

# FARMERS ARE AMONG NATION'S LAWMAKERS

## MANY SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES HAVE WEALTH INVESTED IN THE SOIL

**H**ONEST, now, you look down from the visitors' gallery upon the deliberations of "the most august legislative body in the world"—that's our very own United States Senate, you know as per description of some distinguished somebody or other who wanted to be complimentary, doubtless—would you take any of the solemn-visaged, earnest and frock-coated gentlemen below you for just plain farmers in private life? Real farmers, you know. Not the kind that is meant when somebody says, "Oh, you farmer!" But the sort that patiently tickles a more or less grouchy soil to smile beautifully, that the National stomach may be filled and the National back garmented. Now, would you?

Of course you wouldn't—because you've got the prevalent idea that "race suicide" among the farmers of the country long since extended itself to the National capitol, and into both of its wings. But the real truth of the matter is, that whatever may be said about the failure of agriculture in the United States to keep pace with the population, as far as Congress is concerned, both in the Senate and the House, the farmers of the country are actually holding their own in proportion to membership in that body. When it is recalled that only seven members of the first Congress of the United States out of a total of 55 members were farmers or planters, it is easy to see that the 25 or more farmers of all descriptions in the present Congress represent a larger proportion of that useful element in society than obtained in the early days of the Republic.

But right here the comparison should stop; for, while in that first Congress the farmer members were farmers or planters, pure and simple, there were no state agricultural schools in existence then, you know—the modern Congress farmer is a sort of "jack of all trades." It is also noteworthy that the farmer representatives in the present Congress come almost exclusively from the South and West, whereas in the first Congress, there was Jonathan Groat, of Massachusetts; Paine Wingate, of New Hampshire; George Clayson, of Pennsylvania; and Daniel Carroll, of Maryland, representing the northeastern section.

### Who the Farmers Are.

Who are the farmers in Congress today? Why, some of the leaders, men whose names are on the lips of their fellow countrymen, a good part of the open National legislative season, and in the closed period, too. Here! There's the entire Senatorial delegation from South Carolina, of Mississippi, Louisiana and Tillman; Money, the minority leader, and Percy, recently succeeding James Gordon, that delightful old Confederate veteran who has been a farmer all his years and loves the life so much that he has written poetry about almost every nook and cranny of his plantation. Then there's Bankhead, of Alabama, rugged old Kaute Nelson, of Minnesota, who is one of the few Senators who adorn his shirt with real farmers' whiskers; Clay of Georgia; Foster, of Louisiana; Warren, of Wyoming.

As for the other wing of the capitol, even in your wildest dreams of the personality of the Speaker, have you ever imagined him as a tiller of the soil? Yet about the only man in which he takes an active interest outside of politics is his Southern Illinois farm. And among the farmers who read, more or less gratefully, the papers which he publishes, the heat of debate, let there be mentioned Burleson, of Texas; Clayton, of Alabama; Lee, of Georgia; Hayes, of California; Kennedy, Iowa; Moore, of Indiana; Gronna, of North Dakota; Latta, of Nebraska; Cocks, of New York, who represents Tennessee and other cotton lands, and so has become famous, and Lowden, of Illinois, whose greatest affliction in life seems to be that he can't make his fellow senators believe his statements that he is a full-fledged farmer.

### A Millionaire Farmer.

Nevertheless, and notwithstanding, and so on, right to the end of the chapter, Colonel Lowden—via the military staff of the Governor of Illinois—owns and lives on the finest of the best farms in all that wonderful farm state from which he hails, and aside from being a congressman, he has no vocation in life other than to make this farm of his, which grows under the same conditions as the rest of the state. But just you tell any of his colleagues that he is a farmer, and see what happens. You may remember that when the Colonel went to Chicago, became a successful lawyer, eventually married a daughter of the Governor of Illinois, and raised on a farm in Iowa, the Colonel went to Chicago, became a successful lawyer, eventually married a daughter of the Governor of Illinois, and raised on a farm in Iowa, the Colonel went to Chicago, became a successful lawyer, eventually married a daughter of the Governor of Illinois, and raised on a farm in Iowa.

