

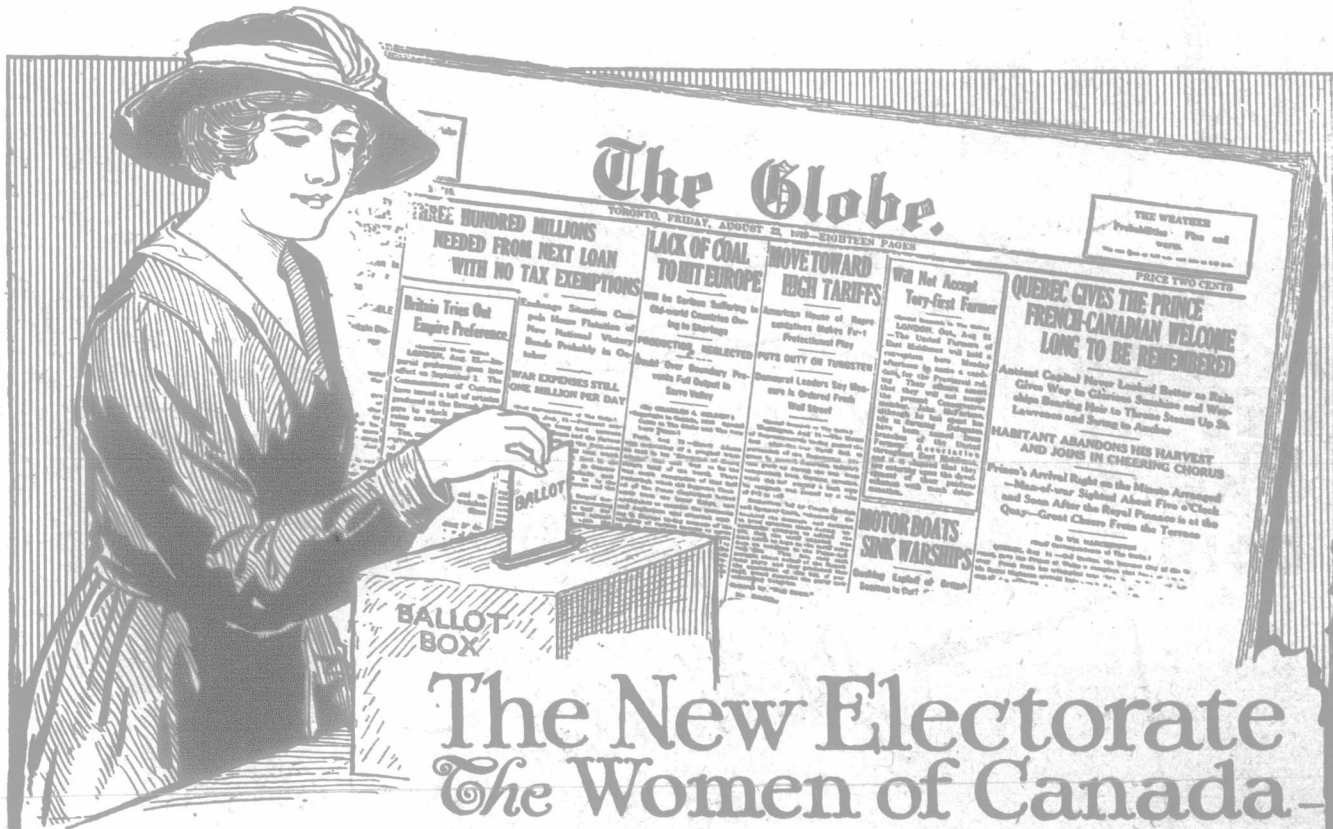
were getting rich quick. Now, from even a limited experience I know that it is hopeless to try and convince such people to the contrary. Suffice it to say that farming is altogether too honest an occupation to belong to the get-rich-quick variety. However, when people actually desire to jump at unwarranted conclusions, nobody need try to prevent them. The surest evidence that any such belief is groundless lies in the fact that city would-be farmers have had their dreamy plans completely shattered in the primary stage. Experience is said to be a satisfactory teacher, and its application in such cases has proven the assertion to be true. No, everybody cannot farm successfully. The Almighty never intended such to be the case. By being successful, this world emphasizes the ability to collect (not exactly mass) worldly goods. There are occasional exceptions to this rule also, and personally I am of the opinion that the exceptions should be encouraged; but we must judge conditions by the standards as they exist. But to get back to our subject, Who should or should not farm? The question is a vexed one and cannot be settled satisfactorily by other than the individual himself. The industry, occupation or early profession, commonly known as farming, undoubtedly has its drawbacks, its unattractions. These need not be enumerated here; indeed they are too often emphasized. Every walk of life has such. If it were not so our civilization could not endure or develop to any degree beyond barbarism, if even that, simply because every one would start out with the same object in view and would land nowhere. Why? Simply because the supernatural plan of interdependence and interchangeability would be no longer possible. It must be self-evident to every sane person that there must be different industries and different inclinations in people in order that advancement may materialize. But is this any reason why any one class should be ranked subordinate to any other? Farmers and laborers have taken second place as regardless class distinction, and it is up to them, and they only, to redeem themselves and prevent unnecessary and undue humiliation in the future. Nineteen hundred and nineteen would appear to be the turning point in this respect, judging from the present trend of events. Organization, firstly by the more enthusiastic and ambitious and finally culminating in a thoroughly united understanding and object. Such a course would appear to be in process of experiment. Another fact worthy of note is the present-day meaning of capital, labor, and producer. The manufacturers, railroad companies and the more prominent professions are designated by the word "capital," while those subservient to them are broadly and casually styled as "labor." In other words, employers are the capitalists, while their employees are the labor. The movements on foot espoused by distinguished leaders to establish means whereby these two classes can be brought to understand and appreciate each others problems, are certainly bound to have the effect of mutual betterment in the long run. Why should not the other class, the producer, the farmer, be set on an equal basis with the capitalist? He too is a capitalist and employer in the industry of prime importance to the nation's livelihood. Obviously the only possible objection lies in his lack of executive and organizing ability. But farmers are now becoming educated, are compelled to do so, and naturally the organization is following as a matter of course. Often when any person gets education other than the ordinary, it is taken for granted that that person intends to earn a living by his education, but of course not by farming. If he returns to the farm, he is constantly confronted with outbursts such as "Why don't you go and get an easy job?" "You are only wasting your time." "Do you not intend to make any use of your education?" Not only the city people, but people actually engaged in agriculture are guilty of such utterances. When viewed from this matter-of-fact angle, is it any wonder that agricultural education has been delayed or that the advancement in farming has been backward? Those who were the very best prepared to advance its cause were encouraged to leave the farm.

The intelligent observant person who is really anxious to live and not merely exist has all the necessary equipment at his disposal on the modern farm. Nature has provided unlimited material for

being looked upon in farmer," have in the by-words, but their w years has very ap- Of course, those in a and should have paid ch utterances. Their thing but a sure and oss ignorance on the er; but unhappily the the farming industry o apparent. To-day, an is introduced as a ially stop and take rightly so.

complex subject could be agriculture? All its w ones cropping up d ones becoming more and common belief farm no longer holds no doubt, and not so er, when a rugged eciding factor between , and although it still e, it is no longer all e are only beginning to ities to say nothing of in agriculture. The some of which have incognito and unde- aping themselves into tion, and the inter- e several branches is etely understood and might go even farther, started on the way in iring the true relation- to other industries. receive just and con- ration, we may feel ht day is dawning for

intimated the rather aken towards farming by the average urban y to ignorance of the ntly been commonly believed, that farmers



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