

WHAT CO-OPERATION IS DOING IN ENGLAND.

The co-operative manufacturing companies of Lancashire are doing a very remarkable sort of business. A large part of these enterprises, owned in £10 or £5 shares, chiefly by the workmen to whom the cotton factories give employment, has sprung up all through the central and eastern districts of Lancashire. In Oldham alone there are some eighty of such establishments, principally engaged in the cotton manufacture. Up to the present the profits appear to be both large and secure, but whether the concerns would weather the storm if another period of disaster were to open for the trade has been questioned. These enterprises, at any rate, have added enormously to the income, as well as to the independence of the working man, and the dividends are astonishingly large. The way in which these dividends are obtained is simple. A number of working men take £30,000 worth of shares, and the remainder of the necessary capital—say £80,000—is borrowed on loan at 6 per cent, other co-operative societies being always ready to lend the money. If 15 per cent profit be made upon the whole capital, and 5 per cent only paid on the loan, the shareholders can divide 35 per cent. The risk that darkens this agreeable prospect is, that much of the loan capital is held at call, or at very short notice, and in a time of panic would be suddenly withdrawn, to the ruin of the concern. The workmen ought to arrange for increasing the proportion of shares and for extending the notice of the loans, even if they have to give up some part of their profits.—English Ex.

Now, we have somewhat to say to some of our own members. You have been pursuing a very similar course (doubtless for want of proper consideration) to these unfriendly outsiders. You have not entered heartily into our business system of co-operation in sustaining our agencies. When, after a hard struggle, we had secured great advantages for you through our agency system, and when our adversaries determined to break down that system by cutting prices and underselling them, even at a loss, in order to destroy confidence in them, for the saving a few dimes you pass by our agents and encourage and strengthen the opposition by purchasing of them. Is this right? Is this the way to break combinations against us? No! You must see, if you think at all, that it is a suicidal policy; a policy that will soon break down our agency system, and again place us in the power of the combinations against us. No true patron will do this, if he considers what he is doing, even if the opposition offered him goods for nothing. Why did not those men offer us cheap goods before we had agents? Ah! because we had no agents. Why do they offer us goods now cheaper than we can get them through our agents? Ah! because it is their interest to break down these agents. Will you help them to do it? Surely no true patron will thus war against his own interests. If we are to maintain our vantage ground, and make our Order a success, we must perfect and strengthen and build up our co-operative system. Our agents are men of our own selection, and as a rule we have been very fortunate in the selection of good and true men. We place them under bonds, and if we make any mistakes we can correct them without loss. As a rule, we have not sustained them as we should, but allowed some of them to suffer loss in our service. Yet they have been faithful to us, toiled on under adverse circumstances and discouragements, and with a patience and forbearance that does honor to them, but is not creditable to us. Let us change all this, and stand by our friends. Our enemies can look out for themselves.—T. R. Allen, N. J. Mo. S. G., in Monthly Talk.

WILL CANADIAN PATRONS COMBINE WITH THE ORDER IN THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. John T. Gould, of Oshawa, Ontario, writes to the American Patron that there is a general desire among Canadian Patrons to "haul with pleasure any movement that would bring about a fraternal union with the Order in the United States. From what source has Brother Gould obtained this expression of Canadian feeling? The Canada Farmer is right in saying that they have nothing to gain by subjecting themselves to the National Grange, and thinks that the Order is more firmly established in Canada than in many States of the Union.

It continues thus.—"If the Canada Patrons go under the National Grange, this will necessitate the sending out of the country some \$22,500 for charters alone, and the annual payment (presuming that some day we shall have 150,000 Patrons) of \$15,000. In return for this vast sum Canadian Patrons would receive the pass word from the National Grange, and that is about all they would get, for we should necessarily get no benefit from business contracts made by the National Grange, our chief articles of consumption being either our own produce or else much cheaper here than any contract price that could be honestly asked on the other side."

NEGLIGENT MEMBERS.

It is too common with recently organized Granges, that the members become negligent. After the excitement is over, and the novelty of the thing dies away, they lose their interest in the matter and quit attending, if not entirely, their attendance is so irregular that they are not able to keep pace with the workings of the Order either at home or abroad, while their more zealous brothers and sisters are in full enjoyment of all the advantages, and reaping the benefits thereof, they, by staying away and neglecting to put forth their hand to receive what is already prepared for them, receive very little or nothing at all, and are ready to find fault with the Grange.

TO OUR READERS.

ONLY 50 CENTS FOR THIS PAPER FOR A YEAR.

