accomplishing that object; for every National Grange, and almost every State Grange that has met since that time, have memorialized Congress and State Legislatures, and thousands of earnest petitioners from the Subordinate Granges have added their supplications for relief.

"The work of our Order, in this contest with the railroads, has not been confined wholly to efforts to secure friendly national legislation for farmers and the public interest. Through its direct influence most of the states have already enacted wholesome laws regulating railroad traffic within their borders, and a most wonderful change has been wrought in public sentiment. We have now many public men who dare to stand by the people in this contest with monopolies, and the people stand by them at the ballot box.

"Political parties no longer hesitate to declare in favor of regulating both state and interstate commerce, and to recognize the importance of agriculture to national prosperity. President Arthur, in his message to the forty-eighth Congress, says: 'No individual and no corporation ought to be invested with absolute power over the interests of any other citizen or class of citizens;

and it seems but just that, so far as its constitutional authority will permit, Congress should protect the people at large in their interstate traffic against acts of injustice which the state governments are powerless to prevent.' This recommendation embodies all that we have ever asked at the hands of Congress.

"Our greatest achievements are not, however, to be found in our efforts to secure favorable and friendly legislation for our interests, but in the great work of educating and elevating our class. When our Patron's ship was first launched upon the great ocean of public turmoil and strife in 1873, farmers and their families were, to a very great extent, isolated from each other in their social and business relations, plodding single-handed and alone in their work of cultivating their farms and endeavors to support their families from the products of the same. They were unaccustomed to the discipline of close organizations, ritualistic work or parliamentary usage. Farmers were seldom found in places of public trust, or taking part in public meetings and discussions, or occupying the rostrum. The agricultural literature of the country was confined to a few volumes, containing only the cogitations of theorists in agricultural science, and a very limited number of poorly patronized journals, to which few practical farmers furnished contributions. But few could be found who favored a higher education for farmers' sons and daughters, and agricultural and industrial schools and colleges had but few advocates. Well-developed muscles and a disposition to use them were considered to be the surest means of success in farming.

"When Congress made an appropriation to endow agricultural colleges many farmers were either too indifferent to their own interests or prejudiced against such schools to appreciate the favor, and in several states allowed other institutions to seize upon and appropriate the funds to their own use and benefit, satisfying farmers with a department of agriculture, and that in name only, but sufficient to answer the requirements of the law.

"He who fails to see and acknowledge the great change that has been wrought and the influence which our Order has exerted in producing the same, certainly cannot be credited with any great amount of discernment.

"Farmers, with their wives and children, have come together in the Grange, cultivated sociability, friendship and confidence in each other, submitted to useful discipline, learned parliamentary usage, accustomed themselves to read and recite in public, write and read essays, and speak in debate and on the rostrum. Coming together as a band of brothers and sisters, under pledges of fidelity to each other, and a firm resolve to cultivate a higher

manhood and womanhood for themselves, they have been inspired to labor with diligence in their efforts to excel, to emulate worthy examples and conduct themselves with circumspection. By cultivating respect and esteem for each other, the ties of fraternity have been strengthened. By taking an active part in the literary work of the Grange a greater desire for useful knowledge has been created, and the shelves and center tables better supplied with books and journals. Under the direct influence and teachings of the Grange thousands of rural homes have been beautified and their surroundings made more cheerful and attractive; and many sad and despondent hearts have been made to rejoice in happier homes and more endearing family ties. The early care and training of children have received attention, and many parents have been made happier in realizing its salutary influence upon the lives of their sons and daughters and their growing attachment for home, and in being able to keep the loved ones upon the farm.

“Work and business operations upon the farm have been systematized, and the burden of labor lightened. Farms have been better cultivated and made more productive. Live stock has been improved, more humanely treated and better cared for. Farmers have been made to read and think and investigate and act for themselves, consequently have become more self-reliant and independent. They have been induced to take more interest in public affairs, and, being better qualified to do so, are often called to fill public offices, to preside over conventions and deliberative bodies and to address public assemblies. It is a fundamental principle of the Order to provide for our children the means for obtaining a higher and more practical education, and better suited to the farmer’s calling. Hence, we have advocated for every state an independent agricultural and industrial college, with an experimental farm attached. The fruits of our labors in this direction are to be found in the great and growing prosperity which has attended these institutions during the past few years and in the establishment of experiment stations in several states, also in the introduction into Congress of a bill providing for a national agricultural experiment station in each of the several states of the Union. Congress should be memorialized for the passage of this measure.

“In addition to all this it has been well and truthfully said: ‘The Order of Patrons of Husbandry has enabled farmers to put their impress upon the government of many states; it has provided ways by which great savings have been realized; it has taught farmers the strength of numbers and the potency of organized effort to accomplish useful purposes. Above all, and be-

yond all these material advantages, it has elevated the standard of manhood and womanhood in the representatives of a great industry, where muscle, before, was regarded as superior to mind; it has made farmers more worthy citizens and has given their families higher consideration. Its principles are in accord with the strictest rules of morality, and its teachings have tended to refine and elevate all its members.'

"Truly, our Order is fulfilling its mission, and has already accomplished a great work, which no careful observer can fail to see and acknowledge. And yet there are broad and unfinished fields of labor before us, and new ones constantly opening up to our view."

The Treasurer's report showed total receipts \$15,936.81, total expenditures \$9,282.70, leaving a balance of \$6,654.11. This was the least ever expended in any one year since 1873. Ninety new Granges were organized during the year, scattered over twenty-three states. The selling of the \$38,000 United States bonds and the reinvestment was recommended by the Grange. As a further effort to economize, the *per diem* of the Master and Lecturer was reduced from \$5 to \$3. Otherwise the salaries remained as before.

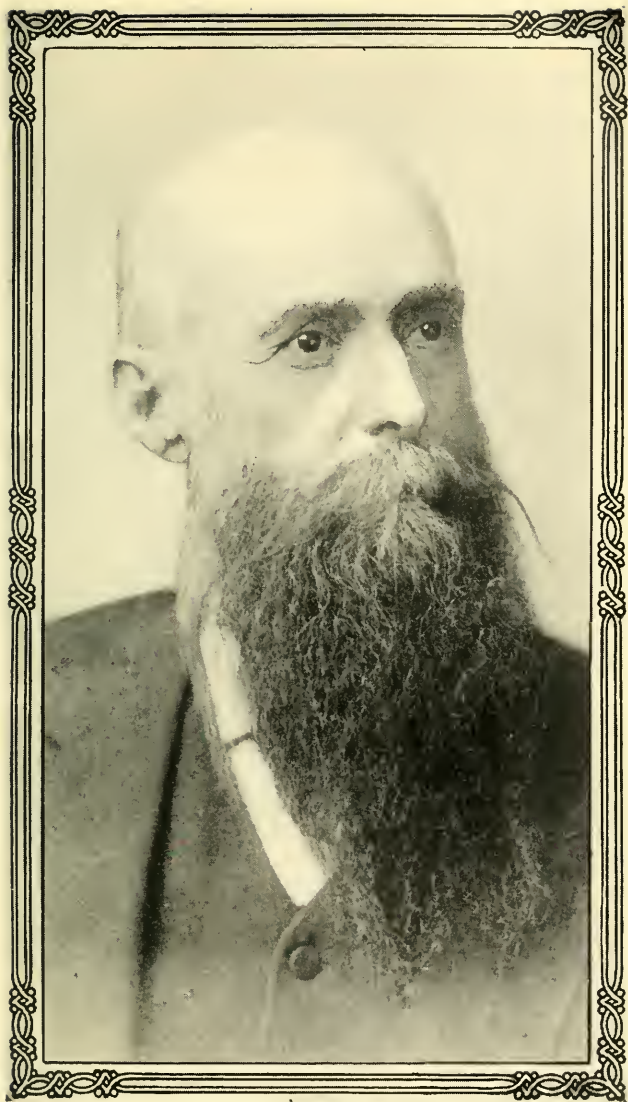
An amendment to the Constitution was adopted granting State Granges the privilege to reduce the initiation fee from \$3 for men and \$1 for women to \$1 for men and 50 cents for women. Some of the states made the reduction.

It was ordered "that there be a committee appointed by the Executive Committee whose duty it shall be to attend the present session of Congress for the purpose of securing legislation in the interest of agriculture under such regulations as may be provided by the Executive Committee." In their report the next year, the Executive Committee says: "In obedience to this instruction, the committee appointed two distinguished brothers of the Order, with discretionary powers, who went to Washington and presented to the Committees of Congress facts, statistics and arguments relating to the necessity of legislation to protect and foster the

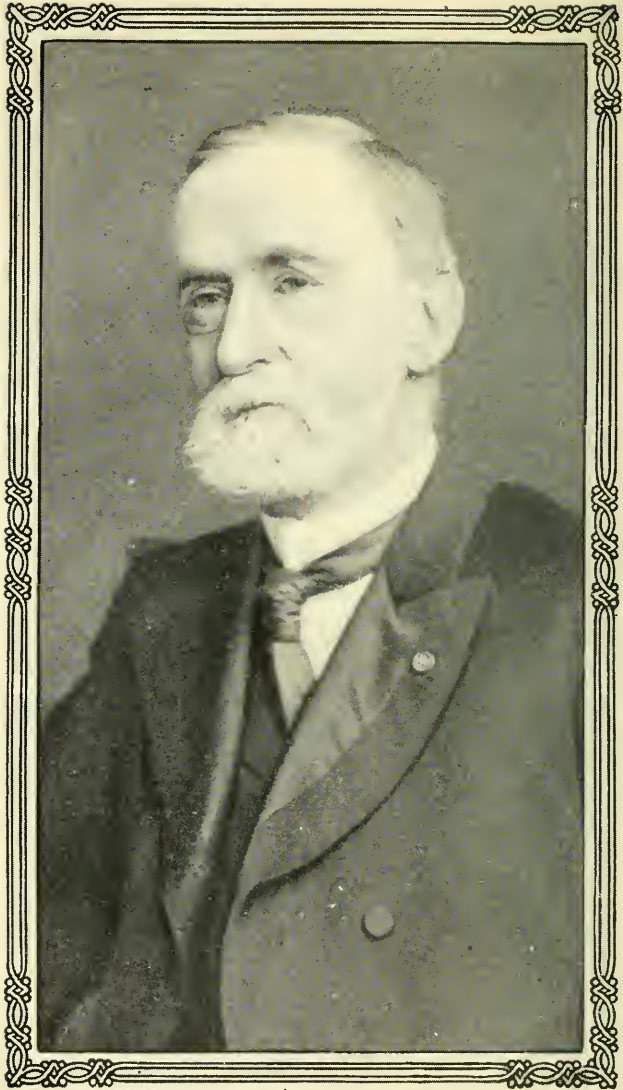
interests of agriculture." But they fail to name the "two distinguished brothers."

Previous to this time special committees and persons had been designated by the Master or the National Grange itself to go to Washington and look after some particular matters of legislation, but this seems to have been the first action of the National Grange providing for the appointment of a committee for the general purpose of securing legislation in the interest of agriculture.

Much important work was done at this session, which is recalled in the carefully prepared committee reports and the great number of resolutions adopted. The retiring officers were thanked, and it was resolved: "That when we recall the grand objects for which the Grange was founded, and that the retiring officers have merited the 'Well done, good and faithful servant,' it is indeed from the promptings of our hearts that we enter in our Journal this testimonial of worth and service that time can never obliterate."



Israel Putnam Darden, Mississippi, sixth Master of the National Grange.



James Draper, Massachusetts, seventh Master of the National Grange.

CHAPTER XII

Put Darden's Administration, First Term, Two Years, 1886-1887—Twentieth and Twenty-First Sessions of the National Grange

Grange history divides itself into periods, more or less related to social, economic or political periods as they manifested themselves in the state or nation, and was largely influenced directly or indirectly by them. Other things more closely related to the Grange itself have tended to focalize attention upon certain periods, some of them economic, while others were the outcome of personal ambition or the natural human rivalry that separated the voting membership into factions or parties in the National Grange itself. The same thing was also discoverable in many of the State Granges, and even the Subordinate Granges were not entirely free from it. It was not always true in the National Grange that the office was left to seek the man, for it has frequently been the case that the man quite vigorously sought the office. To expect otherwise was expecting too much of unregenerate humanity; but it must be said to the credit of the Grange that for half a century it seems to have been able to keep partisan, political and sectarian questions out of its affairs.

In a general way the history of the National Grange divides itself into periods covered by the administrations of its Masters, and these subdivide into terms of two years each, from the fact that while the Master may have been elected for two or more terms there is usually more or less change in the official list at each biennial election. To illustrate: At the third reelection of Master Woodman every one of the thirteen officers but the Gatekeeper was re-elected, but when

Put Darden was elected Master two years later the only re-election was that of F. M. McDowell as Treasurer. Just what causes brought this about it would be impossible to say from anything that appears in the Journal of that session.

Mr. Darden was a Mississippian, and the second of the two men from the southern states who have held the office of Master of the National Grange, John T. Jones of Arkansas being the other. The new Master took hold of the work of the Order like a veteran, and the Patrons of Husbandry kept off the rocks throughout the year 1886.

The twentieth session of the National Grange met at Philadelphia, Pa., November 10 to 18, 1886. The following officers had been elected at the preceding session:

Master—Put Darden, Mississippi.

Overseer—James Draper, Massachusetts.

Lecturer—Mortimer Whitehead, New Jersey.

Steward—J. E. Hall, West Virginia.

Assistant Steward—William H. Stinson, New Hampshire.

Chaplain—A. J. Rose, Texas.

Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, New York.

Secretary—John Trimble, District of Columbia.

Gatekeeper—Henry Thompson, Delaware.

Ceres—Mrs. Kate Aby Darden, Mississippi.

Pomona—Mrs. S. H. Neal, Kentucky.

Flora—Mrs. J. C. Draper, Massachusetts.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. E. M. Lipscomb, South Carolina.

Executive Committee—J. J. Woodman, J. M. Blanton and J. H. Brigham.

At the previous session Mortimer Whitehead of New Jersey had been elected Lecturer to succeed Henry Eshbaugh, whose poor health prevented him from desiring a re-election, but not being present for installation, under the following ruling of Worthy Master Darden: "No officer can be installed except by the Grange that elects him," Mr. Eshbaugh was continued in office. He died early in the year, and as his successor could not be installed the office remained practically

vacant during the year. That the ruling was an error will be readily seen from this circumstance. It practically prevents any member from being elected to office in the National Grange unless present to be installed, and it still remains the law of the Order. It does seem that the Master of the National Grange, or of a State Grange should have authority, either personally or by his duly authorized Deputy, to install an officer who might chance to be elected in his absence or unavoidable prevention from being present for installation before the close of the session. Mr. Whitehead was immediately installed as Lecturer on the opening of the Grange.

Thirty states were duly represented: Alabama, B. C. Harrison; California, Wm. and Mrs. Johnson; Connecticut, J. H. and Mrs. Hale; Delaware, Henry Thompson; Georgia, T. H. Kimbrough; Illinois, E. A. and Mrs. Giller; Indiana, M. and Mrs. Trusler; Iowa, J. E. and Mrs. Blackford; Kansas, W. H. and Mrs. Toothaker; Kentucky, J. D. and Mrs. Clardy; Maine, F. and Mrs. Robie; Maryland, H. M. and Mrs. Murray; Massachusetts, James Draper; Michigan, C. G. and Mrs. Luce; Minnesota, W. S. Chowen; Mississippi, P. and Mrs. Darden; Missouri, J. M. Sneed; New Hampshire, W. H. and Mrs. Stinson; New Jersey, R. and Mrs. Coles; New York, W. A. Armstrong; North Carolina, W. R. Williams; Ohio, J. H. Brigham; Oregon, R. P. and Mrs. Boise; Pennsylvania, L. and Mrs. Rhone; South Carolina, J. N. Lipscomb; Texas, A. J. Rose; Vermont, Alpha Messer; Virginia, X. X. and Mrs. Chartters; West Virginia, J. E. Hall; Wisconsin, S. C. and Mrs. Carr.

Worthy Master Darden presided over the twentieth session of the National Grange, and being a new man at the helm of the Grange ship, his first "address" was listened to with especial interest. He makes the declaration that "prior to the establishment of the Grange the farmers were without organization. In-

deed, the Grange was the first organization established in the history of civilization for the protection and advancement of farmers' rights." The full sweep of these statements must be attributed somewhat to his enthusiasm. His zeal leads him into a more serious error in the statement that "prior to the establishment of the Grange there was no co-operation among farmers." And then, after claiming a good many things for the Grange, he asks: "But why enumerate what has been accomplished by the Grange? It has done more than all other agencies combined to 'develop a higher manhood and womanhood' among agriculturists, to elevate our calling and place us in a position to secure the rights to which we are justly entitled under the Constitution of this government."

The Grange, in the West and South in particular, had passed through some strenuous political experiences involving all sorts of independent political parties, and at this period was beginning the unrest that culminated in the great "free silver campaign of 1896." The farmers were beginning to feel the ground swell of new issues, and incidentally it was beginning to manifest itself in the Grange, just as other movements of the people had done. Recognizing the situation, the Worthy Master had a good deal to say about the relation of the Grange to politics. He quoted at some length from the "Declaration of Purposes," and called particular attention to this:

"We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth, taught in our organic law, that the Grange, National, State or Subordinate, is not a political party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligations, can discuss political or religious questions, nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in its meetings.

"The improper construction placed upon this paragraph," said the Worthy Master, "has retarded to some extent the work of our Order. The National Grange, in order to make this so plain that no mistake would be likely to be made, struck out the words 'political and religious' where they occur in the 'Declaration of

Purposes' and inserted in their stead the words 'partisan or sectarian.'

"By formal resolution it also made the protective tariff question, which has always been a party political question, a legitimate subject for discussion in the Grange; thereby clearly showing that it does not propose to prevent members of the Order from investigating any and all questions." He concludes, however, that "the restriction intended by this paragraph is to prevent the Grange from becoming a political party. This was surely a very wise provision, and should always be strictly adhered to." After which he adds: "A National farmers' organization without the power to discuss the political rights of its members would be a farce beneath the dignity of intelligent men. The farmers want an organization that will use its influence upon the legislatures, state and national, to protect their interests, just as other class organizations protect the rights of their members; and no organization can long maintain standing with them if it does not render such assistance."

After making a number of quotations from the proceedings of the National Grange, he said:

"Many other quotations from the proceedings might be made to show that the remedy proposed by the National Grange for our relief *is to use the ballot in order that our class may be fairly and fully represented in the state and national legislatures.*"

After considerable further discussion of the ability of the people to govern themselves, he made this militant declaration to call the "embattled farmers" to action:

"We have been trying resolutions and petitions long enough, and to little effect. Let us try the remedy that has been suggested at nearly every session of the National Grange; let us, with our ballots, send men to the legislatures, state and national, who will equalize and reduce taxation, restrain corporations from oppressing the people; have the finances managed in the interest of the people; keep our public domain for actual settlers; prevent gamblers from pricing our productions and extend the same protection to the farmer and the manufacturer. For this great work the Grange was organized, *and it was not born to die, nor will it fail in the accomplishment of its purposes.*"

This seems to have been the position of the Grange membership at the time these declarations were so boldly made.

In the very next paragraph the Worthy Master said: "Several times since our last meeting I have been officially consulted relative to the propriety of forming alliances between the Grange and other orders and associations." He discreetly declined any "entangling alliances," for just at this time several rival farmers' organizations were actively in the field and more or less committed to political methods of righting the farmers' wrongs, and there was general "pulse-feeling" among them with a view to getting together for political purposes. Whatever else may be said, judging from what has happened to other farmers' organizations, the Grange has managed to save its life by keeping off the thin ice of political expediency.

The Worthy Treasurer reported total receipts from all sources \$66,482.78, including the sale of United States bonds which brought \$50,937.50. Total expenditures, \$55,333.44, including "Mortgage Investment" of \$42,050, leaving a balance of \$11,149.34.

Ninety-one new Granges were organized during the year, one more than the year before.

The only change made in salaries for the next year was the increase in the salary of the Secretary from \$800 to \$1,000 a year.

J. H. Brigham was re-elected a member of the Executive Committee.

Resolutions were adopted condemning "speculation in futures"; favoring election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people; commending to working people this sentiment of Lincoln: "There are those who think that monarchy will be our final destiny, and that after the example of Europe we will have a governing class and a working class; let all working men be warned that in such a state of society there is little hope of advancement for such as they"; demanding the punishment of bribery; declaring that no United States Senator "is entitled to the confidence or support of the people" who votes to confirm as Judge of the

Supreme Court anyone who owns stock in, or is in any way, interested pecuniarily in any railroad corporation or is an attorney for the same; demanding the rebuilding of our merchant marine; asking Congress to pass such laws as shall furnish the benefits of the signal service to the farmers of the country; declaring that it is the duty of Congress to establish and maintain a national telegraph system that shall be available to all citizens on like terms and charges and indorsing the Hatch Agricultural Experiment Station Bill.

The Executive Committee also reported that the Ritual work and instructions of the higher degrees of the Order had been completed and printed, as directed by the National Grange. Also that a very beautiful and appropriate certificate of membership for the Sixth Degree had been prepared and that the lithographs would be ready to be delivered to all members who had taken that degree at the price fixed by the National Grange.

The Seventh Degree had never been conferred in full form, and the Sixth only once. The practice had been to obligate the candidates, explain briefly the Ritual work, and instruct in the esoteric work; and no certificate of membership had been given and no fee charged. On the third day of the session the Sixth Degree was conferred by Past Master Woodman on 502 candidates in due form, and the fee of \$1 each paid into the National Treasury. A constitutional amendment was submitted to the State Granges for ratification to authorize State Granges to confer the Sixth Degree, also an amendment to permit Pomona Granges to be represented in the State Granges.

A summary of the work of the next year under the direction of the same official leaders must depend upon the Journal of the twenty-first session of the National Grange, which met at Lansing, Mich., November 16-24, 1887.

All the officers but the Steward, Pomona and Lady Assistant Steward were present.

Thirty-two states were represented by the same delegates as at the last session, except as follows: Alabama, Hiram Hawkins; California, W. L. and Mrs. Overhiser; Delaware, A. N. and Mrs. Brown; Kansas, Wm. and Mrs. Sims; Missouri, D. N. and Mrs. Thompson; Nebraska, O. E. and Mrs. Hall; New Hampshire, C. and Mrs. McDaniel; Tennessee, W. H. Nelson.

Rhode Island was represented at this session for the first time. West Virginia and Oregon were not represented, though entitled to representation.

The Master's address was delivered in open session to a large audience on the evening of the first day. He spoke of the necessity of farmers' organizations; of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry as the pioneer organization; influence of the Grange press; the good results from the lecture work; condition of American farmers; necessity for an interstate commerce law; encouraging prospects of the final passage of the bill then pending before Congress to elevate the agricultural department for which the Order had so long and persistently labored; of the "iniquitous and tyrannical" patent law; the success of the Order in testing the validity of the "driven well fraud" in the courts, and a recent decision of the United States Supreme Court, annulling that patent, thereby guaranteeing the right of every person in the United States to use driven wells without molestation from "patent right sharks." He also spoke of the achievements of the Grange; and in solemn and pathetic words announced the death of D. Wyatt Aiken of South Carolina, who, after a long and painful sickness, died April 6, 1887, at his home in Cokesburg, S. C. At the close of his address, he read a tribute to the memory, services, moral worth and exalted Christian character of the deceased, from the pen of Dr. John Trimble, Secretary of the National Grange, and one of the Founders of the Order.

The Treasurer's report showed total receipts for the year, \$22,858.90, and total expenditures \$14,805.15, leaving a balance of \$8,053.75. The Grange had manifestly struck the up grade. Secretary Trimble in his report said: "The official year which closed on the 30th of September was a grand and prosperous year for the Order. During the year 143 new Granges were organized."

Commissioner of Agriculture Norman J. Colman, who was an active Patron and Master of Potomac Grange, Washington, D. C., attended the session, and was invited to address the body. Among other things he said: "I have no policy to present to you. I am your servant. I recognize you as a representative body of farmers, that, permit me to say, without flattery, is the equal of any body I have ever met, and compares favorably with Congress itself. It is for you to indicate what the farmers of this country desire."

After telling what the department was doing and planning to do, in a very interesting manner, he concluded by saying: "If the Department of Agriculture could be kept for agriculture alone, I would favor the measure of having its head a member of the President's Cabinet, but if the Labor Bureau, the Bureau of Education and several other Bureaus be attached to it, I feel we will be better served and better satisfied under existing laws."

When the office of Secretary of Agriculture was created in 1889, Mr. Colman was for a short term the first secretary. Throughout his career Mr. Colman was always in hearty sympathy with the farmers.

Resolutions were adopted favoring legislation on pure food; favoring settlement of national difficulties by arbitration; denouncing gambling in "futures"; demanding that taxation be equalized; favoring the better protection of raw materials raised by the American farmers; favoring adequate appropriations for agricul-

tural colleges; and strengthening of the Interstate Commerce Law.

As a beginning of the great battle for parcels post, "the National Grange favors further reduction of the rate of postage on articles of the fourth class, which covers agricultural seeds and productions, and asks that there shall be such changes in reductions as will give the farmers of the country the same cheap service as is employed by Canada and other nations."

The committee reports made at this session showed that the members of the Grange had a wide grasp of public and economic questions.

The practice of holding memorial services on Sunday afternoon during the National Grange session was begun at this session.

The Sixth Degree was conferred on 423 candidates, and the Seventh on 17 candidates. The Executive Committee was instructed to make a contract with J. R. Thompson for preparing a complete manual of the ritualism of the Seventh Degree; and the High Priest was instructed to provide the necessary paraphernalia for conferring that degree in full form at the next session. It was also ordered that a fee of \$1 be charged each candidate receiving the degree, to be paid into the National Grange treasury, and that a suitable lithographic certificate be prepared and delivered to each candidate. It was decided that the National Grange should continue to confer the Sixth Degree upon all candidates desiring it, and the fees be paid into the national treasury; but when conferred by a State Grange, the fees were to be equally divided between the State and National Granges, the latter to provide and issue the certificates. The policy of conferring the higher degrees in due form has done much to popularize the Order, and added somewhat to the receipts of the National Grange. The deliberations of the session were harmonious throughout. Although differences of opinion existed, they were har-

monized in the true spirit of fraternity, thereby demonstrating that broad principle laid down in the Declaration of Purposes of the Order, that "difference of opinion is no crime, and that progress toward truth is made by differences of opinion, while the fault lies in the bitterness of controversy."

CHAPTER XIII

Put Darden's, James Draper's and J. H. Brigham's Administrations—Darden's Second Term—Died July 17, 1888—Draper Served Five Months—Brigham One Year—Two Years, 1888-1889—Twenty-Second and Twenty-Third Sessions of the National Grange

Officers elected at the twenty-first session, November, 1887:

Master—Put Darden, Mississippi.

Overseer—James Draper, Massachusetts.

Lecturer—Mortimer Whitehead, New Jersey.

Steward—X. X. Chartters, Virginia.

Assistant Steward—J. H. Hale, Connecticut.

Chaplain—A. J. Rose, Texas.

Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, New York.

Secretary—John Trimble, Washington, D. C.

Gatekeeper—A. N. Brown, Delaware.

Ceres—Mrs. K. A. Darden, Mississippi.

Pomona—Mrs. J. C. Draper, Massachusetts.

Flora—Mrs. M. E. Luce, Michigan.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. H. A. Sims, Kansas.

Members of the Executive Committee—J. J. Woodman, Michigan; J. M. Blanton, Virginia; J. H. Brigham, Ohio.

The Worthy Master began the year's work with zeal and determination to make 1888 a great year in Grange history, but on the 17th day of July of that year he was called from the labors of this life to the life beyond. This is the only time in the 50 years of Grange history that a Master of the National Grange has died during his term of office. His entire service as Master of the National Grange covered a little less than two years and seven months. By the death of the Worthy Master, Worthy Overseer James Draper of Massachusetts became Master and served until the close of the next annual session, a period of about five months. The death of the Master did much to disorganize the

plans for the year, but the new Master promptly took up the work with energy and ability. It became his duty to preside over the twenty-second session of the National Grange, which met at Topeka, Kan., November 14-21, 1888.

Thirty-three states were represented by the following delegates:

Alabama, H. and Mrs. Hawkins; California, W. L. and Mrs. Overhiser; Colorado, L. and Mrs. Booth; Connecticut, J. H. and Mrs. Hale; Georgia, T. H. and Mrs. Kimbrough; Illinois, J. M. and Mrs. Thompson; Indiana, M. and Mrs. Trusler; Iowa, J. E. and Mrs. Blackford; Kansas, Wm. and Mrs. Sims; Kentucky, J. D. and Mrs. Clardy; Maine, F. and Mrs. Robie; Maryland, H. M. and Mrs. Murray; Massachusetts, H. A. and Mrs. Barton; Michigan, Thos. and Mrs. Mars; Mississippi, J. B. and Mrs. Bailey; Minnesota, W. S. Chowen; Missouri, A. E. and Mrs. Page; Nebraska, O. E. and Mrs. Hall; New Hampshire, C. and Mrs. McDaniel; New Jersey, R. and Mrs. Coles; New York, W. A. Armstrong; North Carolina, W. R. Williams; Ohio, J. H. Brigham; Oregon, H. E. and Mrs. Hayes; Pennsylvania, L. and Mrs. Rhone; Rhode Island, J. G. and Mrs. Peckham; South Carolina, W. K. and Mrs. Thompson; Texas, A. J. and Mrs. Rose; Tennessee, W. H. and Mrs. Nelson; Vermont, Alpha Messer; Virginia, X. X. and Mrs. Charters; West Virginia, J. E. Hall; Wisconsin, S. C. and Mrs. Carr.

It was a somewhat embarrassing position that Worthy Master Draper found himself in at the opening of the National Grange when so suddenly called upon to shoulder the responsibility which had been delegated to another; but right ably did he shoulder the responsibility. The Acting Master read his address, prefacing it as follows:

"The sad event that compels me at this time to present to you the Master's annual address is still so fresh in your minds

that it need not be recalled. That vacant chair, draped in the emblems of mourning, proclaims in silent language, "*The Master of the National Grange is dead!*" It is hard to realize that the erect form that stood before us one year ago now lies in the silent city of the dead, and that the clear, musical tones of that voice so familiar to many of us in the councils of this body for the past eleven years is now hushed in the stillness of death. With every changing stage of our proceedings we shall awaken to a fuller realization of the loss this National Grange has sustained in the death of our tried and faithful brother and leader, Put Darden."

His address compared favorably with those that had gone before, and if it is to be taken as a measure of the man, no mistake would have been made if he had been continued as Master; but it was not to be, and this was the only session of the National Grange over which he ever presided as Master.

He recited at some length a history of the efforts that had been made to create the office of Secretary of Agriculture and make it a Cabinet position, which he said was furnished by Hon. W. H. Hatch of Missouri. In a statesmanlike manner he discussed the trusts, pure food, tariff, Hatch experiment stations, agricultural colleges, and many matters of internal interest to the order.

The Treasurer's report showed that the total receipts were \$22,473.67, with total expenditures of \$19,803.52, and a balance of \$2,670.15.

In their report the Executive Committee had this to say: "The funds of the National Grange consist of the following: Invested in real estate mortgages, \$42,000; in personal security, call loans, \$3,000; in trust funds, \$5,742.80, a total of \$50,742.80.

"It will be seen that our permanent investment amounts to \$42,000, which is \$8,887.50 less than the amount realized from the sale of our government bonds in 1886, and the available fund now on hand is \$8,742.80, against \$12,179.07 for the corresponding date of 1887. It is quite probable that this fund will be increased by the receipts since October 31, yet it is

clearly to be seen that our expenditures have largely exceeded our income during the past two years; and that the fund set apart from the sale of bonds, in extending the Order, has been nearly exhausted. The Committee, therefore, recommend that no appropriations be made, or liabilities incurred, which will entrench upon our permanent investments, and that for the future the expenditures of the National Grange should be kept within its income."

Secretary Trimble reported "the official year which ended September 30, 1888, was one of great prosperity for and usefulness by the Order. During the year 197 new Granges were organized." This was decidedly the largest number of new Granges organized in one year for a good many years. The reports made by the Masters of State Granges were nearly all hopeful and breathed a spirit of encouragement. Resolutions were adopted favoring the Australian ballot system; condemning trusts; asking Congress to protect the people from the encroachments of combinations and trusts; asking the "passage of such laws as shall forever prohibit gambling in the necessaries of life;" favoring the election of United States Senators by direct vote; still insisting that the head of the Agricultural Department should be a member of the President's Cabinet; favoring the classification of the public lands; favoring the prevention of food adulterations; issuing postal money orders at reduced rates; favoring further reduction of postage on seeds, bulbs, etc.; opposing allowing aliens to acquire title to land; favoring the appointment of a national forestry police. Many other resolutions were adopted, and a great multitude touching upon a great variety of subjects were discussed and defeated or laid away for another session.

As instructed at the preceding session, the Executive Committee had arranged with J. R. Thompson for a new compilation of the Seventh Degree Ritual, which had been completed and placed in the hands

of the Worthy High Priest. The Sixth Degree manual had also been printed in book form, and a full set of the same sent to each State Grange Master. The ritual work of the Fifth Degree had also been revised, the Arcana incorporated into the body of the work, with opening and closing ceremonies and explanatory notes, and a neatly bound Fifth Degree manual was presented to the Order. There seemed to be a general demand that the First, Second, Third and Fourth Degrees of the Order be so combined as to admit candidates of both sexes to be initiated together, and the Executive Committee and National Lecturer were constituted a commission to accomplish that object. The commission assigned to Mortimer Whitehead, National Lecturer, the duty of preparing the work. The manuscript was critically examined by each member of the commission and suggestions made and noted. When completed, the work was printed and proof examined by the commission and unanimously approved. Plates were then cast, and a full set of the work sent to each State Master, with instructions to test the same in initiating candidates in Subordinate Granges; but strictly forbidding the use of the work except under the supervision, or by the request of the State Masters, until adopted and the use authorized by the National Grange. The work was adopted by the National Grange, and in 1889 the seventh edition of the Fourth Degree manual was published with the combined degrees in ritual work included.

Owing to the death of Worthy Master Darden the election of a Master for the unexpired term of one year was ordered. The balloting resulted in the election of J. H. Brigham of Ohio, and he was duly installed. Leonard Rhone of Pennsylvania was elected a member of the Executive Committee.

Worthy Master Brigham was a strong, forceful man, and he at once threw energy into the year's work and

to bringing the Grange into public confidence and influence.

The twenty-third session of the National Grange met at Sacramento, Cal., November 13-20, 1889. All the officers were present but Ceres and Gatekeeper, Worthy Master J. H. Brigham presiding.

Thirty-one states were represented by the same delegates as at the last session except as follows:

California, E. W. Davis; Delaware, E. H. and Mrs. Bancroft; Massachusetts, N. B. and Mrs. Douglas; New Jersey, John Statesir; Ohio, S. H. and Mrs. Ellis; Washington, D. L. and Mrs. Russell; West Virginia, C. H. Knott. This was the first time Washington was represented in the National Grange. Indiana, New York, Maryland and Tennessee were not represented.

Worthy Master J. H. Brigham delivered his first "annual address," in which he presented Grange measures and policies with force and vigor. He discussed the condition of the Order, necessity for organization, financial benefits of organization, direct taxation, indirect taxation, internal revenue tax, patent legislation, agriculture, food adulteration, the press, woman's work, intemperance, lecture work and other subjects.

On the subject of agricultural experiment stations he said:

"The members of our Order have been active in securing the establishment of agricultural experiment stations in the several states and will insist that the money appropriated to sustain such be wisely expended. To secure such results we are of the opinion that the boards of control should be composed of *progressive, practical farmers*. No one not thus connected directly with agriculture can thoroughly understand what problems need the most urgent attention. In a majority of the states, men who are not practical farmers have been appointed to control their stations. This is an insult to the farmers and should be resented. The executives who ignore the farmers in selecting men for such positions should be ignored by the farmers in convention and at the ballot box. In no other way can we secure a speedy reform of this abuse. The argument of the ballot the most obtuse poli-

tician can understand, and none are so high that they can afford to disregard its plain admonitions."

That Worthy Master Brigham was right and sound in the principle enunciated no fair-minded man will dispute, but the "insult" continues to be offered to the farmers in a majority of the states with increasing ratio. In referring to the Department of Agriculture, he said:

"It is my privilege at this session to report that our perseverance has been rewarded. The Chief of the Department of Agriculture will henceforth be a trusted adviser of the President, a position from which he can at all times secure a recognition of the chief industry of our country, and through the Executive make such recommendations to Congress as the interests of agriculture may demand."

Secretary of Agriculture Colman, who held the office for a few weeks only, had gone out with the change of administration on March 4, 1889, and a new Secretary had just been appointed. After discussing the subject generally the Worthy Master goes on to say:

"It was the farmer that we desired to have recognized and not any designated individual.

"It was sincerely hoped that the known wishes of this large body of law-abiding, industrious citizens would have weight and influence with the President, and that he would seek out from among the millions who till the soil one of his confidential advisers. We thought we had good reason to expect this recognition in the person of the man selected to watch over and advise, in regard to the needs of agriculture. It did not seem unreasonable to ask, inasmuch as in no other department was recognition expected. We fully and cheerfully acknowledge the high character and ability of the gentleman selected, and would have been gratified to see him in any of the departments for which his public life has fitted him. But for the Department of Agriculture we wanted a man identified directly with that great interest. And we do not hesitate to say that the selection of one who has never been considered a farmer was a great disappointment to those who for years labored and waited for this opportunity to secure recognition for their class.

"Any pretense of acquiescence in a policy which thus ignores a class representing 50 per cent of our people to serve some personal

political purpose is cowardly in the extreme, and unworthy of a true Patron. I have spoken thus plainly, knowing that my motives may be misconstrued and that unfriendly criticism may follow; not because I court either, but because of the position which I temporarily occupy as the chief officer of a great National Farmers' Organization. I am fully determined that as such representative, no personal consideration shall restrain me when the rights and interests of the farmers are neglected. I have no apology to offer for the extended consideration of this subject. We have, in my opinion, reached a crisis in our history. Not to speak plainly now is to miss the golden opportunity which comes but once. If we for personal or political reasons hesitate or hold our peace now, let it be *forever* so far as the selection of the head of the Department of Agriculture is concerned."

The Treasurer reported receipts, \$19,669.10; total expenditures, \$16,297.28, leaving a balance of \$3,371.82.

The Secretary reported the number of new Granges organized during the year as 204, the largest number in any one year since 1876. The lowest mark ever reached was 17 in 1879. The increase had been gradual but continuous since that time.

Many resolutions were adopted, but we shall only enumerate a few of them which tend to show the trend of the farmer mind at the time: Urging Congress to enact pure food laws; favoring a system of voting similar to the method known as the Australian system; holding firmly to the wholesome policy that it is the duty of Congress and the legislatures of the several States to restrain corporations created by law, in order to secure justice and equality for all; that the public lands are the heritage of the people and should be reserved for actual settlers; opposing trusts and the imposition of taxes beyond the actual needs of government.

At the last session the money question had come up, but it had been sent over to this session. It was becoming more and more acute in the public mind.

The following resolution was introduced at this session :

"WHEREAS, Contraction of the circulating medium of the United States has depressed the prices of farm products to the great injury of the agricultural classes; therefore,

Resolved, That we favor the free coinage of silver, and also favor the maintenance in circulation of the paper money of the United States, independent of the national banks, in sufficient volume to prevent any further contraction and consequent embarrassment to our prosperity."

On an aye and nay vote the above resolution was adopted 29 to 9, the nine negative votes coming from Connecticut, Maine, Michigan two votes, New Hampshire two votes, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Many votes of thanks were extended to the people of California who had helped to entertain the National Grange on its first visit to the Pacific Coast, and the entire membership returned to their homes greatly pleased with their brief view of the "sunset west" and the country that lies between, which Joaquin Miller called "that far vast land that few behold and none beholding understand."

CHAPTER XIV

J. H. Brigham's Administration—Second Term, Two Years, 1890-1891—Twenty-Fourth and Twenty-Fifth Sessions of the National Grange

While J. H. Brigham had served as Master of the National Grange for one year, with his re-election for the full term at the twenty-third session he began more definitely to shape the policy of his administration. Once more the country was in the midst of an agitation of the money question, and the reviving Grange found itself in the midst of a great farmer uprising which was manifesting itself through several farmers' organizations leading to the "Farmers' Alliance Movement," which ultimately culminated in the organization of the "Populist Party." The conditions called for a level head and loyal, capable leadership, if the Grange was to be saved from shipwreck, for eventually all the other farmers' organizations of that day did shipwreck on the political breakers.

In the Grange press and in the State and Subordinate Granges, the troublesome issues were beginning to manifest themselves. The work of the year and the policy pursued culminated in the twenty-fourth session of the National Grange, which met at Atlanta, Ga., November 12-19, 1890. All the officers but Flora were present.

Master—J. H. Brigham, Ohio.
Overseer—Hiram Hawkins, Alabama.
Lecturer—Mortimer Whitehead, New Jersey.
Steward—E. W. Davis, California.
Assistant Steward—O. E. Hall, Nebraska.
Chaplain—A. J. Rose, Texas.
Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, New York.
Secretary—John Trimble, Washington, D. C.

Gatekeeper—Ava E. Page, Missouri.

Ceres—Mrs. Edna Brigham, Ohio.

Pomona—Mrs. M. J. Thompson, Illinois.

Flora—Mrs. Joe Bailey, Mississippi.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. L. C. Douglass, Massachusetts.

X. X. Chartters, Virginia, and J. J. Woodman, Michigan, were elected members of the Executive Committee.

The following 32 states were represented:

Alabama, H. and Mrs. Hawkins; California, E. W. Davis; Colorado, L. and Mrs. Booth; Connecticut, G. A. and Mrs. Bowen; Delaware, E. H. and Mrs. Bancroft; Georgia, T. H. and Mrs. Kimbraugh; Illinois, J. M. and Mrs. Thompson; Indiana, M. and Mrs. Trusler; Iowa, J. E. and Mrs. Blackford; Kansas, William and Mrs. Sims; Maine, R. and Mrs. Prince; Michigan, Thos. and Mrs. Mars; Mississippi, J. B. and Mrs. Bailey; Maryland, H. M. and Mrs. Murray; Massachusetts, N. B. and Mrs. Douglas; Missouri, Ava. E. Page; North Carolina, W. R. Williams; Nebraska, O. E. and Mrs. Hall; New Hampshire, C. and Mrs. McDaniel; New Jersey, John Statesir; New York, W. C. and Mrs. Gifford; Ohio, S. H. and Mrs. Ellis; Oregon, H. E. Hayes; Pennsylvania, L. and Mrs. Rhone; Rhode Island, J. G. and Mrs. Peckham; Texas, A. J. Rose; Tennessee, W. H. and Mrs. Nelson; Vermont, Alpha Messer; Virginia, X. X. Chartters; Washington, D. L. and Mrs. Russell; West Virginia, C. H. and Mrs. Knott; Wisconsin, S. C. and Mrs. Carr.

This was the fourth and last time the National Grange ever met in the South, the other three meetings being at Charleston. S. C., Richmond, Va., and Nashville, Tenn.

The "address" of the Worthy Master was shorter than usual and dealt almost entirely in generalities. He outlined the work of the "Legislative Committee." Among other claims made for the Grange was that in "the restrictive clause requiring the annual appropria-

tions to be made to the agricultural colleges to be expended only in instruction in agriculture and the mechanic arts, we may justly claim a fair share of credit."

"The work being done by the experiment stations," said the Worthy Master, "is an important one, and every encouragement should be given them."

Major J. W. A. Wright, author of the Grange "Declaration of Purposes," attended this session of the National Grange, and it proved to be the last time he ever attended. He was given a hearty welcome, and in response he made a brief address, from which this brief paragraph is quoted:

"But permit me to say there can be no doubt but that the Grange has been the parent of all more recent movements, which have finally made farmers freer, made their voices more heeded in matters of law and statesmanship, and aided them in molding more and more the policy of our Government."

Later, on leaving the session, Major Wright bade the members a fraternal farewell, and one of the dominating characters passed out of Grange life and activities forever.

The Worthy Treasurer's report showed total receipts to be \$23,730.24, with total expenditures of \$16,970.67, leaving a balance of \$6,759.57. It was manifest that the National Grange was once more on a safe financial basis and that the tide was slowly rising.

No change was made in the salaries and per diem of officers, except that the salary of the Secretary was raised from \$1,000 to \$1,200 per annum.

The Worthy Secretary reported that 377 new Granges had been organized during the past year, certainly an encouraging increase over 204 for the preceding year.

During the preceding session of Congress an aggressive legislative committee, composed of J. H. Brigham, Leonard Rhone and John Trimble, had placed before Congress all the measures which had

been indorsed by the National Grange. The Grange position upon the tariff question was declared to be "Protection for all or free trade for all." The appointment of a legislative committee had now become a fixed Grange policy, though the manner of its selection had been variable.

Resolutions were adopted favoring "postal telegraph," favoring the unlimited coinage of silver, condemning the "single tax" theory, opposing the adulteration of food, favoring a law for the inspection of cattle and hogs at all slaughtering and packing establishments, favoring "the increase of the circulating medium up to \$40 or \$50 per capita, favoring the erection of a permanent headquarters building at Washington. Many other motions and resolutions were adopted which pertain to the internal work of the Order, and the usual grist of resolutions proposing amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws was in evidence, but none of these are of general interest. From time to time a good many changes had been made in the Constitution, but the fundamental laws of the Order had not been greatly changed since 1873. From year to year there was a good deal of repetition in the resolutions offered, but at least they show the development of Grange thought and action as great economic problems have passed across the public mind.

Past Master J. J. Woodman, in a newspaper article, said of the conditions existing at the time of the Atlanta meeting:

"Other farmers' organizations have sprung up all over the country, and in some of the states sapping the very life blood of the Order, as the following from a letter sent to the Master of the National Grange by J. D. Clardy, Master of the Kentucky State Grange, will show: 'On account of the rapid increase of the alliance movement in Kentucky, now numbering about 100,000, Grange work is at a standstill.'

"The same conditions existed in some of the other southern states, although seven of them were represented in the National

Grange. In the North, the Patrons of Industry, an organization modeled somewhat after the Grange, with a membership fee so low as to admit anyone who desired to become a member for mere curiosity, if no other motive to do so, and like the Alliance having a strong, political bearing, was drawing seriously from the membership of the Grange. Thomas Mars, Master of the Michigan State Grange, in his report to the National Grange, said: 'About three years ago our state was invaded with a new organization called the Patrons of Industry, which passed over the state rapidly, organizing in nearly every school district. The cheapness of the fee, trade arrangements, etc., gave it a boom unprecedented in the history of organizations.' He expressed the opinion that its career would soon terminate, and that farmers and their wives would return to the Grange, which proved to be true.

