

MACON COUNTY AGRICULTURE

Hog Marketing (Editorial)

After three years of incessant effort, arrangements have been made to run pick up hog cars. And also the price of the hogs will be known before hand in the same way that the poultry prices are known. In other words, the car of hogs is sold on competitive bidding. The bid is made on top grade with a one cent differential from each grade to the next lowest. As a mater of economy, the hog car will no doubt run on the same day as the poultry car. This will save a trip where a man has both to sell at the same time.

Now that this arrangement has been made, another myth of the no market howlers is exploded and goes into the limbo of forgotten things. And the next question is, what will we do with it? There will always be a market for hogs whenever there are hogs to market. And there will be the assurance that the very top market price will be paid. Some times this will seem low. Other times it will be high. By breeding sows at the right time a lot of the risk in hitting the low market will be eliminated. The thing is to have what hogs we can justly feed, coming on all the time. And just as many as can be taken care of.

There are two ways of getting profit out of hogs. 1st, to keep enough to consume the waste. By this method no matter what the hogs bring there will be a profit. The other method is hog farming where hogs are one of the main sources of cash income. For those practicing this method, economical production by using the improved practices that have been worked out thru the years will certainly preclude the possibility of loss at any time and will, by the same reasoning, insure a substantial profit at any time the hogs are sold. Again the proposition is placed squarely up to the man concerned, to use or not to use as he may elect.

THE GRANGE

A Farm Organization With 60 Years of Successful Operation Enters N. C.

The Need For Organization

We are living in a day of organization. Every other great industry and profession is organized. In fact the work of the world is done through organization, and it should be. Farmers do not blame others for organizing for effective endeavor. But farmers also must organize if they would keep step with the modern world and not become the victims of disorganization and inefficiency.

Farmers have believed this for a long while. They now have sufficient experience and governmental encouragement to go forward with confidence.

What Organization Can Do

A farm organization like the Grange can bring the people of a community together in regular meetings to discuss their common problems and for wholesome recreation, entertainment, and social contacts. At the present time in North Carolina, farmers meet only in cases of emergency. If they would meet regularly, in due time most of the emergencies would fail to arise.

2. The Grange can be a continual educational influence and can work with other agencies that are dedicated to the upbuilding of agriculture and rural life. In fact practically all agencies seeking to serve agriculture are handicapped because there are no local community organizations through which they can effectively reach the people. The Subordinate Grange constitutes this local community organization.

3. The Grange can lay the ground work for successful farmer co-operation, without itself becoming a commodity organization. It can develop economic intelligence among farmers, without itself engaging in economic enterprise.

4. The Grange can be a legislative power to protect the farmer by securing beneficial legislation and by defeating legislation that would injure him. At the same time it need not be engaged in politics as such.

SIX FACTS ABOUT THE GRANGE

1. It is the oldest national farmers' organization and any farmer can join

it with the assurance that he is not tying up with any fly-by-night movement which is here today and gone tomorrow. It has been here since 1867.

2. It is a thrifty and growing organization with a steady membership of large proportions. In every year from 1873 to 1902 the membership exceeded 100,000, and from every year since 1901 it has exceeded 200,000. In 1902 it was 218,022; ten years later (1912) it was 415,143; in another ten years (1922) it was 676,056, and it is now over 800,000.

3. It is the most truly national farmers' organization so far as we know. It is now organized in 34 states and there are 8,000 local or subordinate Granges.

4. It has a good record. No farmers' organization in America enjoys a greater degree of public confidence than the Grange. It is steady, sober, sensible, reliable. It is progressive without being erratic, courageous without being wild.

5. The Grange brings the whole family into the organization. No local Grange can be organized without a reasonable proportion of women members. The young people are also brought in.

The Grange has a symmetrical and well proportioned program of progress for agriculture. Some farmers' organizations have not lasted because they had a business program alone and did not concern themselves with

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other phases of farm welfare. Others have stressed the need for legislative reforms affecting agriculture, but have neglected the business side. Still others have emphasized community betterment and the enrichment of rural social life to the neglect of other issues. It is the peculiar distinction of the Grange that it has consistently stressed all three features of a well-rounded rural program:—

- (1). Community Betterment, and the enrichment of farm and social life;
- (2). Better Business Practices for the farmer and co-operation in improving them;
- (3). Needed Legislative Reforms in both state and nation required to insure "Equality for Agriculture."

Who Can Join the Grange?

The Grange is an organization of farmers, for farmers, and by farmers.

A person becomes a member of the Grange by invitation and election. Any farmer or farm woman or farm boy or girl over fourteen years of age is eligible, provided he or she is of good moral character. The only other persons eligible are agricultural and rural teachers, research and ex-

tension workers, rural ministers, physicians, etc.

What Are the Fees and Dues?

The initiation fee is \$3 for men and \$1 each for women and young people. After that the dues are only 10 cents per month.

The Grange is the cheapest, yet most permanent farm organization ever organized in the United States. The dues of 10 cents a month in a local grange automatically make a person a member of the State and National Granges. Due to the large membership and careful economy in its operation, the Grange has been able to maintain its work for over sixty years at a cost that is so low as to be little short of marvelous.

A Fraternal Order for the Public Good

The Grange is a "secret" fraternal organization to the extent that its business sessions are conducted within closed doors with admittance by signal and password, as in other fraternal organizations, conditioned upon the maintenance of proper membership standing, and it has one of the most beautiful rituals of any fraternal body. Yet in all of its plans the welfare of the entire community is made the Grange concern, and it carries on a program of helpful endeavor in co-operation with church, school, extension service, agricultural teachers, and other community agencies. It is secret but not selfish.