We hope the various Granges in Canada who receive this paper, will use prompt exertions to extend its circulation. Not only amongst members of the Grange, but also amongst farmers generally. It is put so low (50 cents) that it is within the reach of every family, and the size and quality of the paper will convince every one that it is good value for the money. Members do not fail to send us a few subscribers and we will forward you a first-class Grange paper.

SOME GOOD SUGGESTIONS.

Let us make two or three suggestions to the officers and members of subordinate granges, all of whom, we believe, are anxious to make their meetings interesting and profitable.—

Be prompt and regular in your attendance.

Provide for the entertainment, as well as instruction, for all, particularly of the younger members.

Commit to memory those portions of the ritual which you may have to repeat, so that you may do your part readily, nicely and understandingly. There is nothing destroys interest like a badly performed ceremony, and nothing adds so much to its beauty and effectiveness as ready and feeling delivery.

Have something thought to say on the questions proposed for discussion.

Be gentle minded and gentle mannered, so that no harshness on your part may repel or discourage a timid brother or sister, or offend an opposing speaker. It is very likely that others are as discerning as yourself, as honest and as faithful.

While you present your own views, fully, freely, fearlessly and with all the ability you possess, be prepared to weigh the arguments of others impartially, and be ready to yield gracefully if you are in error.

Pay your dues promptly.

Give each member some part to perform.

Study the platform of principles, the constitution and the by-laws of the Order industriously.

Work!

—Patron's Helper.

FEEDING PIGS FOR MARKET.

Farmers who design to feed either pigs or cattle for market or home consumption are reminded that a bushel of meal fed before the weather is uncomfortably cold is worth two fed after that time for putting on fat. Now is the time to begin. Feed moderately and regularly, and keep the animals as comfortable as possible, and quiet. A hundred pounds of meat will cost a great deal less money. A steer or cow intended for the shambles can digest more food than it is likely to get in the pasture now. There are various sources from which supplementary feed may be procured without the use of grain. Fodder corn, fresh mow, turnips or other roots may be used to good advantage. If nothing else is available, it is better to begin feeding meal.—Vt. Farmer.

WHAT THE PATRONS ARE DOING.

In educating the farmer for his true position, in elevating the standard of his aims and life, and in opening up new avenues to material, social and political progress and development, the Patrons of Husbandry have brought on a revolution as grand in its conception as it will be illustrious in the splendor and utility of results. When the fruits of Grange work have become a little more ripened, and when the teachings in the grange room are a little better understood, then it will be seen that there is virtue in the country sufficient to redeem it, and resources enough left in our soil to enrich and bless our people. Every day brings forth some new development. Every day displays the awakening of a more collied and utilizing spirit, and every day the views of the Patrons, farmers and, we may say, all classes of people, are getting more and more in harmony with the principles inculcated by the Order of Patrons.—Southern Rural Gentleman.

HOW THE RAILWAY COMPANIES DO WITH FARMERS.

The companies are ever ready to receive the farmers' assistance in building their roads, and gladly accept a gift of the right of way through their farms, or arrogantly force them through without the farmers' consent, but when the toll is to be fixed for transportation over the roads, in which the farmers and the companies have the relation of part owners, the companies get wholly that relation and fix the rates alone.

What is the remedy? The farmers must not give up the thinking part of their business, either as citizens or as farmers, they must stiffen up their back bones, and they must combine for mutual help and protection.

A PROPOSAL.

Send on the names as fast as you can, but you need not remit any money until you receive the second issue, which will be much superior in mechanical execution and style. But work on in the meantime.

—Afr has a new lodge of Oddfellows—Dolan Lodge, No. 175.

London Division Grange.

CO-OPERATION AND BUSINESS RELATIONS OF THE ORDER.

HOW THE GRANGE SHOULD BE WORKING.

The delegates from the different subordinate Granges in Middlesex and the surrounding counties met in this city on Monday. After opening with formal proceedings by Worthy Master Bro. Fred. Anderson, the minutes of the September meeting were read and signed, after which the secretary, Mr. Brown, submitted his report on the state of the Order, which resulted in a lengthy discussion on the BUSINESS RELATIONS OF THE ORDER AND CO-OPERATION.

The report, and other minor details, said that the membership had increased so rapidly during the last six months in the counties of Middlesex, Perth, Oxford and Elgin, which recently formed the London Division, that there were now four other District Granges besides the North Middlesex, South Perth and West Elgin, with a large number of subordinate Granges. A large business had been done on the co-operative and cash principle by the different lodges. The heat of feeling existed between the various manufacturers and dealers who had made offers to the society. He had received communications from the several Secretaries with regard to the question. What intellectual advancement had been made and the reports were flattering in the extreme. A system of essays and lectures had been adopted by the Granges, on the various subjects of rural economy. The subjects treated of have been of a high order of literary merit, and have received due attention at the hands of the press.