"Other farmers' organizations, too numerous to mention, were gaining influence and members in other states, drawing from the membership of the Granges, and in some instances whole Granges surrendered their charters and affiliated with the new organizations. While not opposing the new organizations, State Grange Masters and officers worked bravely to save the Grange membership and organizations, and in some of the states succeeded well, but in others the tide was too strong to stem. It will be understood that the National Grange was in session in Georgia, a central southern state, and the state legislature was in session at the same time. A United States Senator was to be elected. The Alliance had become so strong in the state, and had so many of its members and sympathizers in the legislature, that it ventured to put up a candidate against General Gordon, the regular political candidate. The contest was waged with strife and bitterness seldom if ever before witnessed in such an election. But the politicians won, and General Gordon was elected. The effect of that election and the influence of the Alliance in the state carried the State Grange into dormancy, and it has not since been represented in the National Grange.

"Similar influences were at work in all of the southern states. The Farmers' Alliance had been merged into a political party and a platform of principles adopted. Some of the members of the National Grange were in full sympathy with the Alliance and the new political movement—and that influence permeated the deliberations of that body. The financial policy of the government, which had become a partisan measure, was decided to be a proper subject for discussion and action by the National Grange. It became evident that no action of the National Grange could impede the work and influence of the Alliance in the southern states, and that it must be left to run its course and make its history, believing

that in time a reaction would take place, and that our members would return to the Grange as the only hope for American farmers to secure and maintain their position and equal rights in social life, educational advantages, business relations, political influence, and proprietorship of the soil they cultivate. The tillers of the soil must and will learn that in order to acquire these natural and important rights through an organization, sectarian and partisan questions must not be discussed in the deliberations of its assemblies.

"While the low condition of the Order in some of the southern and western states is to be deplored, no one can say that it has been caused through any neglect of the National Grange or its officers; and I know of my own knowledge, that in most cases the State Grange Masters and officers have done all in their power to prevent the decline in their respective states. Influences beyond the control of the National and State Granges have done the work.

"But these clouds have disappeared and a brighter day has dawned. Our Order has a clear field and is stronger, better organized and more prosperous than ever before. It has kept steadily on its course, surmounting every obstacle, and accomplishing great good for the American farmers. A reviving spirit seems to be awakening in the weak and dormant states, and it is confidently believed that the time is not far distant when every state in the Union will be enrolled under the National Grange banner, and be represented in its councils."

Leonard Rhone of Pennsylvania was elected a member of the Executive Committee to succeed himself.

The twenty-fifth session of the National Grange met at Springfield, O., November 11 to 19, 1891. All the officers were present, and 31 states were represented by the same delegates as at the last session, except as follows:

Delaware, J. C. Higgins; Kentucky, J. D. and Mrs. Clardy; Maine, M. B. and Mrs. Hunt; Mississippi, S. L. and Mrs. Wilson; Rhode Island, A. M. and Mrs. Belcher; Texas, John B. Long.

Worthy Master Brigham delivered his annual address. He declared a fundamental truth when he said: "We believe an organization of farmers an absolute necessity in this country. We also believe in leaders who are thoroughly identified with agricultural inter-

ests—none others are wanted.” Then followed a prophecy which came to pass:

“When the agitation now going on has brought all of the scum to the surface to be brushed aside, as it will be, the determination among farmers to have what is theirs by right will still remain, and that organization which stands steadfastly for principles which are eternal will be found riding serenely on smooth waters, when organizations committed to impracticable propositions and unwise methods in forcing their theories upon the public, will have disappeared beneath the waves of popular displeasure.”

“Upon matters and questions pertaining to our Order, its laws, constitution and usages, the decision of the National Grange is final,” and those who do not wish to be thus governed can honorably sever their connection with the Order.”

Then followed what may be called a declaration of independence:

“We should not lose sight of the cardinal principles of our Order, viz., the absolute political and religious freedom of the individual. No official, not even our National body, can place restrictions upon this freedom. Officials may give expression to individual views. A majority of the members of the National Grange may indorse certain propositions involving questions of political economy affecting the material interests of citizens, such as tariff or finance, but in no case is a member of our Order bound by such action or expression of opinion unless his own judgment shall approve.

“The membership of the Grange can be committed to no party, to no individual, to no religious creed, to no political theory or policy, by any act of any official, or by any resolution adopted by Subordinate, State or National Grange. Any other position upon these propositions means disintegration and death.

“This need not hinder discussion nor expression of opinion by members acting individually or collectively. All measures which are of especial interest to farmers should be viewed from all points. Give the people the benefit of any phase of opinion, and then they can draw intelligent conclusions.

“Absolute freedom of opinion, upon all public questions, is a right not restricted but rather guaranteed and protected by the fundamental law of our Order.”

This enunciation of the Worthy Master might be considered an “individual opinion,” but later in the session it was specifically approved, and it has ever

since been considered the position of the Grange as a clear statement of what was embodied in the organic law of the Order. That any other policy would have meant anything but "disintegration and death" can hardly be doubted.

Just at that time a good many theories and doctrines on the money question were being promulgated by some farmers' organizations and political parties, and it seems to have been with these questions in mind that the Worthy Master made the above statements. He devoted considerable time to a discussion of "the money question" in general and "the sub-treasury proposition" and "the land loan proposition," which were being urged by a large farmers' organization in particular. Referring to these questions, he said:

"The discussion of all these propositions should not be discouraged, as out of discussion may come light and help for the needy. It is not, however, advisable for the National Grange to lend its powerful indorsement to propositions which have not been thoroughly digested by our members and which may lead to dissension in our ranks."

The whole address was full of vigorous thought. He briefly discussed taxation, and called attention to the fact that "many of our officials seem to forget that low prices for farm produce mean diminished ability to meet the tax burden. They should be taught a needed lesson. Every unnecessary expense should be lopped off, and no new schemes for expending public funds should be encouraged."

He indorsed "postal telegraph" and said "the farmers are also asking to have the free delivery of mail matter extended to rural neighborhoods. Much can be urged in support of both these propositions, and I commend them to your consideration."

That infallible test of Grange prosperity, the Worthy Treasurer's report, showed the total receipts for the year, \$24,418.86; total expenditures, \$17,677.14, leaving a balance of \$6,741.72.

The Executive Committee's report showed that the "Mortgage Investment" had been raised from \$42,000 to \$43,200, and the sensible comment followed: "The policy of the National Grange in maintaining a permanent fund, amply secured, is to be commended; and the committee is unanimous in the opinion that this reserved fund can and should be increased from year to year. Such a policy would give character, confidence and stability to the Order; for the prosperity and perpetuity of all organizations for benefitting mankind depend largely upon their financial ability and standing."

The Secretary reported the organization of 243 new Granges during the year, a great many dormant Granges reorganized and the membership generally increased, as was shown by the largely increased receipts from State Granges.

Among the many resolutions passed were these: Asking the President not to appoint corporation lawyers as judges of the United States courts, favoring the extension of free mail delivery to the rural districts, favoring Postal Savings banks, condemning the liquor traffic, demanding an amendment to the National Constitution providing for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people, declaring that all legal tender money should stand upon equal footing in its capacity and power to pay debts, asking for the separation of classical and agricultural colleges.

The reports of officers and numerous committee reports brought out many phases of the questions and problems that were at that time agitating the public mind, and no question developed more difference of opinion or more long-drawn-out discussion than "the money question," which was to cut such a prominent figure in the National political campaign five years later.

This twenty-fifth session of the National Grange was making history, and the State and Subordinate

Granges throughout the country were alive and alert on the drift of public affairs.

E. W. Davis of California offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

"That the Worthy Master be, and he is hereby authorized to, appoint a committee of three Brothers and two Sisters, whose duty it shall be to prepare a Proclamation urging the membership everywhere to join in a hearty and proper celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary (December 4, 1891) of the founding of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, etc."

In compliance with this resolution the Worthy Master appointed the following committee: E. W. Davis, M. B. Hunt, J. B. Long, Mrs. Isabel Trusler and Mrs. Laura C. Douglas. On motion, the Worthy Master and the Worthy Lecturer were added to this committee.

The next day the committee reported the following Proclamation, which sums up in a comprehensive way the achievements of the Grange during the quarter century of its existence.

PROCLAMATION GREETING

PATRONS OF AMERICA:

The National Grange sends happy greeting. Our Order is about to celebrate its silver wedding—twenty-fifth anniversary. You are cordially invited to the wedding ceremony, which, it is hoped, will be held in the hall of your own Grange on the 4th of Dec., 1891, or at the regular meeting of your Grange held nearest that date. Be sure to give due observance to this celebration. The National Grange requests every Subordinate under its jurisdiction to observe this grand event. Let music, joy, thanksgiving, and brotherly love prevail; let all that is noble in you come forth; hide no light beneath the bushel; stand like a bold, free, sincere Patron and espouse the cause of an Order that cares for its sick and distressed, buries its dead, educates its orphans, plants milestones on the roadside of justice, demands equity before the law for high and low, believes in arbitration rather than litigation, knows no section and no sex, is fearless but not overforward, is faithful in its devotion to the pure principles of temperance, education, patriotism, and believes the calling of agriculture is the noblest of all vocations.

The National Grange again greets you, and, for cause of rejoicing, submits for your careful consideration as some of its many accomplishments during the first quarter centennial of its existence the following:

1. The Grange has organized the farmers of America who never before were organized.
2. From a few scattered meetings held in valley, on mountain or prairie, years ago, it has grown until now in a year at least a million and a half meetings are held.
3. It has broadened the field of usefulness of woman and has prepared her for her place in the true Republic the full equal of man as a citizen.
4. It has brought light, recreation and good cheer to hundreds of thousands of rural homes.
5. Prevented the renewal of patents on sewing machines, thus saving the people 50 per cent of their cost, which amounts to millions annually.
6. Transportation companies were taught that the creator is greater than the creature. See Granger cases decided by the Supreme Court of the United States.
7. Had passed and have enforced the oleomargarine law.
8. Have passed laws somewhat restricting alien landlords and corporations from getting government land.
9. Had interstate commerce law passed.
10. Had Cabinet position created for agriculture, thus giving the President a representative of the parent of all vocations.
11. Has had agricultural colleges, experiment stations and farms and farmers' institutes established in many states of the Union.
12. Has had some effect on local and state tax levies and established State Arbor Day.
13. Has caused the Reform Ballot Law to be passed in many states.
14. Has increased state appropriations for public schools.
15. Has at all times fostered the cause of free education.
16. Local achievements, such as building halls, making roads, planting trees and vines, establishing libraries, reading rooms, banks, fire insurance companies, co-operative enterprises, trade card systems, etc., too numerous to be mentioned, might be cited.

Writers, readers, speakers and parliamentarians without number owe their success to the Grange; but this ought to be enough to convince you that the Grange is progressive, not retrogressive. In politics the Grange is nonpartisan; in religion, nonsectarian; in essentials it is unified; in nonessentials it is liberal; in all things it is charitable.

CHAPTER XV.

J. H. Brigham's Administration—Third Term, Two Years, 1892-1893—Twenty-Sixth and Twenty-Seventh Sessions of the National Grange

After a year of Grange prosperity the National Grange met in 26th annual session at Concord, N. H., November 16-25, 1892. All the officers but Ceres and Flora were present.

Master—J. H. Brigham, Ohio.

Overseer—E. W. Davis, California.

Lecturer—Mortimer Whitehead, New Jersey.

Steward—Ava E. Page, Missouri.

Assistant Steward—O. E. Hall, Nebraska.

Chaplain—Chas. McDaniel, New Hampshire.

Treasurer—F. M. McDowell, New York.

Secretary—John Trimble, Washington, D. C.

Gatekeeper—W. H. Nelson, Tennessee.

Ceres—Mrs. Edna Brigham, Ohio.

Pomona—Mrs. C. E. Bowen, Connecticut.

Flora—Mrs. E. P. Wilson, Mississippi.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. L. C. Douglas, Massachusetts.

Executive Committee—X. X. Charters, Virginia; J. J. Woodman, Michigan; Leonard Rhone, Pennsylvania.

Twenty-nine states were represented by the following delegates: California, E. W. and Mrs. Davis; Colorado, D. W. and Mrs. Working; Connecticut, G. A. and Mrs. Bowen; Delaware, J. C. and Mrs. Higgins; Illinois, J. M. and Mrs. Thompson; Indiana, Aaron and Mrs. Jones; Iowa, J. E. Blackford; Kansas, A. B. and Mrs. Reardon; Kentucky, J. D. and Mrs. Clardy; Maine, M. B. and Mrs. Hunt; Massachusetts, E. D. and Mrs. Howe; Mississippi, S. L. and Mrs. Wilson; Missouri, A. E. and Mrs. Page; Nebraska, O. E. and Mrs. Hall; Michigan, Thos. and Mrs. Mars; New Hampshire, N. J. and Mrs. Bachelder; New Jersey, John Statesir; New York, W. C. and Mrs. Gifford;

North Carolina, W. R. Williams; Ohio, S. H. and Mrs. Ellis; Oregon, R. P. and Mrs. Boise; Pennsylvania, L. and Mrs. Rhone; Rhode Island, A. M. and Mrs. Belcher; Texas, J. B. and Mrs. Long; Vermont, A. and Mrs. Messer; Virginia, X. X. and Mrs. Charters; Washington, D. L. and Mrs. Russell; West Virginia, C. H. and Mrs. Knott; Wisconsin, Wash. Churchill.

The Worthy Master in his address said:

"The financial standing of the National Grange is good. The funds are safely invested, and we pay as we go." The prosperous condition of agriculture was presented, and the importance of organization and co-operation urged. Pure food, anti-option bill, education, the press, woman's work, capital and labor, the people rule, arid lands and other questions were discussed briefly and forcefully.

"The Grange has taken a decided stand," said he, "in favor of the free delivery of mail to those who live outside of the cities and villages." This decided stand was soon to be recorded as another great Grange victory.

The money question was discussed at some length, but his position on the "unlimited coinage of silver" was not very manifest, though he seemed to be decidedly against "fiat money" in the statement that "the stamp of the government can never fix nor maintain the value of these notes." While the "annual address" of the Worthy Master always carries great weight with the members of the Order, much as the President's message does with Congress and the people, at best it is only an individual opinion when it departs from a mere recitation of facts. In concluding he said: "We cannot afford to give to the public any matter that has not been very thoroughly discussed and considered here. We have acquired some distinction as a safe, conservative Order and we must add to, rather than detract from, a well-earned reputation. I hope that all will participate in the discussions. Modesty is sometimes to be commended, but here you should feel that the Patrons who have elected you to

the responsible position of legislators in our Order have a right to expect you to voice and vote their sentiments upon the important questions considered by the National Grange."

Worthy Treasurer McDowell reported the total receipts \$29,984.15, total expenditures \$23,701.37, leaving a balance of \$6,282.78. The Executive Committee reported that the "mortgage loan at this time amounted to \$45,400.

New Granges reported by the Secretary, 113, a falling off from 377 the year before. The reports from Masters of State Granges showed a strengthening of the Order all along the line. Although not so many new Granges were organized as the last two preceding years, many new members had been added to the old Granges, and better discipline was manifesting itself throughout the Order.

Hon. J. R. Dodge of the Department of Agriculture and a member of the Order, who had been sent by the Secretary of Agriculture to represent him and the Department, was introduced to the Grange and made a very pleasing address, outlining the purposes and plans of the Department of Agriculture in promoting the interest of the farmers. "The Secretary of Agriculture, Hon. J. M. Rusk," said he, "is in sympathy with the high aims of our beneficent order, and welcomes its co-operation in the work of advancing the interests of agriculture and elevating the condition of the husbandman." The whole address was a forceful presentation of the necessity for organization, with much praise for the good work the Grange was doing. The appointment of Secretary Rusk had been a disappointment to many members of the Grange, but after he became Secretary, he left nothing undone to gain the goodwill of, and to manifest his sympathy with, the real farmers of the country. He succeeded so well that the members of the Grange and the farmers generally learned to love "Uncle Jerry."

The Grange status of Miss Carrie A. Hall, niece of O. H. Kelley, had often been discussed, and with a view to settling the matter a resolution was adopted at this session as follows:

“Resolved, That the Worthy Secretary be and he is hereby instructed to inform Sister Carrie A. Hall that the National Grange recognizes her as equal to a ‘Founder of the Order’ of the Patrons of Husbandry.”

Following this, W. C. Gifford of New York offered a resolution which was adopted:

“That a committee of three members of the National Grange, consisting of two Sisters and one Brother, be appointed to prepare and submit a proper testimonial of the appreciation of all Patrons of Husbandry of the services of Sister Carrie A. Hall in the organization of our noble Order, and to have the same suitably engrossed and presented to our beloved Sister.”

The Committee appointed reported as follows:

*The National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry,
To Sister Carrie A. Hall, Greeting.*

Dear Sister: In recognition of your invaluable services in the early work of the Grange by rendering important aid in the preparation of the Ritual, and more especially in bringing the women of the farm into the Order upon terms of perfect equality, endowing them with the same rights and privileges as the other sex, the twenty-sixth Annual Session, assembled at Concord, N. H., has unanimously adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Worthy Secretary be and is hereby instructed to inform Sister Carrie A. Hall that the National Grange recognizes her as one of the founders of the Order.

The resolution first adopted is somewhat different from the one reported by the Committee. In the original resolution the words “equal to a Founder,” appear, but in the resolution reported by the Committee, which was supposed to be a copy of the original one, the words “one of the Founders” have been substituted. There would seem to be a substantial difference between the two expressions. If she is recognized as “one of the Founders,” then

the Order of Patrons of Husbandry has "eight Founders" instead of "seven," because the "seven Founders" were "recognized" in the same somewhat arbitrary way.

At the next annual session the Committee reported that "this testimonial was carefully packed and forwarded to its destination and was received in good order by Sister Hall, and her letter of appreciation is herewith appended as a part of this report."

James Draper, Past Master of Massachusetts State Grange.

Dear Sir and Brother: Your favor, with the engrossed resolutions, duly received. They are very beautiful, and I thank you, the National Grange, and, most cordially, the Committee, for this most beautiful remembrance.

Very sincerely yours,
CAROLINE A. HALL.

Resolutions were adopted favoring a graduated income tax, the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people, free rural mail delivery, prevention of the adulteration of food and lard, prevention of gambling in futures, and the Australian ballot system.

The death of William M. Ireland, the second one of the "founders" to pass away, was reported at this session.

No changes were made in the salaries of officers except that the Treasurer's salary was raised from \$300 to \$400 a year.

Leonard Rhone of Pennsylvania was re-elected a member of the Executive Committee.

After a very pleasant, active and important session the members bade adieu to old New England and scattered over the country to their several homes and states once more to take up the splendid work of the Order.

Men and measures might come up and play their part on the Grange stage, but the Order of Patrons of Husbandry must "go on forever." The year 1892

had been a great political campaign year, and political revolution had swept one party out of power and another in. The sequel of some of the political changes manifested itself at the next meeting of the National Grange.

The twenty-seventh session of the National Grange met at Syracuse, N. Y., November 15-23. All the officers but Gatekeeper, Ceres and Flora were present, and the work of the session was promptly taken up.

Twenty-eight states were represented by the same delegates as at the last session, except as follows: California, A. P. and Mrs. Roach; Kentucky, not represented; Maryland, H. M. and Mrs. Murray; Michigan, G. B. and Mrs. Horton; Missouri, W. E. and Mrs. Harbaugh; New Jersey, J. T. and Mrs. Cox; Ohio, T. R. and Mrs. Smith; Virginia, R. R. and Mrs. Hutchinson; North Carolina and Texas not represented.

The Worthy Master discussed the subjects that usually found a place in the Master's "address" and then turned his batteries on the Department of Agriculture. A new Secretary of Agriculture had been appointed on the fourth of the preceding March, and just then there was no question of such vital importance as an address delivered by J. Sterling Morton, Secretary of Agriculture, at the opening of the Congress on Agriculture at Chicago, Ill., October 16, 1893. It seemed the Grange, in creating the United States Department of Agriculture, had created a "Frankenstein."

The Worthy Master seemed to be overflowing with sarcasm at the thought of that speech. Said he:

"The farmer is considered as a good citizen in his place, but he is warned not to meddle with 'business' or 'politics.' Such matters should be intrusted to his Brothers who live in towns and cities, *who are supposed to know something*. He must not criticize the management of railroads or banking institutions, nor make any suggestions as to the financial policy of the government. Above all things he must avoid 'gregariousness.' Listen to the words of wisdom that recently fell from the lips of the Secretary of Agriculture.

“‘American farmers have foes to contend with; they are not the natural foes—not the weevil in the wheat, nor the murrain in cattle, nor the cholera in swine, nor the drouth, nor the chinch-bug. The most insidious and destructive foe of the farmer is the professional farmer, the promoter of Granges and Alliances, who for political purposes farms the farmer.

“‘He will not succeed better by forming Granges and Alliances which generally seek to attend to some other business than farming, and frequently propose to run railroads and banks, and even propose to establish new systems of coinage for the government, than he will by individual investigation of economic questions.

“‘The one book which I can recommend to the farmers for their perusal is Adam Smith’s “Wealth of Nations.” I would also have, if possible, a daily newspaper from a great city at every fireside.’”

Altogether the Secretary’s speech was a most remarkable production. Commenting further upon it, the Worthy Master said:

“What a great head we now have in charge of the Department! Professors in agricultural colleges, directors and officers of experiment stations and others have been diligently searching out the foes of agriculture and experimenting on methods of destruction with some degree of success, but it remained for the railroad attorney and lobbyist, who is Secretary of Agriculture, to discover ‘the most insidious and destructive foe of the farmer, *viz.*, the promoter of Granges and Alliances.’”

A perfect storm of protest had developed in the country, and the Worthy Master in his righteous indignation was excusable for his caustic consideration of Mr. Morton’s unfortunate speech, for:

“Experience has demonstrated the fact that farmers will endure much neglect, submit to being ignored, but it has not yet been shown that they will not resent ridicule and insult from one who should be their trusted adviser and friend.”

On November 22, 1893, the National Grange unanimously adopted the following resolutions which had been carefully considered by a committee:

“Your Committee on Good of the Order, to whom was referred the resolutions of Enterprise Pomona Grange, California, and the resolution of Hope Grange, in the State of New York, in reference to the language used by J. Sterling Morton,

Secretary of Agriculture, in his speech at Chicago, at the meeting of the World's Congress, where he, in language unbecoming a gentleman, much less a high official, no less than a member of the President's Cabinet, condemns and censures all farmers' organizations, specifically mentioning the Grange in the following language, to wit:

"That the most insidious and destructive foe to farmers is the professional farmer, the promoter of Granges and Alliances, who, for political purposes, farms the farmer; that he will not succeed better by forming Granges and Alliances which generally seek to attend to some other business than farming."

"*Resolved*, That so far as the Grange is concerned there is not one word of truth in what the Secretary has said about it, out, on the contrary, it is strictly nonpartisan and tends by all its teachings and principles to educate and elevate the farmer to higher and nobler citizenship, and does in a thousand ways improve the farmer in his profession by teaching the most approved methods of agriculture, and in the marketing of his products of the farm, and in wisely using the money received therefor in beautifying and making the home of the farmer better and increasing the intelligence and happiness of the farmer and his family.

"*Resolved*, That in giving utterance to this calumny, the fallacy of which the Secretary must have known or could have known had he taken the pains to inform himself, he has proven himself unworthy of the high position he holds.

"*Resolved*, That the President of the United States owes it to the farmers of America, the largest agricultural nation in the world, and the largest single interest in the United States, that they should have a Secretary of Agriculture in sympathy with this great interest. We believe it to be the imperative duty of the President to immediately take steps to secure a Secretary of Agriculture who shall be in accord with that interest.

"*Resolved*, That the Master and Secretary of the National Grange, over their official signatures, transmit to the President of the United States, the action of the National Grange, relative to the contempt expressed by the Hon. J. Sterling Morton, Secretary of Agriculture, for all farmers' organizations, especially the Patrons of Husbandry."

Worthy Treasurer McDowell reported the total receipts \$26,028.78, total expenditures of \$21,932.27, leaving a balance of \$4,096.51. The Secretary's report showed eighty new Granges organized. The Executive Committee's report showed the amount loaned on

real estate security to be \$46,333.32, and loaned on demand, personal security, \$2,000.

As the funds of the National Grange increased, there was manifest a disposition to increase the salaries of officers. The year before the Treasurer's salary had been raised from \$300 to \$400, and at this session the Lecturer, who had been receiving \$3 a day when on Grange-work, was given "a salary of \$400, and \$3 per day, necessary stationery, postage, office and traveling expenses when on duty for the Order." Other salaries remained the same as the year before.

A resolution was adopted declaring "That the Patrons of Husbandry of the United States of America are opposed to gambling in all forms." Many other resolutions on a variety of subjects were adopted, but to get a full comprehension of the real breadth and grasp of public questions it would be necessary to read the well-prepared reports of committees which were made to this and all other sessions of the National Grange. The Grange in all its branches, Subordinate, State and National, had become a school of economics, and embodied in the reports of these Grange assemblies was the result of the best farmer thinking in the country.

One of the most pleasing and noteworthy events of the year 1893 was the "Silver Jubilee" or twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the first farmers' Grange in the world at Fredonia, Chautauqua County, N. Y., April 20 and 21, 1893. The addresses delivered on that occasion were collected, edited and published in pamphlet form by Worthy Lecturer Mortimer Whitehead, who said in his introduction:

"Twenty-five years have passed since then, and on April 20 and 21, 1893, the anniversary day was celebrated with a program covering both days, and morning, afternoon and evening sessions in a large opera house, filled with thousands of Patrons, and on one evening with outside friends. Beautiful decorations of fruits, flowers, grain, pictures, mottoes, mementos, and relics of the early days, with music and songs by choirs, quartettes, glee clubs, solos, recitations, original poems, essays, speeches,

presentations, receptions and bountiful meals served in two large halls belonging to the old Grange, which now has 250 members, together with the presence of officers of the National and State Granges, all made up a picture and an occasion marking an important event in Grange history, and all revolving around the honored guest who had come all the way from his distant home in Florida to be present and meet and greet the old Grange he had organized twenty-five years before—Brother O. H. Kelley, the founder of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, the man of faith and works, who carried it over all obstacles to success.

“None the less honored was Sister Caroline A. Hall, she who first proposed the admission of women in our Order, and who cheered and aided the early workers in their darkest hours. Prevented from being present from her home in Minnesota by the recent death of her mother, her letter of greeting not only to the Grange in Fredonia, but to the Order at large, will be welcomed by tens of thousands of sisters wherever the name of Grange is known.”

Many distinguished members of the Order were present and made addresses, which, taken together, made a feast of historic interest and good cheer rarely surpassed. A part of “Father Kelley’s” characteristic address was as follows:

“Worthy Master and Patrons: Anniversaries are the occasions when care is thrown aside and the participants unite for a jollification; good humor prevails, and if the occasion proves a success we look back upon it as one of the pleasant features of life.

“When I received your invitation to be present and help celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of Fredonia Grange, I was so much surprised I could hardly believe it a reality.

“A quarter of a century had elapsed, and though 1,500 miles apart you ‘had not forgotten the old man.’ I determined to accept, and here I am.

“This fact you have—that no other Grange in the United States ranks Fredonia in age. It is recorded as the first that was regularly organized and at once commenced active work.

“In every state and territory of the Union, Granges have been organized, and over 800,000 names of charter members are now recorded in the National office.

“From the Grange have sprung the Alliance and numerous other farmer organizations. What the outcome will be remains for the future, but we may feel proud that the seed planted by Fredonia Grange has spread over the whole country.

"Our Order was the first secret society that ever admitted woman to full membership; its growth shows what may be accomplished with woman's influence. Its growth is also a lesson to the young of both sexes, showing what pluck and perseverance can bring about.

"No enterprise of any magnitude can well be established in less than five years. Statistics show that out of every hundred but five become eminently successful. Ten per cent more are but moderately so, while the remaining 85 are failures.

"The failures may be attributed to three causes—lack of merit, want of capital, and lack of vim and perseverance.

"If you will cling to a good, meritorious work for five years, putting your whole energy in it, success will crown your efforts. Too many give up in four years and a half.

"Let us see what five years did for our Order. In the first year we issued only 10 dispensations, the second 36, the third 134. At the end of the fourth year we had in all 1,005. The ball was then fairly rolling, and the years of '73 and '74 were marvels of success in organization.

"During January, February and March of 1874 we averaged over 2,000 each month, and two days are on record when 165 applications for new Granges were received on each day.

"The prosperity of our Order is due mostly to the female membership; it would not, it could not, exist without them. The times have changed very materially in woman's favor in the past 25 years. Socially she has always been the peer of man, and the time is not far distant when she will be his equal politically. That, however, depends wholly upon herself.

"When the women say they will vote they will, and no power on earth can stop them.

"In business of all kinds woman is showing herself as capable as man. In my office, while National Secretary, all my clerical work was done by young women. During the 12 years while I held the position over \$400,000 was received. Miss Hall was my assistant and cashier; every dollar of this passed through her hands, and when our books were critically examined at the end of 12 years, the committee published their report showing the National Grange was in our debt \$8.34.

"In the past 25 years there is no instance recorded of a female bookkeeper or cashier going to Canada, while quite a number of men have made temporary homes in that country.

"My convictions are that women are the most honorable and reliable part of the human family, and, like all sensible men, I have always been an ardent admirer of women."

CHAPTER XVI.

J. H. Brigham's Administration—Fourth Term, Two Years, 1894-1895—Twenty-Eighth and Twenty-Ninth Sessions of the National Grange.

The twenty-eighth session of the National Grange met at Springfield, Ill., November 14-22, 1894. All the officers were in their places.

Master—J. H. Brigham, Ohio.

Overseer—E. W. Davis, California.

Lecturer—Alpha Messer, Vermont.

Steward—M. B. Hunt, Maine.

Assistant Steward—A. M. Belcher, Rhode Island.

Chaplain—S. L. Wilson, Mississippi.

Treasurer—Mrs. Eva S. McDowell, New York.

Secretary—John Trimble, Washington, D. C.

Gatekeeper—W. E. Harbaugh, Missouri.

Ceres—Mrs. M. S. Rhone, Pennsylvania.

Pomona—Mrs. Mary M. Reardon, Kansas.

Flora—Mrs. Annie Bull, Minnesota.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. A. M. Horton, Michigan.

Members of Executive Committee—J. J. Woodman, Michigan;
R. R. Hutchinson, Virginia; Leonard Rhone, Pennsylvania.

Twenty-eight states were represented by the following delegates: California, A. P. and Mrs. Roache; Colorado, J. A. and Mrs. Newcombe; Connecticut, G. A. and Mrs. Bowen; Delaware, J. C. and Mrs. Higgins; Illinois, Oliver and Mrs. Wilson; Indiana, A. and Mrs. Jones; Iowa, A. B. and Mrs. Judson; Kansas, A. P. and Mrs. Reardon; Maine, E. and Mrs. Wiggin; Maryland, H. O. and Mrs. Devries; Massachusetts, E. D. and Mrs. Howe; Michigan, G. B. and Mrs. Horton; Mississippi, S. L. and Mrs. Wilson; Missouri, W. E. and Mrs. Harbaugh; Nebraska, O. E. and Mrs. Hall; New Hampshire, N. J. and Mrs. Bachelder; New Jersey, J. T. and Mrs. Cox; New York, O. H. and Mrs. Hale; Ohio, T. R. and Mrs. Smith; Oregon, J. and

Mrs. Vorhees; Pennsylvania, L. and Mrs. Rhone; Rhode Island, A. M. and Mrs. Belcher; Texas, John B. Long; Vermont, A. and Mrs. Messer; Virginia, A. J. and Mrs. Wedderburn; Washington, D. L. and Mrs. Russell; West Virginia, C. H. and Mrs. Knott; Wisconsin, W. and Mrs. Churchill.

The Worthy Master delivered a hopeful and encouraging address, showing progress and prosperity during the past year. He dwelt at considerable length upon the unequal burden of taxation the farmers had to bear and strongly indorsed an income tax as being just and equitable. He referred to "the dangerous concentration of wealth in the hands of a few families. We do not advocate any unnecessary interference in the business of enterprising men, but a republic cannot long survive this accumulation of wealth in the hands of a few to the impoverishment of the masses. How to distribute more equitably the profits of labor and the burdens of taxation is a problem which should occupy the thoughts of our wisest statesmen."

Advocating retrenchment, he said: "Let the Grange lead the way in a general assault upon high fees and salaries as well as public expenditures. Such evils do not cure themselves. If farmers will not unite to reduce the cost of government, they will deserve and receive no sympathy for the burdens they bear." This was in the "panic" year of 1894, when the farmers everywhere found retrenchment necessary.

He condemned government irrigation schemes and strongly advocated "free delivery of mails." "We believe," said he, "that the time has arrived when farmers should emphatically demand that free delivery of mails be extended to the rural districts."

Speaking of the "labor troubles," he said:

"The farmers are interested in the amicable settlement of the differences between employer and employee. We will sustain with all our influence the 'right of labor to organize.' Capital is thoroughly organized; so is every profession. Organization

increases power. *Power may be abused.* Corporations are said to be soulless. They employ labor, and sometimes may attempt to oppress their employees. Their means of defense is organization. Wise, conservative leaders must be selected. Labor must respect the rights of the employer and also of the public. They will then be invincible in demanding what is clearly right. If labor is to be employed at good wages, capital must be allowed a fair per cent of profit, and the farmer fair prices for his produce. Conditions which do not permit both will react to the injury of labor. Patience and mutual concessions in time of depression will always prove wise. The law must be respected and observed by capital and labor. If unjust to either, the farmer will help to secure amendment. Let us have peace and prosperity and an era of good will among all classes."

This was a fair and concise statement of the attitude of the Grange and the farmers generally toward capital and labor.

The Worthy Master covered a wide range of subjects, but finally settled down to the "free coinage of silver" question. Now, only about a year in advance of the opening up of the celebrated "free silver" campaign of 1896, the question was in the minds of everybody, the sentiment for "free coinage at 16 to 1" had been accepted by most farmers, and the Grange had previously indorsed it. In about five pages of the journal the Worthy Master discussed the question closely and clearly, but all his argument was against "free coinage." He did not settle the question, but closed by saying, "I know that radical differences of opinion on these subjects exist in our Order, which should not be a matter of surprise. Our members are not like sheep, following the 'bellwether,' even if he leads them to destruction. Each one is encouraged to investigate, think and decide questions in accordance with his own best judgment. We can agree in our fraternal relations and co-operate in the Grange work, but in matters of politics and religion we are perfectly free to go our own way, and no member of the Order has the right to demand of his brother the whys and wherefores."

This seems to have been the last of this question in the National Grange.

This year was notable for the death of F. M. McDowell and J. R. Thompson, two of the Founders of the Order, and J. W. A. Wright, author of the "Declaration of Purposes."

The Worthy Treasurer, Eva S. McDowell, reported the total receipts, \$20,763.93; total disbursements, \$14,435.77, leaving a balance of \$6,328.16. The Secretary reported ninety-two new Granges during the year.

The Executive Committee reported the total assets of the National Grange on September 30, 1893, at \$52,429.83, a falling off for the current year of \$1,935.02.

Leonard Rhone of Pennsylvania was re-elected a member of the Executive Committee.

The Grange, like political parties, has nearly always had before it one paramount issue at a time. The "silver question" had kept the Grange busy for several years. The tariff questions had been successfully disposed of, but these and some other questions were hardly out of the way until Mr. David Lubin had injected himself and his "Lubin Proposition" into the Grange. This was the same David Lubin who "founded" the International Institute of Agriculture, with headquarters at Rome, Italy, of which Mr. Lubin has been the "delegate from the United States." Later he was prominently before the public in advocacy of the German system of rural credits. The Master of the California State Grange brought the "Proposition" to the National Grange at Springfield, Ill., in 1894, with the indorsement of the California State Grange. The preamble contained eighteen whereases, but the "Proposition" itself was contained in the following brief resolutions:

Resolved, That just so long as the protective tariff system is in operation for the protection of American industries, we demand an equal measure of protection for agricultural staples.

Resolved, That this be done by government bounties on agricultural exports from the United States to foreign seaports.

Resolved, That we pledge our most earnest efforts and support to have this proposition become a law of our country."

The Committee on Agriculture, of which Aaron Jones of Indiana was chairman, labored long over the "Proposition," and closed by recommending that a conference be called by the National Grange Legislative Committee at its convenience, and that the "Lubin Proposition" be considered by it.

At the next session of the National Grange at Worcester, Mass., the Proposition came up with redoubled force. The "Conference," referred to above, was not called until November 14th, the second day of the National Grange session. The findings of this "Conference" were introduced with this information: "Your Committee on Legislation begs leave to report that, in pursuance to instructions of this body, they attended the National Conference of the Industrial Interests of the United States, called by them under instructions from the last National Grange, to meet in this city November 14th instant.

"The following gentlemen, representing the various interests named, were present in response to our invitation: J. H. Brigham, Leonard Rhone, John Trimble, H. C. Devries, Aaron Jones, representatives of the National Grange; David Lubin, of California; R. G. F. Candage, National Farmers' Congress; Hugh Craig, Vice-President Chamber of Commerce, San Francisco, Cal.; W. H. Llewellyn, representative Chamber of Commerce, Seattle, Wash.; Oliver Wilson, Illinois; J. L. Minton, Missouri National Farmers' Congress; W. W. Bates, ex-United States Commissioner Navigation, representing the shipping interest; W. F. Leonard, New York, American Masters' and Pilots' Association; G. C. Thayer, Pennsylvania, Cramp Shipbuilding Company; Alfred E. Cos, Massachusetts, Atlantic Iron Works, Boston; S. B. Ascher, Tariff Com-

mercial League, New Jersey; A. R. Smith, New York, representing the shipping interest (editor of the *Seaboard*); E. P. Curtis, Worcester, National Association Manufacturers' Implements and Vehicles."

In the findings of this "Conference," too long to reprint here, the "Lubin Proposition" was unqualifiedly indorsed.

On motion, the consideration of the Conference report was postponed until after the Committee on Agriculture, of which Aaron Jones of Indiana was again Chairman, made its report.

The matter was disposed of for this session by the adoption of the following report of the Committee on Agriculture:

"In regard to the above preamble and resolutions presented to the National Grange by Brother W. W. Greer of California, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, which resolutions embody in substance what is known as the Lubin Proposition, your committee begs leave to report that, having carefully considered the same and having listened to able arguments in favor of the resolutions by Brother W. W. Greer, Brother David Lubin and Brother Wm. Johnston of California, and of other able advocates, is unable to recommend their adoption as presented, but would recommend the following as expressing the position of the National Grange upon this subject:

"Resolved, That the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry in twenty-ninth annual session assembled, having considered the Lubin Proposition, so-called, without expressing any opinion upon the merits of said proposition, or upon its effect if enacted into law, but recognizing the truth of many of the statements therein contained in regard to the depressed condition of agriculture in our country at the present time, would respectfully recommend said proposition to the careful consideration of Congress and of the American people. And that we urge upon Congress an early and thorough investigation of the subject, and that the legislative committee be directed to present the same to Congress."

The twenty-ninth session of the National Grange was held at Worcester, Mass., November 13-21, and was called to order by the Worthy Master, with all

the officers but the Overseer and Lady Assistant Steward present.

Twenty-six states were represented by the same delegates, except the following five states, where changes had been made: California, W. W. and Mrs. Greer; Delaware, S. H. and Mrs. Messick; Minnesota, Sarah G. and Mr. Baird; Vermont, C. J. and Mrs. Bell; Washington, Augustus and Mrs. High.

The Grange had very decided views on the subject of the Department of Agriculture and the type of man who should be appointed Secretary. Worthy Master Brigham had been asked to tell the National Farmers' Congress what kind of man should be appointed Secretary of Agriculture. He included what he told the National Farmers' Congress in his "annual address," which, because of its historic interest, is reprinted here:

"In response to your invitation, received through the courtesy of your Secretary, I have hastily prepared a few remarks upon the subject assigned me: 'The Secretary of Agriculture—what he should be, and what he should not be.'

"In 1876 a resolution was introduced into and adopted by the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, asking for the elevation of the Department of Agriculture, and that the head of the department be made a member of the President's Cabinet, and be given the official title of Secretary of Agriculture.

"From the above-named date, the Order of Patrons of Husbandry was unceasing in its efforts to accomplish this purpose, and temporary defeats did not dampen its ardor. The subject was continually forced upon the attention of Congress and the people; the persistent efforts of the friends of the proposed elevation of the department finally attracted attention, and it found favor in the eyes of other agricultural societies and associations, and at last the object sought was secured.

"It is hardly to be presumed that all this labor was performed without some definite object in view, and it may be well to inquire into the motives of those who favored such elevation of the department.

"FIRST. It seemed to be the opinion of the farmers that the Chief Executive was very likely to be selected from among those who have made their homes and have their associations in the great centers of trade and commerce, and would probably have

very little practical knowledge of the real wants and interests of the nation's most important industry, namely, agriculture. This being true, it was thought best to secure a place in the council chamber of the Chief Executive for a representative of this all-important industry, to the end that timely suggestions might be made, and special attention directed to this interest, upon which all are so dependent. The farmers were the more anxious to secure this elevation of the department for the reason that the feeling was, and is yet strong, that agriculture has not been fairly treated by the lawmaking bodies and the Chief Executive of the nation.

"SECOND. It was also believed that such recognition of the great importance of agriculture would tend to dignify the profession or calling, and popularize it among the ambitious young men and women of our rural districts, and save to agriculture some of her brightest jewels.

"It is not necessary to go into details to show how and in what way the Secretary, by his increased influence and power, was to advance the interests of agriculture. There is so much that should be done that it is only a question of what should be done first.

"Now to the subject assigned me—'The Secretary of Agriculture—what he should be, and what he should not be.'

"We will first discuss what he should be. It is hardly probable that all the requirements will be found to perfection in any one man, but there are qualifications which are indispensable. He should be a practical agriculturist, one whose associations and sympathies are with the real farmers of our country. He should be a man of recognized ability and of unimpeachable integrity, of broad and liberal views, ever ready to receive and profit by suggestions coming from any source, no matter how humble. He should be a good judge of human nature, that he may not be easily imposed upon, and that he may be able to select as his helpers those who will render the best service in the department to which they are assigned. He should be a man of courage and firmness, in order that he may weed out the inefficient employees who have been pensioned upon the department by officials, unscrupulous place seekers and others having 'influence,' and be able to introduce such reforms in the management of the department as the real interests of agriculture require. It would be well if he should possess sufficient independence of character to introduce a little 'Jeffersonian simplicity' into one of the departments at the seat of government. He should be ready at all times to aid every movement or enterprise calculated to help the farmers. He should maintain harmonious relations, and meet with every

national organization of farmers which is honestly striving by proper means to lighten the burdens and increase the social, intellectual and financial advantages of the grand army engaged in tilling the soil.

"He should have the tact that would enable him to draw to his support rather than repel those whom he should serve. He should be ever ready to give helpful suggestions and friendly criticisms, but should never ridicule nor belittle even the uncouth or illiterate among those he is expected to represent.

"He should search the world over for markets, and for information that will be of material advantage to the farmers; he should promptly advise them of every fraud or deception which is being practiced upon them in any section of the country. He should strive in every way to make the department useful to the farmers, and at all times and under all circumstances maintain the dignity of the 'noblest calling of man.'

"He must of necessity be of the same political faith as his chief, else his counsel might be distrusted or unheeded.

"If he should have had the advantages of a broad and liberal education, it would greatly increase his power for good, and in many ways aid him in his work.

"What he should not be. He should not be a man selected solely for political services rendered his party. He should not be a man who would not feel a sense of great responsibility as the representative of the most important of all industries. He should not be a man who would feel called upon to apologize for the existence of a department of agriculture nor feel it to be his duty to repress every effort of the farmer to have 'his say' in the affairs of government. He should not be a man who would discourage efforts to form organizations among farmers for the cultivation of a fraternal spirit that will enable them to brighten and cheer each other in the routine labors incident to rural life—that will enable them to profit by and enjoy a social culture and a mental training absolutely necessary to their proper development as good citizens and useful members of society. Neither should he discourage organizations for the purpose of utilizing and making available their power, to the end that they may be able to protect themselves and families from the abuse of power, made possible and probable by the unification and combination of all the other great industries of our country.

"He should not be a man who would hesitate to expend money appropriated for the department in efforts to protect and promote the interest of farmers, even if it should conflict at times with personal theories and views entertained by himself.

"He, most emphatically, should not be a man who would re-

main silent or acquiesce in any proposed legislation that would be unjust to agriculture. He should not be a mere theorist without practical knowledge of the industry which he is supposed to represent; nor a man who will hesitate to demand rights, privileges and advantages for the farmers equal to those enjoyed by other classes. He should not be a man whose business interests or social relations are such that he cannot devote all his time and energy to the work of the department, and all his sympathy and aid to those whom he was especially selected to serve.

"In conclusion, allow me to say that I entertain the opinion that our work as farmers and friends and co-workers in the field of agriculture will not be complete in this line until the Chief Executive selected by the people shall be thoroughly convinced that it is not only right but politic to select for this department some man who will be everywhere recognized as one having special qualifications for the position, and one who will have the confidence and hearty support of the farming classes."

The address of the Worthy Master to the Farmers' Congress was later specifically indorsed by the National Grange, and probably no better "specifications" for a Secretary of Agriculture have ever been formulated.

One other paragraph from the Worthy Master's forceful address was as follows:

"The ballot in the hands of intelligent, courageous voters will drive vice and corruption from public life and secure forever the 'jewel of liberty in the family of freedom.' No order or association of men in this broad land has done so much to enlighten and instill a spirit of patriotism and independence into the masses of the people as has the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, and while our Order, in its associate capacity, is and will be kept free from any partisan entanglement, we wish to have it distinctly understood that the farmers are henceforth to be a very important factor in this country. We shall seek to know our rights, and the man or party neglecting or betraying the interests of agriculture will speedily ascertain that the farmers have the courage to administer an appropriate and effectual rebuke."

The Treasurer's report showed total receipts \$25,172.74. Balance in Trust Company, \$7,568.69. The report of the Executive Committee showed an increase in funds during the year of \$573.81. The Secretary's report showed ninety-two new Granges.

An aggressive fight for free rural mail delivery, was inaugurated.

A multitude of resolutions dealing with a wide range of economic questions were offered, while another group of resolutions, which sought to deal with the internal machinery of the organization, were urged, but few of them seem to have been seriously considered.

This being the time for the semi-annual election of officers, a good deal of interest, as usual, was manifested in the outcome. The rivalries and frequent antagonisms that were always more or less visible on these occasions were never revealed in the records of the balloting in the National Grange.

O. H. Kelley and Miss Carrie A. Hall attended this session for the first time since Mr. Kelley resigned the office of Secretary at Richmond in 1878.

CHAPTER XVII

J. H. Brigham's Administration—Fifth Term, Two Years, 1896-1897—Thirtieth and Thirty-First Sessions of the National Grange

The thirtieth session of the National Grange met at Washington, D. C., November 11, 1896. All the officers elected at the preceding session were present:

Master—J. H. Brigham, Ohio.

