

From circumstances which have come within our knowledge we believe a good many new Granges might be organized in the Province by the use of a little effort in the right direction. Many farmers who have always stood aloof from all organizations, are rapidly coming to the conclusion that something of the kind is necessary to save the farmers of this country from being ground to death between the millstones of combination. Many are now anxious to act, if they only knew what to do. Their assistance should be secured to our order, if possible.

Your Committee were strongly pressed by our brethren in the Northwest to send them some one to assist in spreading and strengthening the Order there. Situated, as they are, beyond the reach of our annual meetings, and in most of cases having no Division Granges, they naturally feel their isolation, and that they should have some return or recognition from us, or the pleasure of meeting a brother sent amongst them to give them some words of cheer and encouragement, and to tell them what the Order is doing for the farmers elsewhere, if not amongst themselves. We felt for our friends in this position and have to acknowledge the justice and necessity of lending them a fraternal and helping hand.

But such a tour would have made a drain upon our funds we felt unable to bear, and after most of the arrangements had been made for the Secretary to undertake this trip, it had for the time to be abandoned. Your Committee strongly recommend this matter to the consideration of this meeting, in hope that some way may be found and provision made to send some one out during the coming summer.

Your Committee feel it their duty to direct the attention of this meeting to another matter, which cannot be much longer allowed to go on without some change. We here refer to the financial position of Dominion Grange.

The constitution provides that one half of the actual revenues of Dominion Grange be set apart as a "Sessional Indemnity Fund," the balance only to be available for the actual running expenses of Dominion Grange. When this clause was introduced it was based upon a hap-hazard assumption that as the Grange then stood, the sum would be found sufficient to meet the expenses. But experience has shown that it is totally inadequate to meet even the fixed expenses of the Grange, and that in spite of the most rigid economy there is and has been a deficit every year since it came into force. If the Grange was expanding there might be some grounds to hope for improvement, but such is not the case, but owing to fewer new Grange organizations and