Mississippi farm is in Ogles County, Illinois, and on rolling ground overlooking the scenic Rock River. It has every modern appliance, from a patent milking-machine to a flock of Angora goats which are set to work at sunrise each day to eat the underbrush off the place. One day, while riding over the farm, his owner happened to meet his army of goats at work, and climbing down off his horse stood admiring them. As soon as the goats caught sight of him they advanced so suddenly that the doughty Colonel thought it best to be found with both feet on the ground rather than with one foot and a goat at one in the stirrup. As the Colonel tells the story, the goats started in to eat the boots on his feet, and fearing that their voracious appetite might lead them higher up, and having no barrel handy, he concluded that discretion was the better part of valor, mounted his horse on the offside, and escaped.

Colonel Lowden is an all-around congressman. He enjoys a reputation as an orator which extends beyond the confines of Illinois, and he is a prominent member of the House committee on foreign affairs, which recently reported his bill to Congress for the purchase of sites and the erection of buildings for our ambassadors in European capitals. At one time he was a candidate for Governor of Illinois and his candidacy precipitated a convention which lasted for nearly two weeks before his opponents could muster the votes to beat him. Like several of the other farmers in Congress, he should be classed among that consistent, growing group of tillers of the soil who are classed as millionaire farmers.

### South Carolina's Two Farmers.

It was from the farm that Senator Tillman sprang into the eyes of the country on the crest of the Populist craze. Many a hard and picturesque battle he has been in since then, but through all these years in private life he has remained a farmer, and he has never given up a farm of from 3000 to 4000 acres in Edgefield County, South Carolina, on which he raises ordinary farm produce and great quantities of cotton.

And he is a farmer who, outside the capital and notwithstanding, his uncouthness of expression and his radicalism, enjoys a larger circle of friends, perhaps than any other Senator now in Washington. Nor can any other member of Congress in either house draw



SENATOR MONEY, FAMOUS AS A LARGE MISSISSIPPI COTTON PLANTER.



REPRESENTATIVE E.A. HAYES, WHO TILLS A CALIFORNIA FRUIT RANCH.



SENATOR FRANCIS E. WARREN, A FARMER WHO IS WORTH HIS MILLION.



REPRESENTATIVE FRANK Q. LOWDEN, WHO OWNS AND LIVES ON ONE OF THE FINEST FARMS IN ALL ILLINOIS.

larger crowds when he speaks. Let it be known that he intends to make a speech on a certain day, and the Senate galleries will be packed. As his colleagues long since found out—and the country, also,—he is certain to have something new to say, or, at least, to say old things in a new way. And by the way, despite the biting words he has flung at many of them, today the senior toga wearer from the nother Carolina is a great favorite with his colleagues, all of whom admit his honesty and integrity of purpose.

But Senator Tillman does not know any more about the proper methods of raising garden truck and cotton than does his colleague, E. D. Smith, who is not only a cotton planter of some considerable consequence in South Carolina, but is a business farmer, as well. He entered the Senate pledged to do all the duties on his side as Senator Clay is on the Democratic, is not only a farmer in the full sense of the term, but is also one of the largest livestock dealers in Wyoming. During the recent tariff session the Senator was charged, because of his defense of the high duties on hides and meats, with being a livestock owner, but he declared to the Senate that he owned "not a cow, a steer, a horse, an ass or a dog, but a few chickens." He has an immediate use of himself and family. Senator Dolliver, of Iowa, who is something of a farmer himself, rather than the laugh on the Wyoming man, however, by telling the Senate that when he was escorted over the ranges of Wyoming by Senator Warren the latter had certain exhibited to him "all the airs of ownership."

### Wielder of Plowshare and Sword.

Senator Francis E. Warren, of Wyoming, who is every bit as big a man on the Republican side as Senator Clay is on the Democratic, is not only a farmer in the full sense of the term, but is also one of the largest livestock dealers in Wyoming. During the recent tariff session the Senator was charged, because of his defense of the high duties on hides and meats, with being a livestock owner, but he declared to the Senate that he owned "not a cow, a steer, a horse, an ass or a dog, but a few chickens." He has an immediate use of himself and family. Senator Dolliver, of Iowa, who is something of a farmer himself, rather than the laugh on the Wyoming man, however, by telling the Senate that when he was escorted over the ranges of Wyoming by Senator Warren the latter had certain exhibited to him "all the airs of ownership."

### A Pair of Large Planters.

Together with his new colleague, Lee, Percy, who is one of the largest planters in all Mississippi, Senator Hernando de Soto Money, the minority leader in the Upper House, brings to his state the distinction of being the only state in the Union, except South Carolina, which is represented in the Senate by farmers, whether they be known as plain tillers of the soil or as planters.

