

FARM WOMEN AND GIRLS.

Conditions change with time. It is good that it is so. The same routine of life would become monotonous, and life would not be worth living if new and better things did not appear as the years go by. Variety is not only the spice of life, but the very essence of life.

With evolution in general, and the many changes that have taken place in the past years, farm women and girls are just now being heard from and are receiving attentive ears by the old and young men of the farms, as well as by men and women in other walks of life and lines of business. No one doubts but that farm women and farm girls are of some importance in life and in the general economy of nature, but any who may assume to take the "Farm Female of the Species" lightly may himself be held up to ridicule by both the "Male" and "Female" of the human family. There was a time when clerks in town dry goods stores could smile and offer trivial remarks about country women who came into their stores to buy calico and green coffee; but that was then, not now. The farm women and girls who carry check-books of their own to the country store, instead of baskets of butter, and pay in "good as gold" bank paper over the counter for everything they buy certainly look good to town and city store keepers.

Long, long years ago a noted queen of one of the European countries remarked that women should of all things be stingy of their time. But until recently who ever thought of woman's time being of any consequence? A pair of socks are worth perhaps twenty-five cents, yet our mothers knit a pair in about two days. Twelve and one-half cents a day—big wages—for the pioneer mothers of only yesterday who have helped to make this great country what it is,—have given their life and love for the exalted population that exists to-day.

Now, the mother's time on the farm is just as precious and valuable as the father's time. Both are willing and glad of the chance to work at something that will make conditions of life better for themselves and their children. If the farmer can use devices and modern machinery for doing more effective work and saving labor he will have time to devote to other useful things. Mountains of effort in multitudinous lines is being devoted to improved farming methods and for the better growing and handling of live stock and field crops,—all to the end that the farmer and his boys can make more money and have a better time.

Better living and better times in general on the farm are determined as much by the women and girls as by the men and boys of the farm. If the farmer must have labor-saving tools and machinery for field work so also should the farmer's wife have such devices for saving her precious time in household work. These things are coming. If the time for doing ordinary house work can be reduced 50 per cent, then the mother will have 50 per cent more time for rest, recreation, self-improvement, and last but not by no means least, more time for the care and education of her children. It is a good thing to make money to send the boys and girls away to college, but before this is done money should be expended in properly equipping the farm home so that the mother will be relieved of drudgery and will have plenty of spare time for her own education and the care and direction of her children. No sane, thinking man can fail to see the importance of the mother's time in the rearing of a family of boys and girls. What they will get

from her is worth ten times as much as all they will ever get inside college walls,—if she have spare time to devote to them.

A few years ago—a few now—women on the farm spent much precious time in churning butter. It was found that creameries could make far superior butter, and that they would pay more for the raw cream than the farmer's wife could secure for the finished butter, with all the churning and working of the butter eliminated. The hand cream separator on the farm allows the farm women to make more from her cows without churning than she did before with churning. It is one machine in the farm home that gives the women and girls more time for higher and better things.

On the average farm water is drawn from the well or cistern by hand and carried into the house in pails—heavy work consuming valuable time. A pump in the kitchen, the total equipment costing not more than \$10, would reduce this work to almost nothing, and the installation of a running water system with pneumatic tank and small gasoline engine would eliminate the water drudgery entirely. Many a farm woman has broken her back, ruined her temper, spoiled her beauty, remained irritable and cross all day to her husband and children from carrying out heavy tubfuls of wash water at the close of the weekly wash day. Stationary laundry tubs in the dwelling with sanitary drain would cost perhaps \$15. This investment of \$15 in the farm home would mean a saving of \$15,000 worth of the farm mother's time, not to mention the saving of her beauty and proverbial sweet disposition.

The moral to the above is: The farmer who would have and hold a wife with a perennial smile of sweetness and beauty must help her to equip the home with labor-saving devices.

Kansas is the geographical center of the world. The agricultural college of that State proposes to establish an experiment station for women and girls where they can learn to solve the multitude of problems for making farm home life more economical, more beautiful, and more elevating. No saner move was ever made by the people of any State. The move is both wise and timely, and we hazard the prediction that all other States in the Union will in the near future make similar moves.—Missouri Journal of Agriculture.

MONEY TRUST.

Congress is now investigating the money trust and some startling disclosures have already been made. And certainly enough has been developed to warrant Congress in taking some vigorous action. But an investigation is just about as far as Congress dare go, for too many of the Congressmen are connected with the National Banks as stockholders or as attorneys, to ever do anything that would give the people relief.

The testimony already adduced develops the fact that the money trust suits ready not only to boycott, but to crush any enterprise that might be started that would in any way compete with any enterprise that they had an interest in, and without the consent of the money trust. No company can now build a railroad. They will not only withhold the means, but will do all they can to destroy opposition. Take the example of A. E. Stilwell, President and builder of the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient, that reaches from Kansas City across the States of Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and through Mexico to Topolobampo, on the Pacific Coast. Stilwell has been struggling against those that are in the conspiracy to

destroy him, and they have almost put him out of business. He has been hounded by detectives, papers have been subsidized to slander and to libel his property, and it is said that all kinds of rascalities have been practiced to destroy this competition.

It is said that J. P. Morgan, Kuhn, Loeb & Company and the New York City Bank are strong enough financially to bring on a panic at any time they want to, and it has been threatened to bring on a panic now if this investigation continues.

If Congress had the nerve to probe to the bottom of the money trust and then expose its rascally methods of business, pass a law abolishing the national banking system, the people might have a remedy that would safeguard them in their business. But Congress dare not do it. The American Congress knows there is but one remedy, and that remedy is to abolish the National banking system and for Congress to assume the money-making power according to the Constitution and provide for the issuance of a sufficient volume of money to do the business of the country on a cash basis. This remedy would be efficacious and would remedy the evil at once. But Congress won't do it. Too many Congressmen are interested in the National banking system to ever move for its abolition. While Congress contains many able good men, they are in a hopeless minority and can do nothing.

There must be a great popular outburst of indignation against the iniquities of the money trust before Congress will ever move in the matter at all.

There is popular discontent now in every part of our common country, but it has not assumed concrete form. There are strikes and lock-

outs that tell of the dissatisfaction of the people. Put your ear to the ground and you can catch the rumbling of the oncoming avalanche. And what does it mean? Is it the precursor of political annihilation, or is it the pent up wrath of a mighty revolution? The people have been patient, but their patience have been tried. The people have borne and forbore until forbearance has ceased to be a virtue, and they can bear no more. The strain is too great. Times are getting tighter and tighter, conditions are getting worse and worse. The banks are consuming the people by the collection of usury. The people are now suffering all they will stand. The Rubien has already been crossed and the Government itself is in danger, and could Congress but know the real condition and be made to feel it as the people feel it, they would shake off the great money trust at once and provide a safe remedy for the people. But they dare not do it. The money trust is too powerful for Congress to act. It owns too many Congressmen for the people to hope for relief. If the people ever get relief they will get it through organization, and organization is their only hope. And it is the only means that the people have left them of displacing the feck-taking brigade that has sold their country for gold.—Texas Farm Co-operator.

Charles Murphey, of Yancey County, who killed John Simmons some time ago because he would not give him some whiskey, has been committed to the State's prison for seventeen years. He was first convicted of murder, but on evidence being produced that he was an epileptic, he was sentenced to prison instead.

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