

The Canadian Farmer

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Dominion Grange Secretary's Notices.

All matters of business connected with Grange should be addressed to Toronto. All matters connected with this paper to Drawer A., Welland, Ont. Patrons will confer a favor by keeping the Grange and news per business entirely separate as above.

Patrons answering or in any way corresponding with those advertising in these columns will oblige us by saying they saw the advertisement in these columns.

ADDRESS BY HON. J. J. WOODMAN.

The following extracts from an address delivered by Hon. J. J. Woodman, Master of the National Grange, before the Texas State Grange are practical and well worthy of consideration by our farmers everywhere:—

Mr. Woodman said that he did not come for the purpose of making speeches, but to see the great South-west; to meet the Patrons of Husbandry face to face, and to inquire into the workings of the Order in this State. He did not come to condemn and cry down other trades and professions, or land his own vocation above all others, though he would insist that all others depended directly or indirectly upon the farmer; that the farm is the source of all wealth and the farmer the great motive power that runs and sustains every other industry and enterprise. He said he had traveled over the greater portion of Europe, and found that in every country he visited, whether amid the opulent poverty of the peasantry of Ireland, or in England, where the farmers own no land, found the farmer always occupying the lowest position in society, brought on themselves

by allowing others to do their writing, their thinking and their legislation. The same causes are now operating, said the speaker, in our own country, and, unless averted by organization and earnest labor, our farmers will eventually become tenants and serfs. That the history of the world shows that the farmer has always been degraded and oppressed, occupying the position of slaves to the aristocracy and monied powers of earth; and all because the farmers have not organized for the purpose of protecting their own interests. That until the farmers do this, and study farming as a science, they will remain so.

He said that the grand object of the Grange is to elevate and educate the farmer, morally and intellectually; that they had already accomplished a great deal; that it was at the petition of the National Grange that the Bureau of Agriculture was established, and the bill introduced providing for the creation of a department of agriculture, represented in the cabinet; that it was at their instance that the bill, known as the inter State commerce bill, was introduced in Congress, and from which so much is expected by the country. He thought that it was of the highest importance to have the agricultural interests represented in the cabinet; that every country in Europe have a Department of Agriculture represented in the cabinet, and he could see no sound reason for the lack of representation of our own; that the agricultural department, as heretofore managed, is a farce, and that not until the farmers are fully represented in the principal departments of the Government could they expect a full and adequate protection and enforcement of their rights. The organization of the Patrons of Husbandry is yet only an experiment; the first and only organization looking to, and having for its chief aim the protection of the farmer and his interests; and that should it prove a failure, in its fall the farmer will fall with it, and its last note will be a death note to the farming interest of the country.

He urged the necessity of the education of the farmer; that there was no avocation or trade that demanded deeper thought or a more thorough knowledge of the sciences; that farming is better adapted to the development of mental, moral and physical strength than any other trade or profession, and that it was the intention of the Order to educate the farmer, mentally, morally and politically, that in order to protect themselves they should elect men to office who will not bow down to corporation and other monied powers of the land; men who will look well to the interest of the farmer, and will not yield to bribery and corruption. The Order is not political in its nature, but claims the right of petition, which can be best accomplished through and by a well organized body; that public men who persist in giving their aid and influence to corporations, and in ignoring the rights of the people are unworthy, and the farmers should strike them from their tickets as unworthy—that is the way party lines are being broken down throughout the country. He said the farmers were not opposed to railroads, that no class of people are so much more, but the railroad companies have grown to be so powerful and oppressive, that legislation abridging and controlling them by general government was absolutely necessary. The speaker spoke at length touching the great railroad companies and their powers, and the unjust and oppressive law enacted by Congress under which these roads were operated.

He says that the great battle in this

country was between the farmers upon the one side and corporations upon the other; that the government is now practically in the hands of the monopolies and monied corporations, and that the farmers will not cease until their victory is complete and the reins of the government in their hands.

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE.

It becomes our solemn duty to record the death of one of the members of Avon Grange, our Worthy Brother, James Dill, who died on the morning of the 8th inst., after a somewhat lengthy illness. The first breach in a family or an association of friends, always seems to make a deeper impression than when such an occurrence has been repeated. And while we mourn the bereaved, we should not allow the occasion to pass, without making a personal application of the warning to ourselves.