Before moving the adoption, a desultory discussion ensued on the various clauses relating to new divisions, co-operation and intellectual results.

Mr. McKenzie, Hyde Park, remarked that the system of dealing through the central agent, the secretary of the division, had not been done so satisfactorily as he wished to see it. It appeared to him the different subordinate Granges, instead of dealing in bulk, had done business as an independent lodge. He thought if a little more of the social element prevailed, the different members would know each other's wants better.

J. Birtwhistle, Lambeth, concurred with the last speaker, and considered the amount of business done by subordinate Granges would have great weight if put in one order.

Mr. Brown, Hyde Park, contended if co-operation was the basis of order, it was absurd for Patrons to ask for a single purchase by ticket what manufacturers intended for a bulk order. Manufacturers were in the hands of their agents, and it was not very likely they would give up a system and business on which they depended for support, unless the Grange would show them a better way of doing it, and do the business of middle men.

L. Walley maintained that the system of tickets was premature, and would only be appropriate when the system was more perfect.

M. J. Jarvis, of Ingersoll, thought if tickets meant anything at all it was to show manufacturers who were dealing with them, and to aid in carrying out the promises made to the society. If the men who made the liberal offers were not prepared to carry them out in good faith, they had no business to tender. This speaker detailed the system of co-operation adopted by his Grange in purchasing groceries. They had dealt to the extent of \$3,000 during the last two quarters. The orders were sent to a wholesale firm and the distribution made to each member by the Secretary of the Grange. They had saved a great amount of money, and had given good satisfaction to all parties.

W. Weld, London, urged stronger co-operation, especially with manufacturers.

W. Elliott and Joshua Jackson, of St. John's, could see no appreciable benefit unless they dealt on the wholesale system now.

Jas. K. Little did not coincide with some of the remarks made by Mr. Weld with regard to manufacturers, he considered farmers had made good proposals to them, and were willing to carry out their pledges to pay cash and do away with agents, and he thought farmers were entitled to a larger consideration than had been offered yet in trade.

John Cameron, St. Mary's, showed to the meeting a scale of prices that had been adopted by the Gananoque Agricultural Works for cash to the society.

E. Hegler spoke a considerable length on the social and intellectual aspects of the Society in connection with co-operation.

After various other opinions were given on the business relations of the Grange, it was moved by J. H. Elliott, Wilton Grove, and resolved, that trading tickets be done away with, and if subordinate Granges do not wish to transact business on wholesale principles altogether, that the secretaries of sub Granges make out alphabetical lists, with columns for the different articles and patron's wants.

ELECTING A REPRESENTATIVE.

was next proceeded with, and an animated discussion took place on Article II. of the Dominion By-laws. Some contended that according to the usual rendering two delegates more to the Dominion should be elected, whilst others maintained that only one was intended. The decision was left to the chair, and the Master, concurred in the last opinion. John H. Little was unanimously chosen.

CHANGING THE RITUAL.

Samuel Hunt, Lambeth, said he wished to bring before the meeting a question of vital importance to the Order. He considered the ritual was considerably complicated and needed simplifying, the better to adapt it to the spirit and genius of farmers in general. He moved, and Jos. Ferguson, Brix, seconded, that this division recommend to the Dominion Grange the advisability of revising the present ritual and presenting it in a simpler and shorter form.

The motion was unanimously carried.

A NEW PAPER FOR THE GRANGE.

Joseph Ferguson, Brix, wished to offer a suggestion for the good of the Order. The necessity of having a paper devoted to their interests, and he was glad to say they had one in view, a prospectus of which had been issued to all the Granges, called the Granger and Gazette, to be published in London. He had no doubt it would perform a good part. John H. Little, John Cameron, and others, urged the necessity of having an organ of their own, when the meeting unanimously tendered a hearty support to the publishers. The Grange adjourned, to meet on the first Thursday in January, 1876.

OUR CROP REVIEW.

EIGHTY-EIGHT MILLION BUSHELS OF WHEAT REQUIRED IN GREAT BRITAIN ALONE, FROM FOREIGN SOURCES.

James Caird, whom the Times considers high authority, writes that journal as follows.—"The publication of the returns of acreage exhibits the smallest breadth of wheat we have since the returns have been taken, and half a million acres less than the average extent previous to 1860, when we had four millions fewer people. The decrease in Ireland has been 14 per cent from 1874, and in Great Britain the decrease has been nearly 2 per cent. He estimates the amount of wheat required from abroad at 11,000,000 quarters.