Overseer—Aaron Jones, Indiana.

Lecturer—Alpha Messer, Vermont.

Steward—John T. Cox, New Jersey.

Assistant Steward—J. A. Newcomb, Colorado.

Chaplain—O. H. Hale, New York.

Treasurer—Mrs. Eva S. McDowell, New York.

Secretary—John Trimble, District of Columbia.

Gatekeeper—W. E. Harbaugh, Missouri.

Ceres—Mrs. Lucy G. Smith, Ohio.

Pomona—Mrs. Sarah G. Baird, Minnesota.

Flora—Mrs. E. L. A. Wiggin, Maine.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. S. G. Knott, West Virginia.

Members of Executive Committee—N. J. Bachelder, New Hampshire; J. J. Woodman, Michigan; Leonard Rhone, Pennsylvania.

Twenty-eight states were represented as follows: California, W. W. and Mrs. Greer; Colorado, J. A. and Mrs. Newcomb; Connecticut, S. O. and Mrs. Bowen; Delaware, S. H. and Mrs. Messick; Illinois, Oliver and Mrs. Wilson; Indiana, Aaron and Mrs. Jones; Iowa, A. B. and Mrs. Judson; Kansas, A. P. and Mrs. Reardon; Maine, Edward and Mrs. Wiggin; Massachusetts, E. D. and Mrs. Howe; Maryland, Henry O. and Mrs. Devries; Michigan, G. B. and Mrs. Horton; Minnesota, Sarah G. and Mr. Baird; Mississippi, S. L. and Mrs. Wilson; Missouri, D. N. Thompson; New Hampshire, N. J. and Mrs. Bachelder; New Jersey, John T. and Mrs. Cox; New York, O. H. and Mrs. Hale; Ohio,

T. R. and Mrs. Smith; Oregon, W. M. and Mrs. Hillary; Pennsylvania, L. and Mrs. Rhone; Rhode Island, Thomas G. Hazard; South Carolina, W. K. and Mrs. Thompson; Vermont, C. J. and Mrs. Bell; Virginia, A. J. and Mrs. Wedderburn; Washington, Augustus and Mrs. High; West Virginia, C. H. Knott; Wisconsin, H. E. and Mrs. Huxley.

John Trimble and William Saunders, two of the founders of the Order, addressed the meeting in a pleasant, reminiscent manner.

In a statesmanlike "address" Worthy Master J. H. Brigham discussed many questions of great interest to American farmers.

The great "free silver" presidential contest had just closed with the election only two weeks before. The money question was once more settled, for the time at least, and a revision of the tariff was certain to follow. The country was just passing through one of the most disastrous financial panics it had ever known. The Worthy Master, in discussing the agricultural conditions, said:

"The farmer who is receiving fair returns for his labor and invested capital is now the exception. There has been no general failure of crops, but the prices received for most of them do not pay for the labor of production. Such conditions are very discouraging and should receive the best thought of our wisest men. The cause or causes should be diligently sought out and the remedy applied. Some of the alleged causes have been so thoroughly discussed in the recent campaign that I shall not attempt their discussion in an address to a body where partisan subjects are barred."

He called attention to the inequitable distribution of the burden of taxation. He declared a well-established truism when he said:

"The farmer is bearing far more than his proportion of the cost of maintaining local self-government, and will obtain no relief except through his own well-directed efforts."

He spoke of the "single-tax" in these words:

"Occasionally we find a farmer who has become a convert to the theory of those who advocate a tax solely upon land values to defray all the expenses of government, but the masses of farmers will be slow to accept this theory."

With the incoming of a new national administration, and the outgoing of the "unfortunate" J. Sterling Morton, the Grange and the country turned with hope to President-elect McKinley. With these conditions in mind, the Worthy Master said of the Department of Agriculture:

"The farmers labored long and earnestly to secure the elevation of the Department of Agriculture. They were inspired with the hope that with a representative of agriculture in the Cabinet this great industry, upon which all are so dependent, would receive the attention which its importance demands at the hands of the Chief Executive. They also believed that this department, with ample means at its command, could give much important information to the farmers of the United States; information that would be not only valuable, but perfectly reliable.

"The farmers should be the first to know actual crop conditions, not only in this country, but in the world, as without this knowledge they are liable to incur great losses in marketing their crops. The department should be in close touch with the farmers; should invite suggestions and give patient and careful attention to the same. There are many men upon the farms of the United States who are good thinkers and careful observers. The department needs the help of all of them, but their confidence must be secured before they will venture to offer suggestions. The department should take a lively interest in every organized effort to uplift agriculture and broaden and develop the farmers of our country. Good, solid, sensible, practical work is what is needed in this department.

"The farmers may have expected too much. There may be some feeling of disappointment, but they are still hopeful, and will be very loath to abandon the fond anticipation which followed the elevation of this department."

Later in the session a special committee appointed to deal with this question made the following report, which was adopted:

"For many years the farmers of the United States felt the necessity of elevating the position of Commissioner of Agriculture to a Cabinet office as Secretary of Agriculture, in order to give due recognition to the foundation interest of all prosperity in this country. To this end the Patrons of Husbandry, through their Subordinate, State and National Granges, labored until the object sought had been attained. The position of Secretary of Agriculture is regarded by farmers as one which should be farthest removed from politics of any of the Cabinet positions, and one that should at all times be filled by a practical farmer; therefore, be it

"Resolved, by the National Grange in thirtieth annual session, in the city of Washington, D. C., that we respectfully request the President-elect to appoint to the position of Secretary of Agriculture a man actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, who has the confidence and esteem of the farming population of the entire country."

Following the above committee report this resolution was adopted:

"WHEREAS, This National Grange has placed itself on record to favor the appointment of a competent and practical farmer at the head of the Department of Agriculture; therefore,

"Resolved, That a committee of three be and is hereby appointed, consisting of Brothers Aaron Jones of Indiana, O. H. Hale of New York, and G. B. Horton of Michigan, to wait upon Hon. William McKinley, President-elect of the United States, to urge that a practical farmer be honored with a seat in his Cabinet, and that said member be a Patron of Husbandry, in recognition of the wisdom and labor of our Order in the creation of said Department of Agriculture."

The outcome of this call upon President-elect McKinley was the appointment of Hon. James Wilson, an Iowa farmer, as Secretary, and Hon. J. H. Brigham, Master of the National Grange, as Assistant Secretary.

The Grange was just winning the race for adequate rural mail delivery. It was already in experimental operation, and the Worthy Master urged to greater efforts in these words:

"There is no good reason why the benefits of free mail delivery should not be extended to the rural districts. The only objection offered is the cost of the service. The fact is, however, that it will be a great saving of time. One man can deliver the mail to a large number of families, each of which would send some representative to the postoffice were not the necessity for so doing removed. There are individuals in every community who are unable to perform heavy work, who would gladly accept this service for a very moderate compensation. I recommend that at this session you give emphatic expression to your views upon this subject, and that it be made the duty of some committee to present the matter to Congress, and make a vigorous effort to secure the legislation necessary to the accomplishment of this object. I have no doubt of the fact that the experiments now being made will demonstrate the feasibility of this service, and we should not brook unnecessary delay in extending it through the rural districts. It is a good time for the farmer to make demands."

This session of the National Grange was notable for the fact that no member or past member of the body had passed away during the preceding year, which had not been the case for many years before, and the like has not happened since.

The report of the Worthy Treasurer showed the total receipts for the year, \$23,134.40; total expenditures, \$17,843.72, leaving a balance of \$5,290.68.

The report of the Executive Committee showed the invested capital of the National Grange now amounted to \$46,140.

The Secretary reported 169 new Granges organized during the past year.

Hon. Wm. H. Hatch of Missouri, who for years had championed every Grange measure in Congress, and was the author of the "Hatch Agricultural Experiment Station Law," was reported very ill, and the following resolution was adopted and a copy sent to him :

"Resolved, That the National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, learns with deep regret of the illness of Hon. W. H. Hatch of Missouri, who for nearly a lifetime has been the bold and able champion of agriculture, and this Grange wishes to express to

him our sympathy at his illness and our thanks for his work in behalf of agriculture, which will remain as monuments more lasting than bronze or granite through generations to come, and we trust that a Divine Providence will soon restore him to health and a long and prosperous career of usefulness."

Hon. M. A. Knapp, member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, on invitation, came before the National Grange and delivered an address which was printed in the journal of the session. That the Grange had any considerable influence in creating the Interstate Commerce Commission has been disputed, and even so good an authority as Dr. S. J. Buck, in his "Granger Movement," says: "No student of national railway legislation would be willing to accept the claim of many members of the Order that it was chiefly instrumental in securing the passage of the Interstate Commerce Act."

In view of this statement it may be of interest to note what Mr. Knapp said on that subject:

"It is well known that your organization, and the great numbers which it represents, were among the most active and potent influences that secured from Congress the initial statute for the regulation of interstate commerce, and it gives me special pleasure to acknowledge the support and encouragement which your membership has given the commission in its efforts to execute the law. No class of persons has a greater interest in the subject of railroad transportation than the farmers of this country, and none have stronger reasons for advocating wise and useful legislation for the control of public carriers."

The "Lubin Proposition," to pay an export bounty on staple agricultural products, came up again and was finally disposed of by this resolution:

"Resolved, That this National Grange does not, and never has, indorsed what is known as the Lubin Proposition, to pay an export bounty on agricultural products."

While the National Grange usually considered a good many questions at each session, it had long been its policy to push hard upon one or two questions which were at the time most prominent in the public

mind and most likely to be soon disposed of by Congress. For the last two or three years the legislation most urgently demanded was "free rural mail delivery" and "pure food," which were both soon to be realized.

At all times the Grange sought to speak out clearly and boldly what the farmers needed in the way of state and National legislation, and, rising above partisan considerations, let all men and all parties know that they were in earnest and determined and noted the action of men and parties as to their course on the questions and measures necessary to place agricultural industries on equal footing with other interests of the country.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley of the agricultural department, having been invited by the Grange, appeared and delivered a lengthy and illuminating address on the subject of "Adulteration of Foods." After showing the alarming extent to which our food products are adulterated, he closed his address with these words:

"As has before been intimated in this address, the remedy against all these things lies clearly in the power of the people. Wise laws wisely administered, a careful system of inspection, a demand for pure food, will secure the people in their rights. It is not the rich for whom we should work, but the poor; and they should be protected against frauds in food—frauds not so dangerous on account of being deleterious to health, as because of their pretensions to furnish to the poorer part of our people a food ostensibly pure and nutritious, but in reality valueless. It is not supposed for a moment that any system of legislation can entirely prevent the perpetration of frauds upon the community, but at least these crimes can be made punishable, and their perpetrators may be compelled to endure the penalty of their misdeeds."

In a committee report Geo. B. Horton, Master of the Michigan State Grange, set up the necessity for the Grange and its work in these eloquent words:

"It reaches out in all directions, and includes everything pertaining to the farmer, his family, his fields, stock and barns, his social, political and influential standing. Yea, above all, and including all of these, the maintenance of his class in that social

position our form of government intends he should occupy for all time, and that which the tillers of the soil under every known government since the world began have allowed to gradually and undeservedly, but surely, to pass from them. We know not what may be the ideal of European enlightenment, but for our country it should stand for that just equilibrium which guarantees and protects our people, even the humblest toiler, in the full benefits and enjoyment of his labors. How closely, and even critically should the producing classes of this country study the many and various propositions presented for our indorsement by political parties, even our own, to be sure that there is not somewhere concealed behind the more important features a principle which, if indorsed, will, in its natural working, tend toward and assist in establishing those class distinctions which exist across the water in the east, and which we have been so often warned against in this country by our most thoughtful men. 'Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty,' and was never more applicable than today. Trusts, combines and corporate greed are aggressive and persistent. Frequently accomplishing good in the successful execution and accomplishment of great enterprises, which are past the power of individuals to perform, more commonly their operations are a menace to the rights of the people. Those refined sensibilities of the individual man which lead him to regard his neighbor's landmark are absorbed and lost in the combine and trust, and the spirit of conquest, regardless of the rights of others, takes its place.

"How can we rest in quiet composure with the handwriting on the wall, which reads to us: Your children and your children's children will gradually settle to lower positions in the social spheres of life, because of rights and privileges gone, and the history of other worlds will have repeated itself here, unless you are vigilant and watchful now? We say, 'Let us heed the warning and escape the doom.'

"The Order of the Patrons of Husbandry has come as the savior of the farmers from these results. The good of the Order demands that we use it for this protection, and that in our councils we take such action as will result in educating our members to that point of independence so essential in bringing about a more united action by farmers. To these ends the Order must be perpetuated.

"As never before, we see people engaged in other pursuits working in harmony for advantages to themselves, and the inclinations and tendencies are for the great combined interests of the country to form closer unions. In all this what position is the farmer to take? Will those engaged in other pursuits take

care of us and see that justice is done? Or must we do this for ourselves? The farmer's interests are in general the same. Are we working harmoniously together? Or are we quarreling among ourselves? These are important questions for every farmer to consider. It is useless for the farmer to lament the condition of combined and opposing forces as being wrong; for wrong as it may be, it now exists, and we have to meet it and deal with it, and we know of no better way than for the Grange to educate farmers to stand closely by each other as farmers, and, if necessary, regardless of party lines, as do people of other interests. To do other than this makes our class and interests an easy prey to unsympathetic and designing men."

At every session of the National Grange since the first one, the subject of co-operation had often been prominently before the body, but direct Grange co-operation, in a commercial way, had not been much attempted since the early eighties. No greater store of literature on that subject may be found than that in the Journal of Proceedings of that body. The Grange was essentially co-operative in all its work and methods, but for a number of years its efforts at co-operation were mainly along social, educational and legislative lines. The disastrous panic of 1893, which nearly crushed the life out of agriculture as well as other industries, and which had been dragging its blighting length along for four years, compelled the Grange and the farmers to renew their efforts at co-operative buying and selling, but these efforts were mainly limited to what was known as the "contract system." The thirtieth session of the National Grange found the farmers somewhat more hopeful than for several years past.

The only election at this session was the re-election of Leonard Rhone, of Pennsylvania, as member of the Executive Committee.

The thirty-first session of the National Grange met at Harrisburg, Pa., November 10 to 18, 1897. All the officers except Ceres were in their places.

Twenty-seven states were represented by the same delegates as the previous session except that changes had been made as follows: Kansas, H. and Mrs. Rhoades; Ohio, S. H. and Mrs. Ellis; Rhode Island, J. A. and Mrs. Tillinghast; West Virginia, T. C. and Mrs. Atkeson.

This was the third time S. H. Ellis had been elected Master of the Ohio State Grange. He was the first Master, followed by J. H. Brigham, elected again and followed by T. R. Smith, and now given the third term. No other man has ever had this unique experience.

On the convening of this session of the National Grange, the Credentials Committee reported only 19 states as entitled to representation. Later eight other states were admitted.

Worthy Master Brigham had been made Assistant Secretary of Agriculture soon after the inauguration of President McKinley, and he was not a candidate for re-election as Master of the National Grange, having served four full terms and one year of Put Darden's second term, or nine years in all. No other Master before or since has served so long. His successor, Aaron Jones, served eight years, but no other Master has served more than six years.

The Worthy Master, in his last "annual address," dealt mainly with routine matters and especially those things that pertain to the safe guidance of the Grange. He spoke of the improved conditions of agriculture, and urged the diversification of crops as a remedy for overproduction.

Speaking of the Department of Agriculture, he said: "It has always been the desire of the farmers that the head of this Department should be a practical farmer, and the realization of our desires affords us great satisfaction. The present Secretary of Agriculture is a progressive western farmer from one of the foremost agricultural states, and is doing everything in his

power to promote the interests of agriculture in every section of our country."

He recommended thorough inspection of meat products, the utilization of the weather bureau for agriculture, the rigid enforcement of the oleomargarine law, pure food regulations and impartial tariff legislation.

"Rural free delivery has already been enforced by the National Grange, and I am glad to say authoritatively that the Postoffice Department is making experiments to test the feasibility of the system." He also recommended the establishment of postal savings banks, which from this time forward until established became a fixed Grange measure. In the closing paragraph, he virtually declined a re-election in these words: "The relief that follows the transfer to another of responsible duties will be very welcome, but I shall lose none of my interest in the grand work of the Order."

Thus passed from Grange activity one of its strongest characters.

The report of the Treasurer showed total receipts, \$20,120.30; total expenditures, \$13,816.88; leaving a balance of \$6,303.42.

The report of the Executive Committee showed an increase in funds for the year of \$882.74. A hundred and forty-one new Granges were organized and 74 re-organized during the year.

David Lubin, later the founder of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, Italy, was present and, on invitation of the Worthy Master, addressed the Grange on the subject of "Export Bounty on Staple Farm Products." This was the last time Mr. Lubin ever appeared before the National Grange in advocacy of what was then known as the "Lubin Proposition."

At this session Gatekeeper W. E. Harbaugh, in his report, raised some pertinent questions:

"One of the sound principles," he said, "with which the Grange started was this, that no man should belong to it unless he had a direct interest in tilling the soil. Everybody has *some* interest in tilling the soil, because all must live by eating. But the Granger's interest in tilling the soil is personal, professional and direct. The lawyer's business is to practice law; the doctor's business is to practice medicine; the manufacturer's business is manufacturing his wares; and the farmer's business is to farm or till the soil. When lawyers meet to consider their interests as a class, they do not ask farmers to tell them what to do or where their interest lies; when doctors meet to consider their business as professional men, they do not send for farmers to teach them where their interest lies; manufacturers do not invite farmers to sit in counsel with them while considering their interests. In like manner the farmer should know his own affairs and look after them himself and suffer no dictation from without. As Gatekeeper, permit me to ask if we are confining our membership strictly to those who have a direct, personal and professional interest in farming or cultivating the soil? Are any admitted within our gates who have *not* a sufficient direct interest in tilling the soil, or may have some interest in conflict with our purposes?"

"If a man can stand on his feet in a crowded room and talk well, it multiplies his force as a man by ten, or possibly twenty. A trained lawyer among plain farmers, unaccustomed to public speaking, has every advantage in the world. He is like a lion among sheep. The sheep are no doubt better than the lion, but this does not keep them from being eaten up by the lion.

"A trained and gifted speaker may be on the wrong side of a question and yet may win, notwithstanding the fact that he is wrong all the time. A plain, honest farmer may be on the right side of a question in debate and yet lose his side, notwithstanding the fact he is right all the time. He may not have the gift of language to present forcibly his side of the case, or he may have sufficient language but not self-control while addressing large audiences. It is unfair to pit a farmer against a lawyer in debate, as it would be manifestly unfair to pit a lawyer against a farmer in raising a crop. Farmers ought to know their own business and they ought to know how to attend to it."

That last sentence is eminently true, and it was upon that rock the Grange was founded. Evidently, one of the weaknesses in the Grange was the liberality with which it construed its own law of eligibility for membership in the Order. Just to the extent that the Grange ceased to be an organization of bona fide farm-

ers did its real usefulness to productive agriculture disappear. The closer it held to the "Declaration of Purposes" the better for the Grange and for the farmers.

Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson ran up from Washington to meet his fellow Grangers, and, after being duly introduced, delivered a very pleasing address, only the first paragraph of which follows:

"The National Grange represents the farming classes of our people, the half of the nation, the conservative half, the quiet, thinking half, the people who act as referees when there is commotion and settle things rightly. I congratulate you on the important position you occupy, and the dignified manner in which you discharge the responsibilities resting upon you, that are not circumscribed by state lines, but grasp the entire country within their span. You do not enact statutes, but your counsel is sought by the lawmaker, and when he is heedless in exercising power, you are sure to be judicious in further extension of it."

This was a noticeable contrast to the attitude of his predecessor. Secretary Wilson was a man of the people and in hearty sympathy with the toilers who live in the open country and feed the nation.

The National Grange demanded the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people, the enactment of an adequate free rural mail delivery law, the establishment of a general system of postal savings banks, the appointment of a nonpartisan tariff commission, and many other important matters.

This was the time of the biennial election, and probably no election in the National Grange has ever been so hotly contested.

CHAPTER XVIII

Aaron Jones' Administration—First Term, Two Years, 1898-1899—Thirty-Second and Thirty-Third Sessions of the National Grange

At the close of the thirty-first session of the National Grange, which marked the beginning of Aaron Jones' administration, there was a good deal of factionalism existing, resulting largely from rivalry of leadership, but more fundamentally from differences of opinion that had developed over economic questions which had recently attracted the attention of the National Grange.

For the first year at least the best work of the new Master was the diplomatic effort he made to heal these differences and antagonisms, which he was very successful in doing. By the time of the next annual meeting entire harmony prevailed.

The thirty-second session of the National Grange met at Concord, N. H., November 16-23, 1898. All the officers were present:

Master—Aaron Jones, Indiana.

Overseer—O. H. Hale, New York.

Lecturer—Alpha Messer, Vermont.

Steward—John T. Cox, New Jersey.

Assistant Steward—J. A. Newcomb, Colorado.

Chaplain—S. O. Bowen, Connecticut.

Treasurer—Mrs. Eva S. McDowell, Ohio.

Secretary—John Trimble, Washington, D. C.

Gatekeeper—A. B. Judson, Iowa.

Cercs—Mrs. Lena M. Messick, Delaware.

Pomona—Mrs. Sarah G. Baird, Minnesota.

Flora—Mrs. E. L. A. Wiggin, Maine.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. A. M. Horton, Michigan.

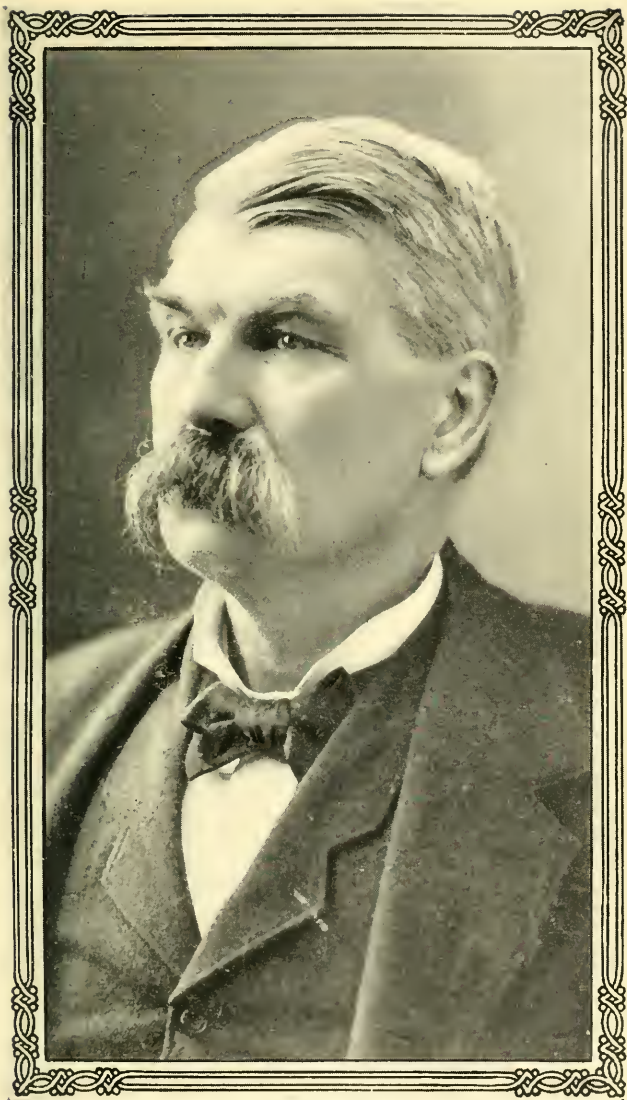
Members of Executive Committee—N. J. Bachelder, J. J. Woodman, Leonard Rhone.

Twenty-six states were represented as follows: California, W. W. and Mrs. Greer; Colorado, J. A. and Mrs. Newcomb; Connecticut, S. O. and Mrs. Bowen; Delaware, S. H. and Mrs. Messick; Illinois, O. and Mrs. Wilson; Indiana, A. and Mrs. Jones; Iowa, A. B. and Mrs. Judson; Kansas, H. and Mrs. Rhoades; Maine, O. and Mrs. Gardner; Maryland, J. B. and Mrs. Ager; Massachusetts, W. C. and Mrs. Jewett; Michigan, G. B. and Mrs. Horton; Minnesota, Sarah G. and Mr. Baird; Missouri, C. O. and Mrs. Raine; New Hampshire, N. J. and Mrs. Bachelder; New Jersey, J. T. and Mrs. Cox; New York, E. B. and Mrs. Norris; Ohio, S. H. and Mrs. Ellis; Oregon, W. M. and Mrs. Hillary; Pennsylvania, L. and Mrs. Rhone; Rhode Island, J. A. and Mrs. Tillinghast; South Carolina, W. K. and Mrs. Thompson; Vermont, C. J. and Mrs. Bell; Washington, A. and Mrs. High; West Virginia, T. C. and Mrs. Atkeson; Wisconsin, H. E. and Mrs. Huxley.

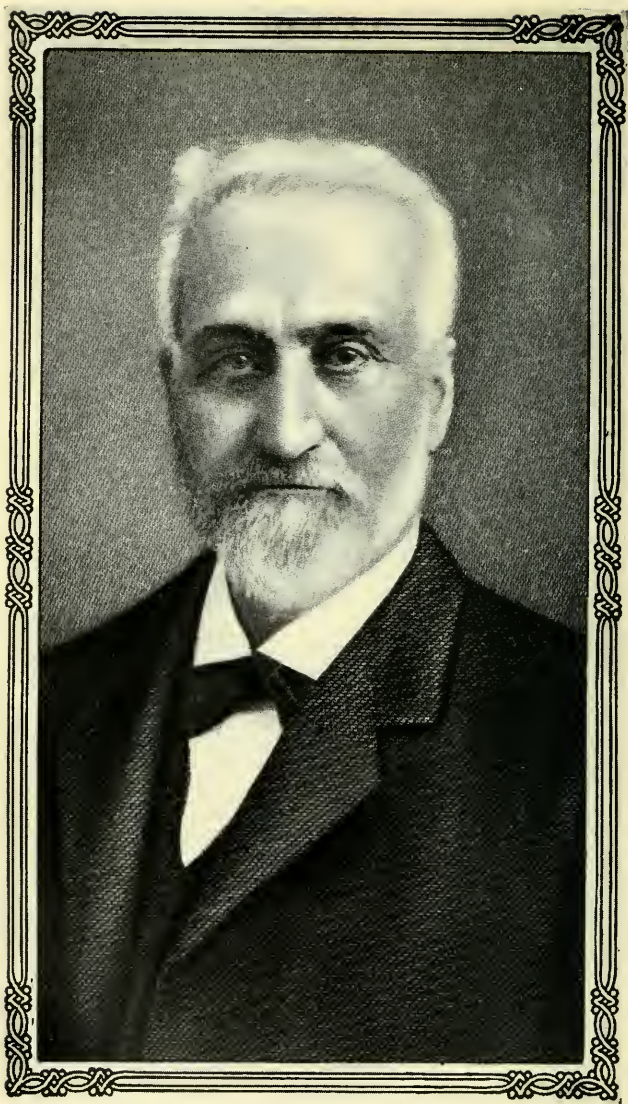
This was the first session over which Aaron Jones had presided as Master, and, quite naturally, there was a good deal of interest manifested in what he was to say in his "annual address." He probably never delivered a more conservative, diplomatic and carefully prepared address during the whole time of his service as Master. "The Order is growing," said he, "in harmony and unity of purpose to focus thought along lines that will advance the general good, harmonize and unify our people, and lead the farming population to think for themselves and act on what to them seems right and to their best interest."

He discussed the work of the last year, the growing condition of the Order, the reviving prosperity of agriculture, the accomplishment of co-operation, and the war with Spain, which had just terminated, and the peace commission which was then in session at Paris.

He congratulated the Grange upon another victory



Joseph H. Brigham, Ohio, eighth Master of the National Grange.



Aaron Jones, Indiana, ninth Master of the National Grange.

in a decision of the United States Supreme Court, "in an opinion handed down in October last, which upholds and sustains and declares constitutional the Sherman Anti-Trust Law."

On the whole the address was forceful and statesmanlike, and every word of it breathed a spirit of optimism and co-operation in Grange work and policies.

The Worthy Treasurer, Mrs. Eva S. McDowell, reported the total receipts for the year, \$25,065.21; total disbursements, \$15,230.38, leaving a balance of \$9,834.83.

The Executive Committee reported the total funds for the year \$53,134.83, a gain of \$821.41. In commenting upon the sound financial condition of the Order, the Executive Committee said:

"The excess of \$821.41 of receipts over expenditures for the past year has been saved by careful and judicious expenditures of the special appropriations made at the last session, and that amount is not too large a margin to rely upon in making future estimates. Had the special appropriations made at the last session all been used the surplus would have been exhausted and a deficiency of over \$900 created.

"It is a well-known principle in all business matters, whether national, co-operative, or individual, that the income must be sufficient to cover all expenditures or financial ruin is, sooner or later, the result; and the success of business enterprises is measured by the surplus over disbursements.

"No fraternal order or association can maintain a useful existence for any considerable length of time that fails to provide a safe and well-devised financial system which will furnish not only means for current expenses, but sufficient to accumulate and maintain a balance in its treasury, or, invested, sufficient to meet any emergency which may be likely to arise. When that point is reached the association is prepared to enter upon its mission of usefulness. Our Order has reached that condition in its history, and its prosperity, perpetuity and the fulfillment of its glorious mission, depend upon maintaining it. Since the organization of the Order, a score or more of other farmers' organizations have sprung into existence, contesting the field with the Grange, and some of them claiming superiority over it, on ac-

count of their low fees and dues, and little expense to the membership. In some states, they nearly or quite supplanted the Grange, but as national organizations they have passed away, and one of the main causes of their failure was empty treasuries."

The absolute soundness of the foregoing is manifest, and much of the financial stability of the National Grange in its most trying years depended upon the business acumen of its Executive Committee. Like all popular or representative bodies the National Grange was prone to make poorly considered appropriations of other people's money. Fortunately for the Order it always kept some of its sanest, safest men on guard on the Executive Committee, and the above quotation is made to show the rational view it took of Grange finances at that time.

The Secretary reported that 130 new Granges had been organized during the year and 95 reorganized.

For the fourth time the National Grange adopted a resolution favoring "the enactment by Congress of such legislation as will insure the building and ownership of the Nicaragua Canal by the United States."

The only election at this session was that of S. H. Messick of Delaware as a member of the Executive Committee.

This was the shortest session of the National Grange ever held, being in session only eight days, including Sunday, meeting on Wednesday and closing the following Wednesday. Though there has been considerable demand for shorter sessions, it has rarely been practicable to close before Friday after a ten-day session.

The thirty-third session of the National Grange met at Springfield, Ohio, November 15-23, 1899. All the officers were present.

Twenty-six states were represented by the same delegates as at last session, with the following exceptions: California, G. W. and Mrs. Worthen; Dela-

ware, A and Mrs. Naudain; New Jersey, E. and Mrs. Braddock; Pennsylvania, W. F. and Mrs. Hill.

Worthy Master Jones opened his "address" with these words:

"I congratulate the National Grange on the harmony, good will and fraternal spirit that actuate the Order throughout the country, and of the restoration of confidence of farmers in each other—confidence in the sincerity of purposes and honesty and integrity in business matters, confidence in their ability to maintain significant organization."

Undoubtedly the Grange was to be congratulated upon the restoration of harmony, and the wise policy pursued by the Worthy Master was largely responsible for it. But that alone was not responsible. Conditions in the country were improving and the reaction was beginning to be felt along all lines of industry, the general revival of business conditions had done much to eliminate all subjects of controversy and the Grange was beginning to respond to the return of more prosperous times.

The whole address was sound in philosophy, giving evidence of mature thought and careful preparation. He congratulated the Order on the progress of "free rural mail delivery," advocated national aid to "good road" building and introduced the most excellent practice of summarizing the things that the National Grange stood for at that time.

The Worthy Treasurer reported total receipts, \$30,-818.07; total expenditures, \$21,695.74; leaving a balance of \$9,122.33.

The Executive Committee reported total funds, \$55,832.33. Increase of funds during the year \$2,697.50. The committee also reported that at the last session it was adopted, "that the Temple Fund, paid to the National Grange by several parties, be returned on application to the donors, and that the Executive Committee is hereby instructed to carry into effect the foregoing resolution." For failure to comply with this order the committee said:

"Applications for refunding the money were received and the questions of carrying out the intention of the resolution carefully considered by the committee. As it appeared that the 'Temple Fund' had been raised, principally by collections, small donations, receipts of entertainments and festivals, from the sale of flowers and fancywork by sisters of the Order, and sometimes sent to the Secretary of the National Grange by the Subordinate or County Granges, and in other cases by the chairman of the State Grange Committee on Woman's Work in the Grange, and as the applicants for the money did not appear to be the actual donors, the conclusion was reached that the money could not be rightfully and legally refunded under the resolution. The subject is therefore referred back to the National Grange for further and more definite action."

This "fund," which was contributed for the purpose of building a "Temple to Ceres" or "Agriculture" at Washington amounted to a little over \$700, and no further action was taken in the matter until the forty-ninth session, when an order was made requiring the Executive Committee to "loan the fund on real estate security."

The Secretary reported that 146 new Granges had been organized and 74 reorganized.

The National Grange expressed its satisfaction by resolving:

"That we heartily indorse the efforts now being made by the National Department of Agriculture under the wise and judicious management and direction of Secretary Wilson and Assistant Secretary Brigham to open foreign markets for the surplus grain, meat and other agricultural products of this country."

Evidently an *entente cordiale* had been established between the Department of Agriculture and the Grange.

The subject of "ship subsidy" was brought before this session of the National Grange, but it was flatly turned down, and the Grange has many times since gone on record against any kind of "subsidy," much to the discomfort of the subsidy seekers.

Resolutions were adopted demanding legislation for the protection of the dairy industry, against food adulteration, favoring the examination and survey of the

forests of our mountains, favoring the enactment of a law governing the use and manufacture of shoddy, and favoring the settlement of difficulties by arbitration.

The trust question was receiving much attention because of the increase of trusts following the revival of business. Previous to this time the Grange had had much to say about corporations and monopolies, but now found some new problems being forced upon it. A special committee composed of fourteen members was selected to consider and report upon the subject of "Trusts." This report was of importance at the time:

"We, your special Committee on Trusts, submit the following report: The National Grange expresses its approval of the address of our Worthy Master Aaron Jones, regarding trusts, and demands the enactment by Congress of such laws as will protect the people against all combinations of men and capital inimical to public policy. We are not opposed to association of interests which merely lessen the cost of production, but we are decidedly opposed to the misuse of the power which large combinations of capital give for the purpose of destroying competition, controlling production and arbitrarily dictating prices of commodities. Association, as opposed to isolation, is one thing; combination, as opposed to competition, is another.

"We are opposed to all corporations or 'trusts' which control the source of supply, and, like the Standard Oil Company, reach out their arms and embrace all competition. Special favors are granted them by railroads, thus enabling them to undersell and force to the wall smaller dealers who might otherwise compete with them.

"We encourage the investment of capital in every branch of legitimate industry and demand fair play.

"The construction of the Erie Canal benefited the farmer. Competition has reduced the price of transportation in New York 80 per cent during the past 25 years. Expansion of our territory and commerce tends to increase the number of capitalized associations. The greed and selfishness which too often actuate men have become an element of danger and must be controlled.

"It must be made impossible for so-called trusts to accumulate millions by selling watered stock without adding to the wealth of the country. Therefore, we recommend:

"*First.* Official inspection of all corporations, as in the case of

national banks. No corporation should be tolerated whose books cannot bear such inspection.

“Second. Prohibition of all rebates or discrimination by public carriers.

“Third. Taxation of all capital stock.

“Fourth. All capital stock should be paid up in full.

“Fifth. Severe penalties for violation of law. (1) By forfeiture of charter, fine and imprisonment. (2) By impeachment, fine and imprisonment of all public officials whose duty it may be to enforce the law and who fail to perform that duty.”

Some general remarks on the subject of trusts followed, but the above includes the “findings” of the committee. The statement is somewhat illogical, and in the light of subsequent events that same committee would doubtless modify its views somewhat.

It was manifest the Grange was reaching out into the future in an effort to throttle a gigantic menace to the old idea of competition being a cure for all commercial and trade evils.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted increasing the term of a member of the Executive Committee from two to three years and providing for the election of one member each year. E. B. Norris, New York, was elected a member of the Executive Committee.

CHAPTER XIX

Aaron Jones' Administration—Second Term, Two Years, 1900-1901—Thirty-Fourth and Thirty-Fifth Sessions of the National Grange

The year 1900 was a presidential year, which did much to distract the minds of farmers as well as of other people from the ordinary concerns of life. The campaign which terminated in the re-election of President McKinley had closed only a few days before the assembling of the National Grange in the thirty-fourth annual session in the city of Washington, D. C., November 14 to 22, 1900.

All the officers elected at the preceding session were in their places when the Grange was called to order by the Worthy Master.

Master—Aaron Jones, Indiana.

Overseer—Obadiah Gardner, Maine.

Lecturer—N. J. Bachelder, New Hampshire.

Steward—J. A. Newcomb, Colorado.

Assistant Steward—W. C. Jewett, Massachusetts.

Chaplain—S. O. Bowen, Connecticut.

Treasurer—Mrs. Eva S. McDowell, Ohio.

Secretary—John Trimble, Washington, D. C.

Gatekeeper—H. E. Huxley, Wisconsin.

Ceres—Mrs. Cordelia Atkeson, West Virginia.

Pomona—Mrs. M. M. Wilson, Illinois.

Flora—Mrs. Ida V. High, Washington.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. A. M. Horton, Michigan.

Members of the Executive Committee—J. J. Woodman, Michigan; E. B. Norris, New York; S. H. Messick, Delaware.

Twenty-four states were represented as follows: California, G. W. and Mrs. Worthen; Colorado, J. A. and Mrs. Newcomb; Connecticut, B. C. Patterson; Delaware, A. and Mrs. Naudain; Illinois, Oliver and Mrs. Wilson; Indiana, Aaron and Mrs. Jones; Kansas,

Henry and Mrs. Rhoades; Maine, Obadiah and Mrs. Gardner; Massachusetts, W. C. and Mrs. Jewett; Michigan, G. B. and Mrs. Horton; Minnesota, Sarah G. and Mr. Baird; Missouri, C. O. and Mrs. Raine; New Hampshire, N. J. Bachelder; New Jersey, E. and Mrs. Braddock; New York, E. B. and Mrs. Norris; Ohio, S. H. and Mrs. Ellis; Oregon, B. G. and Mrs. Leedy; Pennsylvania, W. F. and Mrs. Hill; Rhode Island, J. A. and Mrs. Tillinghast; South Carolina, W. K. and Mrs. Thompson; Vermont, C. J. and Mrs. Bell; Washington, A. and Mrs. High; West Virginia, T. C. and Mrs. Atkeson; Wisconsin, H. E. and Mrs. Huxley.

This was the smallest number of states ever represented at a session of the National Grange since 1873, the states of Iowa and Maryland having dropped out during the last year.

Williams Saunders, one of the "founders" and first Master of the National Grange, had died during the year. Oliver Hudson Kelley and John Trimble, the only living "founders of the Order," were present.

The address of welcome was delivered by Mr. Kelley, which was responded to on behalf of the National Grange by Past Master J. J. Woodman. The Worthy Master's address was rich in suggestions for building up the Order, and many matters of vital importance to the welfare of agriculture were discussed in an able manner, followed by the declaration: "The time has come when farmers must do as other business interests do—continue to press their claims from year to year, until the legislation is secured, and at all times hold their representatives in state legislatures and in Congress, officially and personally, responsible for their action on measures affecting agricultural interests. Farmers should learn the lesson that they should stand by and support those friendly to them, as other business interests do. Business men, manufacturers and others act upon this rule."

The Worthy Treasurer reported the total receipts, \$31,456.30; total expenditures, \$21,786.14; leaving total balance in Trust Company of \$9,670.16.

The Executive Committee reported "total funds" \$57,082.06. Increase of funds during the year \$1,249.73.

The Worthy Secretary reported the organization of 182 new Granges and the reorganization of 70 dormant Granges during the year.

On invitation of President McKinley the National Grange as a body was received by the President at the White House. They also visited the Agricultural Department on invitation of the Secretary and were received one evening at the home of Assistant Secretary of Agriculture J. H. Brigham.

Secretary Wilson attended the Grange one day, and the journal says: "Mr. Wilson was received by the Grange in open session, and introduced by the Worthy Master; whereupon he delivered a most interesting and instructive address on "What the Department of Agriculture Is Doing to Benefit the Farmers of the Nation." Evidently the Secretary did not consider the Grange "the most insidious and destructive foe to the farmer."

The National Grange showed its appreciation by resolving, "That this National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry now assembled thank President McKinley for the appointment of a Secretary and Assistant Secretary of Agriculture who so nearly answer our idea of what the Secretary and Assistant Secretary should be, when we asked that the Department of Agriculture should be created."

C. J. Bell of Vermont was elected a member of the Executive Committee for three years.

Probably no session of the National Grange has been more harmonious in all its work and relations than this thirty-fourth session. All the factionalism of a few years before seemed to have passed away and entire good-fellowship to be restored. The Grange was

adjusting itself to changing conditions and assuming new responsibilities.

After a year of prosperity the thirty-fifth annual session of the National Grange met in the city of Lewiston, Me., November 13 to 21, 1901. All the officers were present. Twenty-five states were represented by the same delegates as at last session, except the following eight states, where changes had been made:

California, C. W. and Mrs. Emery; Delaware, S. H. and Mrs. Derby; Kansas, E. W. Westgate; Kentucky, F. P. and Mrs. Wolcott; New Jersey, G. W. F. and Mrs. Gaunt; Ohio, F. A. and Mrs. Derthick; Rhode Island, A. A. Smith; Washington, J. O. and Mrs. Wing.

The Worthy Master's "address" was full of hope and inspiration. Of the agricultural colleges he said:

"Agriculture was to become profitable and farmers prosperous and happy as a result of teaching in these colleges those branches of learning related to that important industry. Have these anticipations been fully realized? If not, why not? Have farmers done their full duty toward these colleges? Have the agricultural colleges done all they could and should have done to make them of the greatest value to the agricultural interests of the country? Have the boards of trustees of agricultural colleges been in full sympathy with the spirit and purpose of the act donating the public lands for these schools? Have the presidents and professors been in all cases in full sympathy with practical agriculture and in close touch with farmers?"

"Many farmers feel that in these schools in many cases an influence has been exerted on the minds of their children away from the farm rather than toward it. On this account many farmers who desire their children to follow farming do not send them to the so-called agricultural colleges. Whether this be true or not the feeling exists, the damage is done, and our agricultural colleges and their influence are injured, and the farmers have lost the golden opportunity of securing to agriculture the advantages contemplated by the wise statesmen who enacted the law in 1862. Most of the legislatures in the several states have been liberal in their appropriations to aid these schools. I desire to call attention to these schools and ask the Order in the several

states to investigate their agricultural college and its management, and see whether it is conducted along the lines contemplated by the act creating it, and to the best interest of agriculture in their respective states. If not, then insist and take such action as will cause such changes to be made as will make their agricultural school in practice as well as in name an agricultural college. Urge your legislature to make such appropriations as will provide for all the needs of the school in lands, buildings and equipment, as well as make it a first-class agricultural college. Insist that the boards of trustees shall be practical men who have faith in agriculture, who will appoint a president and professors who are in full sympathy with agriculture, men who believe that farming is as honorable as any other business or profession, and by proper management can be made profitable, who will use all their influence in securing the teaching of scientific agriculture in our public schools, and assist in all honorable methods in advancing the agricultural interests. Anyone not willing to do that, in our opinion, should not occupy the position of trustee, president, or teacher in our agricultural colleges."

The expressions of the Worthy Master were almost the universal opinion of the farmers of the country at that time, but, largely through the influence of the Grange a better understanding between the farmers and the colleges has later developed.

That infallible index of Grange prosperity, the report of the Worthy Treasurer, showed the total receipts, \$31,606.95; total expenditures, \$17,572.38; leaving a balance in the Trust Company of \$14,034.57.

The report of the Executive Committee showed, "Total money and investments, \$62,361.90," showing an increase of funds during the last fiscal year of \$5,358.89.

Secretary John Trimble reported that during the year 193 new Granges were organized and 62 dormant Granges reorganized. These reports amply justify the declaration of the Worthy Master: "I am pleased to state the Order is prosperous. More new Granges have been organized this year than in any other year for the past quarter of a century. Harmony and good will prevail throughout our vast membership. Our

members are enthusiastic, hopeful, earnest, and determined in their efforts to make the Grange still more helpful and better in all its work, to broaden its scope and extend its membership and influence."

In concluding their report, the Executive Committee said:

"Our agricultural people, by well-directed and intelligent co-operation, are fast removing the isolation that has been the greatest barrier against organization among the farming class, and the Grange stands today pre-eminently in the lead of all other agricultural associations, and shows its power to the greatest advantage in its genial sociability and educational advantages where it wields the most influence.

"If the farmer of today hopes to keep pace with the progress of the twentieth century, he must become a factor in elevating his occupation. Life in this world is but a school of observation and experience. The Grange is exerting an influence in public affairs, and is valuable to every member, morally, socially, and financially.

"From all parts of the country comes the cheering report from our Grange workers that the great army of husbandmen are falling into line. Organization and co-operation are watchwords of the hour, and they insist on an equal distribution of the burdens and an equitable share of the many blessings accruing from an advancing civilization. The magnitude of the agricultural industry requires a thoughtful provision to secure an adequate consideration for its products in the markets of the world."

The Grange took a decided stand upon the subject of free passes:

"We recommend that in all states that have not already taken action they insist on the enactment of laws making it a penal offense to offer, or for a public officer to accept, a pass on any railroad or transportation company, believing that the custom not only inflicts a higher rate of transportation on others, but is frequently used by transportation companies in the hope of influencing court decisions and legislation.

"And *Resolved*, That this body favor and demand the enactment of just and equitable tax laws by our state and national legislators which shall relieve agriculture from an unfair proportion of the necessary burdens of government."

The following was announced as the legislative program for the year:

1. Free delivery of mails in the rural districts, and that the service be placed on the same permanent footing as the delivery of mail in the cities, and the appropriations be commensurate with the demands and the benefits of the service.

2. Provide for postal savings banks.

3. Submit an amendment to the Constitution providing for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

4. Submit an amendment to the Constitution granting the power to Congress to regulate and control all corporations and combinations, preventing monopoly and the use of their corporate power to restrain trade or arbitrarily establish prices.

5. Enlarge the powers and duties of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

6. Regulate the use of shoddy.

7. Enact pure food laws.

8. Provide for the extension of the markets for farm products equally with manufactured articles.

9. The enactment of the anti-trust law, clearly defining what acts on the part of any corporation would be detrimental to public welfare.

