

Very few rural residents can not afford to have water works in their homes and lighting systems. A farmer will not hesitate to invest a similar amount in a piece of machinery, which is probably used only once a year. It isn't the expense of these conveniences that has kept the farmer from installing them, but the idea that they are not needed. I have been in any number of homes where they had a piano and in others where there was a piano and a phonograph. Music is a splendid thing to have in the homes, but I have seen mothers in these same homes walk a block for every pail of water they used, and the average home uses a ton of water per week. A water system in a home does not only lighten the work of the mother, but it furnishes water for other purposes.

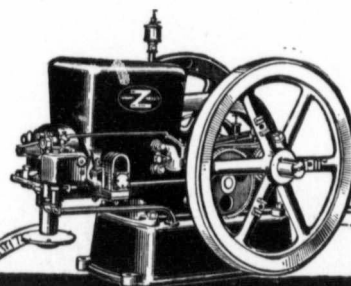
Too much work and not enough leisure time is the one outstanding cause for the boys leaving the farm. They know that a boy who works in the city begins his work at seven or eight o'clock in the morning and quits at five or six o'clock. The city boy puts in eight to ten hours—the boy on the farm twelve to sixteen hours. The long hours to the country boy are a factor that looms up like a mountain. He knows that the boy in the city is spending his leisure hours reading or attending some form of amusement after his day's work, while he, the country boy, is trudging away on the farm. But the farmers say, "If the boy is kept at work he won't get into mischief." That is quite true, but the farm boy could stand more leisure and yet not get into mischief. He could spend his leisure hours on the farm very profitably if the proper reading material and environment were furnished.

Next to the home, the school is the pre-eminent force in determining the destinies of the boys and girls. What are our rural schools doing to interest and in-

struct the boys and girls in the work which they are going to do if they stay on the farm? They have just begun to teach these boys and girls more about what they ought to know about farm work and rural life.

The present rural school work does not differ materially from the city school work. One is made up of farm boys and girls who ought to be instructed for more complete living on the farm, the other for living in urban districts. They are both put through the same process and from the one we expect farmers and the other business and professional men. It is obvious that such a single system of education will not fit the two needs. I do not think for an instant, that the three R's should be taught less, but taught in the light of rural life. It is just as good practice in arithmetic to solve problems pertaining to farm work as to city work. It is just as easy to read about some noted man in agriculture as to read about some successful business man. The other day, while testing milk in one of the rural schools, I asked the class who invented the tester. No one knew. I asked them who was the father of our country. All hands went up. Who is Rockefeller? "Oh, he's that big oil man." "Who is Andrew Carnegie?" Again all hands went up. Then I asked, "Who is Dr. Babcock?" One hand went up. On hearing the name, the boy associated the name with the tester.

Who has done more for the farmers, Dr. Babcock or Mr. Rockefeller? One has given his best thought and energy in the interest of farmers and the good of science; the other, equally able has directed his energy in accumulating millions. But that isn't the most significant phase of it. The fact that we are immortalizing, exalting, and holding up before the rural boys and girls as examples to emulate, successful business men, is not conducive to keeping the boy on the



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## Harvest Expectations vs. Harvest Realizations

Very often the crop does not come up to earlier expectations, which not only causes the farmer and his family, who have worked so assiduously, considerable disappointment, but, as a consequence, the planning of months and years goes for naught. Just so through life. Every man with responsibilities hopes to leave his dependents in an independent position, but as a result of unforeseen events, is frequently unable to do so, regardless of his good intentions.



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