

Inventory of the

Westfield Grange
Winnebago County, Illinois

Records

In the

Regional History Center

RC 88

INTRODUCTION

Mrs. Charles (Ruth) Temple, Winnebago, donated the Westfield Grange No. 1764 Collection to the Regional History Center on March 5, 1980.

Property rights in the collection are held by the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 1
Number of containers: 2
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 88

SCOPE AND CONTENT

These records document the establishment, development, and eventual demise of Westfield Grange No. 1764, Winnebago County, Illinois. Included are a complete set of due account/roll books, and a partial, informative set of minute books, treasurer's ledgers, and subordinate quarterly reports which document the Grange's business and economic functions for its entire history (1911-1972). Complementary information about the various social and business concerns is included in the committee lists, fund-raising plans, and the guest book. The membership applications, deficient in number and years covered (1911-1927, 1955-1968), provide supplementary data on the members listed in the dues account/roll books.

In addition to the historical information available for the subordinate Grange, a small portion of the records document the history of the Westfield Juvenile Grange No. 79 (1958-1969). These records detail the concerns and social activities planned by the membership. Another minor series of the collection includes items from the Illinois State Grange and the National Grange, but these records do not document the history of the two organizations.

Researchers should note a number of other collections held by the Regional History Center which relate in whole or in part to the Grange organization. In particular, the South Grove Grange (RC 61), the Etna Grange (RC 63), the Hanover Scenic Grange (RC 64), the Round Grove Grange (RC 68), the Willowdale Grange (RC 80) and the Laura Cooper Collection (RC 44).

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Westfield Grange No. 1764, Winnebago County, Illinois, was organized with 62 charter members on March 8, 1911. The first officers of the new subordinate Grange were J.E. Wright (Master), R.C. Chambers (Secretary), and Frank Hill (Treasurer). Bi-monthly meetings originally were held in various member's homes until 1919 when a Grange Hall in Winnebago

was dedicated and put into use. The Grange supported various entertainment programs and lectures discussing agricultural advances or subjects which influenced rural life in some capacity. Nevertheless, an eventual decline in interest and membership forced the Westfield Grange to disband in 1972.

A similar organization, the Westfield Juvenile Grange No. 79, was formed in 1958 for the youth of the farm community. Primarily designed as a social club, the Juvenile Grange planned events such as dances, roller skating parties, and ice cream socials. These activities continued to occur until lack of membership finally caused the Juvenile Grange to disband in 1969.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Grange
Westfield Grange
Winnebago County

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1-3	Minute Book, 1911-1931
	4	Minute Book, 1941-1953
	5-10	Minute Book, 1953-1972
	11	Lecturer's Book, 1945
	12	Dues Account and Roll Book, 1911-1967
2	1	Dues Account Book, 1968-1972
	2	Treasurer's Account Ledger, 1911-1932
	3	Financial Records, 1920, 1965, 1968, 1970, 1971
	4	Quarterly Reports, 1917-1928
	5	Quarterly Reports, 1954-1965, 1967-1969, 1972
	6	Quarterly Reports, n.d.
	7	Quarterly Dues Receipts, 1957-1958?, 1969-1972
	8	Correspondence, 1932, 1958, 1959, 1962, 1969, 1972
	9	Membership Applications, 1911-1927
	10	Membership Applications, 1955-1968
	11	Membership Applications, n.d.
	12	Membership Dimits, 1912-1925
	13	Committee and Membership Lists, 1970-1972
	14	Fund Raising Plans, 1960-1973
	15	Guest Book, 1958
	16	Song Book, n.d.
	17	Tax and Insurance Receipts, 1956-1965
	18	Real Estate Tax Assessment, 1960
	19	Juvenile Grange Minute Book, 1960-1962
	20	Juvenile Grange Dues Account Book, 1959-1963
	21	Juvenile Grange Treasurer's Book, 1958-1969
	22	Juvenile Grange Quarterly Reports, 1960-1967
	23	Illinois State Grange By-Laws and Rules of Order, 1955
	24	Illinois State Grange Roster, 1958-1959
	25	National Grange Song Book, n.d.
	26	Grange Supply Catalog, May, 1971
	Envelope	Metallic Plaque for Juvenile Grange