

GRANGE NOTES

A Grange Lady of Note

Farm and Dairy readers will be interested in the fact that for the first time a lady member of the Grange has been elected a member of a State Legislature. The enviable lady is Mrs. Agnes L. Riddle of Colorado. To apply to a woman the title of "the Honorable Agnes L. Riddle" may sound strangely, but that is exactly her correct title and naturally she is proud of it.

The life story of this lady is interesting far more than the point of view of her political success. She is a typical American of the kind who has had her own way to make in the world and who has done it nobly. Her industry and courage are an inspiration to her fellow women, and the following story of her life in a recent issue of Hampton's Magazine is very interesting in that it traces the progress of this plucky Colorado Grange lady to her present position of honor and influence.

A FARMER AND THE WIFE OF A FARMER. Mrs. Agnes L. Riddle is a Republican, but no Republican machine is responsible for her appearance on the

and Sunday schools, became a member and an officer of the Grange, and was so active in behalf of the State Agricultural College that the Governor appointed her a member of the advisory board of the institution.

Mrs. Riddle has no more than a common school education, but she knows perhaps better than the university trained experts in charge of the college the needs of the farmers and their children. She has no children of her own, but she has adopted six, three of whom are grown.

No man in the Colorado Legislature does as much work as this plain country

woman. She rises before dawn every morning, takes care of a large dairy, cooks and serves breakfast, and gets three children off to school. She drives several miles to the railroad station and reaches the Assembly chamber before the speaker calls it to order. All day she sits at her desk, capably busy in behalf of her constituents. At the close of the session she attends several committee meetings, and gets back to the farm in time to see to supper, clean the evening she darts stockings and talks politics with her husband and neighbors.



The First Grange Lady ever Elected to a State Legislature

Hon. Agnes L. Riddle, of Colorado, is here shown as she sits in the State Legislature. Some interesting facts about this farm lady are given in the article adjoining. Through the courtesy of the National Grange Monthly we are enabled to publish this illustration.

The accompanying illustration, for which we are indebted to the National Grange Monthly as well as for the information from which this article is condensed, shows Mrs. Riddle at her desk in the Colorado Legislature. It indicates also her desk number, while her name and the three counties she represents are plainly indicated on her desk, the same as with her male colleagues, by whom she is surrounded.

MAKING GOOD IN SEVERAL POSITIONS

In addition to the unique distinction of being the first lady of the Grange who has obtained a seat in any legislature, Mrs. Riddle is also secretary of the Colorado State Grange, a member of the Advisory Board of the State Agricultural College, and the friend, adviser and the political representative of the farmers in three counties; in every one of these three positions, Mrs. Riddle is said to be making good in the fullest sense of the word.

floor of the Assembly. The farmers of three counties—Adams, Arapahoe and Elbert—united in electing Mrs. Riddle. She is a farmer and the wife of a farmer. Some of these farmers and their wives call themselves Democrats, but when Mrs. Riddle is to be voted for, whether the nomination is for secretary of the State Grange, superintendent of her Sunday school or chairman of a meeting, almost everybody in her part of the state gets out and votes for her.

Agnes L. Riddle comes near being an institution. Born about 40 years ago of plain German parents, Mrs. Riddle began to earn her living as a nurse in Kansas City. Her district work brought her in contact with poverty and suffering, and gave her an inspiration to help others, which has lasted all her life.

When she married and moved to a ranch in Colorado, she by no means lost her desire to do community service. She organized rural churches



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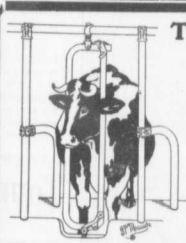
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