10. Speedy construction of the Nicaragua Canal by the United States.

11. The speedy construction of a ship canal connecting the Mississippi river with the Great Lakes and the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean.

12. Revising the fees and salaries of all federal officers, and placing them on a basis of similar service in private business.

In a broad sense the Grange was an agricultural "clearing house." It was made up of people engaged in all branches of farming, members of all political parties, members of all the State Agricultural Associations, of the State Boards of Agriculture, of the Experiment Station staff, and the College of Agriculture faculty, of both sexes. It was in the Grange that all these different interests received fair and impartial consideration, and that such differences as existed were adjusted. It was through Grange legislative committees that all the varied interests were presented to Congress or the Legislature. The Grange was surrounded by checks and balances that did not exist elsewhere in the organized agricultural insti-

tutions. It heartily indorsed the motto, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

The Order declared that "we shall constantly strive to secure harmony, good will, vital brotherhood among ourselves, and we hail the general desire for fraternal harmony, equitable compromises, and earnest co-operation, as an omen of our future success." Every thought and policy of the Grange was for peace, harmony, good will and genuine co-operation among agricultural people. All controversies were settled within the Order and a united front presented at all times.

The farmers of this country were naturally and normally law-abiding, loyal and patriotic. In times of panic it was the farmers who saved the financial institutions of the country, and when the nation was at war the great burden fell upon the farmers, and it was upon the conservative farmers that the preservation of the governmental institutions mainly depended.

When the political campaign, with all its uncertainty and turmoil, was over the farmers cheerfully accepted the result, and yielded a loyal support to the new state and national administrations without regard to whether the men they voted for were elected or not. All they asked at the hands of the government was a square deal.

There has always been a good deal of maudlin sentimentality wasted on the farmers to little purpose. The only true friends of the farmers must be the farmers themselves. And the Grange seeks to equip them for such leadership as will enable them to demand and secure that equitable deal to which the basic industry of agriculture is entitled. The improvement of the business of farming must come out of its own leadership. In all the efforts made for the betterment of agricultural conditions the farmer has been considered simply as a producer. In other occupations it is different. The manufacturer carefully counts the cost

of production and proceeds to control the price by reducing the quantity and also through the means of tariffs and other special legislation. The professional men fix a schedule of remunerative prices. The merchant marks up his wares to a profitable price. The money lender demands his usury, and the transportation companies charge what the traffic will bear. The farmer is told to work harder and raise bigger crops so that others may live more economically, without regard to whether he receives a profit on what he produces or not.

These conditions have come about because the farmers have largely let other people do their thinking, and the laws of the state and nation are almost wholly made by people opposed to agriculture or controlled by special and selfish interests.

Give the farmers a fair and larger share of what they produce, with an equitable profit upon their toil, and all else will be given unto them. Anything short of this leaves increasing need of the Grange and its tireless efforts to secure for agriculture and the farmers of the country some of the comforts and luxuries of life which they so richly deserve. More justice and less sentiment would be more to the liking of most farmers.

CHAPTER XX

Aaron Jones's Administration—Third Term, Two Years, 1902-1903—Thirty-Sixth and Thirty-Seventh Sessions of the National Grange

The thirty-sixth session of the National Grange met in the State Capitol at Lansing, Mich., November 12 to 21, 1902. All the officers were present:

Master—Aaron Jones, Indiana.

Overseer—Obadiah Gardner, Maine.

Lecturer—N. J. Bachelder, New Hampshire.

Steward—W. C. Jewett, Massachusetts.

Assistant Steward—C. O. Raine, Missouri.

Chaplain—W. K. Thompson, South Carolina.

Treasurer—Mrs. Eva S. McDowell, Ohio.

Secretary—John Trimble, District of Columbia.

Gatekeeper—George W. Baird, Minnesota.

Ceres—Mrs. Martha M. Wilson, Illinois.

Pomona—Mrs. Cordelia Atkeson, West Virginia.

Flora—Mrs. S. B. Wolcott, Kentucky.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. Marie A. Hill, Pennsylvania.

Executive Committee—E. B. Norris, New York; J. J. Woodman, Michigan; C. J. Bell, Vermont.

Twenty-seven states were represented by delegates as follows: California, C. W. and Mrs. Emery; Colorado, J. A. and Mrs. Newcomb; Connecticut, B. C. Patterson; Delaware, S. H. and Mrs. Derby; Illinois, Oliver and Mrs. Wilson; Indiana, Aaron and Mrs. Jones; Iowa, A. B. and Mrs. Judson; Kansas, E. W. Westgate; Kentucky, F. P. and Mrs. Wolcott; Maine, O. and Mrs. Gardner; Massachusetts, G. S. and Mrs. Ladd; Maryland, J. B. and Mrs. Ager; Michigan, G. B. and Mrs. Horton; Minnesota, Sarah G. and Mr. Baird; Missouri, C. O. and Mrs. Raine; New Hampshire, N. J. and Mrs. Bachelder; New Jersey, G. W. F. and Mrs. Gaunt; New York, E. B. and Mrs. Norris; Ohio, F. A. and Mrs. Derthick; Oregon, B. G. and Mrs.

Leedy; Pennsylvania, W. F. and Mrs. Hill; Rhode Island, A. A. Smith; South Carolina, W. K. and Mrs. Thompson; Vermont, C. J. and Mrs. Bell; Washington, J. O. and Mrs. Wing; West Virginia, T. C. and Mrs. Atkeson; Wisconsin, A. C. and Mrs. Powers.

The Worthy Master called upon J. H. Brigham, Past Master of the National Grange, and Assistant Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture for remarks. Mr. Brigham stated that he had been authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture to attend the thirty-sixth session of the National Grange as a representative of the department.

The Worthy Master's address was up to the standard of the best; only a few paragraphs, culled somewhat at random, can be included here:

"Our purpose is to consider measures that will advance the interests of our Order, promote a more profitable agriculture, and advance the cause of good government; to urge upon state and national governments the enactment and enforcement of just laws that will secure to agriculture, to labor and capital, a fair and just distribution of the earnings of labor and capital in the varied industrial pursuits of our matchless country.

"The Order has enjoyed a wonderful degree of prosperity during the past year. This is true from whatever view you take of it. More new Granges organized, more Granges reorganized, more members initiated in existing Granges, better ritual and literary work done, meetings held oftener and better attended, and greater interest taken and more inquiry by those outside our gates. The financial condition solvent and satisfactory; more Grange halls have been built and tastefully furnished and equipped for the uses and purposes of the Order. In securing legislation, state and national, the Order has been measurably successful; the work of the Order more generally commended by all the people of our country.

"The most important question before the American people is that of trusts. These combinations are growing stronger and more and more exacting and oppressive every year. The farms, homes, crops, stock and other property of the five million eight hundred thousand farmers, and also the awards for the labor of the thirty million men, women and children who live upon and cultivate these farms, are at the mercy of those vast combinations. They direct and fix the price of what the people buy or sell.

"The Grange was among the first great organizations to defend the rights of the people against the crimes of organized greed. Day by day, and year by year, the Grange has pointed out the disastrous results that would follow the allowing of combinations of capital and conspiracies intended to restrict trade, create monopoly, limit production, prevent competition, or to control prices. The earnest and determined efforts of the Patrons of Husbandry have aroused the people to the dangers incident to trust methods.

"The Patrons of Husbandry's position is right, and has always been right. The people of the country are with us. Patrons, the time has come when promises will not suffice! Action, decisive action, is demanded. Any public official whose duty it is to act, and he does not perform his entire duty in the enactment and enforcement of laws to suppress the evils of trusts, whatever political faith he may profess, with whatever political party he may affiliate, should be defeated for renomination and election. All politicians and political parties should understand that the rights of the people must be respected, and that special privileges will not be tolerated, and any law or laws now in force which enable manufacturers to sell, and they do sell, in foreign countries, any manufactured article at a less price than they sell to American citizens, thus using the laws of our country to discriminate against our citizens, said law or laws should at once be revised, amended or repealed, and all such practices made impossible.

"The laws of our country must express the will and maintain the rights of the majority of the people, and said laws must be enforced and obeyed, by all individuals and corporations."

Of rural mail delivery, he said:

"We are gratified to note that this branch of the public service is receiving the attention that its importance and merit demands, and that the Postmaster-General will recommend that the appropriation for this service be increased to \$12,650,000 to continue and further extend rural delivery of mail. Our Order should not relax its efforts in this matter until free mail delivery comes to every farm home in the United States.

"The passage of the bill so long and so earnestly demanded by our Order, to have our government construct, manage, control and own a ship canal connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans at Nicaragua or Panama, has passed and is now a law, and this great canal will shortly be constructed to the great advantage of all the people of our country."

The Worthy Treasurer reported total receipts, \$39,886.42; total expenditures, \$32,914.76; leaving a balance of \$6,971.66.

The Executive Committee said in their report: "The revenues of the National Grange are derived from the following sources: State Grange dues, dispensation fees, sale of supplies to Subordinate Granges, fees of higher degrees, and interest on investments and deposits. At the close of the fiscal year ending September 30, 1902, the account stood as follows: Loaned on twenty-seven farm mortgages, \$44,710; two farm contracts, \$6,800; one farm valued at \$2,526.90; deposited in savings bank, \$4,000; balance in trust fund, \$6,891.66; total of \$64,928.56. At the close of the preceding fiscal year, 1901, the investments and deposits amounted to \$62,440.95; showing an increase of funds during the fiscal year of \$2,487.61.

Commenting upon the increasing accumulation of funds, the committee said:

"The Executive Committee congratulates the National Grange upon its sound and safe financial system, and the present highly prosperous condition of its finances.

"The question is often asked, What is the necessity of carrying so large a surplus of funds by the National Grange?

"The answer is, that no order or organization can live and prosper without a sound financial backing, and the standing of an organization is largely measured by its ability to promptly meet all of its obligations. It is not the policy of the National Grange to accumulate and hold a large, idle surplus, but to create a permanent capital large enough to meet any emergency which may arise, and give it character, standing, reliability and perpetuity, and use the interest on the same, together with other incomes which remain over and above current expenses, in the main, for extending the Order. It shows a gradual increase of receipts above expenditures from year to year, as has been the case since 1882, gives more confidence and permanency to the Order than a constant decrease which took place during the preceding eight years. Twenty years of continuous growth and prosperity overcoming obstacles which appeared almost insurmountable would seem to be sufficient to establish the fact that the Order of Patrons of Husbandry has become one of the per-

manent institutions of the country, and that it will go on in its glorious work of education and elevating American farmers and bringing all within its influence nearer to the good, the beautiful, the true."

The Worthy Secretary reported 256 new Granges organized and 86 dormant Granges reorganized. This was the first time in many years when the number of new Granges organized in one year had been above 200.

The National Grange was taken to Grand Rapids to visit the great furniture factories of that city. They were banqueted at the Michigan Agricultural College, received by the Governor, by the Board of Trade and the city authorities; they were invited to attend the Industrial School and several manufacturing plants. For Sunday they were invited to attend all the churches, and the following unique invitation was received from the pastor of the Central M. E. Church: "If it would be agreeable I would like to have a general service Sunday night, the meeting to be addressed by one or more prominent members of the Grange. I place the church at your disposal for your memorial or other services." This invitation was accepted.

The Legislative Committee reported that they had urged upon Congress:

1. Further extension of rural mail delivery.
2. Constitutional amendment granting power to Congress to control corporations and trusts.
3. Establishment of postal savings banks.
4. Pure food law.
5. Completion of the Nicaragua Canal by the United States.
6. Additional power to the Interstate Commerce Commission.
7. Election of United States Senators by the people.
8. Opposition to ship-subsidy.
9. Prohibit the fraud of colored oleomargarine.

On one of its visits to Washington the Legislative Committee says:

"The Agricultural Department was visited and Secretary Wilson and Assistant Secretary Brigham greeted us with the statement, 'Tell us what the Grange wants in this department and its

desires will be granted.' Secretary Wilson recalls the fact that he was one of the earliest members of the Order in the great state of Iowa, and Assistant Secretary Brigham retains the deep interest developed by nine years' service as its National leader. We were consulted upon various lines of work now carried on by this great department of the national government, and upon its effect in various sections of the country, which it is not necessary to mention in detail. The cordial relations existing between the Department of Agriculture and the Grange are of mutual advantage in the great work of advancing the interests of American agriculture."

The Grange indorsed governmental improvement of the Ohio river from Pittsburgh to Cairo. Congress was urged to increase the appropriation for agricultural experiment stations. The teaching of agriculture in state normal schools was indorsed. The giving of free passes by railroads was condemned. A literary test for immigrants was indorsed. The establishment of a "parcels post" was demanded.

When the time came for electing a member of the Executive Committee to succeed J. J. Woodman, the following brief letter from him was read: "Having been honored by the National Grange with official responsibilities for a number of years, and having endeavored to discharge every duty imposed upon me with fidelity, and guard every interest of the Order according to the best of my ability, I thank the National Grange for the confidence reposed in me, and am now ready to retire from official responsibilities."

Frank A. Derthick of Ohio was elected a member of the Committee.

F. P. Wolcott of Kentucky offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

"For six years beginning with 1875, Brother J. J. Woodman represented the state of Michigan in the National Grange. His ability as a parliamentarian and his substantial character as a man earned for him in 1877 the honorable and responsible position of Overseer of this body, an office he was permitted to fill for only two years. At the session of 1879, having proved his ability in other stations, he was advanced to the chair of the Worthy Mas-

ter, which he occupied with honor to himself and the Order of Patrons of Husbandry for a period of six years.

"Though his term as Master of Michigan State Grange had expired in 1881, Brother Woodman could not be spared by the National Grange, and when his period of service as Master of the National Grange ended in 1885 he was promptly elected a member of the Executive Committee and made Secretary of that body. For seventeen years he has continued to hold that important position, all the while having almost entire charge of the finances of the Grange and handling the money with strict fidelity and rare business ability.

"Now our honored brother has voluntarily declined a position that had come to be regarded as his as long as he should be willing to accept it. His record is without a parallel in our history. For twenty-nine successive sessions he has been an active and influential member of this body, at every session presenting an important address or report. He has been our Hamilton as a financier, our Jefferson as a parliamentarian, and our Marshall as an expounder of our fundamental law."

The National Grange presented Mr. Woodman with a gold-headed cane, and Secretary Trimble made the presentation speech. Mr. Trimble said:

"Dear and esteemed Brother Woodman, when I gave it a second thought I saw that it was right and seemly that you and I should meet face to face here tonight in presence of the National Grange, the true spirit of our fraternity. Many, many years have we labored together in the interests of the dear old Grange, which no one loves nor can love more sincerely than you have loved and will love it.

"My associations with you, my Brother, have been more intimate and continuous, I am sure, than with any other member of the Order—on official business, in which they hold you for your high sense of honor, for the signally successful administration of the finances of the Order and for your never-failing love and devotion to it.

"The Grange has honored you in the past, and you have conferred equal honor on the Grange. The members of the Order have and will love and honor you in the future, and we invoke God's richest blessing on you and yours, and we wish that you may live a long and happy life.

"I found you, when I took the office of Secretary, a true friend and faithful adviser—and I needed such; always willing, always patient in aiding and abetting me. If I have succeeded, even

partially, in fulfilling the duties of my office, I am largely indebted to Brother Woodman."

Mr. Woodman said in reply:

"Brothers and sisters, almost from the beginning I have worked over this, our beloved Order. I have seen it grow from nothing until 2,400 Subordinate Granges had been organized, with a membership of hundreds of thousands. I have seen the Order when its receipts for State Grange dues amounted to \$40,000 to \$50,000, and I have known it when the receipts from that source were less than \$500. I have known it when it had \$60,000 in government bonds, and I have known it when it had to sell its bonds year after year to pay the annual expenses. That we had to do until 1882, when the change for the better had come to stay. I have known the National Grange when but fourteen Subordinate Granges were organized during the year. But the Grange has always some money in its treasury.

"There was a time when all the farmers' organizations in the country were called together in order to form a great farmers' association. The proposition was made to us that we change our name and join forces with these other organizations to form one grand farmers' fraternity that should cover the whole country; that we should no more be called the Patrons of Husbandry. It was found that the Patrons were the only organization that had any money in their treasury, and that the other organizations had nothing to offer us in exchange for our glorious principles and \$50,000 in our treasury. We said to them that all the seeds of dissolution had never been planted in our organic law, and that we had no desire to abandon the cause we loved so well. Other societies have sprung up, flourished and gone down, while today our organization is the only farmers' organization that has a national existence; and it will live and continue to grow and spread until all over this land of ours the beneficent influences of our principles shall be felt for the uplifting of man. There is a bright future for us if we are true to our Order and true to our God."

This proved to be the last session of the National Grange that either Woodman or Trimble ever attended. Mr. Woodman lived for several years, but Mr. Trimble died in about six weeks after this pleasant event.

The thirty-seventh session of the National Grange met in Rochester, N. Y., November 11 to 20, 1903.

All the officers were present. Twenty-six states were represented by the same delegates as at the last session, with the following exceptions: California, Harry C. and Mrs. Raap; Rhode Island, F. E. and Mrs. Marchant. This was the smallest number of changes ever made in the delegates from State Granges to a session of the National Grange.

Worthy Master Jones, in his broad-minded way, in his "address" dwelt upon such subjects as extension of the Order, the press, field meetings, co-operation, agriculture, rural mail delivery, postal savings banks, postal telegraph and telephone service, and forestry. After giving some statistics showing the great value of good roads, he said: "There is no more profitable investment of money, nor a more just one, than that government and state aid should be rendered to develop a complete and perfect system of country roads, and stop the useless waste of labor and money annually in filling mud holes and grading undrained country roads, and the waste of energy in hauling over unnecessarily steep grades. The time is here when farmers, for all they have done in building railroads, improving rivers and harbors, in the interest of commerce, in fostering manufacturing, and making possible our great towns and cities, should receive liberal aid in building good roads, enhancing the value of all real estate, and adding to the attractions of our matchless country."

On the subject of education he said:

"It has been repeatedly urged by the National, State and Subordinate Granges that nature studies and the elementary principles of agriculture should be taught in our public schools. We note that public opinion is becoming more and more pronounced each year in this matter, and believe in the near future this feature will become a part of our public school system, to the very great advantage of agriculture and the entire community. Every Grange in the United States should, in fact and in practice, be a school for the practical demonstration of the possibilities of the farms of its members—should be a farmers' institute,

a literary society teaching practical agriculture and developing trained minds. And, in addition, each Grange should be a school where grace and ease of manner and all the forms of polite society be exemplified. What higher commendation could be asked than that all the members should, in their Grange, in their homes and in their lives teach the great lessons of gentility, industry, frugality, and characterize all their acts with fidelity?"

The report of the Treasurer showed total receipts, \$47,172.05; total expenditures, \$27,891.27; leaving a balance in Trust Company of \$19,280.78.

The Executive Committee said in its report:

"The Committee met on the first day of January, 1903, in the city of Washington, called there by Worthy Master Aaron Jones to pay our tribute of respect and fraternal admiration for our Secretary John Trimble, who died on the Tuesday morning previous at his home in that city.

"January 3, at 10 A. M., he was quietly laid to rest under the auspices of the Order he loved so well, Assistant Secretary of Department of Agriculture, Brother J. H. Brigham, Master of Maryland State Grange Joseph B. Ager, and your Committee, being honorary pall bearers.

The committee had appointed as Secretary C. M. Freeman of Ohio, to fill the unexpired term of John Trimble.

The property of the National Grange consisted of twenty-nine farm mortgages, amounting to \$44,322.50; deposits in savings banks, \$7,793.15; total investments October 1, 1903, \$52,115.65; amount in fiscal agency, \$19,280.78; or total available funds of \$71,396.43; showing an increase of funds during the fiscal year of \$6,467.87.

Secretary C. M. Freeman reported three hundred and twenty-nine dispensations were issued in the year.

O. H. Kelley, the only surviving member of the honored seven Founders of the Order, was introduced by Worthy Lecturer Bachelder and Worthy Chaplain Thompson. He was greeted by Worthy Master Jones with a few feeling and touching remarks,

and presented to the National Grange, which responded with a hearty ovation. Mr. Kelley responded as follows:

“Worthy Master and Patrons: I thank you for the many compliments which I have received. The general who plans the battle becomes the hero if successful, but do not forget the men behind the guns, for they are the ones who win the victory. Great credit is due the Deputies and Masters of Subordinate Granges.

“The magnificent Order of today is far different from the raw recruits that I drummed up. You have systematized the work and made it the marvel of all agricultural organizations.

“But remember this, the magnet that holds the Order together is the female membership—where you find noble women, there you will find noble men. Again I thank you.”

Worthy Master Jones announced a reception to Mr. Kelley immediately after the close of morning session.

The Worthy Master, in a few well-chosen remarks, introduced Worthy Past Master J. H. Brigham, and present Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, who, after receiving a hearty ovation from the National Grange, spoke pleasantly and acceptably for half an hour, both as a member of the Order and a representative of the National Department of Agriculture, which department he came to represent by direction of Secretary James Wilson.

Prof. L. H. Bailey of Cornell University, and Geo. M. Whittaker, Inspector of the Dairy Division of the Department of Agriculture, addressed the body. On invitation of the National Grange Susan B. Anthony came before the Grange and delivered what is said to have been her last public address.

An unusual event was the golden wedding, the following account of which is taken from the Journal:

“On Tuesday evening, November 17, 1903, from 8 to 12 o'clock, a golden opportunity was afforded the officers and members of the National Grange by Brother Joseph B. and Sister Jane B. Ager of Maryland, who celebrated their fiftieth wed-

ding anniversary in the parlors of the famous caterer Tael, of Rochester. An elaborate dinner was served, and mingling with the sweet strains of music rendered by the orchestra were the merry voices of 100 guests. With Brother Gardner as toastmaster and Brothers Jones, Bachelder, Horton, Norris, Wilson and Atkeson and Sisters Martha M. Wilson and B. B. Lord as after-dinner speakers, aided by the genial host and hostess, a rich fraternal program was rendered."

The National Grange favored arbitration and condemned the war spirit, as follows:

"From the earliest history of the Order the Grange has advocated arbitration, and we believe that in the enlightenment of this the twentieth century all international differences should be settled by arbitration instead of resorting to arms and the shedding of blood.

"We deplore the continued prevalence of the military spirit, and feel the fallacy of the claim that extensive preparation for war is the best means of preserving peace, for nations thus prepared are like pugilists in the ring, watching for an opportunity to strike an effective blow. It must be remembered that war does not settle disputes, but after nations engage in it, frequently sacrificing thousands of lives and millions of money, a commission is appointed to make satisfactory articles of agreement.

"The war spirit is encouraged and fostered by the training of boys in military tactics as practiced in many schools. We believe that such training should cease, and in its stead the principles of virtue and peace implanted, and they should be taught that a nation's greatness and power do not lie in its arsenals and great naval fleets, but in the honesty, sobriety, integrity, morality and intelligence of the great mass of her people."

On Memorial Sunday Worthy Lecturer N. J. Bachelder said of Mr. Trimble:

"I first met Brother Trimble at the session of the National Grange in Boston in 1884, when I assisted him in the Secretary's office, and in the same capacity at several succeeding sessions. You knew him so well that no words of mine can add to your respect for his memory and regard for his principles of honesty and integrity. No person of greater culture and refinement or of more liberal education ever honored an office in this National Grange, and a more true and loyal friend never was found anywhere. Whether in the performance of his duties as Secretary of this organization, in his obligations to his church, or in the sacred duties of home caring for an invalid wife, he was the

same embodiment of promptness, loyalty and devotion. The sincerity of any statement made by Brother Trimble was never questioned, and his intense desire to wrong no one was well known by all who knew him.

"In paying this loving tribute to the memory of good Brother Trimble I am moved to speak of the eminent success of his life. This success was not marked by the accumulation of riches or the attainment of high official distinction, but by the consciousness of having lived a pure, honest, Christian life for the good of those with whom he associated, which at the last moment was worth more to him than all the wealth and all the honor the world could bestow. The influence of such a life for good is greater than any profession of goodness and intensifies the sadness at the final parting. The memory of such a life is a greater legacy than wealth or renown.

"It is eminently fitting that the members of the National Grange express their deep sorrow at the death of a brother and associate who has participated with them in similar exercises on so many Sunday afternoons. We miss his inspiring presence and noble example, and will never forget his characteristic, 'Good-by, God bless you,' at the close of the session of the National Grange at Lansing, Mich.

"With softened hearts and tearful eyes we pay this tribute to his memory. Similar services will be held on Sunday of the National Grange session year after year. Some of us may participate and some of us may be called to the eternal home even before another session. It will be well if it can be said of us, as we truly say of our departed brother, he did what he could to make the world better, and those with whom he associated happier by kind words, good deeds and exemplary character. The example of such a life will count for more in the betterment of the world and the uplift of humanity than can be measured or stated. We mourn the loss of a true, noble, loving brother and associate."

It was ordered "that hereafter at National Grange sessions all standing committees shall consist of six members, one-half of whom shall be of either sex."

The Grange went on record in support of government aid for roads in this form:

"Whereas, the United States government has expended vast amounts of money in the improvement of transportation facilities by river and harbor appropriations and the donation of vast tracts of valuable land in aid of the construction of railroads; therefore be it

“Resolved, That the National Grange favors the inauguration of a national policy for the improvement of highways, and the appropriation by Congress of a liberal amount to establish a comprehensive system of road improvements through the co-operation of the federal and state governments, suggesting that the general features of what is termed the ‘Brownlow bill’ embody with some modifications the essential features of such a policy.”

It also indorsed this:

“Whereas the National Grange favors every means for the education of the farmers’ sons and daughters, and

“Whereas but a small per cent of farmers’ children are enabled to attend our state agricultural colleges; therefore be it

“Resolved, That the National Grange favors the plan of agricultural district or county high schools.”

C. J. Bell, Vermont, was re-elected a member of the Executive Committee. After the election Secretary Freeman asked the privilege of moving the Secretary’s office from Washington, D. C., to his home at Tippicanoe City, O. After a warm discussion, by a rather close vote the privilege was granted. The expediency of this move was decidedly doubtful, overriding as it did a strong sentiment which has always existed in favor of maintaining Grange headquarters at the National Capital.

CHAPTER XXI

Aaron Jones' Administration—Fourth and Last Term Two Years, 1904-1905—Thirty-Eighth and Thirty- Ninth Sessions of the National Grange

Meeting for the second time on the Pacific coast, the thirty-eighth session of the National Grange assembled at Portland, Ore., November 16 to 25, 1904.

All the officers elected at the last session were present.

Master—Aaron Jones, Indiana.

Overseer—T. C. Atkeson, West Virginia.

Lecturer—N. J. Bachelder, New Hampshire.

Steward—J. A. Newcomb, Colorado.

Assistant Steward—Geo. W. F. Gaunt, New Jersey.

Chaplain—W. K. Thompson, South Carolina.

Treasurer—Mrs. Eva S. McDowell, New York.

Secretary—C. M. Freeman, Ohio

Gatekeeper—B. C. Patterson, Connecticut.

Ceres—Mrs. Martha M. Wilson, Illinois.

Flora—Mrs. Pauline S. Raine, Missouri.

Pomona—Mrs. E. M. Derby, Delaware.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. Laura T. Raap, California.

Executive Committee—E. B. Norris, Chairman, New York;

C. J. Bell, Secretary, Vermont; F. A. Derthick, Ohio.

Twenty-five states were represented as follows: California, Mrs. Laura T. Raap; Colorado, J. A. and Mrs. Newcomb; Connecticut, Orson and Mrs. Wood; Delaware, S. H. and Mrs. Derby; Illinois, Oliver and Mrs. Wilson; Indiana, Aaron and Mrs. Jones; Kansas, E. W. Westgate; Maine, O. and Mrs. Gardner; Massachusetts, Geo. S. and Mrs. Ladd; Maryland, J. B. and Mrs. Ager; Michigan, Geo. B. and Mrs. Horton; Minnesota, Sarah G. and Mr. Baird; Missouri, C. O. and Mrs. Raine; New Hampshire, H. O. and Mrs. Hadley; New Jersey, G. W. F. and Mrs. Gaunt; New York, E. B. and Mrs. Norris; Ohio, F. A. and Mrs.

Derthick; Oregon, B. G. and Mrs. Leedy; Pennsylvania, W. F. and Mrs. Hill; Rhode Island, F. E. and Mrs. Marchant; South Carolina, W. K. and Mrs. Thompson; Vermont, C. J. and Mrs. Bell; Washington, J. O. Wing; West Virginia, T. C. and Mrs. Atkeson; Wisconsin, A. C. and Mrs. Powers.

Worthy Master Jones delivered his seventh "annual address," which eloquently set forth the achievement and policies of the Grange. He declared:

"Our Order is a national one, national in all its work, knowing no north, no south, no east, no west. United by the silken cord of fraternity, it is laboring to make happier and more prosperous homes on the hills and in the valleys of New England, amid the sugar, rice and cotton fields of the South, the corn, wheat and pastoral lands of the central states, as well as to increase the sunshine and prosperity of the farm homes of our brothers and sisters who live in the fertile valleys fanned by the breezes of the Pacific Ocean. It is the purpose of this great fraternity to increase happiness in the 5,800,000 farm homes, and make agriculture more prosperous in all parts of our glorious country. It has still higher and grander objects, among which are to elevate the standard of intelligence among the farming population and to inspire in them more exalted ideas of citizenship.

"This organization is one of the great educational forces that teaches, among other things, that honesty, fair dealing, giving value received in all exchanges, industry, frugality and thrift, and observing the Golden Rule, are essential characteristics of good citizenship, setting its seal of condemnation on all forms of fraudulent practices, extortion or robbery, whether done under the forms of law, by combination, monopoly, or trust methods, or by the more vulgar practice of common stealing, thus building up a public sentiment that will ostracize the man or corporation that amasses millions of dollars in any other way than honorable methods, based on the principle of giving value received for all labor or articles of value.

"In the matter of the distribution and sale of the products of the farm, we confront the most difficult problem connected with the successful management of the farm. The members of the Grange must courageously grapple with this problem. Conditions will never become better until the farmers devise better and more economic methods than now in use.

"A generation has passed, crowded with greater advancement than any similar period in the world's history, since

our organization was founded to meet conditions essential to public welfare. It was consecrated to develop the best social conditions, to foster and promote good citizenship, to develop agriculture, to secure equity in the business relations of the agricultural classes with the industrial and commercial interests of our country. It has gone steadily forward on its mission, its standard has been held high by clean hands and honest hearts of good men and women devoted to principle above sordid and selfish ambitions."

Overseer T. C. Atkeson in his report used the following language, which undoubtedly expressed the Grange sentiment on the subject of war:

"The ambitious policies of two nations have clashed and thousands of human beings are being sacrificed. More powerful than all the arguments of peace congresses, this frightful war is creating sentiment for peace. Their hearts hardened by ambition and their ears stopped by selfish jealousies, the nations of the world have been indifferent to the appeals of humanity and common sense. It may be that sheer horror will accomplish what reason has failed to do.

"The war between Russia and Japan is giving a picture of war as seen in General Sherman's characterization, and the whole world now realizes the butchery of modern warfare. Already tens of thousands of human beings have been slain, tens of thousands more have been maimed by wounds or stricken by disease, and the titanic struggle goes on. It has become simply and solely a test of brute strength and savagery. No one with a spark of humanity can read the stories without revulsion.

"At the last session of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a Committee on International and Industrial Peace said in its report: 'History is the record of human slaughter. Ambition, greed and despotic power of the ruler have armed nation against nation in exterminating wars. It has been the business of one-third of the human race to mutilate and kill their fellow-men. The making of deadly engines of war has absorbed the time and talents of some of the ablest of men. In all the leading nations of the Old World great standing armies are intolerable burdens upon the people. It is estimated that one-eighth of the human race have been killed in war, and that it has left another eighth maimed and mangled wrecks of humanity. Widows and orphans have been left desolate and unprotected. Hosts of physical and moral cripples have been scattered over the land. Pension lists have grown to enormous

proportions under the tap of the drum and the blare of bands. These physical wrecks are only half the story. War demoralizes a country and turns in upon half the nations streams of impurity, intemperance, gambling, ruffianism, and all other vices generated in its cruel sweep.' How true is this horrible picture!

"Agriculture is an occupation of peace and thrives only under peaceful conditions. The Grange stands for peace, equity and justice, and has always advocated arbitration as the best means of settling industrial or international disputes. The true spirit of the Grange can but deprecate any and everything that tends to develop the war spirit in our own country.

"I fully agree with the sentiment Wayne MacVeigh expressed before the Boston Peace Conference: 'For a hundred and twenty years the Republic prospered beyond any poet's dream. It was then a world-power in a true sense, because it represented to all nations the strength and glory of liberty and peace. Surely even the most militant person cannot doubt that our present army and navy are more than ample for our defense, as no country in the world is in the least danger of provoking war with us. It is therefore not unreasonable to ask that the preparations for wars which can never happen, except by our own fault, should cease, and that we should devote ourselves again to our true mission, that of commending by our example free institutions to other nations; and if we have any surplus treasure let us expend it in lightening the expenses and burdens of those whose days are given to toil, and into whose lives enters far too little of brightness and joy.' Alas, how far have we wandered from the idea here expressed!

"No observant citizen can doubt but that the spirit of militarism is greatly on the increase in our own country; and between the growth of colossal fortunes on the one side and militarism on the other, the great mass of our citizenship may well look to the future with some degree of solicitude. The liberties of a free people have never been overthrown except by one or the other of these influences or the two combined.

"The Grange should give forth no uncertain sound in its demands for peace, and its influence should always be found supporting all things that make for peace, love, justice and mercy, among our great citizenship. One of the nation's greatest warriors said: 'Let us have peace,' and I reiterate the sentiment.

"That we may have peace let us have less of the getting ready for war, and just why the science of war should be yoked up with the science of agriculture in our agricultural colleges has never been clear to me, and has always seemed like an effort to convert the implements of peace into the implements of war. The

two things do not mix well together in the schools or in the country. May the Grange ever teach the Christian doctrine, 'Peace on earth, good will to man!'"

The Treasurer's report showed the total receipts, \$52,716.85; total expenditures, \$32,225.93; leaving a balance in Trust Company of \$20,490.92.

The Secretary reported that 281 new Granges had been organized and 82 dormant Granges reorganized during the year.

The Grange went on record against the sale of cigarettes; strongly favoring a parcels post; against free passes; favoring a standardized, galvanized fence wire; against congressional seed distribution; and on many other public questions.

For the first time since 1873 no proposition to change the Constitution was proposed, indicating that the Order was at last becoming satisfied with the form of its organic law.

Past Master J. H. Brigham had died during the year, and impressive services were held on Sunday in memory of members of the National Grange who had passed away. In opening these services Worthy Master Jones said:

"Among those who have been called away was my honored and loved predecessor, Col. J. H. Brigham. And well do I remember the last time he presided on a similar occasion. His stalwart form and strong, deep voice was tender and full of feeling. I deem it fitting and appropriate to address you in the language used by him seven years ago in the city of Harrisburg, Pa. He said in part: 'We have stood by the bed of sickness and death with outstretched hands, with earnest prayer, to save, but all in vain. Our friends go hence and we know nothing of the mysteries of death. Is it a dreamless, eternal sleep, or but the gateway to another broader and higher life beyond the mists and clouds that still veil from mortal eye the Great Beyond? Are the friends who have left us clothed in bright raiment not made with hands? Truly the brightness of the eternal morning transfigures them. They sing sweet songs in a land of light and love we do not know. The keenest vision cannot penetrate the darkness that engulfs our loved at the portals of death. No mor-

tal ear can catch the strain of music from that far-off land. We cannot hear the rustle of the glorious raiment of the redeemed. All this is hidden from mortal eyes. So far as absolute knowledge extends, all is darkness and doubt, but we are not without hope. Our faith reaches beyond the night of death, and takes hold of the promises of the Great Father of all. When we annually look upon the wondrous transformation of the material universe; when we see the grass turn brown and die, the flowers fade away, and the trees deprived of their foliage, the whole earth locked in the icy arms of what seems to be actual death, we would be in despair had not experience taught us that life follows closely upon the track of death and decay. Spring comes again, with its warm, life-giving power, and the earth is once more clothed in an "emerald carpet." The flowers bloom again, fresh and fair. The trees unfurl their banner of green and all nature pulsates with new and vigorous life. May we not hope, then, and believe with an unshaken faith that what we call death is but the change from a lower life of toil and sorrow to a higher, broader and grander life in that land where no sorrow is, where death cannot separate us from loved ones?"

Many other members gave expression of the high esteem in which Past Master Brigham and the other deceased brothers and sisters were held by the membership of the Order.

The thirty-ninth session of the National Grange assembled in Casino Hall, on one of the piers jutting out over the Atlantic Ocean at Atlantic City, N. J., November 15 to 23, 1905. All the officers were present and twenty-six states were represented by the same delegates as at the last session, except as follows: California, W. V. and Mrs. Griffith; Kentucky, F. P. and Mrs. Wolcott; Delaware, Henry and Mrs. Walker; Washington, C. B. and Mrs. Kegley.

Worthy Master Jones had publicly announced at the time of his last election that he would not be a candidate for re-election. He delivered at this session his eighth and last "annual address," of which the concluding paragraphs follow:

"Eight years ago I was elected Master of the National Grange—an honor, I assure you, I have always appreciated most highly.

During this time I have tried to be loyal to agriculture and to discharge the duties imposed by this Order, faithfully. These duties were easy and pleasant, made so by the fraternal courtesy and loyal support given to me by the members.

"The Order has prospered during this period, having made a net gain of membership of 78 per cent and a net increase of the funds of the National Grange of 68 per cent. This gratifying success and prosperity came to the Order, not from any merit of mine, but on account of the united efforts of its members. No factional, sectional or partisan prejudices obtain in the Order to weaken its influence and power. It has been the pleasure of our members to contribute what they could to increase the prosperity and happiness of each other, to elevate agriculture, promote general prosperity, improve society, make brighter, happier and more sunny farm homes in all parts of our country.

"This session closes my official term. I return to you the gavel and other insignia of office and shall take my place as a humble member with the great army of Patrons of Husbandry. I need not bespeak for my successor the same loyal and cordial support and courtesy you have extended to me. Your devotion to the Order will inspire you to continue in the future as in the past to loyally support the officers chosen to preside over your deliberation, make more effective their efforts to extend, improve and strengthen the Order, that its helpful influence may be felt in every farm home in our land.

"As the years come and go industries of our country will prosper and decline, fortunes will be made and lost. Even government may change its form, but so long as the world stands agriculture will be the foundation of national wealth and prosperity."

Below is given Treasurer Eva S. McDowell's complete report :

Balance in the fiscal agency, October 1, 1904-----	\$20,490.92
Secretary, as receipts in Secretary's office-----	7,893.98
Deposited by Farmers' Loan and Trust Co., interest on account -----	461.01
Deposited by E. S. McDowell, Treasurer, int. on notes -----	2,469.77
Deposited by E. S. McDowell, Treasurer, pay- ment on notes-----	6,066.25
Deposited by Treasurers of State Granges for dues--	14,932.28
Total -----	\$52,314.21

CONTRA

Drawn for mileage and per diem, 38th session-----	\$11,134.77
Drawn by order of the Executive Committee-----	14,561.51
Balance with the Farmers' Loan and Trust Co., Sep- tember 30, 1905-----	26,617.93
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Total -----	\$52,314.21
Total Resources of the National Grange on October 1, 1905	
Balance in Farmers' Loan and Trust Co. -----	\$26,617.93
Deposits in savings banks with accrued interest-----	13,336.33
Loans on real estate, with accrued interest-----	47,458.20
Unexpended Deputy fee fund -----	375.80
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Total -----	\$87,788.26
Total resources, 1904-----	\$79,510.00

This shows an increase during the year of \$8,278.26.

The Secretary reported 209 new Granges organized and 65 dormant Granges reorganized. The only change made in officers' salaries was to increase the Treasurer's salary from \$400 to \$500 per year.

F. P. Wolcott of Kentucky introduced the following, which speaks for itself:

"Whereas, It is known to members of our Order everywhere that all but one of the seven founders of the Grange organization have passed to their rest and their reward, and that, in the changes and vicissitudes of life, our dearly beloved and honored brother, O. H. Kelley, to whom, beyond all others, we owe a debt of gratitude which can never be fully measured or repaid by this or succeeding generations, and over whose head more than four score years have passed, is, with his dependent family, in need of the fraternal care of this organization; and

"Whereas, We as individuals and as an organization, are bound by our obligation, re-affirmed at every Grange meeting, that we will 'exemplify in our lives, our principles,' 'in faith, in hope, in charity and with fidelity,' therefore be it

"Resolved, By the National Grange, in thirty-ninth annual session assembled, that, as a partial token of our appreciation as an organization of the great work done for agriculture and humanity by Brother O. H. Kelley, the sum of \$100 be paid to Brother Kelley from the funds of the National Grange on the first day of each month during the remainder of his natural life."

After an amendment, providing for the payment of

\$50 semi-monthly, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

Later the Worthy Gatekeeper announced the arrival of Mr. Kelley, and the Worthy Master welcomed him to the National Grange. Mr. Wolcott most earnestly and eloquently presented to Mr. Kelley a tribute for his life work in building the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, and assured him of the love and esteem with which he was held by the members of the National Grange and the Granges of America, notified him of the action of the National Grange in his behalf and expressed the wish that his remaining years would be full of good cheer and comfort.

Mr. Kelley expressed his appreciation of the warm welcome given him and the interest manifested for his welfare. He wished the Order continued success for the remainder of time.

The denatured alcohol question was taken up, and the National Grange earnestly requested Congress to remove the revenue tax from alcohol rendered unfit for use as a beverage. It was believed that this would open up an immense industry and afford a cheap and safe means of light, heat and power. The Grange stuck to this proposition until Congress enacted the desired legislation, but for some reason it has not brought the marvelous blessings which were claimed. The future may redeem the promise made for it.

The Committee on Education reported that:

"Through the influence of the Grange and other educational influences among the farmers themselves, the agricultural colleges and the farmers are beginning to understand each other better. Just as the colleges realize the conditions as they exist, and the farmers appreciate the need of better preparation for the profession of agriculture, will the attendance continue to increase. There should be a medium somewhere in educational ethics where the colleges and the farmers can meet on equal and harmonious ground. The true philosopher will seek to find the means of bringing the benefactors and the beneficiaries together. Any other policy works injury to both."

All subsequent experience has shown that this conclusion was correct, and the agricultural colleges throughout the country have learned a wholesome lesson of co-operation. The Grange indorsed the Adams bill giving additional financial support to the agricultural experiment stations. The policy of utilizing convict labor on the public roads was heartily indorsed, and many states have since adopted the policy.

An amendment to the By-Laws was adopted "debaring from further fellowship any member of the Order who engages in the manufacture of intoxicating liquors." From the beginning the Grange has been strongly committed against the liquor traffic, and it has many times gone on record on the side of prohibition.

Once more the Grange declared in favor of a "parcels post."

Whereas, The Postoffice Department of the United States government is admirably organized and equipped to perform at reasonable rates the services so expensively performed by the express companies, being particularly well prepared to deliver packages of considerable size (as well as the matter now carried) to people who live along the rural mail routes; be it

Resolved, That for the purpose of serving the people more cheaply, more efficiently and without discrimination, the Postoffice Department should be authorized and directed by Congress to provide for the carrying of parcels at a reasonable rate to any and all people in the United States."

Worthy Master Jones having declared his purpose to retire, the election of his successor excited more interest than usual. The officers were elected and installed.

In behalf of the National Grange, and as a token of love and esteem from the entire membership of the Order, Mr. Gaunt presented to Mr. and Mrs. Jones a silver tea service.

"Eight years have passed since you were elected Worthy Master of the National Grange. During this period you have won the confidence and love, not only

of the members of the National Grange, but of all the Patrons of Husbandry throughout our land.

“Whatever prosperity may be in store for our Order in the future, the administration of Aaron Jones must ever stand pre-eminent, and now, Worthy Master, as a slight token of our appreciation of your loyalty to the Order, and your friendship to ourselves, allow me to present you this tea service; and as you drink of its good cheer may it remind you of the love and the sincere respect of the members of the National Grange for you and your good wife.”

CHAPTER XXII

N. J. Bachelder's Administration—First Term, Two Years, 1906-1907—Fortieth and Forty-First Sessions of the National Grange

Following a year of active work and Grange prosperity under the new administration, the National Grange met in fortieth annual session in the Chamber of Commerce, Denver, Col., November 14 to 23, 1906. The officers, elected for 1906-1907, were all present:

Master—N. J. Bachelder, New Hampshire.

Overseer—T. C. Atkeson, West Virginia.

Lecturer—Geo. W. F. Gaunt, New Jersey.

Steward—J. A. Newcomb, Colorado.

Assistant Steward—F. E. Marchant, Rhode Island.

Chaplain—W. K. Thompson, South Carolina.

Treasurer—Mrs. Eva S. McDowell, New York.

Secretary—C. M. Freeman, Ohio.

Gatekeeper—A. C. Powers, Wisconsin.

Ceres—Mrs. C. R. F. Ladd, Massachusetts.

Flora—Mrs. Amanda M. Horton, Michigan.

Pomona—Mrs. Sarah G. Baird, Minnesota.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. Joanna Walker, Delaware.

Executive Committee—E. B. Norris, chairman, New York; C. J. Bell, Secretary, Vermont; F. A. Derthick, Ohio.

The following twenty-four states were represented: California, W. V. and Mrs. Griffith; Colorado, J. A. and Mrs. Newcomb; Connecticut, O. S. and Mrs. Wood; Delaware, Hervey and Mrs. Walker; Illinois, Oliver and Mrs. Wilson; Indiana, Aaron and Mrs. Jones; Kansas, E. W. and Mrs. Westgate; Maine, O. and Mrs. Gardner; Massachusetts, C. D. and Mrs. Richardson; Maryland, J. B. and Mrs. Ager; Michigan, Geo. B. and Mrs. Horton; Minnesota, Sarah G. and Mr. Baird; Missouri, C. O. and Mrs. Raine; New Hampshire, H. O. and Mrs. Hadley; New Jersey, Geo.

W. F. and Mrs. Gaunt; New York, Geo. A. and Mrs. Fuller; Ohio, F. A. Derthick; Oregon, A. T. and Mrs. Buxton; Pennsylvania, W. F. and Mrs. Hill; Rhode Island, F. E. and Mrs. Marchant; Vermont, C. J. and Mrs. Bell; Washington, C. B. and Mrs. Kegley; West Virginia, T. C. and Mrs. Atkeson; Wisconsin, A. C. and Mrs. Powers.

This was the first session over which N. J. Bachelder presided as Worthy Master, and, as usual with a new Master, the membership felt some solicitude as to what he would say in his first "annual address." In a large measure these "addresses" have presented the correct history of the Order and furnished the inspiration and impulse of the membership. Few "annual addresses" have shown a wider comprehension of the work and policies of the Order than this.

