

A Century of Service

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schools, and whether or not women should be school directors. Is it more profitable to own registered cattle or common cows, they asked. Should there be lights on vehicles? Do the signs of the times indicate the downfall of the American farmer to European peasantry?

In 1925, when radio was in its infancy, a radio set was brought to a meeting so that all could listen to the dawning of the electronic age. The history, which was written by Norman Wood and Charles McSparran, does not reveal whether or not a TV set was similarly examined by members.

Today there are some 260 members of Fulton Grange, and many of its members have distinguished themselves over the years. Many have been active in local politics, serving as school directors, road supervisors and election officials. Some have risen to serve on the state level. John A. McSparran was Pennsylvania's secretary of agriculture under Governor John Pinchot. Norman Wood was a 42-year member of the State House of Representatives, and his place was taken in 1962 by another Granger, Sherman Hill.

In May, of 1948, a Juvenile Grange was organized, with 25 members and Ray McSparran as the first Master. The Junior Grange, as it's now called, is still going strong, and still meeting twice a month.

Three McSparrans have served as officers of the Pennsylvania State Grange. John A. was master from 1914 to 1924, James G. was overseer for six years in the late 19th century. J. Collins McSparran, son of John A., served as master from 1956 to 1962, and was state secretary before that. Jesse Cutler served on the state finance committee from 1948 until 1954, and Clifford Holloway Jr. is presently serving as a member of the executive committee.

Citizens of the southern

end owe a great deal to the Grange for their early support of telephone and electric service in the area. The Norman Wood Bridge over the Susquehanna River connects southern Lancaster and York Counties. Grangers lobbied strongly for the bridge and it was named after one of their own.

Health care in the southern end has been another prime concern of the Grange. In 1970, the group recognized a problem arising out of the fact that there were not enough doctors in the area. They began a drive that ended little more than a year later with the establishment of a family health center, housed in a former Presbyterian parsonage in Quarryville. A new center is currently under construction and will be opening its doors for business in the near future.

Speaking of the first century in his introduction to the Fulton Grange 100-year anniversary book, Master Charles G. McSparran said: "Fulton Grange has served this community for 100 years.

"In that time it has saved its members thousands of dollars, but its true worth cannot be measured in dollars and cents; rather in the good it has done as a fraternal organization working as one large family, supporting those things that were for the good of all and opposing things that might prove harmful and at the same time exhibiting a spirit of friendship and compassion surpassed by no other organization.

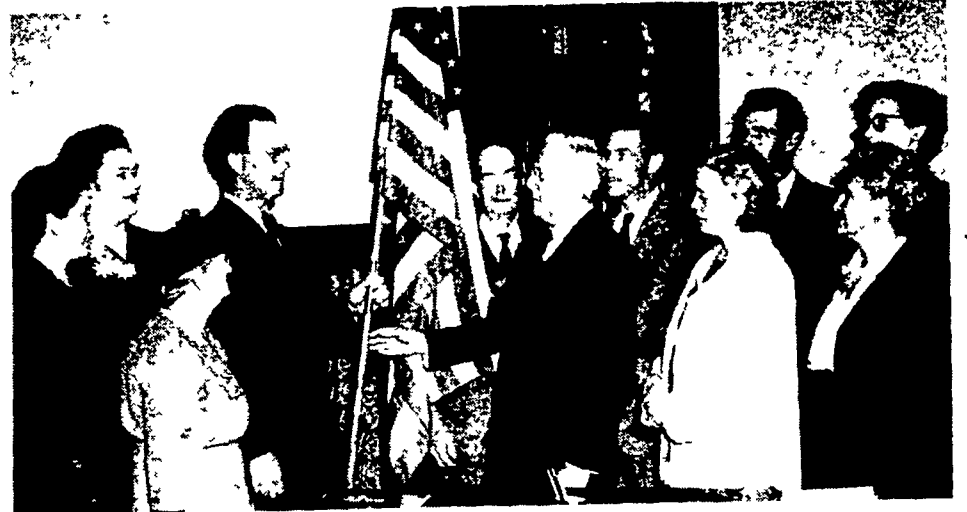
"Its many accomplishments and the high moral standard it has upheld are a challenge worthy of emulation. May the records of our next 100 years show that the same spirit of friendship, cooperation and high moral fortitude exists then as it does today.

"It behooves each and every one of us to accept the challenge of the past and make this Grange and example for all who come after us."



1960 Grange Square Dance Team

The "Fulton Squares" which won a blue ribbon at Penna. Farm Show. Left to right: Stanley Stauffer, Dorothy (Black) Stauffer, Gerhart Neustadter, Nancy Groff, Earle Gilbert, Jr., Beverly (Styer) Fryberger, Clair Murphy, Cathy (Gilbert) Cochran.



Presentation of American Flag to the State Grange Headquarters in Harrisburg in 1953. Front Row (left to right): Evelyn (Richardson) Probst, Lena Coates, Beatty Demit, State Master, Laura McSparran, Ila Jackson. Back Row (left to right): Mabel (Brabson) Kreider, Thomas Galbreath, Master, Walter Wood, Charles Tindall, Sr., Charles Ambler, Ruth Ann Armstrong.



Norman Wood Bridge

Members of Fulton Grange Who Have Served as Officers of The Pa. State Grange



75th Anniversary Officers

Front Row (left to right) Thomas Galbreath, Assistant Steward; Walter Wood, Treasurer, Charles Ambler, Steward; Russel Hartsoe, Overseer; William Anderson, Master, Edna Groff, Lecturer; Jennette McCummings, Chaplain; John McSparran, Secretary; Jean Moss, Lady Assistant Steward. Back Row (left to right) Mary Giffin Flower Comm, Sara Etta Boyd, Librarian, Ralph Armstrong, Gatekeeper, Martin Eshleman and Lewis Beck, Executive Comm; John Galbreath, Finance Comm, Ruth Ann Armstrong, F. Sarah (Weaver) Jackson, Ceres, Betty (Brown) Hill, Pomona



John A. McSparran
Master



James G. McSparran
Overseer



J. Collins McSparran
Secretary
Master



Clifford W. Holloway Jr.
Executive Committee
member at present



Jesse Cutler
Finance Committee
member