Until very recently, Senator Money has been one of the very largest cotton planters in his state. Such is the only Henry Cabot Lodge, who is popularly supposed to exude Greek roots and Latin verbs at every pore. In sooth, the Mississippian is one of the country's, with particular reference to Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. Furthermore, he is able to turn his talents to account legislatively.

A Senator who has practically his entire fortune tied up in farm lands in his home state, and county is S. C. Lee, of Georgia. Although a lawyer of more than ordinary ability, Senator Lee has never failed to turn to the soil when he has any money to invest, and the result is he is today a full-fledged farmer in the best sense of the term.

his doctor, the Senator made a speech on this subject that lasted a good part of one legislative day, and many of his arguments were never answered. So his colleagues long since found out—and the country, also,—he is certain to have something new to say, or, at least, to say old things in a new way. And by the way, despite the biting words he has flung at many of them, today the senior toga wearer from the nother Carolina is a great favorite with his colleagues, all of whom admit his honesty and integrity of purpose.

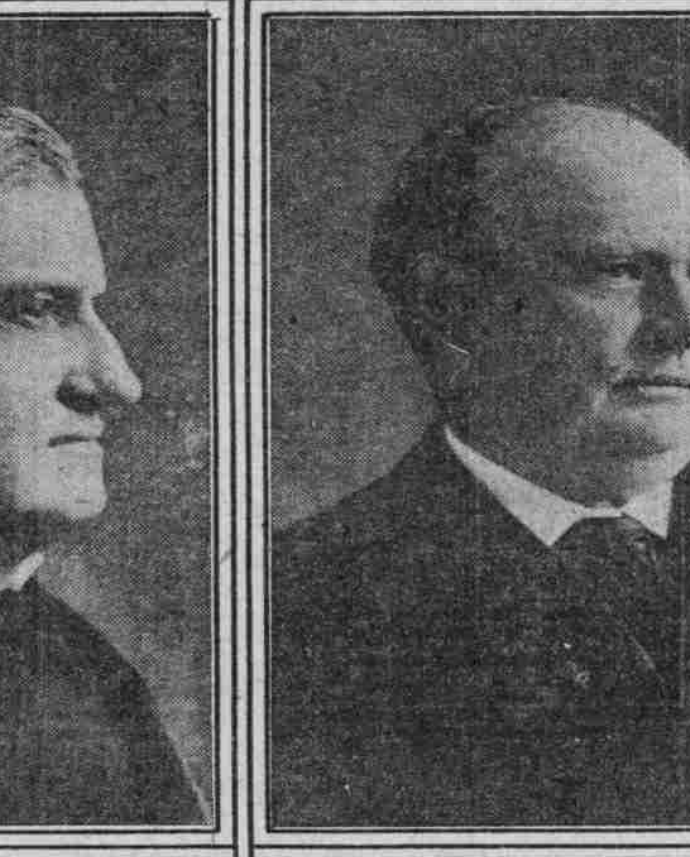
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### Representative Lee's Historic Acres.

One of the House tillers of the soil, Gordon Lee, of Georgia, runs a farm on one of the most historic sites in the United States. Every veteran of the battle of Chickamauga will readily recall the old Gordon and Lee mill, around which some of the most hotly contested charges of that battle were fought out. Mr. Lee was born on



SENATOR TILLMAN, TILLER OF 4000 ACRES.



REPRESENTATIVE HENRY D. CLAYTON, OF ALABAMA WHO IS A FARMER AS WELL AS A LAWYER.

Governor Foster carefully reviewed the situation and finally served notice that he would call out the state militia if the strike were not settled on a different basis within 24 hours. The strike was at an end before the time limit expired. In the Senate Mr. Foster has been an earnest advocate of the rights of the sugar and rice producers of Louisiana, making a careful distinction, however, between the producers and the so-called sugar trust.

### WILL IT BE CONSERVED?

#### PANCHOLOISM



ear drums. The Alabama is as good a lawyer as he is a farmer, and as a member of the House judiciary committee he has made himself a record which might land him on the Federal bench under a Democratic administration. In appearance he is stocky and well built, and his hair so nearly matches the baldness on the top of his head that it is hard to tell where one begins and the other leaves off.

