

Farmers' Societies.

Constitution of Subordinate Granges.

ARTICLE I.—ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP.

First Degree—Laborer (man), Maid (woman).
Second Degree—Cultivator (man), Shepherdess (woman).

Third Degree—Harvester (man), Gleaner (woman).
Fourth Degree—Husbandman (man), Matron (woman).

Section 1.—Subordinate Granges shall be composed of such persons as are directly interested in agricultural pursuits, having no conflicting interest—being not less than nine males and four females who shall apply for, and be regularly organized under a Charter granted by Dominion Grange.

Section 2.—The membership shall consist of such persons as have been initiated in, or affiliated therewith, and who have not withdrawn or been excluded therefrom.

Section 3.—Every application for membership must be in the prescribed form accompanied by the regular fee, and shall be announced in the Grange and referred to a Committee of three, two of whom shall be appointed by the Master and one by the Overseer, which committee shall be appointed at the time the application is received. Said committee shall consider the application and report to the Grange. If the committee report favorably, the Grange shall proceed to ballot for the candidate, but if adversely, and the report be adopted by the Grange, the candidate shall be considered rejected without any further action. A candidate may be balloted for and initiated at the same meeting. When a committee reports unfavorably and the report is not adopted by the Grange, a ballot must be held.

Section 4.—It is not allowable for the Grange to discuss the merits or demerits of a candidate.

Section 5.—In balloting for candidates the ballot is secret and no member can be required to tell how he voted.

Section 6.—A ballot cannot be taken for more than one member at a time, each must be balloted for separately. A candidate is only balloted for once and that is before receiving the first degree.

Section 7.—After an applicant has been rejected, if a member voluntarily declares that he cast a black ball by mistake, the Master may immediately order another ballot.

Section 8.—A member must not disclose outside the Grange the result of an unfavorable ballot. The application of a candidate may be withdrawn at any time before a ballot is ordered thereon, but when a ballot is taken and the candidate elected, the application cannot be withdrawn nor the fee refunded.

Section 9.—No application shall be received from males under the age of 16 years or females under the age of 14 years.

Section 10.—A rejected applicant cannot be admitted until the expiration of three months after such rejection.

Section 11.—It shall require three negative ballots to reject an applicant. A vote or ballot rejecting an applicant may be reconsidered by the Grange at the same meeting, but the ballot resulting in favor of an applicant shall not be reconsidered. The fee must be refunded to a rejected applicant.

Section 12.—No member shall be admitted to membership who has not a direct interest in the cultivation of the soil, and, if having more occupations than one, the chief interest must be in agriculture.

Section 13.—When a person who is ineligible on account of occupation has been admitted, he is a member until expelled. A person who has lawfully become a member does not forfeit his membership by changing his occupation, unless such occupation conflicts with our interests, if his conduct continues to be such as becomes a good Patron, and is not hostile to the interests and objects of the Order.

Section 14.—After a candidate has been legally elected he is entitled to initiation and the degree must be conferred unless objection is made, the nature of the objection stated, and the objection sustained by a majority of the Grange.

Section 15.—After a member has received one or more degrees he is entitled to advancement, unless

charges are preferred against him and he is expelled from the Order.

Section 16.—If, after being elected, a candidate fails to present himself for initiation, the Grange is under no obligation to return the fee.

Section 17.—A member who knowingly signs the application of a person under the required age, or otherwise disqualified for membership, thereby violates his obligation and invites the penalty.

Section 18.—When a candidate is being balloted for, and exactly three black balls appear, the Master may allow the ballot to be retaken, and if three black balls again appear, the candidate is rejected and the ballot cannot be repeated.

Section 19.—A member advancing the initiation fee for an applicant must consider it a loan to such applicant to whom he must look for repayment, and not to the Grange. But such applicant neglecting or refusing to repay the same, when in his power to do so, renders himself liable to expulsion.

Section 20.—If an applicant is balloted for whose fee does not accompany the petition, and is elected, the election is illegal, and the degrees should not be conferred; if rejected, the rejection is illegal, and the applicant may apply again at any time.

Section 21.—Membership commences when the applicant takes the first degree, upon which he becomes entitled to all the pecuniary and other benefits to be derived from a connection with the Order, and is subject to the same fees and dues as though he were in possession of all the degrees.

Section 22.—No one can be held to be ineligible to membership on account of religious belief or political opinions.

Section 23.—A person whose name was enrolled and fee paid at the time of organization, though not then present, may be obligated afterwards in the same manner as other charter members, but after the charter has been issued, another name cannot be substituted for the name of any charter member.

Section 24.—Junior members shall be entered upon a separate finance book, and all their accounts kept separate from the regular paying members, and reported in a separate column in the quarterly reports.

Section 25.—When junior members cease living under the parental roof, and drawing their supplies from the same family purse, or when there shall have ceased to be two regular paying members in the family, they shall be entered as regular paying members.