"The condition of the Grange throughout the country is prosperous. The constantly expanding influence of the Grange and the greater publicity thereby given to its action renders the conditions more favorable for the extension of the Order. A sound financial condition is as essential to the welfare of organizations as individuals. Agriculture is the most important industry in the country today, because it is a productive industry. The present seems to be the opportune time for the extension of a popular life insurance movement throughout the United States. A bill embodying the principles of national aid for public highways as approved by the Grange was introduced into Congress. A denatured alcohol law has passed Congress providing for the use, entirely free from tax, of domestic alcohol rendered unsuitable for internal use. The evidence submitted to Congress during the past year has been amply sufficient to convince every member of that body that the farmers of the entire country are a unit in their desire for the early establishment of a parcels post. The Grange was enabled to perform last winter a most important service in preventing the enactment of the notorious 'ship subsidy' bill. Transportation should be made to serve the people, and not the people made to serve the interests of transportation. The Grange has received much assistance from the friendly attitude of the press in all sections of the country. The rural mail delivery service, largely promoted by the Grange, has been well established throughout the United States. The free distribution of seeds by the government may have been defensible

at the time it was established, but changed conditions now make it little less than farcical. Along the line of legislation the influence of the Grange has been exerted for many years, molding public opinion and crystallizing it into laws, for the benefit of agriculture, the farmers and the people in general."

He concluded with many suggestions for the general welfare of the Order. Because of its relation to Grange principles, the following extract from the Worthy Overseer's report is included:

"Early in its history the Grange declared that 'we propose meeting together, talking together, buying together, selling together, and in general, acting together for our mutual protection and advancement as occasion may require.' These sound economic propositions, and broader principles of education and co-operation, as laid down in our 'Declaration of Purposes,' have stood the test of time, and, founded upon them, the Grange has withstood the assaults of opposing forces for forty years.

"First one and then another of the fundamental propositions laid down by the Grange have been exploited as a 'cure all' for all the ills that assail the tillers of the soil. Just now the good old Grange doctrine of 'selling together' seems to be attracting special attention, and I am sure every true Patron will rejoice at the accomplishment of this wholesome doctrine, whatever the means used to bring it about.

"The Grange is a builder, and would rather place one brick in the temple of genuine usefulness than to destroy a castle of errors. From the farmer's standpoint it is a safer doctrine to oppose all monopolies than it is to seek to create one.

"We are proud of the Grange, of its principles, of the record it has made, and of its deliberate conservatism. But, my brethren, someone has said: 'A conservative is a wallflower specimen of humanity too cowardly to be in the firing line.' And again it has been said, 'There is altogether too much restfulness in respectability,' both of which statements possess some elements of truth.

"The Grange should remember its respectability, but keep wide awake at all times, and it should be guided by the safe conservatism of sound thinking; but eminent respectability and sound thinking alone will not do if we are 'too cowardly to be in the firing line.' The Grange will cease to be what it was designed to be whenever it ceases to be a progressive and aggressive leader in everything that makes for the betterment of country life and rural conditions.

"We are living in strenuous times, and many new sociological and economic problems are crowding upon us and demanding solution and settlement at the hands of this generation of American people. As the representative of more than one-third of our population this National Grange must decide how much responsibility it will take in the settlement of these questions aright.

"With the law-ignoring rich on one side of us, and the government-destroying anarchists on the other, it is manifest that the perpetuity of American liberty depends largely upon the sober thinking, loyalty and patriotism of our rural people, for whom and to whom the Grange speaks in its effort to create a wholesome public sentiment. The responsibility upon this body of farmers is greater than many good people seem to appreciate. With that responsibility resting upon us as farmers and as citizens, nothing should be done lightly or carelessly, but with seriousness and mature deliberation."

Worthy Treasurer Eva S. McDowell reported the total resources of the National Grange, October 1, 1906, as follows: Balance with Farmers' Loan & Trust Co, \$20,896.30; deposits in savings banks, with accrued interest, \$13,877.33; railway and other bonds, with accrued interest, \$20,233.31; loans on real estate, with accrued interest, \$39,437.50; unexpended deputy fee fund, \$227.50; a total of \$94,671.94; giving an increase of \$6,883.68 for the year.

The Secretary reported 249 new Granges and 66 dormant Granges reorganized. The Grange favored government aid in the construction of public roads; opposed increase of postage on second-class matter; recommended for careful consideration upon well-matured and carefully guarded plans, the inauguration of co-operative enterprises, such as co-operative creameries, elevators, savings banks, trust companies, building and loan associations, warehouses, Grange fire insurance, co-operative marketing of farm products—but that the Grange as an organization should not become responsible for their management or obligations; favored the enactment of state and national laws restricting the amount of land that may be owned or leased by a single individual or corporation, and that the taxing power be used to

restrict and break up the holding of excessively large quantities of land; favored the placing of a progressive tax upon all fortunes beyond a certain amount, either given in life or devised or bequeathed upon death to any individual—a tax so framed as to put it out of the power of the owner of one of these enormous fortunes to hand more than a certain amount to any one individual; urged Congress to abolish the franking and penalty privileges and require all mail matter to be prepaid at the regular postage rates, as was formerly the law; required the compensation of all officers of the National Grange to be fixed at the session of the biennial election, and prior to the election of said officers—compensation not to be reduced or increased during their term of office; and passed many other resolutions of more or less public interest.

C. J. Bell of Vermont was re-elected a member of the Executive Committee for the term of three years.

The forty-first annual session of the National Grange met at Hartford, Ct., November 13-22, 1907. All the officers were present and twenty-six states were represented, with the following changes since the last session: Kansas, Geo. and Mrs. Black; Maryland, H. J. and Mrs. Patterson; New York, F. N. and Mrs. Godfrey; Vermont, G. W. and Mrs. Pierce; Kentucky, F. P. and Mrs. Wolcott.

The annual address of Worthy Master Bachelder was fully up to the highest standard, discussing in a substantial way the usual Grange topics. On the subject of "Grange Participation in Public Affairs," he said:

"The development of manufacturing, transportation and commercial interests is not only an advantage but a necessity to agriculture, but those interests have no claim for public recognition that take precedence over the claim of agriculture. This statement holds true in regard to the establishment of policies and the enactment of laws. If conditions exist under which the manufacturer, the railroad manager and the merchant can pay

prices for labor in the transaction of their business that the farmer cannot afford to pay there is reason to investigate the cause of such conditions. The advice of those who would limit the work of this great farmers' organization to a study of crop production and stock feeding, important and necessary as these may be, is not suggestive of a deep sincerity for the farmers' interests. It is not wise to leave the management of public affairs affecting agriculture to others, inasmuch as ours is the basic industry upon the prosperity of which prosperity in all other industries depends. The field of study and investigation open to the farmers through this organization is as broad as the field open to any other class of people without infringing in the least upon partisan or sectarian ground. It is not only the farmer's right, but his duty, to engage in a discussion of public matters."

He discussed the "Grange and Trusts" at some length, and said that:

"The National Grange was invited to send delegates to the so-called Trust Conference held under the auspices of the National Civic Federation at Chicago, and were given a place upon the program. As Master of the National Grange, I delivered the address, and at its close introduced the following resolution:

"Resolved, That we recommend to the Congress of the United States the appointment of a permanent, nonpartisan tariff commission, composed of representatives of the agricultural, labor, manufacturing, transportation and commercial interests of the country, whose duty it shall be to examine into all phases of the subject and secure exact information concerning all disputed points and report their findings to Congress at the earliest possible date."

The Grange, in one form and another, had declared in favor of a tariff commission, and it was among the first to advocate such a policy, but always demanded that agriculture and labor should be adequately represented on such "commissions." A tariff commission, dominated by the protected interests, would prove a calamity.

Parcels post and postal savings banks were heartily indorsed by the Worthy Master. In conclusion he gave this account of his activities:

"During the year we have had the honor of accepting an invitation to represent the Grange at the Peace Congress in New York, at the dedication of the Agricultural Building at Cornell University, at a Rural Progress meeting in Massachusetts, at the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of a town in Maine, at the National Tax Conference in Ohio, and at the Anti-Trust Conference in Chicago. We have attended the annual sessions of the State Grange in five states and have attended field and other meetings on invitation of the State Master in seventeen states. We have, as a member of the Legislative Committee, represented the Grange at the White House, before departments of the government, and before committees in both branches of Congress. We have neglected no opportunity to enable the Grange to represent the farmers in the great departments of the government as well as in state affairs, those with whom we have been associated in this work being entitled to a large share of credit for the results."

The closing paragraph in the Worthy Overseer's report said:

"The Grange has upon it a tremendous responsibility in these modern days, which it can meet only by the radicalism of sound thinking and the conservatism of deliberate action. Superficial thinking and ill-advised action will not discharge our responsibility or accomplish the ends sought. Into every action of the Grange must be put the most virile brains that can be found upon American farms if it would discharge the obligations it owes to the country and posterity. The responsibility that is upon the Grange as an organization is also upon each one of us as individuals."

The Worthy Treasurer reported the total resources of the National Grange, October 1, 1907, as \$102,921.44, a gain of \$8,249.50. For the first time since the Charleston, S. C., meeting in 1875 the total resources of the National Grange exceeded \$100,000.

The Worthy Secretary reported 252 new Granges organized and 41 dormant Granges reorganized.

At a public meeting the President of the New York, New Haven and Maine railroad was invited to address the meeting, and the following action of the National Grange is of some interest:

“Under reports of standing committees, Brother Jones, chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, made the following report, which was adopted :

“Resolved, That the members of the National Grange do not wish the impression to go abroad that the statements made by all the speakers at the public reception last evening are a portion of the Grange creed. A railroad president was invited to speak, and the members courteously listened to his prepared address, with many innuendoes susceptible of varied construction, some of which would place our Order before the world in a false position. The National Grange, at its first session after said public meeting, desires to publicly declare it is not responsible for the sentiments or expressions in said address above referred to.

“Resolved, That the National Grange firmly and unflinchingly stands on its declaration of principles in opposition to all trusts or combinations that use unfair methods to exploit the people.

“Resolved, That we wage no warfare against railways or any other corporations that conduct their business along lines of fairness, and we further declare it to be the fixed and determined principle of our Order that all men or corporations, rich or poor, great or small, shall obey the laws of our country.”

F. A. Derthick of Ohio offered the following, which was adopted :

“Whereas, Publicity is recognized as the most potent power at the command of the people for the elimination of graft from all public business and for the development of a high degree of economic efficiency in the administration of all public affairs of the school district, village, city, county and state and of the federal government; and

“Whereas, Publicity is one of the means of ascertaining some of the evils with which public service corporations stand charged; and to the end that the people may know the truth and be thus equipped to act wisely upon all questions of public policy, and especially upon questions regarding the regulation of public service corporations; be it

“Resolved, First, that all states and the federal government should enact a uniform public accounting law, requiring all public accounts of every kind to be kept by a uniform system prescribed and audited by state or by federal authority; and, second, that all accounts of every person, firm or corporation who are beneficiaries of any special privilege in whatever form granted, whether by a state or by the federal government, shall be required to keep all the books, accounts, papers and records

in the manner and form prescribed by the state or federal government by which such special privilege is granted, and all such books, accounts, papers and records shall be subject to inspection and audit at the pleasure of the authority prescribing the same."

For many years, in one form and another, the question of establishing a Grange official newspaper had been considered, and at the session in 1907 the matter was referred to the Executive Committee. In their report was this statement:

"The earnest desire of the members of the Order, so often expressed by the Masters of National and State Granges, for a national organ, took definite shape at the last annual meeting. By resolution at the Denver session the Executive Committee was instructed to plan for the publication of a first-class weekly paper as soon as suitable arrangements could be made, provided that the plan be referred to the State Masters and receive a majority of votes before any contract was made. In compliance with their instructions the Executive Committee entered vigorously upon the task assigned to it, with the result that arrangements were completed which met the almost unanimous approval of the State Masters.

"Regular publication began on the sixth of November, and the paper speaks for itself. The editorial policy is absolutely controlled by the Executive Committee. Worthy Master Bachelder was appointed editor-in-chief. His ability as a writer and knowledge of Grange requirements and of the right method of handling the great public questions from the Grange standpoint is unquestioned. The staff of associated editors is composed of able writers and loyal leaders of the Order, well known, and we feel sure that their selection will meet with your approval. For the business staff we have the highest admiration for their business standing and ability and commend them as justly entitled to your full confidence and support.

"We feel sure our organ is certain of the success we all hope for, but, like all other business ventures, it must be pushed and loyally sustained by every friend of the Order if it is to achieve the most perfect results. Every Patron should feel this is his paper and one whose columns will be devoted entirely to the interests and advancement of the Grange."

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That no alien shall be allowed to hold title to lands in the United States before declaring his intention of becoming a citizen.

“Resolved, That the National Grange sympathizes with labor and will assist in putting it in the highest condition of life and living of any labor class in any nation; but we have no sympathy for any class resorting to lawlessness or criminality. Such should be without hesitation or delay suppressed and punished; we cannot have a stable government unless on these conditions. No good can come to the nation or to the people thereof where lawlessness or criminality is allowed or tolerated.”

The National Grange unanimously decided that:

“The forests of the United States, the title to which has not passed from the people, should be reserved for all time to them, and their care and management should be with the Department of Agriculture. Their preservation is of vital importance. No title to any portion of the forests of the United States should pass from the people thereof.”

The third Sunday in June was adopted as Grange Memorial Day.

To get a true estimate of the scope and quality of the work done at a session of the National Grange, one must read the carefully prepared reports of committees and the reports of officers; and to get some idea of the work done in the several states one should read the reports of Masters of State Granges made to the National Grange.

CHAPTER XXIII

N. J. Bachelder's Administration—Second Term, Two Years, 1908-1909—Forty-Second and Forty-Third Sessions of the National Grange

The forty-second session of the National Grange met in the National Hotel Hall, Washington, D. C., November 11 to 19, 1908. The officers were all present and in their places when the Grange opened :

- Master*—N. J. Bachelder, New Hampshire.
Overseer—T. C. Atkeson, West Virginia.
Lecturer—Geo. W. F. Gaunt, New Jersey.
Steward—J. A. Newcomb, Colorado.
Assistant Steward—C. D. Richardson, Massachusetts.
Chaplain—O. S. Wood, Connecticut.
Treasurer—Mrs. Eva S. McDowell, New York.
Secretary—C. M. Freeman, Ohio.
Gatekeeper—A. C. Powers, Wisconsin.
Ceres—Mrs. Elizabeth H. Patterson, Maryland.
Pomona—Mrs. Sarah G. Baird, Minnesota.
Flora—Mrs. Ida Judson, Iowa.
Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. Joanna M. Walker, Delaware.
Executive Committee—F. N. Godfrey, Chairman, New York;
C. J. Bell, Secretary, Vermont; C. O. Raine, Missouri.

Twenty-six states were duly represented: California, W. V. and Mrs. Griffith; Colorado, John and Mrs. Morris; Connecticut, L. H. Healey; Delaware, Hervey and Mrs. Walker; Idaho, D. C. Mullen; Illinois, Oliver and Mrs. Wilson; Indiana, Aaron and Mrs. Jones; Iowa, A. B. and Mrs. Judson; Kansas, George and Mrs. Black; Kentucky, F. P. and Mrs. Wolcott; Maine, C. S. and Mrs. Stetson; Maryland, H. J. and Mrs. Patterson; Massachusetts, C. D. and Mrs. Richardson; Michigan, George B. and Mrs. Horton; Missouri, C. O. and Mrs. Raine; New Hampshire, H. O. and Mrs. Hadley; New Jersey, Geo. W. F. and

Mrs. Gaunt ; New York, F. N. and Mrs. Godfrey ; Ohio, F. A. Derthick ; Oregon, Austin T. and Mrs. Buxton ; Pennsylvania, Mrs. Marie A. Hill ; Rhode Island, F. E. and Mrs. Marchant ; Vermont, Geo. W. Pierce ; Washington, C. B. and Mrs. Kegley ; West Virginia, T. C. and Mrs. Atkeson ; Wisconsin, H. M. Culbertson.

The Worthy Master reported :

"The organization of a State Grange in Idaho has been accomplished, and the state is represented at this session of the National Grange for the first time."

Of the condition of the Order, he said :

"Through the efforts of the officers of the National and State Granges, supplemented by the efforts of an active and harmonious membership, a larger number of Subordinate Granges has been organized in the country than in any year since 1878, with one year excepted, representing every state entitled to representation in the National Grange. The increase in membership is about ten per cent, which is a remarkable showing, in view of the fact that the organization has passed the period of experimentation and is building upon the well-established basis of recognized merit and substantial achievement. Great encouragement exists among the members throughout the country, unprecedented in the past, and abiding faith in the principles of the organization for promoting the interests of the American farmer. With the words in our Declaration of Purposes, 'We pledge ourselves to faithful and harmonious labor for all future time,' ringing in our ears, we can view with complacency the record of the forty-first year, just closed, in all that tends to perpetuate this great Order."

Discussing the Roosevelt "Country Life Commission," he said :

"Further evidence of the increasing interest that is being taken in all matters pertaining to agriculture is shown in the appointment by the President of a "Commission on Country Life," for the purpose of making a thorough investigation into the condition of the American farmers, and reporting as to the reforms which will contribute toward making life on the farm more agreeable, and the vocation of agriculture more desirable. The Commission, of which Prof. L. H. Bailey of Cornell University is chairman, is now engaged in collecting the opinions and recommendations of representative farmers in all sections of the country, through circular letters asking for information on various phases

of farm life. It is expected that as the result of these inquiries sufficient data will be secured on which to base recommendations for action by Congress that will provide a remedy for the evils in existing conditions that can be cured or ameliorated by Federal legislation."

The Worthy Overseer, in discussing the "Country Life Commission," gives the subject from the farmer viewpoint:

"I feel sure that if some people were better acquainted with the ladies and gentlemen who compose this body, and the membership of the Grange generally, there would be less inclination to 'go slumming' among the farmers of this country. Agriculture is largely the most important industry in America, whether measured in the dollars of commercial wealth or in its fundamental importance to human life and civilization. And that is not all; measured by any standard of citizenship, the farmers of the United States are the peers of any other class of our entire population. They represent the steady, loyal and patriotic element of American society upon which the government can safely rely in any emergency.

"This being the fact, I confess that so much talk about 'betterment' and 'uplift' in connection with the farmer class makes me just a little bit weary. All such talk implies a whole lot that is not true, but I try not to resent it unkindly because of the evident good intentions of the people who talk it. Suppose we try a little of the 'uplift' business upon our senators, congressmen and legislators, governors, trust magnates, stock gamblers, railroad wreckers and rich malefactors. Some of them certainly need it, if we are to believe the accumulated evidence of the last few years. It might be well for the National Grange to appoint a 'Commission on City Life,' and ask the farmers, teachers, ministers, business men and others to report on the conditions of city life, and 'what needs to be done.' Now, I am not sure that I know what needs to be done in the city, but I am sure there is more evil and more ignorance there than in the country, and while I may not know what should be done to 'uplift' our city people, I am convinced that I know as much about it as the city men know what needs to be done to 'uplift' country life. As a matter of fact, and in all seriousness, the farmers of the United States are all right, and the only thing that 'needs to be done' is to give them a square deal before the laws of the land, and they will work out their own salvation in their own healthy and manly way. The farmers of this country ask no special privileges. They do not desire to be patronized or coddled. They are not

'mollycoddles,' but strong and vigorous types of American manhood.

"Abolish the special privileges certain individuals and certain interests have been enjoying, and guarantee to every man, whether rich or poor, and every interest, whether great or small, equal rights and privileges before the laws of the land, and the great wealth-producing farmer class will take care of itself, and come as near giving themselves an 'uplift' by their own boot straps as any class of people in the world. I have no doubt their report will contain much valuable information bearing upon economic questions in which the farmers are largely interested. The best and most valuable of such information must come from the farmers themselves, and not from the 'teachers, ministers, business men and others,' whose assistance is to be sought. The Grange, in its organized capacity and through its individual members, should do all that it can to assist the Commission in understanding the true situation, and as a starting point it might be well for it to read the Grange 'Declaration of Purposes,' which was adopted thirty-four years ago.

"On the whole, we are rather glad the 'Commission on Rural Life' has been appointed, but why prolong this discussion? Let's wait and see what comes out of it. If it were not for the intimation that there is something the matter with that mighty army of stalwart citizens, who dig from the earth annually \$8,000,000,000 worth of wealth, and feed our own one hundred millions of people and the other nations of the earth, I should feel inclined to smile. But what is the use? Give them a square deal and a fair share of the wealth they produce, and see what a mighty 'uplift' the American farmer and American agriculture will get.

"A leading agricultural paper asks the pertinent question: 'By what authority are farmers declared, both directly and by implication, to be behind other great classes of people and in need of investigation to provide a basis for their uplift?' To which I would like to add that from my viewpoint the only 'uplift' that is needed is to 'uplift' from the back of agriculture the trusts, combinations and special privilege interests that uniformly oppose and defeat the equitable, reasonable and just demands of the Grange. If anybody really wants to give the farmers an 'uplift,' let him get his shoulder under the National Grange demands and give a mighty 'h'ist.'

"Our agriculture is progressing and uplifting, but the inspiration has come from within rather than from without, and the Order of Patrons of Husbandry has had a glorious part in every movement for agricultural progress during the last forty-two years. The Grange, in all its branches, is a Country Life Com-

mission that carries its authority under its own hat, and realizes the actual conditions that exist more fully than anyone else. If wrongs exist and injustice is done the farmers, no one knows it any better than they do, and no one has a more direct or correct viewpoint."

The Worthy Treasurer reported the total resources of the National Grange as \$111,677.47, a net gain for the year of \$8,756.03.

The Worthy Secretary reported 302 new Granges organized and 51 dormant Granges reorganized. The Worthy Master declared the Grange in open session to hear Hon. Gifford Pinchot, chief of the United States forest service. The Worthy Master introduced Mr. Pinchot, who complimented the Grange and gave a brief yet comprehensive address on the conservation of our natural resources, and pointed out the work which the conservation commission, of which he was chairman, was trying to do, and the reasons why it was needed. At 2:30 President Roosevelt received the National Grange and all visiting members in the East Room of the White House.

At 10 A. M., November 13, O. H. Kelley and Miss Carrie A. Hall were escorted to the hall. The Worthy Master then introduced Mr. Kelley to the National Grange. He was enthusiastically greeted and spoke briefly, congratulating the Grange on the high position it held, saying: "The glory is yours; the pleasure mine." Miss Hall was then introduced and gracefully acknowledged the introduction.

The Grange then took a recess, when all present had the pleasure and honor of meeting these two distinguished persons. This was the last time either Mr. Kelley or Miss Hall ever attended a session of the National Grange.

After the recess delegates from the Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations Association were present. The Worthy Master introduced President J. L.

Snyder of the Michigan Agricultural College, who addressed the Grange and brought greetings from their association.

Later in the day the Commission on Country Life was called to the stage. The National Master then introduced Dr. L. H. Bailey, chairman of the commission, who addressed the Grange, explained the object of the commission, and asked for suggestions from the representatives of the different states, and many valuable ideas were advanced.

C. O. Raine of Missouri was elected a member of the Executive Committee for the term of three years.

The forty-third annual session of the National Grange met in Des Moines, Ia., November 10 to 18, 1909. All the officers except the Lady Assistant Steward were present, and twenty-seven states were represented by the same delegates as at last session, except the following: California, E. T. Pettit; Delaware, S. H. and Mrs. Messick; Michigan, N. P. and Mrs. Hull; Minnesota, Sarah G. and Mr. Baird; Ohio, T. C. and Mrs. Laylin; Pennsylvania, W. T. and Mrs. Creasy; South Dakota, C. B. and Mrs. Hoyt; Vermont, C. F. and Mrs. Smith. South Dakota was represented at this session for the first time.

The Worthy Master, in his "annual address," discussed a wide range of subjects, all of which were subsequently indorsed by the body. On "Condition of the Order," he said:

"The condition of the Order in the country is better than at any time since its establishment. A larger number of Granges has been organized than in any year for thirty-five years, and a larger increase of membership made during the past year than in any year since 1878. The influence of the organization in public affairs can only be estimated, but there is evidence that it was never greater than today. The net increase in membership during the year has been about eight per cent, showing a net gain in every state except two, and laws have been enacted in all the Grange states through its influence."

Of the National Grange Official Organ he said:

"The Executive Committee of the National Grange was not satisfied with the management of the National Grange Official Organ, and May 1 canceled the agreement with the publishing company in Philadelphia and transferred the publication of the paper to Concord, N. H. It has been issued from Concord, regularly and promptly, since May 1, and seems to meet the approval of the members throughout the country. I have taken the authority to appoint a committee upon the paper that will present facts in regard to the paper and make recommendations in regard to its future. I urge careful consideration of the report made by this committee."

He announced the platform of the Grange upon National legislation as follows:

"Federal appropriation for highway improvement; establishment of rural and general parcel post; establishment of postal savings banks; election of United States Senators by direct vote; appointment of a permanent non-partisan tariff commission; defeat of ship-subsidy legislation; retaining or strengthening the present oleomargarine law; liberal appropriations for farm schools; opposing agreements between organized capital and organized labor in legislative matters to the detriment of the farmers."

The Worthy Treasurer reported the total resources of the Grange as \$115,821.29.

The Secretary reported 431 new Granges organized and 56 dormant Granges reorganized. This was the largest number organized in any one year since 1878.

The Right Hon. Sir Horace Plunkett, First Commissioner of Agriculture for Ireland, addressed the Grange. The whole of his splendid address was published in the Journal of the session. He said in part:

"I have been honored with an invitation to contribute to your discussion some account of an Irish movement, resembling in its scope, and to some degree also in its methods, the economic, social and (using the term in a nonpartisan sense) political movement known as the National Grange. While my subject is Irish, I shall not forget that my audience is American, and that the occasion is one for the discussion of questions affecting the agricultural population of the United States. . . .

"I have now put before you to the best of my ability a comprehensive statement of the origin and scope, aim and achievements up to the present time of what I have called Ireland's National Grange, a movement, you will have observed, with practically the same aims as its American counterpart. You will also have noted one marked difference in the Order in which the various aims are pursued in the two bodies. We, in Ireland, believe that the reorganization of the business methods of farmers is by far the best foundation upon which to build up a better husbandry and a better social and domestic life on our farm lands. And as a sympathetic foreign observer, I am convinced that a similar procedure would give to your great organization the influence over the agricultural class of the United States, to which, by your principles, by your aims and by your achievements, you have every right to aspire. Your movement is led by idealists. So also is ours. But whatever your ultimate aims may be, the economic factor will predominate. And I am convinced that the reason why the National Grange has failed to embrace the most progressive farmers in every state in the Union is that in the pursuit of its higher aims it has failed to meet the needs of an industry which has fallen behind in its competition with other interests. Hence, in the old, settled communities, where an improved social life was the main requirement, you seem to be permanently established, while in the newer states, where of necessity the economic factor must predominate, you do not seem to have the same hold upon the rural community. It may be that, like many another institution founded in other days, you may have to reshape your policy. If this be so, I hope you will not hesitate to move with the times, for in my judgment there is no agency better fitted to restore to its former place of dignity in the people's life the primary, indeed the only necessary industry, the oldest, the most honorable of human occupations."

Hon. John Hamilton, Institute Specialist, representing the Department of Agriculture, in a pleasing and thoughtful address, presented the subject of "Agricultural Extension." In his opening paragraph he said:

"Just one year ago, the Overseer of the National Grange, T. C. Atkeson, in an address before a joint meeting of the Grange and the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations, in referring to the distinctive purposes of the organizations, spoke of the colleges as having stood specifically for higher education in agriculture, and that the body that he represented, the Patrons of Husbandry, was organized for the

purpose of aiding the common, everyday farmer. It is because of your attitude in this respect that I am here today as the representative of the Department of Agriculture, which has been organized for a purpose similar to yours. That department stands, first, for securing the latest and most reliable information of value in the operations of the farm; next to this for the dissemination of this information to the millions of agricultural people who need it, and then for the incorporation of the truths discovered into the practice of their everyday life. No higher service to mankind can be rendered by any man or organization of men than to extend a helping hand to those who are toiling for daily bread, who are struggling for a place for themselves and their children in the civilization of their time. You as individuals and as an organization have stood for this in the past, and there is every assurance that you will continue to stand for aiding the common man in all time to come."

Later in the session the following resolution was adopted:

"That Congress should provide by liberal appropriations for the support of agricultural extension departments in the several colleges of agriculture of the several states, by giving to each state for the use of the agricultural extension department of its College of Agriculture annually a liberal sum and an additional sum equal to the amount appropriated by the State Legislature for the same purpose, and to be expended under the same authority, not to exceed one cent per capita of population as given in the preceding census of the United States."

The Grange declared "that we are unalterably opposed to any legislation by Congress looking to the establishment of a great centralized bank." The Grange also condemned intercollegiate football and baseball in agricultural colleges; favored the passage of an income tax law; favored the enactment of a law prohibiting any railroad company from acquiring stock in a competing line; favored government supervision of express companies; stated that it was the positive conviction of the National Grange that inheritance taxes should be reserved wholly for the use of the several states; and adopted many other resolutions relating to the Grange purposes and policies.

The Committee on Taxation made the fullest and most exhaustive report ever made upon that subject,

and after discussing many phases of the intricate question of taxation, historically and economically, it laid down the following summary, which was approved as the Grange position upon taxation at that time :

"1. Since taxation is necessary for the enforcement of laws for the protection of property, individual or corporate, therefore no property, either real or personal, which is protected by law, should be exempt from taxation, except such property as is specifically exempt by the state Constitution.

"2. In order to secure equality in the distribution of the burdens of government, if personal property is to be exempt from taxation on account of the indebtedness of the owner thereof, then real estate should be entitled to the same exemption.

"3. In the case of mortgages, 'by far the wisest system is to tax the mortgages on the amount of the mortgage and the mortgagor on the value of the property minus the mortgage,' the mortgage to be considered as real estate and not as personal property and taxed in the locality where the mortgaged property lies.

"4. There should be no exemption of any species of property, either real or personal, from taxation for local purposes, except such as is exempt by the Constitution.

"5. If state and local revenues are to be raised from separate sources, the state revenues should be raised from corporation charter fees, licenses, inheritance taxes and other indirect taxes.

"6. All corporation real estate and personal property to be taxed for local purposes, same as the same kind of property is taxed when owned by individuals.

"7. The local tax of transportation property to be levied on a valuation equal to the market value of the capital stock plus the market value of the bonded debt. Each taxation unit to receive such part of the tax as the mileage of the corporation in said unit is to the total mileage.

"8. Every possible precaution should be taken to secure equality of assessment between the individuals and between assessment districts.

"9. We favor the denial of the right of action to the holders of notes, bonds, etc., which have not been listed for taxation.

"10. No city shall be permitted to make a separate assessment and all property everywhere shall be uniformly assessed at its fair cash value.

"11. We favor the enactment of a law that will secure a fair and equitable taxation of all bank property, whether personal or real, upon the basis that other property is taxed, and we believe

the market value of the capital stock, plus the real estate, would be the fairest and most easily ascertained method of valuation."

With renewed zeal for the Grange and its great humanitarian work and purposes, the National Grange closed in form and the membership returned to their respective states to take up more aggressively than ever the work of another year.

CHAPTER XXIV

N. J. Bachelder's Administration—Third Term, Two Years, 1910-1911—Forty-Fourth and Forty-Fifth Sessions of the National Grange

The forty-fourth annual session of the National Grange met in the Casino Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey, November 16 to 25, 1910. All the officers elected the year before were present:

Master—N. J. Bachelder, New Hampshire.

Overseer—T. C. Atkeson, West Virginia.

Lecturer—Oliver Wilson, Illinois.

Steward—C. D. Richardson, Massachusetts.

Assistant Steward—L. H. Healey, Connecticut.

Chaplain—C. F. Smith, Vermont.

Treasurer—Mrs. E. S. McDowell, Massachusetts.

Secretary—C. M. Freeman, Ohio.

Gatekeeper—D. C. Mullen, Idaho.

Ceres—Mrs. Elizabeth H. Paterson, Maryland.

Pomona—Mrs. Grace Hull, Michigan.

Flora—Mrs. Ida Judson, Iowa.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. Mary A. Smith, Vermont.

Executive Committee—F. N. Godfrey, New York; C. O. Raine, Missouri; S. H. Messick, Delaware.

The following 28 states were represented: California, E. T. Pettit; Colorado, Jno. and Mrs. Morris; Connecticut, L. H. and Mrs. Healey; Delaware, S. H. and Mrs. Messick; Idaho, D. C. Mullen; Illinois, Robert and Mrs. Eaton; Indiana, Aaron and Mrs. Jones; Iowa, A. B. and Mrs. Judson; Kansas, George and Mrs. Black; Kentucky, F. P. and Mrs. Wolcott; Maine, C. S. and Mrs. Stetson; Maryland, H. J. and Mrs. Patterson; Massachusetts, C. M. and Mrs. Gardner; Michigan, N. P. and Mrs. Hull; Minnesota, Sarah G. and Mr. Baird; Missouri, C. O. and Mrs. Raine; New Hampshire, Richard and Mrs. Pattee; New Jer-

sey, Geo. W. F. and Mrs. Gaunt; New York, F. N. and Mrs. Godfrey; Ohio, T. C. and Mrs. Laylin; Oregon, C. E. and Mrs. Spence; Pennsylvania, W. T. and Mrs. Creasy; Rhode Island, F. E. and Mrs. Marchant; South Dakota, Charles and Mrs. Hoyt; Vermont, C. F. and Mrs. Smith; Washington, C. B. and Mrs. Kegley; Wisconsin, Geo. R. and Mrs. Schaefer; West Virginia, T. C. and Mrs. Atkeson.

The Worthy Master discussed many subjects of general interest. On the subject of the tariff, he said:

"The position taken by the National Grange at its forty-third annual session in regard to the tariff act of 1909, which was declared to be unjust and unfair to the farmers, has been indorsed by a large majority of the people, as shown by the primary elections in all sections of the country. The defeat or retirement of more than fifty Senators and Representatives who were largely responsible for the enactment of the unsatisfactory Payne-Aldrich law is proof that public sentiment demands a genuine revision of the tariff, based on a careful investigation by a nonpartisan commission, and that the people will refuse to return to Congress the men who fail to carry out the wishes of their constituents.

"An encouraging feature of the movement for a more equitable tariff is that it is no longer purely a party question, as loyal Republicans are advocating tariff revision, while some of those classed as Democrats favor the present law. At no time in our history has there been greater independence of party lines, particularly among the farmers, and this condition should make it easier to secure tariff legislation in the interest of the people.

"In obedience to the demand of the country, Congress at its recent session enacted a law providing for the establishment of a postal savings bank system, and plans are now being made for opening these banks in various sections of the country. The enactment of this legislation was brought about largely through the efforts of the Grange, and is another proof of the ability of the organized farmers to secure favorable action by Congress on any wise measure that they may advocate, and is an encouragement to us in our work for the other important legislative policies indorsed by the Grange.

"The movement for a general parcels post law has been vigorously urged during the past year, and the influence of the members of the Grange has been brought to bear on the members of Congress in favor of action on bills for this purpose. At hearings on these bills the National Grange was represented

by the Legislative Committee, Brother T. C. Atkeson making the principal address, in which he stated the attitude of the Grange, and replied to objections made by the opponents of the parcels post. His address made it clear that the farmers of the country are unanimously in favor of this legislation, and that they regard opposition to it as evidence of hostility to the public interests. Action was taken several months before election to have all the local Granges advise the various candidates for Congress from their districts as to their position on this and other Grange policies, and I am confident that the members of the newly elected house will have more regard for the wishes of their constituents and will carry out the people's will in this matter.

"The action of the National Grange recording its opposition to the scheme for a great central bank should not be construed as meaning that the farmers of the country are entirely satisfied with our present bank and currency laws. These laws are undoubtedly in need of amendments that will tend to do away with the periodical financial panics, which injure the legitimate industries of the country. In such countries as France, Germany, Great Britain and Canada money stringencies, under which premiums are paid for the use of currency, are unknown, even in times of business depression. It should be possible for this great and wealthy country to have a banking and currency system equal to the best in the world, and I am sure that the farmers will give their support to legislation creating a system, provided it is free from all taint of monopoly."

Other important matters reviewed were agricultural extension, election of United States Senators by the people, the high cost of living, and the income tax amendment.

The Worthy Treasurer reported total resources as \$118,825.83.

The Worthy Secretary reported that 409 new Granges had been organized and 45 dormant ones reorganized during the year.

The Committee on "Good of the Order" made the following report, which was adopted:

"New questions and problems affecting the interests and rights of farmers are constantly arising, and the Grange thought and thinkers should not hesitate to tackle them as they rise, in a broad, statesmanlike manner. The founders of the Grange built upon the solid rock, and the superstructure since reared upon that

foundation by great and wise leaders is fortunately broad enough to cover our entire nation and to meet every kind of problem or condition that may confront us. The National Grange is the highest law-making body of the Order, and its grasp of agricultural and economic problems should be nation-wide. It cannot deal with local or sectional questions.

"State Granges must deal with state-wide problems. In New Hampshire it may be summer boarders, and in Florida it may be winter resorts. In the South it is cotton; in New York it may be fruit growing or dairying; in the Mississippi Valley one thing, and on the Pacific slope another; in Kansas grasshoppers, and in Texas cotton boll weevil. Each state must deal with its own problems in its own way. But that is not all; the counties, as units in the several states, have problems peculiar to themselves, and with these the Pomona Granges must grapple, and, within still smaller limits, the Subordinate Grange becomes the unit of influence. It is the business of the National Grange to build up and strengthen all these units of activity.

"If the Grange is to prosper in New England it must do the things the farmers there want done. If the states of the far West are to continue to grow, they must be active in solving the economic problems that are vital to the Pacific slope. If the Grange is ever to recover its lost power, influence and leadership in the central West, it must put its hand to the plow and its brain to work upon the things that are nearest to the heart of the dwellers among the fertile fields of the greatest agricultural valley in the world. Among the many things the Grange needs to impress upon its membership everywhere, we name the following:

"1. Regular attendance upon all meetings of the Grange and the cheerful performance of every duty, and a wholesome respect for all officers and decisions of the Grange of which they are legal members.

"2. Whether in office or in the ranks, a sincere respect for the rights of others, and a ready recognition of the truism that difference of opinion is no crime.

"3. The Grange in the past has accomplished much through hard work and untiring efforts of those who have been chosen our leaders, and the silent work of the faithful few to be found in every Subordinate Grange. If this work is to be continued and carried to still greater and grander results it will only be by the united efforts of those who are faithful to their obligations, under whatever circumstances they are placed.

"4. Any member of the Order who tries to delittle or discredit the work of another, or tries in any way to injure the good name

or reputation of a brother or sister, violates the obligations they have taken and are not worthy the name of Patron of Husbandry.

"5. The most vital need of the farmers in this country is better business methods, and if the Grange is to lead the farmers, it must devise and promulgate some workable plan for the application of better business methods to agriculture.

"6. The Grange should devise some plan of making the farmers more potential in the political affairs of the country. Considering their numbers and the importance of their occupation to the welfare of mankind, the farmers are woefully impotent in directing the affairs of government. The trend of legislation since the founding of the nation has been toward the building of cities and to the detriment of the country, which now should be remedied.

"7. The Grange should become more active in promoting educational facilities adapted to country conditions, as distinct from the town and city-made systems of education.

"8. It must get into the lives of rural people, grasp the real problems of the open country and demonstrate its capacity for efficient service if it would deserve and secure the support of the farmers of the country.

"9. It cannot win by becoming a social club or a literary society, but must get into virile sympathy with the real producing farmers, who earn their bread by the sweat of their faces. Passing resolutions only will not satisfy the people, who feel that there is a great robber horde between the slaving producers and the hungry consumers.

"10. The Grange must work out the great principle of cooperation and present it to the farmers in some workable form by which they may secure for themselves and their families a larger share of what the harvest yields.

"11. The Grange should be a bureau of rural economic research, and thereby assume its rightful place as leader in rural economics.

"12. The Grange should avail itself of the best thought of the age in solving the production and distribution problems, which this wonderful commercial age is bringing upon us, and exert a wholesome influence upon the development of social country life.

"13. The relation between the cost of production of food and its cost to the consumer should be accurately determined by the Grange and truthfully placed before the producers and consumers.

"14. The changes in the standard and cost of living, and in the economy, solvency and stability of rural communities should receive careful attention.

"15. The economic interdependence of the agricultural producer and the urban consumer, and the extent and incidence of middle profits in the distribution of agricultural produce, should receive illumination.

"16. How far agricultural and rural employment can relieve the problems of city unemployment and assist the work of social reclamation needs to be determined.

"The greatest good of the Order must result from making the Grange of the greatest possible service to the real, living, working farmers of the country. It has been a motor force in many helpful movements, and in many ways has organized and incorporated the best thought of the most intelligent farmers about means for rural advancement. It has been an integral part of, and a most potent factor in, the expansion of American farm life; and to continue to meet its great responsibilities, it must continue to vitalize and energize the best farmer thinking of the country. It must be conservatively progressive, with sound thinking safely guiding every progressive step it takes. It should seek rather than shun responsibility, and invite the whole world to witness how sanely and firmly it meets those responsibilities. In work well done must forever be the greatest good of the Order."

One of the most important matters that came before this session was the situation confronting the "Official Organ." The Worthy Master said in regard to it:

"The National Grange Official Organ, which began publication November 1, 1907, was financed by private parties to May 1, 1910, involving the National Grange in no expense beyond the payment of a small price for preparing the Lecturer's page and sending the paper to charter members of the new Granges. On the above mentioned date the publishers of the paper, having completed their contract with the Executive Committee, did not wish to renew under the proposition made by the National Grange, and paid over to the Executive Committee the entire amount received for unfilled subscriptions. An arrangement was made with a publishing house to continue the paper, financed by the National Grange, and you will be called upon at this session to determine what course shall be taken in the future in regard to the paper."

A special committee was appointed to consider this matter, which made the following report, which was adopted:

"The Committee on National Grange Official Organ has investigated and considered the subject submitted to us very carefully, has given hearing to parties interested, and reports the following recommendations to the National Grange:

"First. We recommend that the National Grange Official Organ be discontinued with the last issue of December, 1910.

"Second. That the National Grange establish *The National Grange Bulletin*, to be owned, controlled and published by the National Grange.

"Third. We recommend that the administration of the paper shall be vested in a board of management consisting of the National Lecturer, National Overseer, and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Grange.

"Fourth. That the paper shall be conducted as an exclusively Grange publication solely for extending the policies of the National Grange as widely as possible, and it shall not enter the field of agricultural or news publications, nor be permitted to depart from its sphere as a National Grange publication. It shall especially promote the educational phases of our Order, shall disseminate information relative to legislation in which the Grange is interested, and shall seek in every way to aid in extending Grange information and influence.

"Fifth. That the paper shall be issued monthly, beginning with the month of January, 1911.

"Sixth. That the net expense to the National Grange for issuing such a publication for twelve months shall not exceed three thousand dollars."

With only slight modification of this plan the paper has ever since been successfully conducted.

A new and more liberal policy of Grange extension was adopted, providing for the expenditure of all the funds and all the income above \$100,000.

The Grange position on railway freight rate increase was stated as follows:

"*Whereas*, The farmers are the largest shippers of freight over our railways, and any increase in freight rates is in the last analysis chiefly paid by them; and

"*Whereas*, The railroads are now demanding the right to charge higher freight and passenger rates, for which we believe there is no justification; therefore

"*Resolved*, That the National Grange favors the strict regulation by the federal government of all railroads engaged in interstate commerce, and urge that the Interstate Commerce Com-

mission forbid any increase in freight or passenger rates, unless it can be shown that such increase is necessary in order to pay fair dividends on the capital actually invested in the road.

Resolved, That we favor the enactment of legislation to provide for ascertaining the true value of the railroads of the country, so that it can be readily seen whether the proposed increase in charges is justifiable."

F. N. Godfrey, New York, was re-elected a member of the Executive Committee for three years.

The forty-fifth annual session of the National Grange met at Columbus, Ohio, November 15-24, 1911. All the officers were present, and twenty-nine states were represented by the same delegates as at last session, except South Dakota, by Geo. R. and Mrs. Malone, and Nebraska by J. D. and Mrs. Ream.

Worthy Master Bachelder delivered his last annual address. He reported that the state of Nebraska had been organized during the year, and added to the list of Grange states after seventeen years of dormancy. He gave this note of caution:

"The favorable conditions for the adoption of co-operative systems has attracted the attention of professional promoters, who are endeavoring to utilize the desire of the farmers for co-operation as a means to further stock-selling schemes. Caution should be exercised by the members of the Grange in giving their indorsement to any of these associations, and the character and financial standing of the organizers should be carefully looked into before joining them. The co-operative principle is sound, and is destined to govern the immense volume of trade from the farm to the city and from the city to the farm, but there will doubtless be many failures unless great care is taken to establish real co-operative societies, conducted for the benefit of all the members, and not for the profit of a few promoters. Membership in co-operative associations should be by individual members rather than by a Grange.

"The popular demand for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people, long advocated by the Grange, has at last been heeded, and a bill providing for this method of electing Senators was passed by both Houses of Congress at the late sessions."

Currency and banking reform was discussed as follows:

"The question of so amending our banking and currency laws as to do away with the defects and dangers of our present system is one of vital importance to the farmers, since the financial panics to which the country is constantly liable, so long as conditions remain unchanged, injure the farmers more than any other class. I appreciate the fact that there are wide differences of opinion among the members of the Grange as to the lines along which currency reform legislation should be enacted, but this only serves to emphasize the necessity for a thorough study and discussion of all phases of the question, so that an agreement may be reached as to the policy which should be favored by the farmers.

"While we are unanimously agreed in opposing the creation of a great central bank, and should use our influence to prevent the enactment of financial legislation that would tend to give certain individuals or classes special privileges, we favor a banking system that provides for the effective co-operation of all the banks of the country, so as to make it possible for the stronger banks to aid the weaker institutions in event of a widespread financial crisis. We should also be ready to give our cordial assistance to an honest, practical plan for remedying present currency conditions, which are universally admitted to be dangerous to the continued prosperity of the country. The subject should be studied and discussed from an impartial, nonpolitical standpoint, and action should be taken to impress on our Senators and Representatives the importance of considering the farmers' interests when the question comes up for action by Congress."

In view of subsequent legislation on this subject, the position taken by the Grange is of especial significance.