Representative E. A. Hayes, who comes from California, naturally devotes his farming instincts to fruit-raising. No California farmer—or rancher—raises anything but fruit, alfalfa and "garden truck." Incidentally, Mr. Hayes is one of the richest members of the House, having been in the purchase of the Northern Wisconsin and Michigan which are immensely productive.

Mr. Hayes has a mother who has had more than ordinary influence upon the fortunes of her son. As he relates it, his mother was largely responsible for the purchase of the farm in which he and his brother bought. In the face of a not wholly favorable report on the purchase, Mrs. Hayes persisted in her "hunch" that they were valuable, and the results have more than borne out her judgment.

### "Farmer" Cocks, of Long Island.

New York state has one full-fledged farmer in its delegation, Representative W. W. Cocks, whose ancestors settled on Long Island in 1642. Mr. Cocks represents the Oyster Bay district, and has for one of his constituents former President Theodore Roosevelt. He is familiarly known in the House as "Farmer Cocks" and is the only member of Congress so nicknamed.

is about the only "going" concern in which the Speaker takes an active interest. In addition, about all the worldly goods the Speaker possesses is the result of well-considered purchases and sales in Indiana, Illinois, Kansas and Nebraska farm lands.

The Speaker takes great pride in his ability as a farmer. He was born and raised on a farm in North Carolina, and has never forgotten the rudiments of the game. Recently a group of Arkansas farmers called upon him to get his support for a bill providing for the drainage of farm lands in that state. As the prospect for the passage of the bill at this session was not any too good, the Speaker voluntarily undertook to tell the Arkansas farmers how the Illinois farmers had overcome a similar situation. The callers were almost overwhelmed at the technical knowledge of farm drainage displayed by the Speaker, and they detained him for more than an hour talking over farming in general.

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### Food Faddist Flabbergasted.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., was congratulated in his office recently on the fact that he, like the poet Mastercluck and other famous men, has taken to the motorcycle.

### Mistaken for a Queen.

A Washington woman had to cut short her visit in Spain last Summer because she was mistaken for the Dowager Queen. She had no idea she resembled that royal personage until, when alighting at a railroad station, she was greeted by officials with marked courtesy and attention. In fact it was so apparent that she inquired at the hotel why such attentions were bestowed upon her, and where these same had been bestowed upon her resemblance to the Queen. Going to Madrid a little later she was surprised wherever she appeared by the deference shown her by the people, as well as by a great many of the officials. This made her a little nervous, and she concluded that in these days when royal persons are often handed a bomb, she would cut short her visit to Spain and go where she did not resemble any royal personage. (Washington correspondence St. Louis Star.)

### The Comet Flower.

I saw, one time, a beautiful flower.  
Of red and white and blue—  
The world has never seen such thing.  
Nor I, till then, have you.  
At night this plant prefers to smile.  
And close its cup by day;  
It gathers thus the cooling dew  
Which feeds its life away.  
All in the desert sands it springs  
Up into life and strength;  
As I traversed the bare brown waste,  
I looked for some oasis cool  
And searched the broad look-out  
There I discerned the drowsy vine  
Looking for me? No doubt.  
I called my heart at once to kneel  
And off I took my hat;  
As I stood by this hermit queer  
I felt constrained to say:  
Red, white and blue, in stripes and bars,  
Its one broad petal bore,  
Fan-shaped, expanding from the stem  
Unknown in any lore.  
Republics would be glad to find  
A bloom of three such hues.  
All blended in one blossom quaint,  
Their Nations' flowers.  
The Queen of Holland would embrace  
With leaping heart the chance  
To plant its roots on Holland's dikes  
Where's North Sea surges dance.  
I that of my United States,  
Whose colors, three, I love,  
Than that of divers countries round  
Whose colors are not ours alone;  
They flutter everywhere,  
From Denmark to King on throne,  
All love this trine fair.

I gave it, then, this lofty name:  
"The Comet Flower."  
My Arab stork his beard, and said:  
"It is a Comet Plant!"  
"The Prophet told of this same thing  
Six thousand years ago,  
That destiny to King on throne  
A hundred years to come."  
"Well, be it so," I then replied:  
"It's delightful to roam  
The desert trail, the skies of night,  
And has no social home."  
"The Comet Flower it is, in fact."  
"We left it where it grew,  
In empty space its life to spend  
Beneath the distant stars."  
ST. MARTIN,  
Portland, Or.