

MERITS OF THE FARMER.

The nature of his occupation makes the farmer a patient man, and because of his patience he is a conservative element in business and in government. He sows his seed in the Spring and awaits the coming of Autumn for his harvest. If he is a stockraiser he waits several seasons for his returns, and if a fruitgrower years must pass before he receives the reward of his labor. His is an occupation in which the eight-hour nine-hour and the ten-hour day are unknown so far as his own work is concerned. His compensation is more uncertain than wind and weather, for even though a bountiful harvest may result from favorable natural conditions, the market may fail him and leave him poorer for having produced a crop. Though drought or flood or insect pest may leave ruin in their wake, the farmer forgets his disappointment and cheerfully and hopefully sows again the following season to wait once more the uncertain result.

Though the reward for any one season's labor is in doubt until received, yet as the years come and go the farmer's occupation is a profitable one. Profits are comparatively small, it is true, and very frequently are represented by an increased value of property rather than cash, which men of other occupations think of as profits. From this it follows that the farmer is usually a man of sufficient wealth to make him a responsible citizen in both his public and his private relations. His contracts can be enforced and he cannot easily run away if he has violated the law of the land. It becomes an element of his nature to live up to his agreements and to obey the laws which he, as a citizen, has helped to make.

He expects to earn all that he gets, but experience has taught him that he cannot always get all that he earns. He becomes accustomed to what seems injustice, and does not give up in despair when adversity befalls, nor does he hastily resort to violence to right the wrongs he has suffered. But perseverance is one of his strongly developed characteristics and when he undertakes a task or demands a redress of grievances he can be counted upon to persist in his efforts until success has been attained. He is not vacillating in his ideas of business methods, moral principles or public policies. Yet the nature of his work gives him plenty of time to think and he is very often a leader in reforms. If reforms do not come as rapidly as he desires, he does not give way to passion and resort to the methods of the mob, but patiently prepares to try again where he at first did not succeed. Being a property-owner, he is a respecter of property rights, but is not by reason thereof a defender of wrongs perpetrated in the name of property rights. His dealings with nature teach him to be honest, industrious, frugal, patient and persevering, and these are among his many worthy qualities.—Sunday Oregonian.

The New York Herald after what it calls "unbiased investigation" admits that Mr. Bryan's nomination at Denver is now assured. The Herald says: "The Herald in its table of probabilities continues to place New York where it was scheduled last week, as not instructed or classified. The Herald believes that the delegation from New York will vote for Mr. Bryan. But the strength of the Nebraskan is growing so rapidly from week to week that it now must be evident to the veriest

tyro in politics that Mr. Bryan can be nominated without the support of either New York or New Jersey. The anti-Bryan managers have had an unexpected setback. It is hard enough to elect delegates opposed to Bryan, but to have them apparently elected and then discover that they were not elected at all is maddening. This is what has happened in Florida. Florida is entitled to ten delegates. An open primary was held, and although no question of presidential preferences was raised, it was announced that eight of the delegates were opposed to Bryan and were classed for Judge Gray, while two were for Bryan. The vote at the primary was canvassed last week, when it was discovered that only four delegates had been elected, and that these were for Bryan. Six delegates will have to be chosen at a second primary. The Bryan men will be on the alert this time and will fight for every delegate. The loss of these eight delegates reduces the number of votes instructed or classed for Gray from thirty-one to twenty-three. The action of the West Virginia and New Hampshire state conventions were serious blows to the candidacy of Governor Johnson. The Johnson managers expected that both these states would refuse to instruct and that anti-Bryan delegates would be elected."

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