

Oregon State Grange: A Record of Achievement

1872⇒

First Grange organized in state.

In 1873 Oregon State Grange organized.

Cooperatively purchased \$60,000 of equipment; cooperatively sold and shipped wheat.

Convinced State Legislature that the Canal Commission should regulate the Willamette Locks.

1880s

Proposed direct election of US Senators, which finally passed in 1913.

Lower Columbia Fire Relief Association formed, the first mutual insurance company.

Awarded medal to outstanding graduate of Agriculture College (now OSU).

Sold farm fresh produce in a Grange store near Portland.

1890s

Backed the Initiative and Referendum, which were adopted in 1902.

Advocated the Australian (secret) ballot.

1900s

Advocated amending Oregon's Constitution to allow recall of public officials.

Hosted the National Grange Convention in Portland; also in 1921, 1938, 1946, 1963, 2002, and 1985 in Eugene.

Mrs. Clara Waldo, State Grange Lecturer, appointed to Board of Regents of Oregon State College (OSU).

1940s

White Satin Sugar awarded electric appliances to winners of a popular Canning contest.

Young Granger's Auxiliary gained over 600 new members under the age of 30.

Junior Grangers held their own state convention, elected officers, entered contests, enjoyed tours, and recreation. Camp was highlight of their summer.

1930s

Initiated a Constitutional Amendment to allow Public Utility Districts.

Backed creation of the State Department of Agriculture.

Lead defeat of the sales tax, the first of nine times.

Awarded prizes to winners of the State FFA Public Speaking contest.

1920s

Supported the graduated income tax.

Exhibited at the Pacific International Livestock Show and State Fair.

Used the Referendum to have the people vote on laws enacted by the State Legislature.

1910s

Adopted a resolution in favor of suffrage for women, which voters passed that November.

Proposed the "Grange bill" initiative to create the State Highway Department.

Backed the Workmen's Compensation Law.

Very influential in establishing the State Board of Forestry.

1950s

Oregon Granges won top awards in the national Community Service contest sponsored by Sears-Roebuck.

Moved a log cabin to the State Fairgrounds for Oregon's Centennial to show how pioneer farmers lived and worked; it became one of the most popular exhibits.

1960-70s

Focused on deaf awareness, added sound systems to Grange halls, collected hearing aid batteries, and supported Dogs for the Deaf.

Members won national awards in the Coats & Clarks Needlework and Simplicity Sewing contests.

1980-90s

Adopted a resolution to mandate a newborn hearing screening test, which became law in 2015.

Moved the State Grange headquarters from Portland to Salem.

2000s⇒

Successfully fought the proposed "Grange Casino" on grounds of trademark infringement.

Helped convince Tyson Foods not to use "Grange" in the name of a new product.

Granges in 170 communities

Since 1873, the Oregon State Grange has been a grassroots, non-partisan advocate agriculture, rural issues, and American values. Community Granges across the state serve local needs by volunteering countless hours and making their hall the social center of the community. The Oregon State Grange is a part of a nationwide nonprofit fraternal organization with programs for family members of all ages.

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