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WHEN THE FARM COMES INTO ITS OWN.

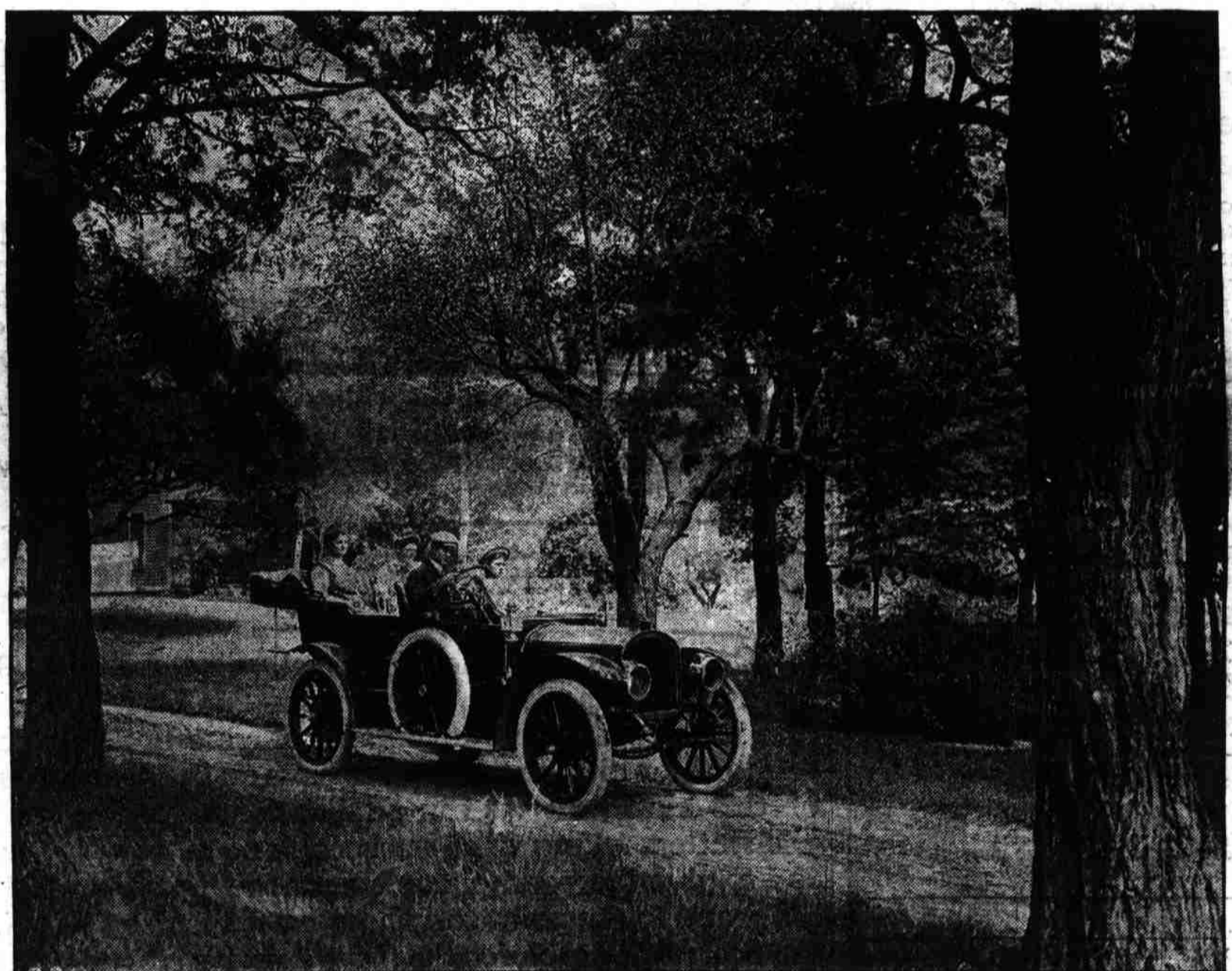
WE know that many of our boys and girls expect to live on the farm after they are grown up; but we fear that there are many others who, deep in their hearts, are longing for the time when they can leave the old farm and try life elsewhere. Now, if the boy or girl has special talent or special training for some other work, it is the proper thing for him or her to leave the farm; but to leave the farm just because one feels that it is not a good place to live argues something wrong either with the person who wishes to leave or with the way the farm is managed.

There are farms, of course, which no enterprising young person could be blamed for wishing to leave—farms where there is a ceaseless round of hard work, little pay, few recreations, a general lack of hope and progress and ambition. Such farms, however, are becoming scarcer, and the farms on which the boys and girls are able to earn money of their own, to get a good education, to enjoy the society of their friends, to live in comfort and to grow up into well-trained, cultured, purposeful men and women are all the time becoming more numerous.

Indeed, this is the only kind of farm there should be in this land of ours—the only kind there will be when once we all realize the possibilities of farm life and set ourselves in earnest to realize them. Some of our readers live in homes just as beautiful as the one shown on this page and have everything necessary to make them contented and hopeful. Many others, who have not yet attained to all these things, live on farms which are every year becoming more beautiful and giving to those who live on them more of the good things of life. Still others there may be who see in farm life only one endless round of drudgery and who ceaselessly contrast their conditions with those of the lucky boy and girl who live in the city.

Wrong as this last idea is, it has in it a grain of truth, for it is true that the country has in the past lacked many of the advantages of the city. The great fact of our day is the new realization that the country need not lack these things. For the farmer to add to the good things which belong especially to the country most of the good things which have heretofore belonged exclusively to the town, is possible—is comparatively easy, if once farm folks set out in earnest to do it.

And it is the boys and girls of today who must do this great work and so make life on the average farm as inviting and satisfying as it is on the very best farms of today. They can do it, too, for the boys and girls of today are the makers of the future and it is theirs to fashion and mold it as they will. If they prepare themselves, by earnest study, by doing well the tasks of today, above all by living true, helpful and earnest lives, they can bring even the poorest and most neglected farms of the South into their rightful heritage and make



WOULD ANY BOY OR GIRL WISH TO LEAVE A FARM HOME LIKE THIS?

them charming and delightful places to live. Let it be remembered, tho, that only the boy or girl with real energy and purpose can do this, or help to do it. The one who says "I can't," and, because present conditions and circumstances are unfavorable, gives up, will surely not do it, and is not likely to accomplish much anywhere or for any cause. Things worth while are done only by those who have a real purpose in life and who prepare themselves for the work they wish to do.

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