Probably no more comprehensive and thoughtful address has ever been delivered to a National Grange session. The Worthy Master had determined not to stand for re-election and in conclusion he said:

"My term of office as Master of the National Grange, with which position you honored me six years ago, expires at this session. This closes a period of twenty-eight years of continuous service as an official of the New Hampshire State Grange and National Grange. During this entire period I have earnestly endeavored to advocate the principles, promote the in-

terests and protect the good name of this the greatest and grandest farmer's organization that ever existed in the world. I need not weary you with a recital of its victories and achievements, for their record is a matter of history. The time has now arrived when I must be relieved from further official service in the Grange. It is with feelings of personal sadness that I make this decision, for it necessarily severs many associations with those whom I have labored and to whose loyal efforts should be given credit for the great success of the organization. With the same co-operation in the future, the person whom you choose as my successor will lead the Grange to greater and grander achievements and still further advance its influence in the promotion of all the interests of the American farmer and his family."

After a service of eight years in that office, the Worthy Overseer, T. C. Atkeson, also declined to stand for re-election. In concluding his report, he said:

"A host of new issues are coming upon us which the farmers of the country, as well as every other class of our citizenship, must help to solve. We must decide whether we shall serve man or mammon; whether we shall elevate the dollar and debase democracy; whether the government shall control the corporations, or the corporations control the government; whether the cost of distribution shall take two-thirds of the consumer's dollar; whether agriculture shall secure a square deal in the mad rush to appropriate the earnings of the other fellow; and, above all, whether the Grange shall develop and discipline a safe and sane leadership for the agricultural masses in this country of ours. In the face of the gigantic, economic, social and political problems that are now demanding our thoughtful attention, it is little short of criminal for the Grange to stop to wrangle over non-essential differences of opinion or policy, thereby committing an unpardonable sin against human welfare. All differences must be settled by the majority. In a democracy there is no other way. A wrangle among ourselves must weaken our effectiveness as certainly as the overthrow of discipline and order would destroy the effectiveness of an advancing army in front of a powerful enemy. No army without discipline, and disloyal to its leaders, has ever won a great victory and never will.

"The Grange has nothing to fear from the outside; but sedition, disloyalty and treachery on the inside mean ignominious failure and death. United by the strong and faithful tie of agriculture, the future of the Grange must be crowned with still greater achievement for the people who dwell in the open coun-

try. May God give us strength and wisdom to discharge our full duty to those people!

Worthy Treasurer Eva S. McDowell reported total resources of the National Grange, October 1, 1911, as \$113,003.04.

It will be noticed that this total is \$4,922.79 less than the total one year before. This came about as the result of a more liberal extension policy which had absorbed the entire income of the National Grange above current expenses and nearly \$5,000 of the assets.

The Secretary reported 453 new Granges organized and 60 dormant Granges reorganized. The increase of 42 new Granges over the previous year hardly justified the increased expense.

The Board of Managers of the *National Grange Monthly* made a full report of the financial condition of the paper under their management for the first year, showing "the present condition of the paper altogether promising," with the conclusion that:

"What the future of *The National Grange Monthly* may be expected to be, can to some extent be judged by the year herein reported; though the fact must not escape attention that in getting a new paper of this sort going there were obstacles to overcome, starting expenses to be borne and a standing to be made for the paper. We believe *The National Grange Monthly* today has the respect of all the members of the Order who are familiar with it; that it is recognized as exactly what the instructions of this body one year ago directed it should be—a genuine Grange paper; and it has adhered strictly to that field, believing that to be its legitimate place and the one where all its efforts could be most wisely concentrated.

"We recommend that the future management of *The National Grange Monthly* be vested in a Board of Managers, consisting of three members of the Order, who shall be elected annually by ballot of this body, by the following method: At the present session one member of said Board shall be elected for a term of three years, one for two years, and one for one year. And each year thereafter one member for a term of three years."

In compliance with this recommendation later in the session, Oliver Wilson, N. P. Hull and T. C. Atkeson

were elected a Board of Managers, for three, two and one year, respectively.

The report of the Committee on Finance, as it was finally adopted, was as follows:

"We recommend that the voting members and officers receive \$4 a day for the time necessary to reach the place of session, attendance during session, and return therefrom; and 3 cents a mile for distance traveled by the nearest practical route in coming to and returning therefrom.

"We recommend that the Worthy Master receive \$2000 per annum and traveling expenses while away from home in the discharge of his official duties, also his necessary office expenses.

"We recommend that the Worthy Lecturer be paid \$400 per annum and \$4 a day and necessary traveling expenses while away from home in the discharge of his duties by direction of the Executive Committee, also his necessary office expenses.

"We recommend that the Worthy Treasurer be paid \$500 per annum and \$4 a day and necessary traveling expenses while away from home by direction of the Executive Committee, also office expenses.

"We recommend that the Worthy Secretary be paid \$1,200 per annum and \$4 a day and necessary traveling expenses while on duty by direction of the Executive Committee, also his necessary office expenses.

"We recommend that each member of the Executive Committee be paid \$4 a day when engaged in the work of the National Grange and necessary office and traveling expenses."

The Grange reiterated its former position on many questions of public importance and renewed its pledges to press forward in the cause of agriculture.

One of the features of the session was the presentation of a silver tea service to the retiring Master and wife as a token of appreciation of faithful service for the Grange.

The six years of Worthy Master Bachelder's service had been ably conducted, and especially notable for their brilliant legislative record. He left the Order greatly strengthened in numbers and sound in its treasury and financial management. The new administration had a fair field for accomplishment, and the

work of the year was taken up with zeal and energy. The Worthy Master had the Grange field spread out before him ready for cultivation.

CHAPTER XXV

Oliver Wilson's Administration—First Term, Two Years, 1912-1913—Forty-Sixth and Forty-Seventh Sessions of the National Grange

The forty-sixth session of the National Grange met at Spokane, Wash., November 13 to 22, 1912. All the officers were present:

Master—Oliver Wilson, Illinois.

Overseer—L. H. Healey, Connecticut.

Lecturer—N. P. Hull, Michigan.

Steward—D. C. Mullen, Idaho.

Assistant Steward—Geo. R. Schaefer, Wisconsin.

Chaplain—C. F. Smith, Vermont.

Treasurer—Mrs. E. S. McDowell, Massachusetts.

Secretary—C. M. Freeman, Ohio.

Gatekeeper—A. B. Judson, Iowa.

Ceres—Mrs. Esther E. Pattee, New Hampshire.

Pomona—Mrs. Cordelia Atkeson, West Virginia.

Flora—Mrs. Ida Judson, Iowa.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. Mary A. Smith, Vermont.

Executive Committee—F. N. Godfrey, Chairman, New York;
C. O. Raine, Secretary, Missouri; S. H. Messick, Delaware.

The following 29 states were represented: California, E. T. Pettit; Colorado, John and Mrs. Morris; Connecticut, J. A. and Mrs. Sherwood; Delaware, S. H. and Mrs. Messick; Idaho, H. and Mrs. Harland; Illinois, Robert and Mrs. Eaton; Indiana, Aaron and Mrs. Jones; Iowa, A. B. and Mrs. Judson; Kansas, Geo. and Mrs. Black; Kentucky, F. P. and Mrs. Wolcott; Maine, C. S. and Mrs. Stetson; Maryland, H. J. and Mrs. Patterson; Massachusetts, C. M. and Mrs. Gardner; Michigan, N. P. and Mrs. Hull; Minnesota, Sarah G. and Mr. Baird; Missouri, C. O. and Mrs. Raine; Montana, O. E. and Mrs. Young; New Hampshire, Richard and Mrs. Pattee; New Jersey,

G. W. F. and Mrs. Gaunt; New York, W. H. and Mrs. Vary; Ohio, T. C. and Mrs. Laylin; Oregon, C. E. and Mrs. Spence; Pennsylvania, W. T. and Mrs. Creasey; Rhode Island, F. E. and Mrs. Marchant; South Dakota, G. R. and Mrs. Malone; Vermont, C. F. and Mrs. Smith; Washington, C. B. and Mrs. Kegley; West Virginia, T. C. and Mrs. Atkeson; Wisconsin, H. M. and Mrs. Culbertson.

Like the first message of a new governor or a new president, the first annual address of a new Worthy Master is looked for with more than ordinary interest. Worthy Master Wilson measured up to this responsibility with credit and ability. He stated that:

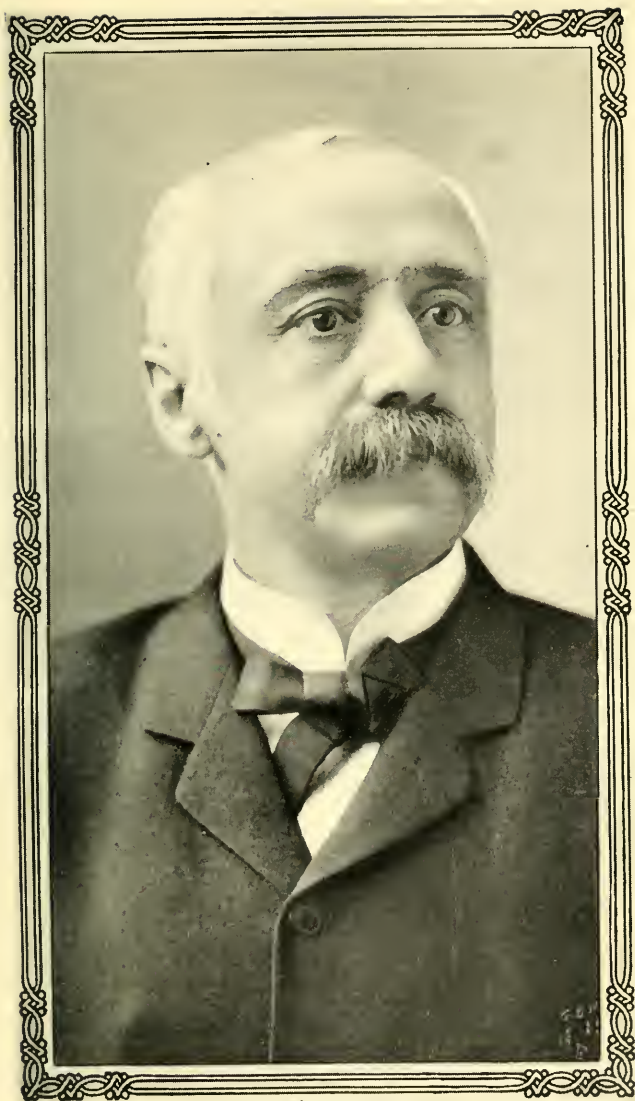
"The condition of the Order has been gradually improving throughout the year, both in growth and efficiency of work. There have been organized from October 1, 1911, to October 1, 1912, 472 new Granges, besides the number reorganized, exceeding by 19 the proud record of new organizations which was made last year."

One new State Grange was organized in Montana. He declared:

"The time has come for active and aggressive work in extending the Order in new states, where there is a demand for the Grange and evidence given that a live, active State Grange will be maintained. Important and desirable as this part of the work may be, it is of far greater importance to build up the Grange states which are now weak, for if all states which are not represented in the National Grange were well and thoroughly organized, alive and active in all departments of Grange work, their influence would be irresistible and the organization would spread through other states.

"By and through the united effort of our membership, coupled with other agencies at work for the same end, the zone system of parcels post was adopted, and will go into effect January 1. Although I fully realize that this law is not all that the Grange has asked for, I believe that we should give it our loyal support; but we should, instead of relinquishing our efforts, redouble our energy to secure a general parcels post system that will be equitable and just, and which will best serve all our people.

"The Grange stands for and advocates Federal aid for road improvement. There can be no good reason given why the Gov-



Nahum J. Bachelder, New Hampshire, tenth Master of the National Grange.



Oliver Wilson, Illinois, eleventh Master of the National Grange.

ernment should not appropriate money for the maintaining and the improving of the public highway the same as for our public waterways. Seventy-five per cent of the product of our country must pass over the public highway before it can be transported over our railway or water systems. While the Government has spent millions of dollars for highway improvement in our foreign possessions, it has never appropriated one dollar to be used on the highways in continental United States.

"Two years ago the National Grange authorized the publication of *The National Grange Monthly*, a paper owned and controlled by the National Grange, the object being to furnish information to our members from every section of the country, showing to them, as can be done in no other way, what this organization of ours is accomplishing, and how we are knit and bound together for common good. This paper is not expected to, and should not, interfere with any state publications, because they occupy entirely different fields and one cannot take the place of the other."

His interpretation of the Grange and politics was as follows:

"Having received during the past few months many inquiries, especially from our newer members, in regard to the Grange and politics, I feel called upon to clearly set forth, as I understand it, the Grange position on this question. The Declaration of Purposes, adopted at the seventh session of the National Grange, makes clear the position, wherein it says: 'We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law, that the Grange—National, State or Subordinate—is not a political or party organization.' On page 42 of the *Digest* we find the following: 'The word *political* in the Constitution means partisan politics, and does not include or refer to general questions of political economy. Political circulars dated at the Grange, or in any way bearing the impress of the Order, such as using official letterheads, envelopes, or in any way that shall create the impression that the Order is political, or lends itself to partisan political action, is a violation of the fundamental laws of our Order, and should in all instances be disapproved!' The Grange from its earliest organization has adhered to this high standard and must continue so to do. The National Grange should be a leader in public thought and public action, and should advocate measures because they are in the interest of the agricultural class. I am always pleased to see our members elected to offices of trust, and believe thereby our organization is strengthened and enabled to do more effective work, but no officer or past officer has a right to use his official position or allow himself, dur-

ing these political campaigns, on any political platform, to be introduced as an officer of the Grange, nor has any officer or member the right, according to our organic law, to write partisan letters or addresses for publication and allow his name to be signed thereto as an official or past official of the Grange."

The Worthy Treasurer reported the total resources of the National Grange, October 1, 1912, to be \$99,390.35.

The Worthy Secretary reported 472 new Granges organized and 33 dormant Granges reorganized.

A surplus of more than \$118,000 two years before had been reduced to \$99,390.35, besides using the entire income of the National Grange. Increased salaries, and *per diem*, and expansion, and extension in other directions, had helped to do this. The Committee on Finance made the usual recommendations, with the proviso "that the amount used shall not be so great as to reduce the funds of the National Grange below \$100,000, at the end of the year." A motion to amend was made that the funds were not to be reduced below \$90,000.

Looking back across the years of Grange history to the time when the National Grange had become bankrupt after having dissipated hundreds of thousands of dollars worse than uselessly, the writer opposed the motion to amend with all the force he could command, but the motion to amend prevailed by two majority.

The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, The telegraph and telephone are universally conceded to be one of the best means of transmitting news, information, etc.; and

Whereas, The present system of privately owned and controlled telegraph and telephone lines is so complicated and extensive that these valuable additions to our business and social life are beyond the reach of the common people; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we recommend that a vigorous campaign of education be instituted by this body looking toward the establishment of a modern, nation-wide system of telegraph and telephone lines owned and operated by the National Government as a part of the postal service."

Many other resolutions were adopted concerning a wide range of economic subjects, and calculated to emphasize the work of the Grange and magnify the dignity and importance of agriculture. To fully appreciate the splendid work done and the broadmindedness of this militant organization of farmers, one must read the carefully prepared reports of committees, the reports of officers and reports of masters of State Granges. The latter gave quite a clear insight into the activities of the Order in the several states.

C. S. Stetson of Maine was elected a member of the Executive Committee for three years.

In a spirit of hearty fraternal good fellowship, the Grange closed in form, and once more the members, endowed with a new inspiration of humanitarianism, departed for their homes to take up again the work in their several states.

The forty-seventh session of the National Grange met at Manchester, N. H., November 12 to 21, 1913. All the officers were present and in their places when the Grange opened. Thirty states were represented by the same delegates as at the last session, except Maryland was not represented and the following changes were made:

California, Jos. and Mrs. Holmes; Delaware, F. C. and Mrs. Bancroft; Illinois, T. A. and Mrs. Denney; Kansas, A. P. Reardon; Kentucky, D. A. and Mrs. Lafferty; Michigan, J. C. and Mrs. Ketcham; Minnesota, C. L. and Mrs. Rice; Nebraska, J. D. and Mrs. Ream; Rhode Island, J. A. and Mrs. Peckham; Vermont, W. N. and Mrs. Cady.

The Worthy Master reported the State of Wyoming as having been duly organized, and the State Grange was represented at this session by A. F. and Mrs. Hart.

"The question of extending the Order is of vital importance. New states should be added, but it is of far greater importance

to strengthen the states which are now weak, thereby enabling them to accomplish more effective work and exert a greater influence than can be done in their present condition.

"I merely desire to call attention to the fact that, after a quarter of a century of agitation and education, another victory has been secured for the Grange—United States Senators are now directly amenable to the people.

"It must be remembered that the Grange was in the forefront of this battle and practically stood alone for years during the time when this measure was most unpopular.

"Another Grange victory was secured by the enactment of the parcels post law, which for more than twenty years was advocated by the Grange. Since establishing the parcels post system, the Postmaster-General has added to its efficiency by increasing the parcel weight limit and decreasing the rate."

Oleomargarine amendment, federal aid for highway improvement, agricultural credit, peace, *The National Grange Monthly*, and National Grange legislative policies, were interestingly discussed by the Worthy Master.

Attention was called to the fact that during the past year O. H. Kelley, the last one of the "seven founders of the Order," had passed away.

The Worthy Treasurer reported total resources of the National Grange, October 1, 1913, to be \$95,923.04.

The Secretary reported 411 new Granges organized and 20 dormant Granges reorganized.

The Committee on Finance at this session, recognizing the soundness of the contention not to reduce the funds below \$100,000, made the following report, which was adopted:

"We recommend that \$100,000 be retained in the Treasury for permanent investment or pressing emergency, and that such surplus over said amount as may accrue after payment of running expenses and salaries be placed at the disposal of the Executive Committee to be used for extension work."

Nothing but the most dire necessity should ever tempt the National Grange to reduce this "reserve fund." It should be increased rather than reduced.

The Committee on Resolutions said among many other things:

"We shall name some of the things yet unaccomplished which now demand our attention, as follows:

"A greatly extended and improved parcel post, more extensive and simplified postal savings banks and the loaning of their accumulated funds to farmers, is demanded.

"Better, more scientific and more effective protection for our dairy interests against fraudulent and unfair competition is imperatively necessary.

"In our opinion the time has come when the Government should own and operate the telegraph and telephone systems of the country in the interest of the people.

"We believe in the policy of the Federal aid to road improvement, but insist that such improvement must be primarily for the purpose of connecting the farms of the country with the railroads and shipping centers and not for cross-country speedways.

"We demand that the natural resources of our country shall be conserved to the greatest extent possible consistent with a reasonable and economic use of the same.

"We indorse the physical valuation of railroads now undertaken by the national government and demand a more effective railroad and express regulation.

"We indorse a national plan for vocational education and agricultural extension, but we regard the improvement of country elementary schools and of the rural high schools of greater and paramount importance.

"We believe the time has come when the National Grange should develop and inaugurate some general plan of mutual or co-operative life insurance.

"In most of our states the burden of government bears most heavily and unequally upon agricultural property, and the Grange should everywhere exert its full force in bringing about more equitable tax laws."

The session approved a group picture of "the seven founders" of the Order, prepared by W. N. Howard of Massachusetts; favored an amendment to the U. S. Constitution prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors; favored loaning money deposited in postal savings banks directly to farmers and home builders at a low rate of interest sufficient to pay the cost of the business, under necessary restrictions to insure safety; favored government ownership of telegraph and telephone systems; they viewed with ap-

prehension the growing tendency toward monopolizing the water power of this country, and urged upon Congress and the several state legislatures the early enactment of laws to prevent water power monopoly and to preserve as far as possible that most inexhaustible source of power for the welfare of all the people; indorsed the activities of alert champions of pure food throughout the country to the end that producers receive justice and that consumers are protected; asked and demanded of Congress the enactment of a law that would prevent such counterfeiting and fraud by prohibiting the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine, for interstate shipment, of a color imitating that of butter or any shade of yellow; opposed all forms of franchises for the enrichment of the few at the expense of the people, the elimination of the public lands, except to *bona fide* settlers, the wholesale grabbing of the mineral wealth of the nation by syndicates; favored conservation generally of all the natural resources, the public lands, water power, coal lands and mineral deposits by the Federal Government, not alone for the interest of this generation, but for the generations to come.

Many other resolutions of importance were adopted, but these few indicate the scope of action of the body at this time.

At the preceding session of the National Grange a committee had been appointed to confer with President-elect Wilson about the appointment of a Secretary of Agriculture. This committee, composed of T. C. Atkeson, Richard Pattee, and C. O. Raine, called upon Governor Wilson at the Governor's office in the State House at Trenton, N. J., January 27, 1913. After a conference of considerable time he remarked that as he could not remember all that had been told him, he would ask the committee to file with him a memo-

randum. In compliance with this request, the following letter was later mailed to him:

"Hon. Woodrow Wilson, Trenton, N. J.

"Dear Sir:

"When the undersigned committee of the National Grange conferred with you on January 27 with reference to your Secretary of Agriculture, you did us the honor to suggest that we file with you a memorandum of our views upon the subject. You will remember that we did not urge any particular candidate, but confined what we had to say to the character and qualifications of the man we desired. The great agricultural class are intensely interested in the selection you may make.

"1. We trust that the office of Secretary of Agriculture may never be awarded as a political favor, but because of fitness for office only.

"2. We believe that the Secretary of Agriculture should have broad scholarship, far-seeing statesmanship, and splendid executive ability, but he must have something more than these.

"3. The position of Secretary of Agriculture is a professional one, and he should be a farmer to the same extent and for the same reasons that the attorney-general should be a lawyer.

"4. He should stand for the American farmer, and should not only be in sympathy with farmers, but so identified with them in vocation, ideas and effort that farmers recognize him as one of themselves.

"5. A man reared on the farm and whose life has been spent in a study of its problems would be best qualified to deal with them.

"6. He should have made a study of the agricultural conditions and possibilities, and know the agricultural resources of the country and the possibilities and probabilities of their development with the material at hand.

"7. It is most essential that the head of this department shall be a man identified in the public mind with agricultural matters, around whom agricultural interests and workers will rally with confidence in his leadership.

"8. We believe that two or three of the men who have been suggested would have the confidence of the farmers, and otherwise measure up to the requirements of the office, and we trust that after mature deliberation you will select the man who most nearly fills the specifications enumerated above.

"9. His location, his training, his early life on the farm, and his known sympathy with the farmer people of the country, as well as his demonstrated executive ability, should indicate his fitness for large usefulness to American agriculture.

"10. We have no personal interest in any candidate, and will pledge the Grange to support heartily anyone you may select who possesses the above qualifications, and will do our best to promote his work.

"In conclusion, we want to thank you on behalf of the National Grange and of ourselves for the courteous treatment accorded to us upon the occasion of our conference, and we venture to express the hope that you may select a man for the important office who may fill the large measure of service expected of him by farmers of America who eat and sleep and labor in the open country."

The Board of Managers of the *National Grange Monthly* made a very encouraging report, in which they said:

"Summarized concisely, our financial record of the nearly three years that *The National Grange Monthly* has been issued in its present form and under the present management, means that, starting with nothing three years ago January, the paper has been carefully conducted during that period; has been enlarged from sixteen to twenty pages; greatly improved in contents, illustration and general appearance; and comes to this session with a balance on hand, of cash and bills receivable, of almost \$1,000, while nothing from the emergency appropriation that has been available from the National Grange Treasury, had it been needed to carry on the paper, has been drawn.

"Steadily and surely the paper has been established on a sound, permanent basis, and today it must be reckoned as one of the distinct assets of the Order."

Several sets of resolutions on "rural credits" had been referred to the Committee on Resolutions, which reported as follows:

"All the above resolutions have been carefully considered, and, realizing the importance of the subject of rural credits at this time, your committee has digested as best it could all the above whereases and resolutions, and, after a full discussion of the many phases of the subject, has decided to present to the National Grange the following resolutions with recommendation that they be adopted:

"1. *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of the National Grange that any legislation for the purpose of bettering farm credits is a part of the great national policy of conservation of food supply, and as such the government of the nation should carry out this

policy, and it cannot properly be delegated to private capital for general exploitation and profit.

"2. *Resolved*, That any farm credit association which shall receive any privileges by or under federal or state law should be composed of farmers and not by capitalists of high finance who have, heretofore, dominated agricultural credit and created conditions which now demand relief.

"3. *Resolved*, That any farm credit plan which does not include a direct reduction of the 'prevailing rates' of interest, as well as a long term of small annual payment upon farm mortgages, will not meet agricultural requirements.

"4. *Resolved*, That the government of the United States should borrow money at a rate of interest not to exceed $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent and lend the money at a rate not to exceed $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to the farmers upon long time farm land mortgages, with such restrictions as may be necessary to make the government perfectly secure, and the profit to the government to be expended in road improvement or for some other object that will benefit the whole people."

After considerable discussion all the resolutions were adopted.

This was the most largely attended session of the National Grange ever held. The Seventh Degree class numbered 5,459, and there were probably not fewer than 10,000 members of the Order in attendance.

The Master of the Wisconsin State Grange reported the following:

"For several years the University of Wisconsin has conferred an honorary degree of appreciation of service rendered the public upon some persons of meritorious achievement, and, appreciative of the work of the Grange and its Founder, decided to confer such degree of honor upon our Most Worthy Brother Oliver H. Kelley. The plans were formulated and executed at the annual farmers' course of two weeks in February, but the event of his death became known just prior to the presentation; but the exercises of presentation were performed and the certificate of honor forwarded to his family as an honorary memento from the great agricultural state of Wisconsin. The following is the wording:

"THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

"Recognizing the eminent service of Oliver H. Kelley in the development of agricultural thought and practice and in appre-

ciation of his efforts for the improvement of agricultural conditions this

"TESTIMONIAL

is presented upon the recommendation of the Faculty of the College of Agriculture, with the approval of the Regents of the University.

"In Witness Whereof, It is sealed and signed by the President of the Regents, the President of the University, and the Dean of the College of Agriculture."

This recognition by a great university of the chief Founder of the Order was appreciated by every member, and the honor could not have been more worthily bestowed.

CHAPTER XXVI

Oliver Wilson's Administration—Second Term, Two Years, 1914-1915—Forty-Eighth and Forty-Ninth Sessions of the National Grange

The forty-eighth annual session of the National Grange met at Wilmington, Del., November 11-20, 1914.

All the officers were present but the steward, as follows:

Master—Oliver Wilson, Illinois.

Overseer—W. H. Vary, New York.

Lecturer—G. W. F. Gaunt, New Jersey.

Steward—F. C. Bancroft, Delaware.

Assistant Steward—J. Arthur Sherwood, Connecticut.

Chaplain—A. P. Reardon, Kansas.

Treasurer—Mrs. Eva S. McDowell, Massachusetts.

Secretary—C. M. Freeman, Ohio.

Gatekeeper—C. L. Rice, Minnesota.

Ceres—Mrs. Esther E. Pattee, New Hampshire.

Pomona—Mrs. Cora E. Ketcham, Michigan.

Flora—Mrs. Ella Peckham, Rhode Island.

Lady Assistant Steward—Mrs. Mabel H. Harland, Idaho.

Executive Committee—C. S. Stetson, Maine; A. B. Judson, Iowa; W. N. Cady, Vermont.

Thirty states were represented as follows: California, Joseph and Mrs. Holmes; Colorado, John and Mrs. Morris; Connecticut, J. A. and Mrs. Sherwood; Idaho, H. and Mrs. Harland; Illinois, T. A. and Mrs. Denny; Indiana, L. H. and Mrs. Wright; Iowa, A. B. and Mrs. Judson; Kansas, A. P. Reardon; Kentucky, D. N. and Mrs. Lafferty; Maine, C. S. and Mrs. Stetson; Maryland, B. John and Mrs. Black; Massachusetts, Edward E. and Mrs. Chapman; Michigan, J. C. and Mrs. Ketcham; Minnesota, C. L. and Mrs. Rice; Montana, O. E. and Mrs. Young; Missouri, C. O. and Mrs. Raine; Nebraska, J. D. and Mrs. Ream; New Hamp-

shire, Wesley and Mrs. Adams; New Jersey, G. W. F. and Mrs. Gaunt; New York, W. H. and Mrs. Vary; Ohio, T. C. and Mrs. Laylin; Oregon, C. E. and Mrs. Spence; Pennsylvania, W. T. and Mrs. Creasy; Rhode Island, J. A. and Mrs. Peckham; South Dakota, G. W. Dixon; Vermont, W. N. and Mrs. Cady; Washington, C. B. and Mrs. Kegley; West Virginia, T. C. and Mrs. Atkeson; Wisconsin, H. M. and Mrs. Culbertson; Wyoming, A. F. and Mrs. Hart.

In regard to the condition of the Order, the Worthy Master said:

"Grange influence is being felt in every department of life; it has become a strong factor in shaping legislation, both state and national, that is, in the interest of the masses. The Grange today occupies an enviable position; its action is being watched by every interest, for they fully realize that the organized farmer is a force that must hereafter be reckoned with.

"As time goes on and our Order grows in numbers and influence, there is more expected, more responsibility placed upon it, so that we are compelled to assume greater burdens of responsibility and reach out into broader fields of work. I am glad to be able to state that the Grange is measuring up to this new responsibility, and that more and better work is being done and broader fields of activity are being entered than ever before. Thus it must continue if we expect to hold the confidence of the people.

"The Grange holds a proud record in the past for things undertaken and accomplished, but we must remember that we must live for the present and for the future.

"Our membership, taken as a whole, is a united and harmonious body that has but one object in view, and that is what is best for the people and our great institutions. With this general harmony and unity of purpose it is no wonder that there have been more Granges organized during the fiscal year than there has been in any one year for almost half a century."

North Dakota was reported as a new Grange state, but it was not represented. The Worthy Master indorsed a sound financial policy as follows:

"The total resources of the National Grange October 1, 1913, were \$95,923.04. During the year this has been increased, and October 1, 1914, we had to the credit of the National Grange \$99,992.34. In my opinion it will be good business policy to stead-

ily increase this fund, in a ratio that will not hamper progress or extension work, until we have \$100,000 for a permanent investment."

The Worthy Master condemned free distribution of seeds; favored federal aid for highway improvement; discussed foreign immigration; farm credit; peace; the fiftieth anniversary of the Grange; *The National Grange Monthly*, of which he said: "It is no longer an experiment, but has proven that a strictly Grange paper can be maintained by the Order. It is exerting a wonderful influence; for, through its columns, our members are kept informed as to the real and true condition of the Order. It enables them to more fully understand and appreciate the full scope of Grange work."

Of the Grange legislative policies, he said:

"In reviewing the records of the National Grange it is interesting to note the number of legislative questions that have been prominently before the Grange. In later years many of these have been enacted into law and have consequently been dropped from our consideration. It cannot be estimated exactly how much influence the Grange has had in bringing about a change of sentiment as well as the enactment of many good, wholesome and just laws, but it is a fact that the Grange has exerted a powerful influence on legislation, and it stands today with an unsullied record, recognized as a true and conservative organization—one that asks not for special favors, but demands equity and justice to all."

Supplementing this, Worthy Overseer W. H. Vary said in his report:

"We cannot afford to be satisfied with the conquests already won, and the advancements that have been made through the influence of our noble Order in making farm life more worth the living, but we must work for still further advancement until we can demonstrate to the world at large that we are what we claim to be—the greatest organization known that has for its object, not only the betterment of agricultural conditions, not only the creation of a better manhood and womanhood among ourselves, but the uplift and benefit of humanity in the world at large.

"Perplexing problems are continually arising that not only vitally affect the interests of agriculture, but the happiness and contentment of our fellow-citizens engaged in other occupations, and it is for the grand Order of Patrons of Husbandry to do its share in the settlement of these important questions, to the end that agriculture may not only receive its just reward, but that we regard the rights and interests of others. To do this will require our best thought and earnest effort.

"The splendid achievements of the Order during the short space of less than half a century is a monument to the wisdom and foresight of the founders of our Order who builded better than they knew. The founders of our Order have passed away; but their works still live in the hearts and homes of all true Patrons of Husbandry, and to you and me has fallen the priceless heritage of their energy and faithful labor in the cause of agriculture. When our task is finished, and our labors are over, and we have surrendered our places of responsibility and trust, and have given account of our stewardship, may it be said of us, as we can and do say of them, 'Well done, good and faithful Stewards!'"

The Worthy Treasurer reported the total resources of the National Grange October 1, 1914: Balance with the Farmers' Loan and Trust Co., \$22,751.92; deposits in savings banks, \$10,443.62; railway and other bonds, \$55,414.12; loans on real estate, \$10,852.34; unexpended Grange extension fund, 244.90; unexpended deputy fee fund, \$285.44; a total of \$99,992.34.

Secretary Freeman reported 490 new Granges organized and 28 dormant Granges reorganized during the year.

The Board of Managers of *The National Grange Monthly* made a full report, in which it said:

"The past twelve months in the work of *The National Grange Monthly* has been the most successful in the history of the publication, and the annual report now about to be made must bring distinct satisfaction to this body, as well as to the Patrons everywhere, inasmuch as the paper has made itself such a positive and helpful factor in the Grange work of the country.

"Wholly aside from the financial report, there are ample evidences of the success of *The National Grange Monthly* and of the certainty that it has now been placed upon a basis of permanence that leaves no doubt of its future. The increase of its

subscription list to nearly three times its size at the start; a steady gain in advertising patronage and the recognition of the paper by the leading advertising agencies in the country; the growing extent to which *The National Grange Monthly* is accepted as the official spokesman of the Grange and the quotation of its statement of Grange policies and plans by the press of the United States, agricultural and otherwise; and, best of all, the growing confidence in the paper, expressed by the Patrons everywhere, and backed up by their increasing subscriptions and more frequent contributions—these are the proof of success in *The National Grange Monthly* to which first importance may be attached.”

The following resolutions, introduced by T. C. Atkeson, were unanimously adopted:

“Whereas, The National Grange has accumulated a considerable surplus fund, and, recognizing the influence and prestige resulting from a sound financial condition, therefore

“Resolved, That the National Grange, in forty-eighth annual session assembled, does hereby create a permanent endowment fund of \$100,000, and the Executive Committee is hereby instructed to make the best possible investment of said fund in government, state, municipal or other bonds or first mortgages upon farm lands, not to exceed one-half the value thereof, out of any funds that are now or may hereafter be in the treasury of the National Grange and available for that purpose, until the full amount of \$100,000 is invested. As such investments mature they shall be reinvested and the amount maintained at not less than \$100,000, and the interest only shall be available for current use.”

This would seem to fix the policy of the National Grange on that subject. “Position on Conservation”:

“We recommend that the National Grange, in reaffirming its position on conservation, insist that no national resource now owned by the Government, either federal or state, shall be sold, but shall be developed, either by the Government or under a system of short term leases, and that all forest lands, water powers, mines and similar natural resources that have passed into private ownership shall be taxed at a fair rate on their full franchise valuation. The operating capitalists are entitled to a fair return on the capital invested, but they are not entitled to a monopoly tribute for the natural resources which God, in his infinite wisdom, gave for the equal benefit of all the people of this and succeeding generations.”

The Grange, throughout its past history, had in one way and another, had much to say on the subject of "road improvement." At this session a special committee was appointed to formulate what may be said to be the Grange road improvement platform. Because of the importance of the subject, the complete report is reproduced here:

"Whereas, The Grange has been the pioneer in the good roads movement and national aid for same, and as the sentiment for good roads is practically universal; and

"Whereas, There is a great danger of this sentiment being diverted toward the construction of scenic highways and boulevards for the benefit of tourists and pleasure seekers, rather than for the business interests of the general public; and

"Whereas, The roads needed first are those which put the farmers in close touch with the trading centers and enable the producer and consumer to reach each other quickly, inexpensively and easily, and save the farmer much money in the cost of haulage and which enable the consumer to receive a share of the benefits; and

"Whereas, The more economical and more expeditious transportation of the products of the farm to the consumer would reduce the cost of living and be of equal benefit to both consumer and producer; and

"Whereas, While the scenic road advertises the state, the interior highway develops its resources, the former are desirable when they can be afforded, but the latter are indispensable; and

"Whereas, Business roads are the chief concern of the Grange, and we insist that their construction, maintenance and control shall be kept within the smallest possible unit of population or area consistent with the highest efficiency of administration, in order that the money appropriated shall be spent close to the people most directly concerned; therefore, be it

"Resolved, By the National Grange in this the forty-eighth annual session, that the old adage, 'Business before pleasure,' is especially true in regard to the location and construction of public highways; and be it

"Resolved, That we are opposed to the many bonding schemes advocated by those seeking touring roads, believing that the pay-as-you-go policy is far more businesslike in road building, whatever may be the unit of administration; and be it

"Resolved, That roads are local affairs and their control should remain with the people in whose midst they are located; and

Resolved, That the National and State governments may provide general standards for construction and maintenance of roads and may protect themselves by inspection; and

Resolved, That we call the attention of all our people to the grave dangers in top-heavy bureaucratic control of road administration and to the fact that much of the support for the good roads comes from those who are more anxious to build roads for bonds than to sell bonds for roads; and be it

Resolved, That the legislative committees of the Grange, both National and State, are urged to use every honorable endeavor to secure, first, business roads that will serve the best interests of both producer and consumer."

The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, The year 1866 is the real beginning of the order of Patrons of Husbandry, the appointment of Brother O. H. Kelley, by Commissioner of Agriculture Isaac Newton as an agent of the Department, to visit the southern states, was dated January 1, 1866; he started on his visit January 13, 1866, and he tells us 'from January to May, 1866, the idea of an association was fast getting fixed in my mind.' In April of the same year he first gave an outline of his plan to a friend in Georgia, and the last of the same month Miss Carrie A. Hall suggested that ladies be given full membership, many other incidents indicate that the year 1866 was the formative year; and

Whereas, The meeting of the National Grange in November, 1916, will be the fiftieth annual session; therefore, be it

Resolved, That a suitable celebration commemorative of the founding of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry be ordered for some date during the 1916 session of the National Grange, and in furtherance of this idea that a committee of three be appointed at this session, with instructions to report to the 1915 session, a plan for a suitable semi-centennial celebration of the founding of the Order, with such recommendations as the committee may think proper for the carrying out of such plan."

W. N. Cady, Vermont, was elected a member of the Executive Committee for three years.

With a record of much business well done, the members of the National Grange left Wilmington in fine spirits and scattered to their several states to take up the work nearer home.

The forty-ninth annual session of the National Grange met at Oakland, Cal., November 10-19, 1915. All the officers were present and thirty-one states were represented as at the last session, except as follows: Delaware, F. C. and Mrs. Bancroft; Ohio, L. J. and Mrs. Taber; Pennsylvania, J. A. and Mrs. McSparran; Wyoming, Thos. E. Gunson.

North Dakota was entitled to representation, but her delegates were not present.

On the condition of the Order, the Worthy Master said:

"It is a pleasure to report that the Order is in a very healthy and prosperous condition in all sections of our Grange territory. Newly awakened interests are being shown by thousands of Subordinate Granges in taking up, discussing and solving those perplexing problems which must be solved and overcome in every neighborhood if the conditions of the rural community are improved as they should and must be; thus the Grange is being recognized as a power for bettering conditions of the home, the community, the state and the nation. The Grange is recognized by all as one of the greatest factors for the betterment of community life. It is this recognition for service that makes the action of the Grange on all questions watched with greater interest year by year. In our prosperous condition more is expected than ever before."

The Worthy Master discussed co-operation, free distribution of seed, federal aid to highway improvement, farm credit, non-partisan tariff commission, peace, national prohibition, setting out the oft-repeated position of the Grange upon these and other subjects.

Worthy Overseer W. H. Vary asserted that:

"When men high in political life and those in executive authority really understand what this Order stands for and its aims and purposes, they will readily give greater consideration to what is said when our leaders speak. We, as farmers and leaders of this great organization, have a right to be and are justly proud of our profession, for agriculture is really and truly a profession equal, if not superior, to any other profession or calling, and one on which success in many other lines of business depends. It has been truly said that when agriculture languishes all other business declines."

The Worthy Treasurer reported the total resources of the National Grange October 1, 1915, to be \$104,233.79.

The Secretary reported 542 new Granges organized and twenty dormant Granges reorganized during the year.

When the official program of the sessions of the National Grange was issued, it contained the announcement that November 13 would be Patrons' Day at the Panama-Pacific Exposition. In accordance with this program, the Grange went to the Exposition ground in a body, where the members were met by some of the representatives of the Board of Managers and escorted to the California building, where Commissioner Vogelsang, who represented the president of the Board of Managers, extended a hearty welcome and presented to the National Grange a bronze plaque, suitably engraved. Worthy Master Oliver Wilson received it, and in well-chosen words expressed his thanks and the thanks of the National Grange for the courtesy extended.

The Patrons then visited different sections of the California building, where many courtesies were shown them. The remainder of the time was spent in seeing the great exposition.

The usual memorial service was held on Sunday afternoon in the magnificent chapel of Leland Stanford, Jr., University at Palo Alto, to which the whole membership went for that purpose.

The Committee on the Fiftieth Anniversary reported as follows:

"We, your committee appointed to recommend some plan by which we may properly celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the National Grange, beg to submit the following report:

Whereas, The meeting of the National Grange held in 1916 will be the fiftieth anniversary; and

Whereas, The National Grange has made a record of which it may well be proud; therefore, be it

“Resolved, That the first Saturday, or such part of it as may be needed, after the opening of our session at our next annual meeting, be set aside as celebration day, and that our Worthy Master be authorized to appoint a committee of five whose duty shall be to prepare a program suitable to the celebration of this great day.

“We further recommend that this program committee select some one to write an address containing a short but true history of the organization, growth and achievements of our Order; that this address be printed in pamphlet form and placed in the Secretary’s hands for distribution as Grange literature.

“We would further recommend that each State Grange celebrate in some appropriate manner the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the Patrons of Husbandry; also that each subordinate Grange in the United States of America, on December 4, 1916, or at its regular stated meeting in December, give a program fitting the occasion.

“We would further recommend that these meetings be open to the public and that as much publicity be given to our achievement and to the principles of our Order as possible.”

The Committee on Woman’s Suffrage made a comprehensive report with these comments and recommendations:

“On behalf of the National Grange, your committee views with keen satisfaction the present encouraging position of the woman’s suffrage movement. We are proud of the fact that the Grange was the first great body in this nation to adopt woman’s suffrage, and to safeguard it by providing for the equality of women with men in the exercise of all rights, privileges and governing powers in its organic laws. Thus, the Grange, having both by precept and example, been the pioneers of this ‘New Freedom,’ it is eminently fitting it should take a foremost stand in the movement to give to all women their right of suffrage. Therefore, we recommend

“1. That the National Grange reaffirm its unqualified indorsement of woman’s suffrage and urge all State Granges to take similar action.

“2. That the National Grange indorse and support the movement to secure equal suffrage by amendment of the Federal Constitution.”

While the National Grange had many times indorsed woman’s suffrage as a principle and recommended its

adoption by states, this is the first time it had ever indorsed "equal suffrage by amendment of the federal constitution."

In lieu of several resolutions on peace, which were referred to the Committee on Peace, it made the following report, which is given in full because of the world-wide interest in the subject at this time.

Whereas, There is a widespread agitation for the increase of the army and navy, involving a high expenditure of money, upon the pretext and supposition that they may be needed to defend this nation against attack from other nations, and this urgent plea—under the name of preparedness—is being advocated by special interests that will be financially benefited thereby; by those who, not directly benefited, but who, through special privilege have amassed great wealth and who wish to increase the army for their protection; by those who, from training, have a taste for militarism; and by metropolitan newspapers influenced by the foregoing classes and by their advertising patronage; and

Whereas, The reply to it all is: (1) All the large nations of the world from whom the United States has any reason whatever to fear in its present state of preparedness are slaughtering each other and daily growing weaker physically and financially; one-half their fighting force is already killed or maimed and crippled, and, within the probable duration of the war, in the end will be in a pitiable and helpless condition. And it is against these helpless nations that selfishness and men who have lost their heads and been carried off their feet are crying out for preparedness. This world's war will close with public sentiment against war as a means of settling disputes.

"(2) A nation on the eastern continent surrounded by other nations may be forced to arm, so long as neighboring nations continue to do so. But the United States is separated from them by wide oceans far from their base of supplies, and the reason for a nation in Europe or Asia arming does not apply to us.

"(3) Preparedness that will make us efficient and strong in time of peace as well as war, is a wise, economic, industrial and educational policy that will increase opportunity, encourage thrift and industry, increasing the number of home owners and tending to make a prosperous, happy and contented people. Instead of following a military policy that ruined the civilizations of Rome and Spain, and is now destroying that of the other nations of Europe, we should learn wisdom and that the victories of peace are greater than the victories of war.

"The five billion dollars contemplated to be spent on army and navy, at \$5,000 per mile, would build one million miles of macadamized pikes in the United States, crossing it five hundred times from ocean to ocean, or from its northern to its southern boundary, putting the money among the people, tending to make them prosperous, happy and contented, to love their nation and ready to defend it. With such a road system an unlimited number of men could be transferred in motor cars and concentrated quickly where needed.

"We call attention to the fact that the regular soldier has no wife, is not allowed to marry, has nothing to defend, and the volunteer soldier in times of war has ever excelled him—the regular soldier, in time of war, permanently dropping out of sight. They were whipped at the first battle of Manassas, in our late war, by volunteers, and were never heard of afterwards.

Whereas, We hope the time will soon come when democratic ideals will prevail over all the world; when kings, kaisers and czars shall be no more, and their crimes shall be memories of a past age; when the dove of peace, like a winged messenger of heaven, shall hover over all the earth.

Whereas, Should all profit be taken away from the manufacture of armor plate and munitions of war, and supplied by government manufacture or control of profits, we believe that much of this clamor for "preparedness" would soon cease; therefore, be it

Resolved, Until universal peace is established, we favor the manufacture of its own munitions of war by the federal government.

Resolved, That we are opposed to any increase in the standing army or any material increase in the navy.

Resolved, That we approve the stand the President has taken to maintain peaceful relations with all nations.

Resolved, While we recognize the right of the government to draft men to protect the nation, we believe property rights inferior to human rights, and that in event of war to repel invasion or to protect our rights on a foreign soil, we demand the federal government shall assume control of all transportation lines, and all plants that may be used for the manufacture of the munitions of war.

Resolved, That until such time as the confidence in human integrity and human righteousness enables the people of the earth to maintain world-wide peace without the intervention of military and naval police forces, we favor the formation of an

international police force to be contributed to by all adhering nations and to be under the direction and control of such international Court of Control as the adhering nations may decide."

The Committee on Resolutions, to which had been referred several resolutions indorsing a nonpartisan tariff commission, made the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

"Your committee has carefully considered all the above resolutions, and we recommend the following briefer statement as a substitute therefor:

" *hereas*, The tariff legislation of the country for many years has been unfair to agriculture, and productive of great economic waste, and is a handicap to real progress; and

" *Whereas*, The time has come to demand that the juggling of the tariff for political advantage or in the interest of favored industries shall cease, and that future tariff legislation shall be based on ascertained facts and be in the interest of all people. Therefore, be it

" *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this convention that Congress shall at once create and permanently maintain a strictly nonpartisan tariff commission to make a full and impartial investigation that shall bring out the facts, and report the same to Congress from time to time, and that in the makeup of said commission agriculture shall be fully and fairly represented thereon. And,

" *Resolved, further*, That the Legislative Committee be and is hereby instructed to do all it can to bring about the necessary legislation at the ensuing session of Congress."

