

Farm Women's Clubs

NOTE—Any woman in Saskatchewan who feels that she would like to have a Woman's Section of the Grain Growers' Association in her district, should communicate with the provincial secretary, Miss Emma Stocking, Regina, Sask.
Any Alberta woman who would like a Woman's Section of the United Farmers in her district should write to Mrs. R. M. Barrett, Mirror, Alta., who is the woman's provincial secretary for Alberta.
Any Manitoba woman who would like a Woman's Section of the Grain Growers' Association in her district should write to Mrs. F. H. Wieneke, Stony Mountain, Man.

NEIGHBORLINESS

Paper read by Mrs. P. A. Rotzien before Wynyard, Sask., Grain Growers

The "cub" reporter smelt a story. A mountaineer was reported in town. He hailed from that section of the Kentucky backwoods which is famed for its "moon-shiners" and family feuds.

"Any news out your way?" inquired the newspaper man when he had located the mountaineer.

"News?" replied the man, "there isn't a bit of news out our way. Not a bit. Things are awfully quiet. Deader than a door nail, sir. But who be you?"

The young reporter told him, and they drifted into a conversation. "By the way, how is old John Rollins?" inquired the reporter.

"Poor John," began the other, "he got his last night. He and Joe Hill have always been hunting each other, and Joe got him at last. John's boys caught Joe at the pass, tho, and shot him on the spot. Some of the neighbors got riled up, sort o', and in the mix up a couple of 'em plugged each other, but I guess there wasn't more'n half a dozen in all that chawed the dust. But that reminds me," continued the mountaineer, "I'll have to be going. I came in to get a box of shells. Good-by, and I am very, very sorry that I can't get you any news for your paper today. Good day, sir, good day!"

Folks who complain about neighbors would do well to spend a "quiet" day in the Kentucky backwoods. We can all of us be thankful that we live in the West, even tho the "movies" insist that ours is a land where the sheriff, the bandit and the outlaw hold sway. These early heroes of the West are passing, and what we are looking for now is an altogether different type.

Winning a Neighbor

We are building up a new commonwealth out here in this great northwest. We are here to stay because this is the sort of a community we like. Our children grow up here and will make their homes here. This is the best place in the world for us and them. There is much good land still vacant, and we all are very anxious for more neighbors. What can we as Grain Growers do to induce more good families to come and settle in our midst? This is a most vital question in every community right now. There are three questions a prospective settler asks when he becomes interested in any community. The foremost question is, What is the climate? Next he asks, How is the soil? Finally he asks, What sort of neighborhood is it? The climate and the soil may be ever so favorable, but if the neighborhood is not suitable the chances are that a prospective settler will go elsewhere to locate. We sometimes make the idle wish that we could control the weather. Oh, if we could stay off the frost, or cause the sun to disperse the clouds and ripen our grain more rapidly. And, oh, how we struggle to improve the soil! We work early and late to fight weeds and make the land more productive. We can do nothing to regulate the climate, and very little to change the nature of the soil, but how fortunate we are to have the making of our neighborhood in our own hands. Neighborliness is of greater importance than a favorable climate and a rich soil. The average man would rather be poor and live in a happy and congenial community than be rich and be tormented night and day by disagreeable neighbors. Are we doing all in our power to make our community desirable? Now, I do not wish to be misunderstood. I do not hope to be able to do all that I wish I might do in this direction. Please consider me merely an architect who does not pretend to know how to saw a timber or drive a nail. As the architect knows how to plan and draw the visionary

building, so I may perhaps be able to sketch a few suggestions of a good neighborhood.

Trouble Among Neighbors

Not long ago a neighbor lost heart and was going to move away to the States. It was an extreme case. He had good reason for leaving. At the very last moment a neighbor prevailed upon him to stay. He seemed rather surprised. "Why," he said, "I didn't know there was a single family that wanted me to stay. If you think I shouldn't sell out, why, I guess I'll stay." And he did. It was a bit of sympathy he needed. Isn't it possible that these vacant farm buildings that we see are deserted simply because at one time or other some neighbor failed to show the sympathy which is so inexpensive but yet so valuable?

One neighbor forbade another, who was a new settler, to cross his land to town. This practically left the new settler stranded. He had to drive miles around to get to town. One day it happened that the wife of the old settler had to go in the opposite direction and cross the land of the new family. They saw her coming. What did they do? They sent a boy out to open both gates thru the yard. Upon her return they did the same thing. The next day her husband sent word over that the trail across his field to town would be left open. What would have happened if the gates had not been opened for the woman, or if she had been turned back? Most people would have made her do that very thing under the circumstances. It is so easy to take revenge, and oh, how much sorrow and heartache we bring on ourselves because we are revengeful. Let us forget and forgive. Why can't we take the admonition of the Master and "heap coals of fire" on the heads of our enemies? By returning evil for evil we make a bad job worse. Good for evil is a better system. Let us bury the hatchet and be good Indians, but not in the skull of our enemies, as is so common.

Market Price of a Neighbor

The loss of a neighbor is a financial loss. It is estimated scientifically that each person is worth from \$9,000 to \$15,000 to his community and commonwealth. When a neighbor leaves, part of this loss falls on you. Take a family of five and the loss of that family represents a straight loss of from \$40,000 to \$75,000. If we would all boost together we can enrich our community by this amount many times over. The "tooth for tooth" policy is destructive. By playing a dirty trick back for every dirty trick played you, your life becomes a veritable purgatory. "Burn your grievances," says the knight of the grip. "They are corrosive in their action, and invariably eat away the finer textures of your brain. They have the same effect upon the mind that a cancer has upon the body." Forget and forgive. This is the proper Grain Grower spirit. The hate one carries in his soul poisons his life and curses his children throughout their whole lives.

Tact, the "Dominant" of Society

The lack of tact is responsible for most of the misunderstanding in the country. A man in the city has to be tactful. Whether he is a storekeeper, a lawyer, a doctor, or a laborer his bread and butter depends upon his fellow townsmen. He doesn't dare to antagonize. With a farmer it is different. He is not nearly so dependent upon his neighbors. He sells his crops on the market and gets the price regardless of his neighbors. They neither control his produce or influence the market. This sometimes leads to reckless independence on the part of the farmer. He is often gruff and overly frank. He has very little time for the cultivation

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