

that my joy might remain in you and that your joy might be full." (John 15, 11).

The fact is, God wants us to be happy, joyful Christians. He intends us to be full of joy. God will do His part if we will do ours. Our duty is to establish His kingdom in our hearts and then God will do and reign in them. The kingdom of God is love, God is love. The fulfilling of the law is love. What we must do, therefore, is to love. We must love God and we must love everybody, even our enemies. We must pour ourselves out in love for others. When we love God aright we will have faith in His love for us and our miserable fears of all kinds will fall away from us as though by magic for "perfect love casteth out fear." "He that feareth is not made perfect in love." (1 John 4, 18).

Let us then love one another. Let us forget our own special needs and strive to help others. By manifesting real love for others we will draw out their love for us and soon we will be living in an atmosphere of love. Then we will find the kingdom of God on earth and God's presence in our hearts will make us glad all the day.—I.H.N.

Women's Work on the Farm

During 1908 President Roosevelt, of the United States, appointed a commission to investigate the conditions of farming life and its problems in the United States. A set of 12 questions were sent out to some hundreds of thousands of farmers in the States, to which over 120,000 answers were sent in to the department of agriculture. This large volume of replies would indicate that the farming community in the United States is much interested in its own welfare. As a result of this enquiry and agitation the commission appointed by the President to analyze and tabulate these replies, it would seem that the general level of country life is much higher compared with any preceding time. Its progress has been general if not uniform.

Almost every branch and phase of farm work and farm life was dealt with through these questions. The women's work on the farm was gone into very thoroughly. The report of the women's work on the farm as taken from the country life commission appointed by the President is as follows:

Realizing that the success of country life depends in very large degree on the woman's part, the commission has made special effort to ascertain the condition of women on the farm. Often this condition is all that can be desired, with home duties so organized that the labor is not excessive, with kindly co-operation on the part of husbands and sons, and with household machines and conveniences well provided. Very many farm homes in all parts of the country are provided with looks and periodicals, musical instruments, and all the necessary amenities. There are good gardens and attractive premises and a sympathetic love of Nature and of farm life on the part of the entire family.

On the other hand, the reverse of these conditions often obtains, some-

times because of pioneer conditions and more frequently because of lack of prosperity and of ideals. Conveniences for outdoor work are likely to have precedence over those for household work.

The routine work of women on the farm is to prepare three meals a day. This regularity of duty recurs, regardless of season, weather, planting, harvesting, social demands, or any other factor. The only differences in different seasons are those of degree rather than of kind. It follows, therefore, that whatever general hardships such as poverty, isolation, lack of labor saving devices, may exist on any given farm, the burden of those hardships falls more heavily on the farm's wife than on the farmer himself. In general, her life is more monotonous and more isolated, no matter what the wealth or the poverty of the family may be.

The relief to farm women must come through a general elevation of country living. The women must have more help. In particular these matters may be mentioned: Development of a co-operative spirit in the home, simplification of the diet in many cases, the building of convenient and sanitary houses, providing running water in the house and also more mechanical help, good and convenient money getting on the part of the farmer, providing better means of communication, as telephones, roads, and reading circles, and developing of women's organizations. These and other agencies should relieve the women of many of her manual burdens on the one hand and interest her in outside activities on the other. The farm woman should have sufficient free time and strength so that she may serve the community by participating in its vital affairs.

We have found good women's organizations in some country districts, but as a rule such organizations are few or even none, or where they exist they merely radiate from towns. Some of the stronger central organizations are now pushing the country phase of their work with vigor. Mothers' clubs, reading clubs, church societies, home economic organizations, women's institutes, and other associations can accomplish much for farm women. Some of the regular farmers' organizations are now giving much attention to domestic subjects, and women participate freely in the meetings. There is much need among country women themselves of a stronger organization sense for real co-operative betterment. It is important also that all rural organizations that are attended chiefly by men, should discuss the home-making subjects, for the whole difficulty often lies with the attitude of the men.

There is the most imperative need that domestic household and health questions be taught in all schools. The home may be well made the centre of rural school teaching. The school is capable of changing the whole attitude of the home life and the women should play in the development of the best country living.

The circular of questions which was sent out by the President is as follows:

1. Are the farm homes in your neighborhood as good as they should be under existing conditions?
2. Are the schools in your neighborhood training boys and girls satisfactorily for life on the farm?
3. Do the farmers in your neighborhood get the returns they reasonably should from the sale of their products?
4. Do the farmers in your neighborhood receive from the railroads, high roads, trolley lines, etc., the services they reasonably should have?
5. Do the farmers in your neighborhood receive from the United States postal service, rural telephones, etc., the service they reasonably should expect?
6. Are the farmers and their wives in your neighborhood making a satisfactory living?
7. Are the renters of farms in your

neighborhood making a satisfactory living?

8. Is the supply of farm labor in your neighborhood satisfactory?

9. Are the conditions surrounding hired labor on the farms in your neighborhood satisfactory to the hired man?

10. Have the farmers in your neighborhood satisfactory facilities for doing their business in banking, credit, insurance, etc.?

11. Are the sanitary conditions of farms in your neighborhood satisfactory?

12. Do the farmers and their wives and families in your neighborhood get together for mutual improvement, entertainment and social intercourse as much as they should?

A Duty for the Housewife

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