The requirements of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from foreign countries in a very great measure determine the price the grower of wheat in the interior, or the manufacturer of flour, can obtain for his product. The price in Great Britain, and the rate of exchange and ocean transportation determine the export price at the port of export, and the export price, less the charges for transportation from the interior, determine the price the grower of wheat or the manufacturer of flour will receive for his wheat or flour. Speculation, and the operation of stocks for advancing or depressing the price, may, however, occasionally change these relations.

The crop of 1875 in the United States is considerably below last year. California which is a large wheat producing state is behind some 7,000,000 bushels.

In the Western States which supply about one-third of the wheat grown in the United States, owing to the winter kill and heavy rains are behind 25,000,000 bushels or 25 per cent.

In Germany it has already been determined that the wheat harvest of 1875 will not reach an average, and that the quality of the grain has been deteriorated by too much moisture.

In France the wheat crop of 1875 will not probably exceed an average, and may possibly be below an average, with the quality of the new crop leaving something to be desired. The wheat crop of France in 1874 was the largest ever grown in that country, and it is estimated that there are about 100,000,000 bushels of old wheat to be supplemented to the new crop.

In Roumania abundant rain-falls during harvest had seriously injured the uncarried cereal produce, which will be in a defective condition and hazardous even by steamer shipment.

In Hungary the wheat harvest did not turn out in accordance with the earlier expectations. It is reported to be a good average in quantity but the quality leaves much to be desired, the great heat causing too rapid maturity, and the rains during harvest gave too much moisture, injuring the quality.

In Austria the wheat crop of 1875 is believed to be below an average, the drought early in the season, and later, the rain, deteriorated the quality of the crop.

In Russia the wheat crop will probably be considerably below an average. Her maximum export has been 73,000,000 bushels; her average export for ten years 49,000,000 to 50,000,000 bushels, and her maximum export 23,000,000 to 32,000,000 bushels. The average export of wheat from Russia to the United Kingdom for ten years has been about 20,000,000 bushels, leaving an average of 29,000,000 to 30,000,000 bushels for her average annual exports to other countries than the United Kingdom.

Belgium and Holland are to a greater or lesser amount always importers of foreign wheat to the extent of about 12,000,000 bushels per annum.

Switzerland is almost always an importer of foreign wheat, which reaches her territory through France by the way of Marseilles. Her annual requirements of foreign wheat aggregate several million bushels.

Italy, Spain and Portugal are almost always importers of foreign wheat to a moderate extent.

Algeria this year has a considerable surplus from her wheat crop of 1875 to ship to France. Egypt has usually a moderate surplus of wheat for export.

Australia for the last two years has had a surplus of wheat for export aggregating 20,000 tons per annum, the larger portion of which goes to neighboring colonies.

Van Diemen's Land has this year a surplus of about 1,000,000 bushels of wheat. Two cargoes of wheat are now on passage for England from New Zealand, and several small shipments from Calcutta and Bombay are also on passage for the destination.

The crop of Chili will not be harvested till December or January and remains to be determined what surplus she may have for export.

The wants of Great Britain annually, including home grown and foreign wheat, are estimated at 22,000,000 quarters or 168,000,000 bushels. If her crop shall be no more than 8,600,000 to 9,000,000 quarters less, seed, she will require to import of foreign wheat and flour equal to 12,000,000 or 13,000,000 quarters, 100,000,000 bushels. There has been wheat enough grown in the world to supply its wants, but it has been unequally distributed.

It is extremely doubtful if Russia has much more than the 30,000,000 bushels surplus that for ten years she made an average export to other countries of Europe than the United Kingdom.

France will rather be an importer than an exporter. She will be both, but will probably import foreign wheat to an amount equal to her export.

If the United States shall have a surplus of 50,000,000 about 10,000,000 of it will be taken for the West Indies, South and Central America, and the British North American Colonies in the form of flour, and considerable flour will be taken from California and Oregon for the East Indies, and no more than 40,000,000 for Europe, including Great Britain and the Continent. The question remains, where will the United Kingdom obtain her remaining 60,000,000 bushels? Her crop may turn out a million or more quarters more than has been estimated, but if it does, where can she obtain from remaining exporting countries 60,000,000 bushels of wheat?

There is more than the usual amount of wheat in transit for the United Kingdom, and her new crop will soon be commenced to be drawn upon.

If shipments from exporting countries shall be hard pressed, and too free, keeping up a supply more than the intermediate requirements, values will necessarily be depressed; although, later in the harvest year of 1875-6, there may be a very decided advance on the present ruling prices.

In Canada the yield of wheat from the best sources we have at hand is considerably above the average. In fact all crops are greatly in excess. We intend to present to our readers in the next number a general summary of our crops.