If this dispensation of Providence has the effect of making us live more closely in accordance with the principles of our Order, we shall be better Christians, and consequently better members of society. And while making a blank in the family of our brother, it will not have occurred without proving a blessing to us.

The following resolution was unanimously passed, viz:—

That Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to remove from our midst our brother, James Dill, we hereby express our heartfelt sympathy with his esteemed wife and family in their great sorrow and bereavement, and trust that they may be able to look for comfort and strength for the performance of duty, to Him, whom giving doth not impoverish, and who has promised to be a husband to the widow, and the orphan's stay.

Resolved also that a copy of this resolution be sent to Mrs. Dill.

EDWARD CUNZ,
Windsor, N. S., Aug. 25. Sec'y.

Worthy Master Rose in his annual address at the late session of the Texas State Grange says:

"The respectability and importance of looking well to the education of our children is prominently brought before us in our declaration of purpose. The selection of proper teachers is of vital importance. The great work of educating the youth should only be intrusted to those who are noted for their moral worth, as well as their literary attainments. A proper disciplined and educated people is the basis of good society and good government. All requisite means should be used to give every boy and girl a higher order of education. If more money was used in educating the youth, less would be needed for places of correction. Nothing increases debt, vice, superstition, and crime so much as ignorance. Then let us not forget that education is the leading feature of our Order. We are not able to see that good will come by allowing present generation to grow up uneducated, and our resources being husbanded for generations yet to come, perhaps some of our leaders have conceived the idea that too much education would not be healthy for their interest. The Grange is termed a school, for through this medium we gain information upon every subject that affects our interests as farmers and citizens. In our social gatherings all the varied questions pertaining to our interests come within the range of discussion. The interchange of ideas awakens thought and investigation, and stimulates us to action. The intelligence that has been developed and disseminated among the farmers through this medium proves clearly that the Grange stands

pre-eminently ahead of all other organizations for the elevation of the agriculturist, because the social, moral, intellectual and financial features are all encouraged.

THE FARMERS' DUTY.

The following appeal, made by the "American Grange Bulletin" to the farmers of the United States, shall be wrung in the ear of every farmer, and it will apply to us in Canada as well. Read and ponder, study and act, and act together:

"Never more than at this present time did power for good to himself, his calling and his country, lie in 'The hand that holds the bread.'"

You, brothers of the plow, have gathered a bountiful harvest from your fields, and with well filled granaries can look about you for means to exercise and extend the power you have and must use, and use it you should, not only to the bettering of your own condition, but for the bettering of every true interest of the entire country.

Your power lies not only in the preparation of soil, planting of seed, and gathering of harvests in the natural field, but as well as the social, moral and political field. A crop in these latter fields must be grown this year. It is being planted and tended now, upon soil whose preparation has been sadly neglected by the farmer. What are you, the farmers, doing in this field, with the power you, the majority wield in a country where the people are sovereigns? Are you in the primary meetings and local caucuses, planting good seed, and tending and weeding the springing plants, already planted upon too much neglected soil? With what care are you watching the growth and development of the crop? How much pruning are you doing, by single and co-operative effort, in convention and by private counsel? Are you idly sitting by and letting things take their own way, as in days gone by, following in the rate of your fathers and neighbors, letting the weeds of corruption and the briars of corporation greed grow into overshadowing strength and power?

Will you still cling to the traditions of parties, once the people, now rings voicing the interests of monopoly, that would not only control the soil, but the value of its products, and this too in the shadow of law and right. Are the stalwart thistles of county-seat rings, rum bought, to be the crop harvested in coming elections, or shall justice, sobriety, political party, the will of the majority, and the interests of a great people triumph? FARMERS!! THE POWER LIES WITH YOU!! What shall the harvest be? You cast the votes. Shall they be by the slaves of the political ring-masters of the day and the managers of corrupt party, or will you, breaking from the shackles with a Declaration of Independence worthy of Patrons and freeman, work for your own interests and those of the country, by using the power God has given you, in the exercise of an intelligent ballot, untrammelled by party prejudice?

Are you ready to select men to represent your and your interests and principles in the legislative halls of State and Nation, or will you still contribute your mite to the glory of party power, representing not the interests of the farmer or the country, but that of the clients of party, who contribute of their wealth and patronage to control parties and keep them interested. The power, farmers, is with you, for you—you have the balance in your hands. On which side shall your votes be cast? Let no man think for you. AS FOR NOW YOU SHALL REAP.