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THE WOMAN IN THE FIELD

The Farm Woman Needs Relief More Than Her City Sister.

By Peter Radford, Lecturer National Farmers' Union.

Much has been said and more written about the woman in the factory and behind the counter, but how about the woman who works in the field, I want to say a few words in her behalf. I regret a necessity that compels woman to work for a livelihood, and I favor not only shortening her hours, but freeing her from manual labor entirely. I crave for society that high standard of excellence where the home is woman's throne and her life is devoted to molding the character and elevating the thought of the rising generation. But so long as want, greed and misfortune prevail in this world, women, through choice or necessity, will work, and perhaps they will work at one task or another as many hours per day as they please. We may pity the weak and admire the strong in their struggle, but the farm woman is entitled to her share of sympathy and reward.

All Must Toil.
 The labor problem, as relates to men, is a most vexatious one, and when we apply it to women it becomes more seriously complicated. We will always have to work unless some political genius can put a law on the statute book that will enable us to live without labor. So long as every person must meet toil face to face, the best we can do is to equitably distribute the burdens and reward labor, and if there is to be a revision of wages and a shortening of hours, I want the farm woman to get her share. She has more reason to complain than any other class of toilers. She has, as a rule, fewer comforts, fewer pleasures, less recreation and less opportunity for enjoyment than her sister in the city. She has not so many conveniences and fewer luxuries and less to be thankful for than women who live in the town, but she toils on, a model of consistency, patience and womanly devotion. Certainly she should be the first to be rewarded.

The Real Labor Problem is on the Farm.

The great dailies with flaming headlines deplore the lot of women who toil in the cities, the city pulpit thunders with sympathy for her, and the legislators orate in her behalf, but not a line is written, a word said or a speech delivered in the interest of the million women who labor on the farm. Where one woman works in the cities in this state, there are a hundred mothers toiling in the field, and no mention is made of it. Is the woman in the city entitled to any more consideration than the woman on the farm? I contend that she is not. The city woman may be more easily restrained by legislation, and she may have a more attentive audience when she cries aloud, but the real labor problem, in so far as it relates to women and children, is on the farm—where mother and child, wielding the hoe and gathering the harvest, toil day in and day out without hope of reward.

The City Life Puny.

The farm women work from sun until sun. They do their housework and lull a half-million babes to sleep after the chickens go to roost, and they get breakfast and milk the cows before the lark sings. The city woman frequently chafes under hardships that the farm woman would consider a blessing. The city people are great talkers and oftentimes greatly magnify their troubles and enlarge their accomplishments. This characteristic permeates organized society as well as enters into the individual life of cities. There are orphan asylums which are doing commendable work and should be encouraged, that boast of their accomplishments, but I have seen widows in the country make a crop, drink branch water and eat corn-bread and molasses and raise more children and better children than many of these city orphan asylums. The cities need to get back to the soil with their ideals. They are hysterical, puny and feeble in their conception of life, its requirements and its opportunities.

The farmers' problems are pressing for solution and the awakening is at hand.

It is apparent that the old credit system must give way to business methods in financing the crop.

The Philadelphia Society for the Promotion of Agriculture is the oldest association of its kind in America. This was organized by George Washington and Benjamin Franklin in 1785.

On Thursday of last week the Radicators of Eugene entertained a special train load of Cherrians from Salem, giving them a luncheon at the Eugene Commercial Club, an automobile trip about the city and then took them to the Lane County Fair where a section of the grand stand had been reserved for them and from which they witnessed some remarkable racing. Later, the Cherrians were taken to the University where a dinner was served to them by the co-eds at the various sorority houses.

LAST THREE PRESIDENTS OPPOSED TO PROHIBITION



PRESIDENT WILSON SAYS:
 "I am in favor of Local Option. I am a thorough believer in LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT and believe that every self-governing community which constitutes a social unit should have the right to CONTROL the matter of the regulation or the withholding of licenses."



WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT

Ex-President, Statesman, Jurist and Professor, in an address on Civic Duty, said:

"Nothing is more foolish, nothing more utterly at variance with sound policy, than to enact a law which, on account of conditions surrounding the community, is incapable of enforcement. Such instances are presented by sumptuary laws by which the sale of intoxicating liquors is prohibited under penalties in localities where the public sentiment . . . will not sustain the enforcement of the law."



THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Ex-President, Soldier, Explorer and one of the most remarkable leaders in the United States, is a strong champion of LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT and Home Rule. He has never raised his voice in behalf of statewide prohibition, and so he has suffered attacks from radical and hysterical prohibitionists. As between a man of Theodore Roosevelt's ability and standing and those who are the paid emissaries of professional propagandists, the voters of Oregon will not be slow in passing upon the wisdom and credibility of the witnesses.

With these three National Leaders agreed on the issue of Prohibition, isn't it wisdom to follow their course?

Register and Vote

333 X NO

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