Several resolutions dealing with "farm credits" were referred to the Committee on Resolutions, and after the matter had been extensively discussed it was referred back to the Committee with instructions to formulate the policy of the National Grange upon that subject.

The Committee reported the following, which was adopted:

" *Resolved*, (1) That after years of investigation and a nationwide discussion of the subject of farm credit, we see no reason for materially changing the position taken by the National Grange at the Manchester and Wilmington sessions, and we reaffirm the same;

" *Resolved*, (2) That it is the opinion of the National Grange

that any legislation for the purpose of bettering farm credits is a part of the great national policy of conservation of the food supply, and as such the government of the Nation should itself carry out the policy, and it cannot safely be delegated to private capital for exploitation and profit;

Resolved, (3) That any farm credit association, which shall receive any privilege of or under federal or state law, should be composed of farmers and not of capitalists of high finance, who have heretofore dominated agricultural credit and created conditions which now demand relief;

Resolved, (4) That any farm credit plan which does not include a direct reduction of the 'prevailing rates' of interest, as well as a long term of small annual payment upon farm mortgages, will not meet agricultural requirements or materially benefit our farmers;

Resolved, (5) That no farm credit law, which places in the hands of private capital the power to make interest rates on mortgage bonds, without limitation by federal law, will meet either the needs of agriculture or the just demands of the National Grange;

Resolved, (6) That the government of the United States shall lend money at a rate not to exceed $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ to the farmers, upon 30-year farmland mortgages, with such provisions as may be necessary to make the government perfectly safe, with the addition of an amortization charge that will pay the principal in that time, provided that not more than \$10,000 shall be loaned to any one person and that no person owning more than \$20,000 worth of land shall be entitled to these privileges;

Resolved, (7) That the Legislative Committee and officers of the Grange throughout the country are instructed to insist, on behalf of this body, that more substantial government aid to steady interest rates and uphold the market for farm mortgage bonds shall be included in the bill finally passed by Congress."

The following officers were elected for the next biennial term:

Master—Oliver Wilson, Illinois.

Overseer—W. H. Vary, New York.

Lecturer—E. E. Chapman, Massachusetts.

Steward—F. C. Bancroft, Delaware.

Assistant Steward—John Morris, Colorado.

Chaplain—A. P. Reardon, Kansas.

Treasurer—Mrs. E. S. McDowell, Massachusetts.

Secretary—C. M. Freeman, Ohio.

Gatekeeper—C. L. Rice, Minnesota.

Ceres—Mrs. Eva Sherwood, Connecticut.

Pomona—Mrs. Cora E. Ketcham, Michigan.

Flora—Mrs. Ella R. F. Peckham, Rhode Island.

Assistant Steward—Mrs. Mabel H. Harland, Idaho.

Members of the Executive Committee—C. S. Stetson, W. N. Cady
and A. B. Judson.

This closes the story of the National Grange up to the present. The fiftieth annual session of the National Grange will be held at Washington, D. C., November, 1916, when the semi-centennial anniversary of the Order will be celebrated at the place of its founding.

CHAPTER XXVII

What the Grange Has Achieved in Half a Century

After following the thread of Grange history for half a century, it seems appropriate in this closing chapter to summarize to some extent its aspirations and achievements. The fact that the Grange has been able to perpetuate itself and its machinery of organization among the farmers of this country for half a century is alone no mean achievement, and is a complete refutation of the oft-told story that the farmers will not stick together. It is true that all of them will not stick, but the Grange is a demonstration that some of them will.

It has been said that "the Grange claims everything from the Interstate Commerce Act to the Anti-Sherman law." That specific charge is not true; but we do claim even more than that. For fifty years the Grange has indorsed, urged and supported every proposition for the educational, social and economic betterment of farm conditions and agricultural people. Many progressive things have been accomplished, and agriculture is, in some measure at least, keeping pace with the up-to-now-ness of the world.

No well-informed person would claim that the Grange is wholly responsible for any of these agricultural achievements, but that it has been an important, and, in many instances, the dominating factor in bringing them about, no one but the uninformed will deny. In a democratic government the only irresistible force is the power of well-directed public opinion. Upon all movements for rural betterment, the Grange, through its perfect and well-disciplined machinery, has been a leader in creating that public opinion which has

influenced Congress, legislatures and courts, and has shaken to its foundations the old, circumscribed, aristocratic idea of education, and broadened our social and economic views.

We have no desire to claim for the Grange more than it is fairly entitled to, nor is it possible for us to follow its benign influence through the work of all the thousands of Subordinate and Pomona Granges, or through the splendid achievements of the several State Granges, every one of which has its own story and its own meed of accomplishments to its credit, each dealing with the problems of its local environment and its local political, social, economic and educational requirements. With all this the National Grange has been in harmony and sympathy, and as the head of this splendid machinery of organization the State, Pomona and Subordinate Granges have always been in substantial accord.

While the preceding chapters of this story have mainly followed the story of the National Grange as a means of narrowing the field, it covers, in a general way, the entire activities of the Order. In the language of Dr. S. J. Buck, "The Grange Movement was national in its scope, and some of the conditions which it sought to remedy were prevalent throughout the country; still, the characteristics of the movement differed in the various sections and were conditioned in part on differences in the agricultural situation."

Dr. Buck's excellent book on the "Granger Movement" covers only the decade from 1870 to 1880, which was the sensational and undisciplined decade of the movement; but the organization did not succumb to the reaction which he seems to consider the end of the movement. The fact is it cleared its decks for action; and has since been in better condition for real service than during the period when it had not yet "found

itself." During that period the Grange found it impossible to keep entirely out of politics, and in the public mind the Granger Movement was largely, if not wholly, a political movement, which collapsed along with the Farmers' Alliance and some other farmers' organizations which went up in the political smoke of the Populist Party. With this political movement the Grange as an organization had nothing to do, although the excitement growing out of it and the issues presented by it had much to do with demoralizing the Grange membership in many localities. That the Grange did not collapse utterly under the conditions of the times may certainly be classed among its achievements.

It was a widespread opinion among the farmers in the early years of the Grange movement that the farmers were not represented in our law-making bodies as they should be and that their interests were neglected or discriminated against. That was largely true then, and it is even more prevalent now, for farmer representatives in Congress and our state legislatures are becoming as extinct as the fabled dodo. A real working farmer in Congress is a thing of the past, and he is a rare specimen in some of our state legislatures. For instance, in West Virginia, in 1914, there were eighteen candidates for Congress representing the three political parties, and the farmers of the state had seventeen lawyers and the president of a university to choose from to elect six congressmen, with the last census showing eighty per cent of the population as rural. The outcome was the election of three Republican and three Democratic lawyers. This is not the only state with that kind of record, and this is one of the discouraging features of the so-called rural betterment movement of the present day. The Grange has done what it could without breaking into partisan politics to stem the tide that has

been setting against the farmers as an important factor in our governing citizenship.

The Grange has also done all it could to hold back the "landlord and tenant" simoon from swallowing up our independent landowning citizenship. The situation is surely serious enough when the best informed authorities agree that by 1920 more than half the farms—and largely the best farms—will be operated by tenants and owned by nonresident landlords.

In the early days of the Grange, as might have been expected, it attempted many impractical things, it realized that conditions were wrong, and in its inexperienced efforts to right them it made mistakes. But all the experience, cunning and unscrupulous chicanery of the country was brought to bear by those who feared the uprising of the farmers to secure their embarrassment and downfall. The Grange ship dragged her anchor, but she did not lose her moorings, and while she has not yet, and probably never will, reach the shore with all her self-assumed cargo of human betterment, she is still afloat on the ocean of human hopes and aspirations and likely to remain there.

The Grange did not set out to be a co-operative association, but because of the conditions existing in the country along in the early seventies that issue was forced upon the Order, and it attempted to solve it. While it failed in a measure, the lessons taught and experience gained have been important factors in every co-operative enterprise since, and the doctors and professors who are having so much to say nowadays upon the subject of agricultural co-operation may find every thought or suggestion they make in the Grange literature of forty years ago.

We are told of the farmers that, "just as they had lost political power, so their social position had been lowered until the tilling of the soil, formerly considered one of the highest of occupations, has

come to be looked upon as a pursuit suitable only to those who were not equipped for anything else." There are many causes for this condition, and one of the fundamental purposes of the Grange was to eliminate the causes and cure this condition. Just how far it has succeeded may be a matter of doubt, but that the Grange threw itself into the breach with considerable effect cannot be doubted.

The whole tendency of our educational system was calculated to aggravate and intensify the situation, which the Grange sought at least to modify, through a reform of our educational system.

Provision had been made for the establishment of agricultural colleges in 1862; but, until the Grange came on the scene in the early seventies, what a miserable farce they were! And even after the Grange began its heroic fight for a decent compliance with the national law appropriating the funds for such colleges, in many of the states they did as little for agriculture as they could and be able to obtain the funds. We now see agriculture coming into its own in all the "land grant" colleges.

The transportation problem, involving all the abuses of the railroad development, was brought into the limelight and a fight put up by the Grange in the State Legislatures, in the courts and in Congress, which culminated in the decision of the courts that the creature could not be greater than the creator, the creation of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and the establishment of the principle of the right of the government to control public utilities. Of course, the Grange was not the only influence that brought this about, but that it had a tremendous influence upon it no student of the subject can deny.

The farmers found themselves confronted with organizations of capital in every department of business with which, as individuals, they were helpless to cope, and counter organization held out the only hope of

relief. All the tariff, currency and taxation legislation was influenced in the interest of others and against the farmers. That the farmers should attempt to counteract all this by organization is not to be wondered at.

The existing conditions put the farmers in a frame of mind to grasp at any straw, and the wonderful growth of the Grange in the seventies was the result. Self-seeking demagogues wormed their way into the Order, and when they could not use it they sought to kill it, and in many places succeeded entirely. That the Grange did not perish, but held fast to the principles of right and eternal justice must not be put down as one of the least of the Grange achievements.

As Mr. Aiken tells us, "Everybody wanted to join the Grange then—lawyers to get clients, doctors to get patients, merchants to get customers, Shylocks to get their pound of flesh, and sharpers to catch the babes in the woods." The Grange has never been able to entirely absolve itself from that kind of membership, and even now, at the end of half a century, it needs to beware. A little more of the real farmer and a little less of anyone else would be wholesome.

The Grange grew entirely too rapidly for its own good in the early days, and a reaction must come to squeeze out the flood of undesirables. The full effects of this was seen during the eighties, when bankruptcy and final dissolution stared the National Grange in the face, and many State Granges and thousands of Subordinate Granges dropped out. It was then that the hyena laugh of the "kept press" and the cohorts of special privilege, was heard in the land. "The Grange is dead—long live Special Privilege," was the subconscious wail.

At the head of the Grange and all along down through the ranks of the Order were far-seeing, patriotic, loyal Patrons of Husbandry, who set themselves to work to save the Order from the attacks of its

enemies and from the dissensions within the ranks of its misguided friends. With a steady hand and a constructive statesmanship the work of rebuilding the Order was persisted in.

While the Grange succeeded in keeping out of any serious political entanglements, it had a wonderful influence in freeing its members from partisan prejudice until President Grant, in his Message to Congress in December, 1873, made the statement that "Political partisanship has almost ceased to exist, especially in the agricultural regions."

Among the important accomplishments of the Grange was its patriotic effort to allay the sectional strife and bitter animosities growing out of the Civil War. Although it did not bring them all into one great brotherhood, as Mr. Kelley had hoped, it certainly did much to allay this bitterness among the farmers of the two sections.

Many of the state legislatures enacted reform laws which were advocated by the Grange and other farmers' organizations, and which were considered very radical at the time, but most of them have been sustained by the courts, and have become the basis of much subsequent legislation in the interest of the people. It is impossible even to name all these subjects of legislation here, but the statutes of many of the states are full of them. The Granger railroad legislation alone in some of the central western states would fill volumes, and the same influence spread into all the states from Maine to Oregon.

The Grange was organized primarily as a social and educational order, and while it ultimately covered a much wider field, as we have seen, it certainly did much to break up the isolation of farm life, and having provided for the admission of women and children down to fourteen years of age on a full equality, it partook largely of the character of an enlarged family. It was

the first secret order to admit women on an equality with men, and while it has never been a woman suffrage propaganda, there can be but little doubt but the teaching and practices of the Grange have done much to promote that cause. Undoubtedly the Order offered to women even more than men an opportunity for broader service and the cultivation of the social graces. This alone is no mean achievement.

The Grange was not intended as a "benefit" or "charitable institution," but it inculcated the principle of charity throughout its membership, and, first and last, large sums have been expended by Subordinate, State and National Granges for charity. On the part of the National Grange at least its liberality in that direction was greatly abused. County fairs were established in many places, agricultural and Grange newspapers were established, and in practically all the states some form of state department of agriculture was created and farmers' institute work begun through Grange influence.

The Grange led in the fight against the extension of patents on sewing machines and farm machinery, thereby very much reducing their price to consumers. It also, through the courts and legislatures, established the protection of innocent purchasers of patented articles.

"The Granger Movement," says Dr. Buck, "was primarily a movement for agricultural organization for the advancement of the welfare of farmers in every possible way—socially, intellectually, politically and economically—by concerted effort. It was, moreover, the first attempt at agricultural organization on a large scale, but it was far from being the last, and the ideas and ideals, if not the direct influence, of the Patrons of Husbandry can be traced in every one of the later organizations," and it may be added that the Grange still remains the balance wheel of all of them, and as

a rule they weaken themselves just in proportion as they depart from Grange ideals. The Grange has always extended the hand of fellowship to other farmers' organizations, but has consistently avoided "entangling alliances" with any of them.

The Grange early began agitation for the elevation of the Department of Agriculture to a cabinet position, and insisted upon it in the face of bitter opposition until it was secured. Perhaps this would have come about in the course of time if there had been no Grange agitation, but it is just as easy and just as fair to say the colonies would have gained their independence at some time if there had been no "Boston Tea Party," and that someone else would have been the "father of his country" if Washington had never been born. All we have ever claimed for the Grange is that it was a leader of agricultural thought, which it crystallized and made potent through organized influences.

As early as 1880 the Grange began the agitation for the teaching of agriculture in the public schools, and the idea was laughed at by so-called educators everywhere, but the Grange persisted, until now it has become popular and the educators are claiming to be the discoverers of the idea. Educators sometimes blind themselves kicking up the dust about the catacombs of Rome instead of the dust of the field, and the world is fast coming to realize that some knowledge of the milky way of the Jersey cow is more important than knowledge of the milky way that spans the heavens; and the Grange is largely responsible for this change.

The Grange is not a temperance society, but it has always taught and enforced temperance among its own members, and has gone on record scores of times in favor of prohibition, local, state-wide and nation-wide; and that it has had considerable influence in creating sentiment in favor of prohibition, it would be ridiculous

to deny. The Grange has always opposed fraud and adulteration in human foods, and took an active part in securing oleomargarine legislation to prevent that manufactured commodity from being sold as butter.

The Grange took an active part in securing the law creating agricultural experiment stations, and later was active in securing federal appropriations for agricultural extension and demonstration work.

Ballot reform was advocated by the Grange in all the states, and it has everywhere advocated "corrupt practice" laws and the greatest possible protection to our ballot system. It supported with all its might the passage of the anti-trust law, and has ever since sought to improve and strengthen it. It favored the creation of the Department of Commerce and the Department of Labor, with their heads as members of the President's Cabinet.

Among the most important achievements of the Grange should be placed the establishment of free rural mail delivery, and like it, though of less importance to rural people, postal savings banks; and one of the most splendid victories of all was the securing of a parcels post. We cannot go into these matters in detail, but that the influence of the Grange was a dominant factor in securing them no well-informed person will doubt. All these measures have abundantly vindicated themselves. A government-owned-and-operated telegraph and telephone service is being strongly urged upon Congress now.

The election of United States senators by the people was early advocated by the Grange; and the securing of fairer treatment at the hands of money lenders, and a lower rate of interest for farmers have been advocated by the Grange from the first, which culminated in the "rural credit" agitation, which has been enacted into law. All these things and many more, as we have

seen, have had the powerful support and influence of the Grange.

With this we close the record of the past, with all its heroism, loyalty, and unselfish devotion to ideals. Commemorating the splendid achievements of half a century, the Grange has planned a semi-centennial celebration of the founding of the Order at Washington, the place of the birth of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, at the fiftieth annual meeting of the National Grange in November, 1916. All the Founders and practically all the early leaders of the movement have passed away, leaving behind them to the farmers of the country this goodly heritage—The Order of Patrons of Husbandry—which shall live after us, if we do our duty as they did theirs, to bless generations of farmers and their families who live amid the fields, in the valleys and on the hills of our country.

A contemplation of the achievements of the past, however great and important, would be sad indeed if it did not furnish inspiration and hope for the future. Standing at the top of this half century of Grange history, we look across the next half century to the hundredth anniversary of the founding of this Order, and see emblazoned upon a banner the long list of Grange achievements in a hundred years. We will not be there—only those who are children now or those who are yet unborn will be there then, but if we do our work well, *it* will be there to shout back across the years and the times and places: "Well done, good and faithful servants!" God bless the Grange for all its splendid work of the past, and guide it in its work of human righteousness, and keep it a champion of better life and better living in the open country!

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OLIVER HUDSON KELLEY

One of the Founders and Secretary of the National Grange

Oliver Hudson Kelley was born in Boston, January 7, 1826. He received his education in the public schools of that city, finishing with a course in Chauncey Hall School. At the age of twenty-one years he went to Chicago and took a position as a clerk in a drug store, at the same time acting as a reporter for the *Chicago Tribune*. He remained in Chicago only about six months, going from there to Peoria, where he obtained employment in a telegraph office. He was present in the office when Rufus Chadwick installed the relay magnet, and, not having received a register, took messages from St. Louis by sound—a wonderful thing in those days, and probably the first instance of the kind.

In August, 1848, Mr. Kelley was transferred to Bloomington, Ia., but about a year after that he gave up the business of telegraphy and went to Itasca, in the northern part of Minnesota. There he took up a claim of government land and established a trade with the Indians. The trade was continued until the making of a new treaty removed the Indians from the vicinity. He was the second person in the state to be initiated into the Order of Free Masonry, and was the oldest living member present at the jubilee celebration held in Minnesota in 1899.

He was married in 1852 to Miss Temperance Lane of Boston, who had gone from her native city to Minnesota to teach. They had four daughters. Mrs. Kelley passed away in May, 1912.

Mr. Kelley continued on his farm until 1864, when he went to Washington and obtained a clerkship in the Department of Agriculture. In 1866 he was honored by a commission which took him through the southern states to inquire into agricultural conditions and needs. From this trip he returned profoundly impressed with the particular need of organized action on the part of the farmers of the country.

The story of his life for the five years following the return from the South is interwoven with the history of the Grange. He has partly told the story in his "History of the Patrons of Husbandry," printed in 1875.

Mr. Kelley was made Secretary of the National Grange when it consisted solely of the Founders, their families, and a few friends, and started out to organize Granges with his "railroad ticket to Harrisburg and \$2.50 of Grange funds in his pocket," against the protests of his associates. Handicapped as he was by lack of funds, his success was extraordinary, and Granges soon sprang up as by magic.

At the first representative meeting of the National Grange, held in Mr. Kelley's home, in February, 1873, he was elected Secretary for a term of three years, and was re-elected twice, at Louisville, Ky., in November, 1875, and in Cincinnati, O., in 1877, the official term having been changed from three to two years.

In 1875, he removed the office and his family from Washington to Louisville. Later he became tempted by dazzling offers of land in Florida and invested in a large tract of land in the northern portion of that state near the Gulf of Mexico. He removed the Secretary's office to Carrabelle, Fla., and went there to live with his family. In the new work of developing the country he had not the time to give to the Grange that the work demanded, and at the twelfth annual session, held in Richmond, Va., he resigned his office. He returned

to Washington to spend his last years. He died in 1913, in his eighty-seventh year.

In founding and promoting the great farmers' fraternity, which has been a blessing to millions of country people, he made his name immortal.

WILLIAM SAUNDERS

One of the Founders and First Master of the National Grange

William Saunders was born in St. Andrews, Scotland, where he received the greater part of his education. His paternal ancestors for at least three generations had been noted gardeners. His father was gardener for Sir David Baird, and William, when a boy, lived and worked in the beautiful gardens belonging to the estate.

It was the family ambition to make him a minister, and after a preliminary education at Madras he was sent to the St. Mary's Divinity School, but the instinct of the gardener was too strong to overcome and he left the school before finishing the course to become a journeyman to an expert gardener. Later he took a course in horticulture at the College of Edinburgh.

In 1848, he married Miss Martha Mildwaters, and together they came to America. His first position in this country was with Mr. Bostwick at New Haven, Conn., as gardener. He soon became an authority on horticulture and a contributor to the horticultural publications of the country, and was assistant editor of the *Horticulturist* for many years.

In 1854, Mr. Saunders formed a partnership with Thomas Mehan at Germantown, Pa., in the business of landscape gardening and horticulture.

In 1862, he accepted an appointment in the United States Department of Agriculture, where he continued to the end of his life. The value of his services to the

Department of Agriculture cannot be estimated, and it is to be regretted that the limits of this sketch preclude a full account of those services.

It was Mr. Saunders who gave to the country the complete and beautiful design of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, and he also designed the cemetery at Springfield, Ill., the grounds about the Lincoln Monument, and many other parks and public grounds.

In the *American Farmer*, Mr. Saunders, in 1855, outlined his idea of an organization of farmers very similar to that adopted by the founders of the Grange, except the secret work and ritual service. When O. H. Kelley returned from his southern trip with the idea of a secret farmers' fraternity, he was advised by some of his friends to see Mr. Saunders, which he did, and found him about to start on a tour of investigation in agricultural communities, where he expected to meet many prominent agriculturists. Mr. Saunders became interested and persuaded Mr. Kelley to draw up an outline of his plan, which he took with him, and succeeded in interesting some of his friends in the proposed organization.

On December 4, 1867, a meeting was held in Mr. Saunders' office in Washington, where the National Grange was organized. Mr. Saunders was elected Master and Mr. Kelley was made Secretary. It was decided to prepare and to send out an official circular stating the objects of the Order, and to Mr. Saunders fell the task of preparing it. Mr. Saunders was from the beginning an advocate of woman's admission to the Grange on an equal footing with men.

When Mr. Kelley started out on his first effort to organize Granges he found Mr. Saunders' name a "tower of strength" in Minnesota and elsewhere where Mr. Saunders was known.

He served six years as Master during the creative period of the Order, and many of the most beautiful

thoughts of the ritual are from his pen. A large portion of the first four degrees was written by him and the preamble to the Constitution. The Order is under lasting obligations to him for his work in its behalf.

At the first representative meeting in January, 1873, which has been designated the sixth annual meeting, Mr. Saunders retired from the office of Master, but served as a member of the Executive Committee for several years.

He died in September, 1900, being the fifth of the seven Founders of the Order to pass away.

JOHN RICHARDSON THOMPSON

One of the Founders of the Grange

John Richardson Thompson was born in Littleton, N. H., in 1833. His boyhood and early manhood were spent on the farm in New Hampshire and Vermont, where the family made their home.

At the beginning of the Civil War he enlisted in Company K, 15th Vermont Volunteers. He was made lieutenant and promoted from time to time until he was transferred to the staff of Gen. Stannard with the rank of colonel. Soon after the war he obtained an appointment in the Treasury Department, which he held for many years.

He was probably the first man with whom Mr. Kelley talked about his idea of a farmers' organization, and he was the first person who became actively interested in the plan. He was an active participant in the organization from the beginning.

At the first formal meeting of the Founders of the Order, November 15, 1867, Mr. Thompson was present, and on his motion they adjourned to December 4 to elect officers and establish the Order. At this meeting, which was later recognized as the birthday of the Order, Mr. Thompson was made Lecturer, and later,

when Mr. Ireland resigned the office of Treasurer, he was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Thompson was married twice. His first wife died in Vermont, leaving one daughter, his only child. After the close of the Civil War he married Miss Mary Herendon of Onondaga, N. Y., who died in 1881. Mr. Thompson died in December, 1893, loved by his friends and honored by members of the Grange everywhere.

Mrs. McDowell, who knew him well, says: "Mr. Thompson was an enthusiastic ritualist, a brilliant writer and a talented originator. It is to him that we owe the beautiful work of the Sixth and Seventh Degree Rituals and much of their plan." Mr. Thompson received a vote of thanks for the Ritual of the Sixth Degree from the National Grange. He also wrote a part of the Ritual of the lower degrees, and revised and corrected them all. He was a Mason of high degree and well informed as to rites and ceremonies. He was a man of strong friendships and loved by all his friends.

JOHN TRIMBLE

One of the Founders and Secretary of the National Grange

John Trimble was born in New Jersey, in 1831. His father was also named John, and was for many years a professor in Kenyon College, Gambier, O., where the subject of this sketch lived for much of his youth. He received his education in New Jersey, and studied for the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal church, receiving at some time during his active ministry the degree of Doctor of Divinity. He was actively engaged in church work until the partial failure of his health compelled him to relinquish it. He then devoted his

time and energies to educational work, and was for several years in charge of a large school in Kentucky. That school was broken up by the outbreak of the Civil War, and he then returned with his family to the North, and subsequently made his home in Washington, D. C.

For some years he filled the position of clerk in the Treasury Department, in the division devoted to the settlement of war claims. Later he resigned that position and acted as agent for the collection of war claims for several of the states.

He became acquainted with O. H. Kelley, and very early in the movement became interested in the proposed farmers' organization. During the early years of the Order he refused to accept any office, but he was a wise and trusted adviser during the formative period of the Grange.

Some time after the election of Mr. Ireland as Secretary of the National Grange Dr. Trimble became his assistant, thus giving Mr. Ireland time for his personal affairs. He then had charge of the Secretary's office in Washington, and cared for the correspondence, kept the books, etc. When the National Grange met in Nashville, Tenn., in 1884, in its eighteenth annual session, Mr. Ireland did not appear, giving as the reason urgent business matters which could not be postponed. It therefore devolved upon Dr. Trimble to report the proceedings, which he did ably and correctly. On the 28th of the following March Mr. Ireland tendered his resignation to the Executive Committee of the National Grange, and the committee accepted it and appointed Dr. Trimble to fill the vacancy. The action of the committee was confirmed at the next regular meeting of the National Grange by the almost unanimous election of Dr. Trimble. He held the office until his death, which occurred December 30, 1902, having filled the position for nearly eighteen years.

Dr. Trimble was married in 1855 to Miss Emily J. Trimble of Kentucky. Although she had the same family name they were not related. They had two children, a son and a daughter. He had no enemies in the Order; brothers and sisters might dispute so hotly over various questions that their fraternal relations became rather strained, but all united in love and reverence for the Secretary. At the last meeting which he attended, which closed about six weeks before his death, there were many sad hearts, because of his growing feebleness. None who were present will forget the touching scenes of the last days of the session, nor fail to remember his cheerful and cordial farewell. He was the sixth of the Founders to pass away.

FRANCIS MARION McDOWELL

One of the Founders and Treasurer of the National Grange

Francis Marion McDowell was born in Wayne County, N. Y., in 1831. His education was received in the common schools of his native town, and in the old institution in Alfred, N. Y., which has since become known as Alfred University. After leaving Alfred, he taught for a short time in the common schools in his home town, but, not finding teaching his natural vocation, he went, at about the age of twenty, to New York, where he became a partner in the banking and brokerage firm of Hallett & Co. He continued with the firm for some years, and during his connection with it he was sent several times to Europe for the purpose of interesting European capitalists in the construction of the Kansas Pacific Railway, his firm being responsible for the building of a large portion of that road. While in London he met Miss Josephine Spang of Philadelphia, and they were married there. She died not many years later.

In the early sixties Mr. McDowell had a severe illness, from which he did not make a good recovery, and it soon became evident that he must seek health in out-of-door occupations. He therefore returned to his native home and became engaged in grape growing on the shores of Lake Keuka. The industry was then in its infancy, but he lived to see it grow to immense proportions, the region being especially adapted by nature to the growing of this delicious fruit.

It was at a fruit fair, in Hammondsport, N. Y., that he met Mr. William Saunders, who had been sent out by the Bureau of Agriculture in Washington to investigate the grape industry in behalf of the government. The two men became friends at once, and he invited Mr. Saunders to his home over Sunday. During the visit Mr. Saunders spoke to him of the Grange movement, just beginning, and it was characteristic of Mr. McDowell's disposition that he should wish to help. He expressed the wish to Mr. Saunders, with the result that he went to Washington in the following winter, became very actively interested in the work and associated with the other six as one of the Founders.

It was Mr. McDowell who suggested that the organization should have a central division to protect the work from being broken up, and varying with different localities, and he therefore proposed the Seventh Degree, to be modeled somewhat after the ancient Old World ceremonies in honor of the goddess of agriculture. The suggestion was accepted, and, later, Mr. Thompson, consulting with Mr. McDowell, wrote the Ritual as it stands today.

He was elected Treasurer at the first representative session of the National Grange, held in Georgetown, in February, 1873. He was the third Treasurer of the National Grange, although generally spoken of as the first.

In December, 1874, he married Miss Eva Sherwood of Woodhull, N. Y. Immediately after the marriage

Mrs. McDowell became a member of the Grange and has been actively interested in the Order ever since. There is one child, a daughter.

Mr. McDowell held the office of Treasurer for twenty years, until his health, which had never been robust, showed indications of complete failure. At the twenty-seventh session of the National Grange, held in Syracuse, N. Y., in November, 1893, he gave up the position for that reason.

Mrs. McDowell was elected as his successor, and has held the office ever since. Up to the time Mrs. McDowell was re-elected in November, 1915, she and her husband had held the office of Treasurer for forty-two years, and her present term makes forty-four years.

Mr. McDowell's share in the construction of the Order was the building up of a sound, financial system and the conservation of the ideals of its Founders, two things which he had very much at heart. He deprecated the idea, which had a considerable following in the beginning, that the Order should keep itself poor and discourage the accumulation of money. "Do not be fearful," he would say, "of having a little money to work with. The possession of a bank account will bring you a patient hearing and give you the respect of those with whom your business brings you in contact, and it will enable you to do something toward eliminating the disadvantages under which the farmer has always labored." He never missed attending a National Grange session from the beginning until the time of his death in March, 1894, when he passed to the Great Beyond.

WILLIAM M. IRELAND

One of the Founders and Secretary of the National Grange

William M. Ireland was a native of Pennsylvania, but lived for many years in Washington, D. C., where

he held for several years the office of chief clerk in one of the offices in the Postoffice Department. It was there Mr. Kelley became acquainted with him and enlisted his services in the proposed Order for farmers and their families.

Mr. Ireland was an active member of the Masonic Order, and his knowledge of systems and methods in fraternal Orders was of great value in the formative period of the Grange organization.

At the organization of Potomac Grange No. 1, which was organized at Washington for the purpose of practicing the degree work, Mr. Ireland was made Master, and on the organization of the National Grange he was offered the same office, but declined and suggested Mr. Saunders.

He was the first Treasurer of the National Grange, which office he held for about three years, resigning in 1870.

Mr. Ireland's greatest work for the Order was as journalist. The Journals of Proceedings of ten annual sessions from 1875 to 1883, inclusive, were compiled by him.

At the twelfth session of the National Grange, held at Richmond, Va., Mr. Kelley resigned as Secretary, and Mr. Ireland was elected for the unexpired term, and was subsequently re-elected three times, holding the office till April, 1885, when he resigned to accept a position with General Albert Pike, head of the Order of Freemasons in this country. This position required all his time, and he never afterward met with the National Grange.

He died on Christmas Eve, 1891, after a long illness, being the second one of the Founders to pass away. Mrs. Ireland's death had occurred several years before. She was a member of Potomac Grange No. 1. Mrs. Eva S. McDowell writes of him:

"Mr. Ireland was a model of promptness and efficiency. His records as Secretary were clear and complete, and nothing was

left undone that should have been done. He was an indefatigable worker, and seemed to possess an elasticity of muscle and nerve that enabled him to get through with an incredible amount of work, not only at the annual sessions, but every day. He saw the work of a quarter century in his beloved Order and knew that his portion of it was well done. When he realized his days were numbered he wasted no time in complaint, but set his worldly and spiritual affairs in order, with his usual regard for method, and, with loving thoughts for the membership at large, and brotherly messages to his associates, he went out into the unknown hereafter with the same genial smile on his face and the same gallant wave of the hand that we, who knew him, hold in fond recollection today. His last days were cheered by personal letters from his co-workers and loving expressions of sympathy from the National Grange and many State Granges. These letters and messages he kept under his hand, filing them all carefully and systematically away and referring to them often with tender gratification."

AARON B. GROSH

One of the Founders and Chaplain of the National Grange

Aaron B. Grosh claimed Pennsylvania for his home, and at one time was a minister in the Universalist church. Owing to ill health he gave up the ministry and became a clerk in the United States Department of Agriculture.

He was a friend of William Saunders, and was asked by Mr. Saunders to take an active part in the preparation of the Ritual for the First Degree of the Order. In his painstaking work, "Mentor in the Granges and Homes of Patrons of Husbandry," he has given us a few facts in regard to himself, but with characteristic modesty he has omitted much that we should now like to know.

He was the first Chaplain of the National Grange, and held that office for eight years, being one of the two officers re-elected at the sixth annual session of that body.

The Ritual of the first four degrees owes much of its beauty to the pen of Mr. Grosh, and he gathered together the first songs of the Grange, culling appropriate ones from one source and another at a cost of infinite pains and trouble. Later, he turned these songs over to Miss Hall, who added others, obtaining such copyrights as were necessary, and published them, finally selling them to the National Grange.

It is, however, as the author of a clear and comprehensive book of instruction to Granges that Mr. Grosh is best known. In the preface of his "Mentor" he has this to say of himself, and it may serve to answer the doubt expressed by several members of the Order as to whether he was eligible, under the Constitution, to membership:

"From childhood many of my associates have been tillers of the soil. My dearest kindred and friends were and are farmers. Portions of each year of my boyhood were spent among them, sharing their labors. When I became a teacher it was in the country schools. When I entered the ministry my parishioners were principally farmers, farm laborers, and their families. When failing health and increasing years required a milder climate, I accepted a clerkship offered me in the Department of Agriculture, then lately organized in Washington, D. C. And when asked to aid in founding an Order for the benefit of the farming interest, both heart and head responded to the call."

Mr. Grosh was an Odd Fellow of high repute, and author of "Odd Fellows Improved Manual." His experience as an Odd Fellow and as a writer on "fraternity" subjects made it possible for him to produce the "Mentor in the Grange," which must forever remain a classic of Grange literature. With some revision and bringing up to date, it would be well if a new edition of the "Mentor" could be printed and given a wide circulation among the present-day members of the Order.

Mr. Grosh died at Towson, Baltimore County, Md., March 27, 1884, in the eighty-first year of his age.

DUDLEY W. ADAMS

Second Master of the National Grange

Dudley W. Adams was born in Winchendon, Mass., in 1831. His father was a sawmill operator and farmer, and the subject of this sketch led the life of an ordinary New England boy—working on the farm in the summer and attending the district school in the winter. Later he became the teacher in the same school where he gained his education.

At the age of twenty-one he went to Waukon, Ia., where he took up a piece of government land. He immediately became active in local agricultural affairs, and was made President of the County Agricultural Society when but twenty-two years of age, and in 1868 was elected Secretary of the State Horticultural Society, which office he held for many years.

Upon the organization of the Patrons of Husbandry he immediately identified himself with it, and upon the organization of the Iowa State Grange, January 12, 1871, was elected Master. January, 1872, he was made Lecturer of the National Grange, and in January, 1873, he was elected Master of the National Grange for a term of three years. His wife was elected Ceres of the National Grange in 1873, at the time he was elected Master.

Soon after the expiration of his term as Master of the National Grange he moved to Florida. A letter from Oscar Dunwiddie, second Gatekeeper of the National Grange, says: "In January, 1885, my brother and I were in Florida and called to see Brother Adams. He and his good wife gave us the 'glad hand.' They had a small grove of bearing orange trees and a large grove of young trees just beginning to bear and apparently one or more trees of nearly every kind of fruit adapted to that part of Florida."

Whether in Massachusetts, Iowa or Florida, he was found devoting himself to horticultural and agricultural pursuits. He was a loyal and capable leader in the Grange and faithful to the farmers' interests.

Whether he died in Florida we have been unable to learn. He died some time in 1899.

JOHN THOMPSON JONES

Third Master of the National Grange

John Thompson Jones was born at Retreat, Essex County, Va., October 11, 1813. He was educated at Rumford Academy and the University of Virginia, from which institution he graduated in 1833. He emigrated to Arkansas in 1836, bought and opened up large plantations, and was a "cotton planter."

He was never active in politics, never sought office, but in his early life was twice elected District Judge and served with the greatest distinction. After the war between the states he was elected by the Arkansas legislature, with Hon. A. H. Garland, who afterward was Attorney-General in President Cleveland's cabinet, but neither of them ever took their seats in the Senate, because the state was not then "reconstructed."

We are told by Judge Wright of Virginia that "what he esteemed as the highest honor ever conferred upon him was his election as Master of the National Grange when that organization was in its highest prosperity and exercised a potent influence for good in the nation under his administration."

On August 3 the first Grange in Arkansas was organized by John T. Jones with 14 members, with Mr. Jones as Master. When the Arkansas State Grange was organized Mr. Jones was elected the first Master. He and Mrs. Jones represented their State Grange in the National Grange at the St. Louis session

in February, 1874, at which time he was elected a member of the Executive Committee.

He was elected Master of the National Grange at Louisville, Ky., November, 1875, and served one term of two years. His term expired with the Cincinnati, O. session in November, 1877.

Mr. Jones presided at the session of the National Grange held at Chicago, November 15, 1876, and at Cincinnati, November 21, 1877. His Master's addresses on these occasions were endowed with strong, vigorous and far-seeing statesmanship, which marks him as a man of fine ability.

Mrs. Jones was elected Ceres of the National Grange when he was elected Master and served two years. She died in 1891.

Mr. Jones moved to Memphis, Tenn., in 1907, where he died the same year at the advanced age of 94, still vigorous in mind.

SAMUEL EMORY ADAMS

Fourth Master of the National Grange

Samuel Emory Adams, fourth Master of the National Grange, was born at Reading, Windsor County, Vt., December 1, 1828. He was educated at Chester, Springfield and Thedford academies, and graduated from Dartmouth College.

He moved to Monticello, Minn., in 1856, and engaged in merchandising.

July 21, 1859, he married Miss Augusta J. Smith of Pittsford, Vt., and took her to his home in Minnesota. He was twice elected to the State Senate, and was appointed receiver at the St. Cloud land office before the Civil War. In the latter strife he served as paymaster and was breveted Lieutenant-Colonel in 1865. He was a member of the Geo. N. Morgan G. A. R. Post of Minneapolis.

He was President of the Agricultural Society, member of the State Horticultural Society and a member of the World's Industrial Exposition at New Orleans. For twelve years he was an Alderman in Minneapolis. He was a prominent Freemason. In 1901 he was elected Lieutenant Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Supreme, mother council of the world, which made him second ranking Masonic officer in the world, a position he held at the time of his death.

He joined the Grange in 1869 and helped establish the Order in Minnesota. He was Master of the National Grange for two years, Master of the State Grange for eight years and Master of Minneapolis Grange No. 332 for twenty years, which position he held at the time of his death. His sound judgment and wise counsel were constantly sought.

He died March 29, 1912, at his beautiful home at 55 Cedar Lake Road, Minneapolis, Minn. Funeral services were held April 1, conducted with Masonic honors, assisted by members of the Grand Army and of the State Grange. He enriched life with his kind thoughts, his worthy deeds, and his exemplary character—a legacy greater than wealth or renown.

JONATHAN J. WOODMAN

Fifth Master of the National Grange

Jonathan J. Woodman was born at Sutton, Caledonia County, Vt., May 25, 1825. His father was a minister and farmer and when young Jonathan was ten years of age the family moved to Michigan, where they settled on a farm. His early life was spent in teaching during the winter months and working on his father's farm during the summer, completing his school education at a private academy before he was twenty-one years of age. In 1852 he resigned the principalship of the Paw-Paw Union School to go to California

to engage in gold mining. He saved enough out of the venture to enlarge his farm, to which he returned in about three years.

He married Miss Harty H. Hunt March 30, 1856. As a result of this union one son was born. Mrs. Woodman died in 1894. In 1896 Mr. Woodman was again married, to Miss Olivia J. Carpenter, who was at that time pastor of the Universalist church at Farmington, Mich., who together with the only child, L. K. Woodman of Paw Paw, remain to mourn his death, which occurred on July 13, 1907.

From boyhood he had taken an active part in public affairs. In 1860 he was elected to the Legislature, of which he was a member continuously for twelve years. He was elected Speaker of the House in 1869 and 1871, where he became a recognized authority on parliamentary law. A "History of Michigan," published in the seventies, referred to him as "unquestionably the most profound parliamentarian and the ablest presiding officer Michigan had ever produced."

In the fall of 1872 Paw Paw Grange was organized, and he became a charter member. In 1874 he was elected Master of the State Grange and served six years.

In 1878 President Hayes appointed him one of the United States Commissioners to the International Exposition held in Paris.

In November, 1879, he was elected Master of the National Grange, which office he held for six years. On retirement from the mastership he was elected a member of the Executive Committee, of which he remained a member until November, 1902, when he declined a re-election.

No man in the United States had a more intimate knowledge of those public questions which affect the interests of the farmer than Mr. Woodman. United

to all this was a dignity of bearing and a commanding personal presence that marked him as a leader of men.

ISRAEL PUTNAM DARDEN

Sixth Master of the National Grange

Israel Putnam Darden, better known as "Put" Darden, was born near Fayette, Jefferson County, Miss., March 10, 1836. He was descended from Irish pioneers. His father, John P. Darden, was one of the earliest and wealthiest citizens of Jefferson County. He was educated in the local schools and graduated from the State University at Oxford, in June, 1856. He joined the Christian Church when quite a young man and was a deacon and consistent member until his death.

He served in the State Legislature and was largely responsible for the establishment of the Agricultural College at Starksville and the Girls' Industrial College at Columbus. The monument erected to his memory by the Patrons of the state stands on the campus at Starksville—the college itself is a monument to him.

At the opening of the Civil War he joined the Confederate army, and served the four years of the Civil War with the rank of Captain.

He was a charter member of Phoenix Grange at Fayette. He attended the National Grange as Master of the Mississippi State Grange at the Cincinnati session in 1877. He was elected Master of the National Grange in November, 1885, and served until his death, July 17, 1888, two years and about seven months.

It has been said: "Brother Darden was no ordinary man; his was no common life. In every sphere, in every position, he was the same upright, honest, patriotic citizen. Love of country, love of home, love of friends, all had a place in his manly breast. He was a

man of high culture; his advice was respected and his counsels followed." He was a brilliant, safe leader of southern farmers and his untimely death was a sad blow to the National Grange, over which he had presided with such signal success. His community honored him as a true Christian, a patriot and a man without reproach or fear in his public life.

JAMES DRAPER

Seventh Master of the National Grange

James Draper was born at Worcester, Mass., August 31, 1842.

He was Secretary of the Worcester Parks Commission and prominent in the activities of the city, especially in matters pertaining to horticulture and agriculture.

Mr. Draper was an extensive market gardener. The quality of his products soon attracted attention, and a demand for plants of the varieties which he found best suited to that locality and climate became so great that he decided to start a nursery business, which soon grew to large proportions and became famous throughout New England. In 1874 the manufacture of cement drain and sewer pipe was added to his business.

He had a long record in public service, and was prominent in the Worcester County Horticultural and Agricultural Societies. He was Vice-President of the Worcester Five Cents Savings Bank and a prominent Freemason.

He was one of the original members of the Plymouth Congregational Church and among the founders of the Young Men's Christian Association.

He joined the Grange in 1872 and was always a very earnest and enthusiastic worker. He was the first Master of Worcester Grange and ever after held some prominent office in the Order.

He studied and brought out for the first time in full form the Sixth Degree. It was presented in Faneuil Hall, Boston, before a large and enthusiastic audience in 1885 at the time of the National Grange meeting in that city. He also gave a great deal of time and study to bringing out the details of the Seventh Degree, which was given for the first time at Topeka, Kan., in 1887. He served one term as Gatekeeper of the National Grange and was elected Overseer at the Boston session in 1885, and served four years. About the middle of the first year of his second term in 1888 Worthy Master Put Darden died, and Mr. Draper became Master of the National Grange until the next annual meeting.

He was High Priest for several terms, and he introduced the inspection service in the Grange and in many other ways contributed to the improvement and success of the Order which he loved so well. He continued his work with unabated interest to the end of his life. He died March 13, 1907.

Mrs. Draper was also active in Grange work. She served one term as Flora and one term as Pomona of the National Grange. She is still living.

JOSEPH H. BRIGHAM

Eighth Master of the National Grange

Joseph H. Brigham was born at Lodi, Medina County, O., December 12, 1838, and moved to a farm in the same county with his parents at the age of six years. In 1853 his family removed to the then sparsely settled county of Fulton, which became his lifelong home and from which he was suddenly called to his reward, June 30, 1904.

His life, except when he was engaged in important public duties away from the farm, was spent in active ag-

riculture. He joined the Union army as a private at the beginning of the Civil War and retired from the army in 1865 as Colonel of his regiment. It was during his service in the army, while at home on leave of absence in 1863, that he met and loved the gentle and lovable woman who soon afterward became his wife and with whom he founded a home that became the synonym for hospitality, comfort and good cheer. To that happy home there came to gladden the hearts of their parents seven children. Death was kind to Mrs. Brigham and called for her seven months before Colonel Brigham passed away, so that they were not long separated.

Colonel Brigham served his county four years as sheriff, was two years a member of the State Senate, six years a member of the Ohio State Board of Trustees of Ohio State University, seven years a member of the Board of Control of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, seven years Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, and three years President of the Wool Growers' and Sheep Breeders' Association.

Colonel Brigham joined the Grange in its early days, and served nine years as Master of the State Grange. He was elected Master of the National Grange in November, 1888, for the last year of the unexpired term of Put. Darden, deceased. He was re-elected for four full terms, making a total service of nine years.

Following his inauguration, March 4, 1897, President McKinley appointed Colonel Brigham Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, in the National Department, which position he held at the time of his death.

There is little need to say more of the life and work of Colonel Joseph H. Brigham. They were an open book for all to read. He was large minded, large hearted and large bodied; there were truly "giants on earth" when he lived among us.

AARON JONES

Ninth Master of the National Grange

Aaron Jones was born in St. Joseph County, Ind., September 9, 1838. He was educated in the common schools, the high school at South Bend, and Antioch College, Ohio.