Section 26.—Junior members shall be received only through the same channel as regular paying members, viz.: by application, ballot and initiation, and shall be subject to the same laws as regular paying members, except as herein before provided.

Section 27.—No junior member shall be allowed to vote upon any question affecting the finances of the Grange, nor be eligible for election to the offices of Master, Executive Committee, or Delegate to superior Granges.

ARTICLE II.—MEETINGS.

Section 1.—Subordinate Granges shall meet at least once each month, and may have special meetings when considered necessary. Seven members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except in Granges where the quorum has been increased by by-law.

Section 2.—A record of all meetings, both regular and special, should be fully kept by the Secretary.

Section 3.—Special meetings may be called by the Secretary upon order of the Master, written or verbal notice to be given to each member of the time and place, stating the object of such meeting, at which no other business can be legally transacted, except notice is given at a previous meeting.

Section 4.—The Master may, for good cause, change the time for holding a special meeting appointed either by himself or the Grange, upon the concurrence of three members of the Grange, upon giving notice to the members.

Section 5.—Divulging the proceedings of any meeting to those not members in good standing, shall be deemed a misdemeanor.

ARTICLE III.—FEES AND DUES.

Section 1.—The initiation fees in all Subordinate Granges shall be, for males \$3.00, and for females 50 cents, unless reduced by by-law of the Division or Subordinate Granges as provided in sub-section to this section. Subordinate Granges may, by by-

law, admit young men residing with their parents, the father being a member, at a reduced initiation fee of not less than \$1.00. Also may admit junior members as follows:—When one male and one female, or two males (but not two females) are full paying members, the remainder of the family, if otherwise eligible, may be admitted at not less than 25 cents each. No person shall be admitted to membership free, or at less than the above rates.

Sub-Section 1.—But Division and Subordinate Granges not connected with a Division or Provincial Grange shall have power to pass by-laws reducing the initiation fee to male persons in their discretion, but in no case shall such fee be reduced below one dollar and such reduction shall effect all existing Granges within the Division.

Note.—The full charter fee will be required to be paid in every instance, whether the above by-law is brought into operation in the case of Granges newly organizing or not.

Section 2.—The regular dues shall not be less than ten cents per month for regular male members, five cents per month for regular female members, and two cents per month for junior members, to be paid quarterly, and no member shall be entitled to vote, or receive the password, who is in arrears of dues.

Section 3.—The entire initiation fee must accompany the petition and not be divided among the several degrees.

Section 4.—A Grange cannot vote back to a member any portion of the initiation fee.

Section 5.—Members do not pay monthly dues for the fractional part of the month in which they are initiated, but from the first of the next month.

Section 6.—A Grange may suspend members for non-payment of dues.

Section 7.—Suspension from membership does not excuse a suspended member from payment of dues during the time of suspension.

Section 8.—Members suspended for non-payment of dues become reinstated upon payment of all dues up to date of reinstatement. This rule does not prevent Granges adopting by-laws terminating membership or prescribing other conditions of reinstatement, after the member has become delinquent a specified time.

Section 9.—Subordinate Granges are exempt from the payment of initiation dues for Charter members. Capitation tax must be paid for all who have been members one full quarter when report is made.

Section 10.—Whenever a Subordinate Grange is reduced below seven members its Charter and Seal must be surrendered through the Secretary of the Provincial to the Dominion Grange, but no Charter can be surrendered so long as seven members in good standing are desirous of retaining it.

Section 11.—Two or more Subordinate Granges may be consolidated in the manner following: Application for permission to consolidate shall be made to the Master of Division Grange, if in the jurisdiction of Division Grange, and his consent obtained; one of the Granges wishing to consolidate shall then vote to surrender its Charter and consolidate with the other, and the other must vote to receive all members of the surrendering Grange. A copy of each vote, duly authenticated, must be transmitted to the Secretary of the Provincial Grange, or Dominion Grange, as the case may be, and the surrendered charter must be returned to the Dominion Grange through the office of the Secretary of the Provincial or Division Grange, with the fact and date of its surrender and consolidation endorsed thereon, authenticated by the Seal and Signature of the Secretary of Division or Provincial Grange. Provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to authorize the surrender of the Charter of a Grange in which seven members in good standing shall desire to continue the organization thereof.

ARTICLE IV.—OFFICERS, THEIR DUTIES, POWERS AND PRIVILEGES.

Section 1.—The officers shall consist of a Master, Overseer, Secretary, Treasurer, Lecturer, Chaplain, Steward, Assistant Steward, Gate-Keeper, Ceres, Pomona, Flora, and Lady Assistant Steward. Also two Auditors, and an Executive Committee of three members.

Section 2.—The officers shall be both nominated and elected by ballot, at the first regular meeting