Why Join the Grange?—Twelve Reasons

1. It is the oldest general farm organization in the world and the only farmer's fraternity in the world.
2. It begins in the rural community with the local self-governing Subordinate Grange, and has county, State and National organizations.
3. It is a family organization, including women as well as men as members and officers, and also having Juvenile Granges for children under 14 years of age.
4. It has 800,000 actual members in 34 states, 8,000 local or subordinate Granges, and owns 3,200 Grange halls valued at more than \$15,000,000.
5. It has helped secure for rural America numberless specific benefits, such as fairer taxation and tariff policies, lower freight rates, rural delivery of mail, parcel post, better roads and schools, and better marketing facilities.
6. It has constantly fought intemperance, injustice, intolerance, monopoly, public extravagance, graft, and dishonesty and has championed the cause of good government everywhere.
7. It has taken the lead in uniting the farmers in co-operative undertakings, shipping associations, selling groups, etc., and has saved the farmers millions of dollars by maintaining fire, hail, tornado, casualty and automobile mutual insurance companies—yet these are only sidelines to its educational, social, and fraternal activities.
8. It has enriched community life and has been a Godsend to thousands of women in the rural communities because of its inspiring, neighborly community meetings.
9. It affords a real chance for the boys and girls, and is a training school in leadership for young people and old as well.
10. It dispels gloom and pessimism, teaches confidence and good will, and keeps courage in the rural life of America.
11. It is patriotic without being partisan; has a high moral tone without religious bias, and contributes in every way to a healthy, wholesome rural life.
12. Its cost is very low and it returns dividends, "some thirty, some sixty, and some a hundred fold" in a better social life, more profitable farm business, happier farm families, and happier farm neighborhoods.

A FALSE PRAYER

Oh, my Lord give us a market. This is the prayer we hear from many and sundry. Is there any grounds for so much wailing? The poultry sales are going. The hog sales are going. The creamery is still running. The cannery is still in operation. Truckers come from far and near to get our cabbage and beans. What else is there that some would have a market for, laziness?

One day last week we chanced to be loafing in the Franklin Hotel. There were wails and wails going forth about how hard times are and how scarce money is. There was a stranger sitting there listening. He listened in silence for a long time. Finally he seemed to explode. He said;

"Gentlemen, what have you to sell? I have been coming here weekly for many weeks and all I hear is the same tale. I am buying all kinds of farm produce. I am paying the market in cash. Every time I come here I hear this same group talking the same thing. Every time I offer to buy anything that you have for sale. Every time I get the same answer."

We could have screamed at the intense silence that followed. This stranger had scored a bulls eye. He had not only hit the proverbial nail on the head, he had driven it home.

The man that produces something to sell will always find a market. He may not find a market that will pay the price he wants for he never will find a market that will pay a price that will give a profit on an acre of potatoes, for example, and a profit on loafing the rest of the time. A market is always at hand at a profitable price, taking the average right thru' for stuff the year round worker has to sell.

Here are some base prices that show a good profit on the different items listed when these said items have been produced in an efficient manner. Corn, seventy-five cents per bushel; hogs, eight cents per pound; hens, twenty-cents per pound; fryers (except the very early ones) twenty-five cents per pound; Irish potatoes, fifty cents per bushel; butter fat, thirty-five cents per pound; cabbage one cent per pound; beans two cents per pound; tomatoes, twelve and a half dollars per ton; roasting ears, the same as tomatoes; apples (to the cannery) thirty cents per bushel; beets, one cent per pound; turnip salad, thirty cents per bushel; black berries, fifteen cents per gallon; eggs, twenty-five cents per dozen; and turnips one cent per pound.

"We would grow the stuff if we had a market." How often have we heard that refrain? How tiresome it has become? And what a sad comentary it is on the man that makes the remark. Here is a question to ponder over, or rather several questions. How can anyone find a market when he has nothing to market? What is the state marketing bureau for? What is to hinder a couple or three or four or a dozen men getting together and growing the same kind of stuff in large enough quantities so that the buyers will come for it or so that they can profitably haul it to market? No, verily it is not, in the last analysis that we have no market, it is that we have no stuff that the market wants. This applies to the kind, the quality and the quantity.

Cooperative Sale of Hogs a Success

Macon County farmers brought 24 hogs to the cooperative sale held here November 27 by the county agent, F. S. Sloan. The total weight of these was 5,635 pounds. The amount received by the farmers was \$497.71.

This was the first cooperative car-lot hog sale to be held here this year. Mr. Sloan announces that sales will be held in the future when needed if the farmers can load in sufficient numbers.

"The sale," said Mr. Sloan, "is conducted very much like the poultry sale in that the car is sold on competitive bid to the highest bidder, the basis for the bids being No. 1 hogs—that is smooth fat hogs weighing 165 pounds and up."

The day of the sale, the Chicago top price on hogs was \$9.10 a hundred. Sold cooperatively through the county agent here, farmers were paid nine cents a pound.

10 Piece Cosmetic Set \$1.97

This is a Famous Vivani Set and includes Face Powder, \$1.00, Rouge, 75c, Tissue Cream \$1.00, Depilatory, \$1.00, Facial Astringent, \$1.75, Bath Salt, \$1.00, Toilet Water, \$1.25, Perfume, \$2.75, Brilliantine, 75c, Skin Whitener, 75c. Total Value, \$12.00. Special price, \$1.97 for all ten pieces to introduce the line.

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