At the age of 22 he married Miss Margaret W. Wiley of Lancaster County, Pa., and at once moved to his farm in St. Joseph County, Ind., which at that time was covered with heavy forest timber. Since then he has been engaged in farming and still owns the farm he reclaimed from the forest. His industry, energy and economy have given him marked success as a farmer.

In 1873 he joined Pennsylvania Township Grange No. 584 as a charter member and was elected its first Master. This Grange is now, and all these years has been, active in Grange Work, and now has 260 members. He was a delegate to Indiana State Grange in 1873, and has attended every meeting since but three, which were missed on account of illness.

He was elected Master of the State Grange in 1891, and was re-elected for eleven consecutive terms, when he declined to accept the office longer.

In 1897, at the Harrisburg, Pa., session, he was elected Master of the National Grange, which position he held for eight years, when he declined a re-election. He also served one term as Overseer of the National Grange, and many years as an efficient member of the Legislative Committee.

In 1877 Mr. Jones and others secured the enactment of a law in Indiana enabling farmers to organize mutual fire insurance companies, to be confined to one county. A company was organized at once, and he was elected the first Secretary, and has held that office ever since. The company has been very successful,

and now has over \$4,000,000 of insurance on the farmers' property of St. Joseph County. This company has paid all losses, amounting to over \$195,000, and saved to the farmers \$150,000 from the cost of insurance in stock companies.

In 1882 Mr. Jones was elected Auditor of St. Joseph County, serving eight years, two terms. He was also twenty-four years on the County Board of Equalization of the County Assessments. He served ten years as a member of the State Board of Agriculture, was Chairman of the Executive Committee four years, and President two years. Some of the largest fairs ever held in the state were during his administration.

Throughout their long married life Mrs. Jones has ever been a loyal participant in his success and wide usefulness, and as wife and mother her devotion and life of service have been a benediction to her husband and her children.

Mr. Jones has been a strong, vigorous friend of agriculture and public-spirited citizen, and even now, as he nears four score years of age, he is intensely alert and interested in the Grange and country life problems.

NAHUM J. BACHELDER

Tenth Master of the National Grange

Nahum J. Bachelder was born at Andover, N. H., September 3, 1854. He was reared on his father's farm, and early initiated into all the various labors of a thrifty New England farmer.

He was educated in the best New Hampshire schools and received the degree of A. B. from the State Agricultural College at Durham, and A. M. from Dartmouth College. He is a scholarly and impressive writer on many subjects, showing a high degree of culture and refinement.

He was Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture twenty-six years, and published many books and bulletins describing the agricultural possibilities of the state and inviting summer tourists to her magnificent scenery and invigorating climate.

He was elected Governor in 1902 and served one term of two years with credit to himself and value to the state.

He joined the Grange when quite young, and for more than thirty years has been an active Grange worker, holding many offices in his Subordinate and Pomona Granges. He was eight years Secretary and twelve years Master of the New Hampshire State Grange. He served as Chairman of the National Grange Executive Committee, was Lecturer six years, and Master of the National Grange six years, from 1905 to 1911.

Everywhere, in the Grange and in public office, he rendered a conspicuous service to the farmers of the state and nation.

He retired from public service in 1913, and is now developing his 700-acre farm at Andover, said to be one of the best in the state, where he is much attached to his country home and family.

Mrs. Bachelder is an active member of the Grange, and in all his Grange work has been a sympathetic helper. While he was Governor she fully measured up to the responsible position as "first lady of the state." Her life has been one of devotion to her husband and children, and she has largely contributed to his success and usefulness.

The farmers of America have had few more loyal and well-equipped champions, and his retirement from public service is a distinct loss to agriculture. He is capable of many more years of work, and it is not likely the farmers of his state will leave him long in his retirement.

OLIVER WILSON**Eleventh Master of the National Grange**

Oliver Wilson, eleventh Master of the National Grange, was born in Belmont County, O., and removed with his parents when a year and a half old to Putnam County, Ill., where they settled on an unimproved prairie farm. His boyhood life was that of the average farm boy in a new country, being expected at an early age to do a man's work upon the farm in summer and attend the district school during the winter months. In early manhood he took a course at the Normal School at Normal, Ill., after which he taught school for four years during fall and winter months, but worked on the farm in summer. In 1873 he became a charter member of Magnolia Grange No. 179, and has continued his membership for forty-three years, holding various offices in the Subordinate Grange. In 1885 he was elected Lecturer of the State Grange of Illinois, which position he held for eight years. He was then elected Master of the State Grange and served for sixteen consecutive years, at which time he was elected Lecturer of the National Grange, serving two years, and then was promoted to the highest office in the gift of the Patrons of Husbandry—Master of the National Grange. Mr. Wilson has always been interested in advanced agriculture. Besides his Grange work, he was one of the originators of the farmers' institute system of Illinois, and was its first State Superintendent.

SARAH GATES BAIRD**Past Master Minnesota State Grange**

Mrs. Sarah Gates Baird has the unique distinction of being the only woman who has ever held the office of Master of a State Grange. She has also held the offices of Ceres and Pomona in the National Grange.

She was born in Albany, Vt., in 1843, and in 1857 went with her parents to Minneapolis, Minn., and was educated in the city schools, where she afterward taught until 1865, when she was married to Geo. W. Baird of Edina Mills, and located on a farm five miles from Minneapolis. This has since been her residence, where she and her husband for many years enjoyed the fruits of a life of industry, occupying a fine modern, steam-heated house, with all the conveniences that make rural life ideal, and the honors that her ability, geniality and unselfishness had brought her. Mr. Baird, who was also prominent in Grange work, died July 22, 1916. Mrs. Baird has been closely identified with Grange work ever since she became a charter member of her home Grange, December 9, 1873. She was continuously in office from the time her membership began. She was Master of her Subordinate Grange four consecutive years; State Grange Treasurer from 1882 to 1895; Master of the State Grange from 1895 to December, 1912, when she voluntarily retired. Her long career as an officer and worker in the Grange was marked by distinguished ability, loyalty and unselfishness, which did much to keep Minnesota in the Grange ranks during the darkest and most discouraging days of the Order in that state.

EVA SHERWOOD McDOWELL

Treasurer of the National Grange

Eva Sherwood was born in Woodhull, N. Y., December 17, 1851. When she was about five years of age her father moved from the village where she was born to a farm in the vicinity, and thus her early life was surrounded with farm associations. She was educated in the old academy in Woodhull.

Her ambition was for a college course, but serious illness in her family made that impossible.

At the age of fourteen she began assisting her father at his desk, keeping his accounts, writing letters, etc. Her father was at that time commissioner of schools for a portion of her native county, and she assisted him in his quarterly reports. The practical business instruction she received from him in those early days has been of inestimable value during her life.

In December, 1874, she was married to Francis M. McDowell of Wayne, N. Y., a vineyardist, one of the Founders of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. She immediately became interested in the work of the Grange, and was a charter member of the first Grange organized in Wayne. Mr. McDowell was at that time, and for many years after, Treasurer of the National Grange, and Mrs. McDowell began keeping the Treasurer's account books very soon after her marriage. She also acted as bookkeeper for the Keuka Vineyard Company, Mr. McDowell being its president. The books of the Grange she has kept from that time to the present, nearly forty-three years of continuous service. It is needless to say that she loves the Grange with all her heart and takes great pride in her books.

Mr. McDowell's health failed in 1893, and in the autumn of that year, at the twenty-seventh annual session of the National Grange held in Syracuse, N. Y., Mrs. McDowell was elected to succeed him. He died in the spring of 1894. Since that time Mrs. McDowell has been re-elected twelve times.

Soon after the death of Mr. McDowell she sought and obtained a position in the Department of Agriculture of the state of Ohio. She lived in Columbus for six years, filling the position of statistician acceptably and keeping up her Grange work at the same time.

In 1902, on the death of her sister, she removed to Rome, N. Y., to be with her sister's children until they should be of an age to carry on their home unaided. In 1909 she removed, with her daughter, to Wellesley, Mass., where she now resides. Her daughter, who is



Mrs. Eva Sherwood McDowell, present Treasurer of the National Grange.



Mrs. Sarah Gates Baird, Minnesota, only woman who ever held the office of Master of a State Grange.

her only child, is a graduate of Wellesley College, has been a successful teacher for some years, and now is at the head of the physics department in Wellesley.

Mrs. McDowell was from early years a member of the Presbyterian Church, a connection which she severed in 1909 to become a member of the Wellesley Congregational Church. She is also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and of Wellesley Grange, No. 166. She is fond of travel and of books. Having partially lost her hearing, she has been thrown more and more upon these resources for companionship, as much of the daily conversation of her associates necessarily passes her by, but she is fond of society in a quiet way. Within the borders of the Grange she has many friends who have made sunny places for her in a life that has had much of shadow; and she does not hesitate to say that for the social side alone the Grange is wholly worth while. She looks to see it spread over the entire land and become a great power for good in the world, making for peace, prosperity and Christianity.

THOMAS CLARK ATKESON

Master of the West Virginia State Grange and Past
Overseer of the National Grange

Thomas Clark Atkeson was born on a farm in the Great Kanawha Valley, near the town of Buffalo, Putnam County, W. Va., February 15, 1852. His father was a successful, progressive farmer, who taught all his sons farm work and management in all its departments. The subject of this sketch grew to young manhood on the farm with the usual experiences of a country boy, working on the farm in summer and going to school in the winter. He was educated in the country schools, Buffalo Academy, West Virginia University

and Kentucky University, from which he graduated in 1874. On leaving school he returned to the farm.

In 1878 he married Miss Cordelia Meek, daughter of Rev. Zephaniah Meek, D. D., editor of the *Central Methodist*, Catlettsburg, Ky., at once taking charge of the home farm at Buffalo, W. Va., which he now owns and operates in connection with his son.

In 1891 the Board of Regents tendered him the Professorship of Agriculture in West Virginia University at Morgantown, which position he accepted and remained with the university twenty-three years, with the exception of a short time while he was President of Morris Harvey College, Barboursville, W. Va. On returning to the university he was made Dean of the College of Agriculture, which position he held for seventeen years, until his voluntary retirement in 1913 to accept a position in the State Department of Agriculture at the Capitol. During the time he was engaged in college work, in addition to his degree from Kentucky University, other institutions conferred upon him the degrees of M. S. and Ph D.

He was on the State Farmers' Institute force for many years, served on the State Board of Agriculture fourteen years—ten years of the time as its President. He also served on the University Board of Regents, on the State Geological Survey Commission and in other positions of honor and trust.

He joined the Grange in 1880, and has been an active member ever since. In addition to holding many Subordinate Grange offices, he held the offices of Assistant Steward, Secretary and Lecturer of the State Grange, one term each; Overseer, eight years; and his present term completes twenty years as Master of the West Virginia State Grange. He also served eight years as Overseer of the National Grange and as a member of the Legislative Committee.

Except while engaged in agricultural college work he has always been engaged in practical agriculture,

and he now resides on his "Lawnvale Farm" near Buffalo.

Mrs. Atkeson has been a devoted wife and mother, and has been very largely responsible for her husband's success by her helpful encouragement. She served one term as Ceres and two terms as Pomona in the National Grange, and has held the same offices in the State Grange.

Mr. and Mrs. Atkeson have been devoted to their home life, but they are much interested in public affairs and actively engaged in Grange work. Fond of the farm and the country, they are deeply interested in all rural life problems.

JAMES WILLIAM ABERT WRIGHT

Author of the Grange Declaration of Purposes

James William Abert Wright, author of the Grange "Declaration of Purposes," was born at Columbus, Miss., July 28, 1834. He was the son of Rev. David Wright, a Presbyterian minister and Eliza Abert Wright, daughter of John Abert. Mr. Wright was educated in private schools at Columbus, Miss., Green Springs (Ala.) High School and Princeton University, from which institution he graduated with the highest honors in 1857. He returned to Green Springs, Ala., and taught in the high school until 1862. He married Margaret Tutwiller, daughter of the Principal of the Green Springs High School, in August, 1859. In May, 1862, he enlisted in the Confederate army and served three years as Captain and Major. At the battle of Missionary Ridge he was wounded in the hip and captured. He remained a prisoner of war until March 27, 1864, when he escaped. After the war he resumed teaching at Green Springs. In the spring of 1868 he removed to California. From 1868 to 1876 he farmed on a large scale, having at one time 4,000 acres planted to wheat. July 15, 1873, he was elected as first Mas-

ter of the California State Grange. It was at the St. Louis session of the National Grange, February, 1874, that he wrote the "Declaration of Purposes" of the Patrons of Husbandry, which has made the Order and himself famous the world over. With his wife and three sons he returned to Alabama in 1883, where he continued to reside until his death in 1894.

CHARLES M. FREEMAN

Secretary of the National Grange

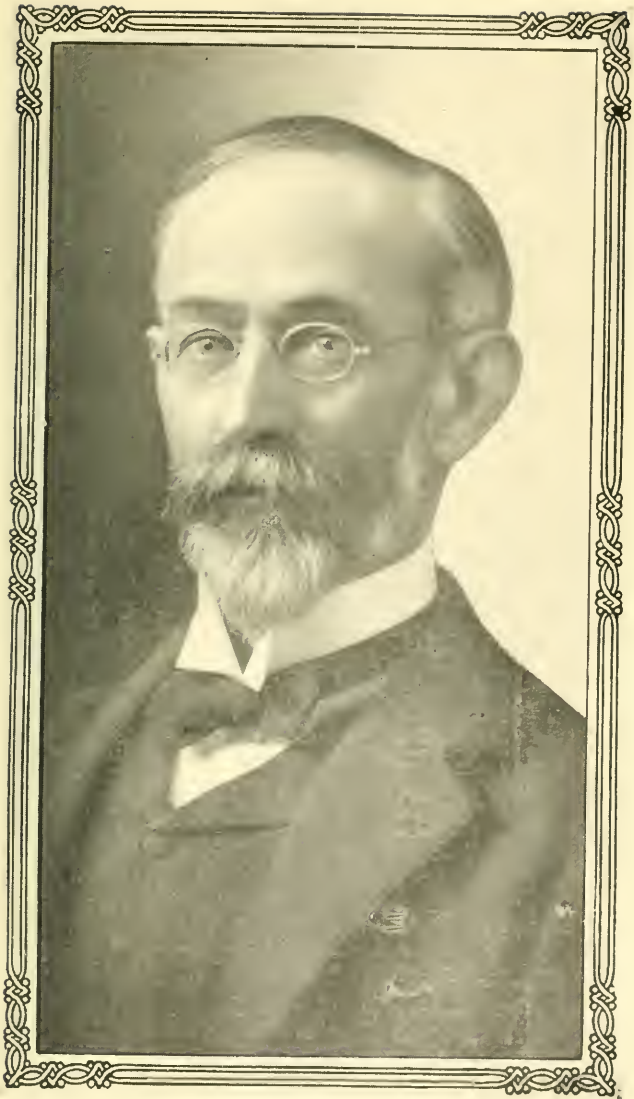
Charles M. Freeman, Secretary of the National Grange, was born in Miami County, O., March 7, 1862. His father, Isaac Freeman, was a farmer and extensive nurseryman, and an active member of the Grange for many years, holding many offices in his local and Pomona Granges and the offices of Steward and Overseer in the Ohio State Grange.

Mr. Freeman was educated in the common schools of the neighborhood, at the Lebanon Normal School, and the Western Ohio University, from which he graduated. He returned to the university later and completed a commercial course.

He engaged in the nursery business in partnership with his father for several years, until he began farming for himself, and he now resides on a farm of 152 acres, where he is engaged in up-to-date farming and stock raising.

He joined the Grange when fourteen years of age and has held almost every office in the Subordinate and Pomona Grange; was Steward, Lecturer and Secretary of the Ohio State Grange. He also served on the State Grange Executive and Legislative Committees for several years.

January 3, 1903, he was appointed Secretary of the National Grange by the Executive Committee for the unexpired term of Dr. John Trimble, who died December 30, 1902. He went immediately to Washington,



Thomas Clark Atkeson, Master of the West Virginia State Grange and Author of the Semi-Centennial History of the Patrons of Husbandry.

D. C., to take up his duties and remained there until November, 1903, when, by action of the National Grange after his election for a full term, he was permitted to move the office to his home near Tippicanoe City, O. He has been re-elected at every National Grange election since.

He is recognized as one of the best Grange speakers in the country, and is in demand on all sorts of occasions. He was Institute Lecturer and Grange Editor of the *National Stockman and Farmer* for ten years, and while Lecturer of the Ohio State Grange he instituted the first State Lecturer's Quarterly Bulletin.

In 1866 he married Miss Fannie B. Stafford of Clarke County, O., whose capability, devotion and accomplishments have largely contributed to his success. They have one child, a daughter, Frances, who is now head of the Department of Home Economics in the University of Maine.

As a Grange worker and speaker he has always placed special emphasis upon education for the farmers, and he backs up his exhortations with actual, earnest work, which helps bring fruition to the desire. The cause of education of farm boys and girls has enlisted Mr. Freeman's sympathies and most earnest effort for many years. Largely through his efforts as a member of his township board of education a well-equipped and handsome township high school building was erected on his farm and his home Grange built its hall on a lot donated by him.

CAROLINE ARABELLE HALL

Equal to a Founder and First Ceres of the National Grange

But little is known of Miss Caroline Arabelle Hall beyond the fact that she was a niece of Mr. Kelley, and for the following information we are indebted to Mrs. Eva S. McDowell:

"Miss Caroline A. Hall was born in Boston, within sight of the Common. She received her education in the public schools and at "The Wells." About the time of her graduation her mother's sister went from Boston to Minnesota in search of a more favorable climate and to teach school. Mr. Hall had been suffering from "western fever" for some time, and it is likely that the letters of his sister-in-law fostered the desire to migrate. In any event, he decided to seek a home in the West, and started for Minnesota with his family. Meantime the sister-in-law had married Mr. O. H. Kelley, and was living with him near Itasca, about twenty miles above Minneapolis and near the Mississippi river, so the Halls naturally wished to found a home in their vicinity where the families could see much of one another.

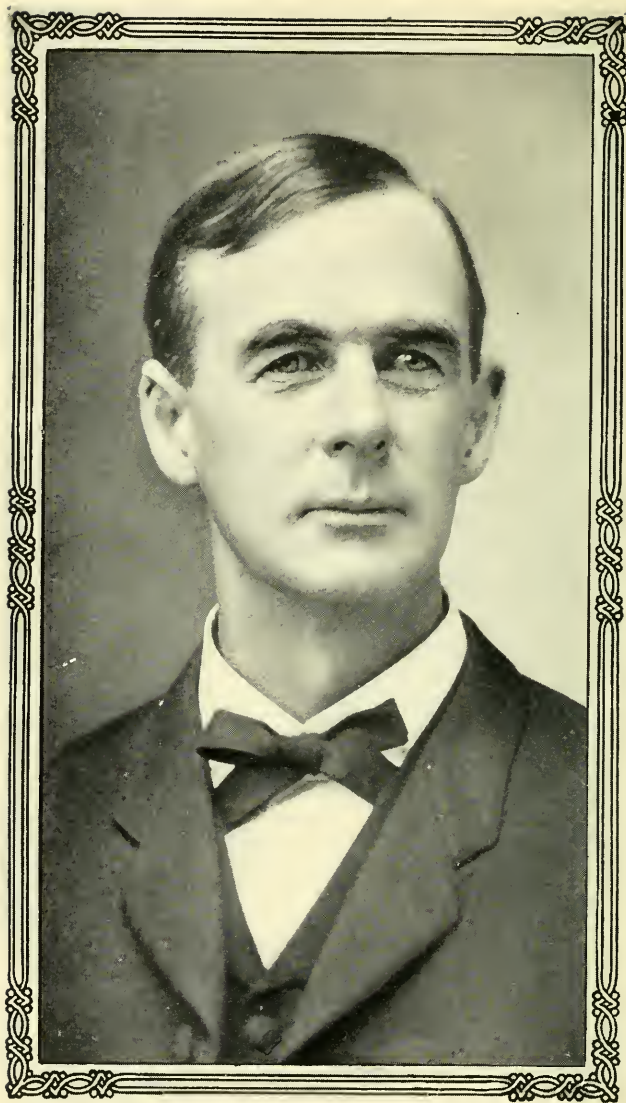
"Soon after becoming settled in the new home Miss Hall took up the vocation of teaching, and was thus engaged when Mr. Kelley laid before her the Grange proposition. Always eager to do something to make the world happier and better, she wished to help, and went into the work with hands, heart and soul. Perhaps she had seen much since leaving Boston of the loneliness and isolation of the lives led by the wives of the farmers in those sparsely settled lands, and welcomed an order that might make more sunshine in their uneventful days. Be that as it may, she was an early and earnest advocate of the admittance of women to the Grange on an equal footing with men.

"How to get people acquainted with and interested in the new movement was the question. To that end Miss Hall collected as many agricultural papers and periodicals as she could lay her hands upon, looked them carefully through for names and addresses of correspondents, and to such as she found sent circulars describing the contemplated organization and asking their co-operation. Many replies came, giving the names of others, and so the list of correspondents kept growing longer and longer, until finally she gave up teaching to assist Mr. Kelley in the work of the Secretary's office. For a long time she had entire charge of the office, as Mr. Kelley was away organizing Granges. Answering every call as he did, or tried to do, the distances traveled were long and much time was consumed, leaving him little at home. Without Miss Hall's work there would have been much delay and confusion in answering letters.

"In November, 1868, Mr. Kelley wrote to Mr. McDowell, High Priest of Demeter of the provisional organization, asking him to appoint Miss Hall as Ceres in the Seventh Degree, saying that she was the first woman to see the outline of the degrees. Mr. McDowell replied at once, sending the appointment and con-



James William Abert Wright, Author of the Grange Declaration of Purposes.



Charles M. Freeman, present Secretary of the National Grange.

cluding his letter with these words: 'I have conferred this honor upon her * * * in recognition of her services to our Order and as the first woman who has taken an active interest in it.' Thus Miss Hall became the first Ceres of the National Grange."

When Mr. Kelley's family removed to Washington, D. C., in 1871, Miss Hall went with them and took charge of the Secretary's office there.

At the sixth annual session (the first representative session) of the National Grange, held in Georgetown, in Mr. Kelley's parlors, in January, 1873, Miss Hall was elected Lady Assistant Steward, and held that office for about six years. Although the Ritual was new and comparatively untried at the time of her election, she took the position and made the work a thing of beauty, especially in the degree work.

Miss Hall compiled the first song book used in the Grange, taking the few that Mr. Grosh had collected and added to them until she had a fair variety of suitable songs. At that time there was a great call for suitable songs for opening and closing exercises, and for degree work, and the little book she sent out in response to the demand was gladly received.

When the Kelley family decided to invest in Florida land and to go there to live, Miss Hall went with them and remained for some years. She is now living at her farm home in Wisconsin, always as ready to respond to calls for help and to aid others in any possible way as of old.

Number of Members of the Grange as Shown by the Amount Paid to the National Grange Annually

(No figures are available previous to 1874)

1874.....	268,368	1888.....	109,526	1902.....	218,022
1875.....	858,050	1889.....	106,782	1903.....	250,169
1876.....	728,313	1890.....	135,461	1904.....	260,813
1877.....	411,244	1891.....	139,920	1905.....	284,646
1878.....	334,782	1892.....	145,331	1906.....	289,580
1879.....	246,383	1893.....	205,740	1907.....	410,622
1880.....	124,420	1894.....	127,160	1908.....	338,180
1881.....	151,040	1895.....	179,247	1909.....	339,470
1882.....	137,165	1896.....	131,942	1910.....	425,033
1883.....	122,960	1897.....	167,206	1911.....	502,322
1884.....	111,472	1898.....	178,187	1912.....	415,143
1885.....	117,620	1899.....	179,522	1913.....	539,426
1886.....	109,763	1900.....	187,482	1914.....	515,280
1887.....	118,341	1901.....	196,580	1915.....	540,085

These figures have been obtained from the actual amount of dues paid for each year. It is impossible to ascertain the number of persons living at any definite time, but it is fair to assume that the living membership at any time is more than double the number that pay dues to the National Grange. The above figures will prove interesting, as they show the annual variation in membership.

NATIONAL GRANGE OFFICERS

From the Founding of the Order to the Present (1916)

WORTHY MASTER

- Wm. Saunders, Washington, D. C., Dec. 4, 1867, to Jan. 10, 1873.
D. W. Adams, Iowa, Jan. 10, 1873, to Nov. 23, 1875.
J. T. Jones, Arkansas, Nov. 23, 1875, to Nov. 27, 1877.
S. E. Adams, Minnesota, Nov. 27, 1877, to Nov. 22, 1879.
J. J. Woodman, Michigan, Nov. 22, 1879, to Nov. 18, 1885.
Put Darden, Mississippi, Nov. 18, 1885, to death, July 17, 1888.
Jas. Draper, Massachusetts, July 17, 1888, to Nov. 19, 1888.
J. H. Brigham, Ohio, Nov. 14, 1888, to Nov. 18, 1897.
Aaron Jones, Indiana, Nov. 18, 1897, to Nov. 22, 1905.
N. J. Bachelder, New Hampshire, Nov. 22, 1905, to Nov. 21, 1911.
Oliver Wilson, Illinois, Nov. 21, 1911, to present (1916).

WORTHY OVERSEER

- Anson Bartlett, Ohio, Dec., 1867, to Jan., 1873.
Thos. Taylor, South Carolina, Jan., 1873, to Nov., 1875.
J. J. Woodman, Nov., 1875, to Nov., 1879.
Put Darden, Mississippi, Nov., 1879, to Nov., 1885.
Jas. Draper, Massachusetts, Nov, 1885, to Nov., 1889.
Hiram Hawkins, Alabama, Nov., 1889, to Nov., 1891.
E. W. Davis, California, Nov., 1891, to Nov., 1895.
Aaron Jones, Indiana, Nov., 1895, to Nov., 1897.
O. H. Hale, New York, Nov., 1897, to Nov., 1899.
O. Gardner, Maine, Nov., 1899, to Nov., 1903.
T. C. Atkeson, West Virginia, Nov., 1903, to Nov., 1911.
L. H. Healey, Connecticut, Nov., 1911, to Nov., 1913.
W. H. Vary, New York, Nov., 1913, to present (1916).

WORTHY LECTURER

- J. R. Thompson, Washington, D. C., Dec., 1867, to Jan., 1872.
D. W. Adams, Iowa, Jan., 1872, to Jan., 1873.
T. A. Thompson, Minnesota, Jan., 1873, to Nov., 1875.
A. B. Smedley, Iowa, Nov., 1875, to Nov., 1877.
M. Whitehead, New Jersey, Nov., 1877, to Nov., 1879.
H. Eshbaugh, Missouri, Nov., 1879, to Nov., 1886.
M. Whitehead, New Jersey, Nov., 1886, to Nov., 1893.

- A. Messer, Vermont, Nov., 1893, to Nov., 1899.
 N. J. Bachelder, New Hampshire, Nov., 1899, to Nov., 1905.
 G. W. F. Gaunt, New Jersey, Nov., 1905, to Nov., 1909.
 Oliver Wilson, Illinois, Nov., 1909, to Nov., 1911.
 N. P. Hull, Michigan, Nov., 1911, to Nov., 1913.
 G. W. F. Gaunt, New Jersey, Nov., 1913, to Nov., 1915.
 E. E. Chapman, Massachusetts, Nov., 1915, to present (1916).

WORTHY STEWARD

- Wm. Muir, Missouri, Dec., 1867, to Jan., 1873.
 A. J. Vaughn, Mississippi, Jan., 1873, to Nov., 1881.
 Wm. Sims, Kansas, Nov., 1881, to Nov., 1885.
 J. E. Hall, West Virginia, Nov., 1885, to Nov., 1887.
 X. X. Chartters, Virginia, Nov., 1887, to Nov., 1889.
 E. W. Davis, California, Nov., 1889, to Nov., 1891.
 A. E. Page, Missouri, Nov., 1891, to Nov., 1893.
 M. B. Hunt, Maine, Nov., 1893, to Nov., 1895.
 J. T. Cox, New Jersey, Nov., 1895, to Nov., 1899.
 J. A. Newcomb, Colorado, Nov., 1899, to Nov., 1901.
 W. C. Jewett, Massachusetts, Nov., 1901, to Nov., 1903.
 J. A. Newcomb, Colorado, Nov., 1903, to Nov., 1909.
 C. D. Richardson, Massachusetts, Nov., 1909, to Nov., 1911.
 D. C. Mullen, Idaho, Nov., 1911, to Nov., 1913.
 F. C. Bancroft, Delaware, Nov., 1913, to present (1916).

WORTHY ASSISTANT STEWARD

- A. S. Moss, New York, Dec., 1867, to Jan., 1873.
 G. W. Thompson, New Jersey, Jan., 1873, to Nov., 1875.
 M. Whitehead, New Jersey, Nov., 1875, to Nov., 1877.
 Wm. Sims, Kansas, Nov., 1877, to Nov., 1881.
 J. J. Rosa, Delaware, Nov., 1881, to Nov., 1885.
 W. H. Stinson, New Hampshire, Nov., 1885, to Nov., 1887.
 J. H. Hale, Connecticut, Nov., 1887, to Nov., 1889.
 O. E. Hall, Nebraska, Nov., 1889, to Nov., 1893.
 A. M. Belcher, Rhode Island, Nov., 1893, to Nov., 1895.
 J. A. Newcomb, Colorado, Nov., 1895, to Nov., 1899.
 W. C. Jewett, Massachusetts, Nov., 1899, to Nov., 1901.
 C. O. Raine, Missouri, Nov., 1901, to Nov., 1903.
 G. W. F. Gaunt, New Jersey, Nov., 1903, to Nov., 1905.
 F. E. Marchant, Rhode Island, Nov., 1905, to Nov., 1907.
 C. D. Richardson, Massachusetts, Nov., 1907, to Nov., 1909.
 L. H. Healey, Connecticut, Nov., 1909, to Nov., 1911.
 G. R. Shaefer, Wisconsin, Nov., 1911, to Nov., 1913.
 J. A. Sherwood, Connecticut, Nov., 1913, to Nov., 1915.
 John Morris, Colorado, Nov., 1915, to present (1916).

WORTHY CHAPLAIN

- A. B. Grosh, Washington, Dec., 1867, to Nov., 1875.
 S. H. Ellis, Ohio, Nov., 1875, to Nov., 1877.
 A. P. Forsythe, Illinois, Nov., 1877, to Nov., 1879.
 S. H. Ellis, Ohio, Nov., 1879, to Nov., 1881.
 H. O. Devries, Maryland, Nov., 1881, to Nov., 1885.
 A. J. Rose, Texas, Nov., 1885, to Nov., 1891.
 Chas. McDaniel, New Hampshire, Nov., 1891, to Nov., 1893.
 S. L. Wilson, Mississippi, Nov., 1893, to Nov., 1895.
 O. H. Hale, New York, Nov., 1895, to Nov., 1897.
 S. O. Bowen, Connecticut, Nov., 1897, to Nov., 1901.
 W. K. Thompson, South Carolina, Nov., 1901, to Nov., 1907.
 O. S. Wood, Connecticut, Nov., 1907, to Nov., 1909.
 C. F. Smith, Vermont, Nov., 1909, to Nov., 1913.
 A. P. Reardon, Kansas, Nov., 1913, to present (1916).

WORTHY TREASURER

- W. M. Ireland, Washington, D. C., Dec., 1867, to Jan., 1872.
 J. R. Thompson, Washington, D. C., Jan., 1872, to Jan., 1873.
 F. M. McDowell, New York, Jan., 1873, to Nov., 1893.
 Mrs. E. S. McDowell, New York, Nov., 1893, to present (1916).

WORTHY SECRETARY

- O. H. Kelley, Minnesota, Dec., 1867, to Nov., 1878.
 W. M. Ireland, Washington, D. C., Nov., 1878, to Nov., 1885.
 John Trimble, Washington, D. C., Nov., 1885, to death, Dec.
 30, 1902.
 C. M. Freeman, Ohio, Jan. 3, 1903, to present (1916).

WORTHY GATEKEEPER

- E. P. Farris, Illinois, Dec., 1867, to Jan., 1873.
 O. Dinwiddie, Indiana, Jan., 1873, to Nov., 1881.
 J. V. Scott, Arkansas, Nov., 1881, to Nov., 1883.
 Jas. Draper, Massachusetts, Nov., 1883, to Nov., 1885.
 H. Thompson, Delaware, Nov., 1885, to Nov., 1887.
 A. N. Brown, Delaware, Nov., 1887, to Nov., 1889.
 A. E. Page, Missouri, Nov., 1889, to Nov., 1891.
 W. H. Nelson, Tennessee, Nov., 1891, to Nov., 1893.
 W. E. Harbaugh, Missouri, Nov., 1893, to Nov., 1897.
 A. B. Judson, Iowa, Nov., 1897, to Nov., 1899.
 H. E. Huxley, Wisconsin, Nov., 1899, to Nov., 1901.
 G. W. Baird, Minnesota, Nov., 1901, to Nov., 1903.
 B. C. Patterson, Connecticut, Nov., 1903, to Nov., 1905.

- A. C. Powers, Wisconsin, Nov., 1905, to Nov., 1909.
 D. C. Mullen, Idaho, Nov., 1909, to Nov., 1911.
 A. B. Judson, Iowa, Nov., 1911, to Nov., 1913.
 C. L. Rice, Minnesota, Nov., 1913, to present (1916).

WORTHY CERES

- Miss Carrie A. Hall, Minnesota, Nov. 6, 1868, to Jan., 1873.
 Mrs. D. W. Adams, Iowa, Jan., 1873, to Nov., 1875.
 Mrs. J. T. Jones, Arkansas, Nov., 1875, to Nov., 1877.
 Mrs. S. E. Adams, Minnesota, Nov., 1877, to Nov., 1879.
 Mrs. J. J. Woodman, Michigan, Nov., 1879, to Nov., 1885.
 Mrs. K. A. Darden, Mississippi, Nov., 1885, to Nov., 1889.
 Mrs. J. H. Brigham, Ohio, Nov., 1889, to Nov., 1893.
 Mrs. M. S. Rhone, Pennsylvania, Nov., 1893, to Nov., 1895.
 Mrs. L. G. Smith, Ohio, Nov., 1895, to Nov., 1897.
 Mrs. L. M. Messick, Delaware, Nov., 1897, to Nov., 1899.
 Mrs. Cordelia Atkeson, West Virginia, Nov., 1899, to Nov., 1901.
 Mrs. M. M. Wilson, Illinois, Nov., 1901, to Nov., 1905.
 Mrs. C. R. F. Ladd, Massachusetts, Nov., 1905, to Nov., 1907.
 Mrs. E. H. Patterson, Maryland, Nov., 1907, to Nov., 1911.
 Mrs. E. E. Pattee, New Hampshire, Nov., 1911, to Nov., 1915.
 Mrs. Eva Sherwood, Connecticut, Nov., 1915, to present (1916).

WORTHY POMONA

- Mrs. O. H. Kelley, Washington, D. C., Jan., 1873, to Feb., 1874.
 Mrs. Thos. Taylor, South Carolina, Feb., 1874, to Nov., 1875.
 Mrs. H. Godard, Connecticut, Nov., 1875, to Nov., 1877.
 Mrs. J. J. Woodman, Michigan, Nov., 1877, to Nov., 1879.
 Mrs. M. L. Darden, Mississippi, Nov., 1879, to Nov., 1884.
 Mrs. S. J. Blanton, Virginia, Nov., 1884, to Nov., 1885.
 Mrs. S. H. Neal, Kentucky, Nov., 1885, to Nov., 1887.
 Mrs. J. C. Draper, Massachusetts, Nov., 1887, to Nov., 1889.
 Mrs. M. J. Thompson, Nov., 1889, to Nov., 1891.
 Mrs. C. E. Bowen, Connecticut, Nov., 1891, to Nov., 1893.
 Mrs. M. M. Reardon, Kansas, Nov., 1893, to Nov., 1895.
 Mrs. S. G. Baird, Minnesota, Nov., 1895, to Nov., 1899.
 Mrs. M. M. Wilson, Illinois, Nov., 1899, to Nov., 1901.
 Mrs. Cordelia Atkeson, West Virginia, Nov., 1901, to Nov., 1903.
 Mrs. E. M. Derby, Delaware, Nov., 1903, to Nov., 1905.
 Mrs. S. G. Baird, Minnesota, Nov., 1905, to Nov., 1909.
 Mrs. Grace Hull, Michigan, Nov., 1909, to Nov., 1911.
 Mrs. Cordelia Atkeson, West Virginia, Nov., 1911, to Nov., 1913.
 Mrs. Cora E. Ketcham, Michigan, Nov., 1913, to present (1916).

WORTHY FLORA

- Mrs. J. C. Abbott, Iowa, Jan., 1873, to Feb., 1874.
 Mrs. J. T. Moore, Maryland, Feb., 1874, to Nov., 1875.

- Mrs. S. E. Adams, Minnesota, Nov., 1875, to Nov., 1877.
 Mrs. J. T. Moore, Maryland, Nov., 1877, to Nov., 1879.
 Mrs. E. M. Nicholson, New Jersey, Nov., 1879, to Nov., 1885.
 Mrs. J. C. Draper, Massachusetts, Nov., 1885, to Nov., 1887.
 Mrs. M. E. Luce, Michigan, Nov., 1887, to Nov., 1889.
 Mrs. Jos. Bailey, Mississippi, Nov., 1889, to Nov., 1891.
 Mrs. E. P. Wilson, Mississippi, Nov., 1891, to Nov., 1893.
 Mrs. A. L. Bull, Minnesota, Nov., 1893, to Nov., 1895.
 Mrs. E. L. A. Wiggin, Maine, Nov., 1895, to Nov., 1899.
 Mrs. Ida V. High, Washington, Nov., 1899, to Nov., 1901.
 Mrs. S. B. Wolcott, Kentucky, Nov., 1901, to Nov., 1903.
 Mrs. P. S. Raine, Missouri, Nov., 1903, to Nov., 1905.
 Mrs. A. M. Horton, Michigan, Nov., 1905, to Nov., 1907.
 Mrs. Ida Judson, Iowa, Nov., 1907, to Nov., 1913.
 Mrs. Ella Peckham, Rhode Island, Nov., 1913 to present (1916).

WORTHY LADY ASSISTANT STEWARD

- Miss Carrie A. Hall, Washington, D. C., Jan., 1873, to Nov., 1879.
 Mrs. H. A. Sims, Kansas, Nov., 1879, to Nov., 1885.
 Mrs. E. M. Lipscomb, South Carolina, Nov., 1885, to Nov., 1887.
 Mrs. H. A. Sims, Kansas, Nov., 1887, to Nov., 1889.
 Mrs. L. C. Douglas, Massachusetts, Nov., 1889, to Nov., 1893.
 Mrs. A. M. Horton, Michigan, Nov., 1893, to Nov., 1895.
 Mrs. S. G. Knott, West Virginia, Nov., 1895, to Nov., 1897.
 Mrs. A. M. Horton, Michigan, Nov., 1897, to Nov., 1901.
 Mrs. W. F. Hill, Pennsylvania, Nov., 1901, to Nov., 1903.
 Mrs. H. C. Raap, California, Nov., 1903, to Nov., 1905.
 Mrs. Joanna M. Walker, Delaware, Nov., 1905, to Nov., 1909.
 Mrs. Mary H. Smith, Vermont, Nov., 1909, to Nov., 1913.
 Mrs. Mable A. Harland, Idaho, Nov., 1913, to present (1916).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Wm. Saunders, Washington, D. C., Jan., 1873, to Nov., 1875.
 D. W. Aiken, South Carolina, Jan., 1873, to Nov., 1885.
 E. R. Shankland, Iowa, Jan., 1873, to Nov., 1876.
 D. T. Chase, New Hampshire, Feb., 1875, to Nov., 1877.
 J. T. Jones, Arkansas, Feb., 1875, to Nov., 1875.
 A. Golder, Illinois, Nov., 1875, to Nov., 1877.
 W. H. Chambers, Alabama, Nov., 1875, to Nov., 1877.
 H. James, Indiana, Nov., 1876, to Nov., 1882.
 S. E. Adams, Minnesota, Nov., 1877, to Nov., 1879.
 S. H. Ellis, Ohio, Nov., 1877, to Nov., 1879.
 W. G. Wayne, New York, Nov., 1879, to Nov., 1881.
 J. M. Blanton, Virginia, Nov., 1881, to Nov., 1889.
 J. H. Brigham, Ohio, Nov., 1882, to Nov., 1888.
 J. J. Woodman, Michigan, Nov., 1885, to Nov., 1902.
 L. Rhone, Pennsylvania, Nov., 1888, to Nov., 1898.

- X. X. Chartters, Virginia, Nov., 1889, to Nov., 1893.
R. R. Hutchinson, Virginia, Nov., 1893, to Nov., 1895.
N. J. Bachelder, New Hampshire, Nov., 1895, to Nov., 1899.
S. H. Messick, Delaware, Nov., 1898 to Nov., 1900.
E. B. Norris, New York, Nov., 1899, to Nov., 1907.
C. J. Bell, Vermont, Nov., 1900, to Nov., 1909.
F. A. Derthick, Ohio, Nov., 1902, to Nov., 1908.
F. N. Godfrey, New York, Nov., 1907, to Nov., 1913.
C. O. Raine, Missouri, Nov., 1908, to Nov., 1914.
S. H. Messick, Delaware, Nov., 1909, to Nov., 1912.
C. S. Stetson, Maine, Nov., 1912, to present (1916).
A. B. Judson, Iowa, Nov., 1913, to present (1916).
W. N. Cady, Vermont, Nov., 1914, to present (1916).

APPENDIX

Annual Sessions of the National Grange

DATE	PLACE	MASTER
1867, December 4...	Washington, D. C.	Birthday.
1868, January 7...	Washington, D. C.	William Saunders.
1869, April 13...	Washington, D. C.	William Saunders.
1870, January 25...	Washington, D. C.	William Saunders.
1871, January 4...	Washington, D. C.	William Saunders.
1872, January 3...	Washington, D. C.	William Saunders.
1873, January 8...	Georgetown, D. C.	William Saunders.
1874, February 4...	St. Louis, Mo.	D. W. Adams.
1875, February 3...	Charleston, S. C.	D. W. Adams.
1875, November 17...	Louisville, Ky.	D. W. Adams.
1876, November 15...	Chicago, Ill.	John T. Jones.
1877, November 21...	Cincinnati, O.	John T. Jones.
1878, November 20...	Richmond, Va.	S. E. Adams.
1879, November 19...	Canandaigua, N. Y.	S. E. Adams.
1880, November 17...	Washington, D. C.	J. J. Woodman.
1881, November 16...	Washington, D. C.	J. J. Woodman.
1882, November 15...	Indianapolis, Ind.	J. J. Woodman.
1883, November 21...	Washington, D. C.	J. J. Woodman.
1884, November 25...	Nashville, Tenn.	J. J. Woodman.
1885, November 11...	Boston, Mass.	J. J. Woodman.
1886, November 10...	Philadelphia, Pa.	Put Darden.
1887, November 16...	Lansing, Mich.	Put Darden.
1888, November 14...	Topeka, Kan.	James Draper.
1889, November 13...	Sacramento, Cal.	J. H. Brigham.
1890, November 12...	Atlanta, Ga.	J. H. Brigham.
1891, November 11...	Springfield, O.	J. H. Brigham.
1892, November 16...	Concord, N. H.	J. H. Brigham.
1893, November 15...	Syracuse, N. Y.	J. H. Brigham.
1894, November 14...	Springfield, Ill.	J. H. Brigham.
1895, November 13...	Worcester, Mass.	J. H. Brigham.
1896, November 11...	Washington, D. C.	J. H. Brigham.
1897, November 10...	Harrisburg, Pa.	J. H. Brigham.
1898, November 16...	Concord, N. H.	Aaron Jones.
1899, November 15...	Springfield, O.	Aaron Jones.
1900, November 14...	Washington, D. C.	Aaron Jones.
1901, November 13...	Lewiston, Me.	Aaron Jones.
1902, November 12...	Lansing, Mich.	Aaron Jones.
1903, November 11...	Rochester, N. Y.	Aaron Jones.
1904, November 16...	Portland, Ore.	Aaron Jones.
1905, November 15...	Atlantic City, N. J.	Aaron Jones.
1906, November 14...	Denver, Col.	N. J. Bachelder.
1907, November 13...	Hartford, Conn.	N. J. Bachelder.
1908, November 11...	Washington, D. C.	N. J. Bachelder.
1909, November 10...	Des Moines, Iowa.	N. J. Bachelder.
1910, November 16...	Atlantic City, N. J.	N. J. Bachelder.
1911, November 15...	Columbus, O.	N. J. Bachelder.
1912, November 13...	Spokane, Wash.	Oliver Wilson.
1913, November 12...	Manchester, N. H.	Oliver Wilson.
1914, November 11...	Wilmington, Del.	Oliver Wilson.
1915, November 10...	Oakland, Cal.	Oliver Wilson.
1916, November 15...	Washington, D. C.	Oliver Wilson.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Covering a period of fifty years, an immense quantity of material has accumulated which, more or less, deals with the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. Those desiring to study this material may find practically all of it which is now available listed and located in the Bibliography printed in "The Granger Movement" by Dr. S. J. Buck, published in 1913.

Under the head of "Public Documents" will be found many official reports of Committees of Congress and Commissions of various kinds.

Under the "State Documents" will be found reference to a mass of state publications dealing with legislatures, courts and commissions.

Documents of agricultural organizations under the headings "National" and "State" include National and State Grange Journals and miscellaneous matter.

Under "Newspapers" is listed nearly 200 agricultural and Grange newspapers. About 175 of these papers that were devoted to the Grange movement started after 1870 and suspended by 1880. Not a single one of the papers which started, all over the country, in support of the Grange in the early days of the Order, has continued publication to the present.

Under the head of "Miscellaneous Material" may be found a long list of books, pamphlets and other publications dealing with the Grange.

Another list deals with publications on Organization.

Another class of publications is found under the heading "Co-operation."

Everything dealing with railroads and the Grange is listed together.

The libraries and other places where all this mass of historical material may be found is indicated, and every student of the Grange and Grange history must remain

under obligation to Dr. Buck for the immense amount of work he has done in compiling his Grange "Bibliography." It is too long for republication here.

Below we give a brief list of the books in most permanent form, which deal entirely or largely with the Grange Movement:

National Grange Journal of Proceedings, from the 6th to the 49th Session.

State Grange Journals of Proceedings.

National Grange Digest of Law, etc., 1915 edition.

Cyclopedia of American Agriculture 1909; L. H. Bailey.

Chapters on Rural Progress, 1908; K. L. Butterfield.

Monopolies and the People, 1873; D. C. Cloud.

Industrial History of the United States, 1905; Katherine Coman.

Historical Sketch of the United States Department of Agriculture, 1898; C. H. Greathouse.

The Riddle of the Sphinx, 1890; N. B. Ashby.

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