

done much in instruction and inspiration; they have stood for the nobility of labor and the necessity of keeping the muscles and the brain in training for industry. They have developed technical departments of high practical value. They seek to provide for the people on the farms an equipment so broad and thorough as to fit them for the highest requirements of our citizenship; so that they can establish and maintain country homes of the best type, and create and sustain a country civilization more than equal to that of the city. The men they train must be able to meet the strongest business competition, at home or abroad, and they can do this only if they are trained not alone in the various lines of husbandry, but in successful economic management. These colleges, like the State Experiment Stations, should carefully study and make known the needs of each section, and should try to provide remedies for what is wrong.

MEN, NOT SCHOLARS, THE GREATEST NEED.

The education to be obtained in these colleges should create as intimate relationship as is possible between the theory of learning and the facts of actual life. Educational establishments should produce highly-trained scholars, of course; but in a country like ours, where the educational establishments are so numerous, it is folly to think that their main purpose is to produce these highly-trained scholars. Without in the least disparaging scholarship and learning—on the contrary, while giving hearty and ungrudging admiration and support to the comparatively few whose primary work should be creative scholarship—it must be remembered that the ordinary graduate of our colleges should be, and must be, primarily a man and not a scholar. Education should not confine itself to books. It must train executive power, and try to create that right public opinion which is the most potent factor in the proper solution of all political and social questions. Book-learning is very important, but it is by no means everything; and we shall never get the right idea of education until we definitely understand that a man may be well trained in book-learning and yet, in the proper sense of the word, and for all practical purposes, be utterly uneducated; while a man of comparatively little book-learning may, nevertheless, in essentials, have a good education.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

It is true that agriculture in the United States has reached a very high level of prosperity; but we cannot afford to disregard the signs which teach us that there are influences operating against the establishment or retention of our country life upon a really sound basis. The over-extensive and wasteful cultivation of pioneer days must stop and give place to a more economical system. Not only the physical, but the ethical needs of the people of the country districts must be considered. In our country life there must be social and intellectual advantages, as well as a fair standard of physical comfort. There must be in the country, as in the town, a multiplication of movements for intellectual advancement and social betterment. We must try to raise the average of farm life, and we must also try to develop it so that it shall offer exceptional chances for the exceptional man.

Of course, the essential thing, after all, are those which concern all of us as men and women, no matter whether we live in the town or the country, and no matter what our occupations may be. The root problems are much the same for all of us, widely though they may differ in outward manifestation. The most important conditions that tell for happiness within the home are the same for the town and the country; and the relations between employer and employee are not always satisfactory on the farm any more than in the factory.

AN ASPECT OF THE FARM LABOR PROBLEM.

All over the country there is a constant complaint of paucity of farm labor. Without attempting to go into all the features of this question, I would like to point out that you can never get the right kind, the best kind, of labor if you offer employment only for a few months, for no man worth anything will permanently accept a system which leaves him in idleness for half the year.

IMPROVE THE FARM HOME.

And most important of all, I want to say a special word on behalf of the one who is too often the very hardest worked laborer on the farm—the farmer's wife. Reform, like charity, while it should not end at home, should certainly begin there; and the man, whether he lives on a farm or in a town, who is anxious to see better social and economic conditions prevail throughout the country at large, should be exceedingly careful that they prevail first as regards his own womankind. I emphatically believe that for the great majority of women the really indispensable industry in which they should engage is the industry of the home. There are exceptions, of course; but exactly as the first duty of the normal man is the duty of being the homemaker, so the first duty of the normal woman is to be the homemaker; and exactly as no other learning is as important for the average man as the learning which will teach him how to make his livelihood, so no other learning is as important for the average woman as the learning which will make her a good housewife and mother. But this does not mean, first and foremost, that she should be an overworked housewife.

HIGHER TYPE OF FAMILY LIFE.

I have hearty sympathy with the movement to better the condition of the average tiller of the soil.

the average wageworker, and I have an even heartier sympathy and applause for the movement which is to better the condition of their respective wives. There is plenty that is hard and rough and disagreeable in the necessary work of actual life, and under the best circumstances, and no matter how tender and considerate the husband, the wife will have at least her full share of work and worry; but if the man is worth his salt he will try to take as much as possible of the burden off the shoulders of his helpmate. There is nothing Utopian in the movement; all that is necessary is to strive toward raising the average, both of men and women, to the level on which the highest type of family now stands, among American farmers, among American skilled mechanics, among American citizens generally; for in all the world there is no better and healthier home life, no finer factory of individual character, nothing more representative of what is best and most characteristic in American life than that which exists in the higher type of American family; and this higher type of family is to be found everywhere among us, and is the property of no special group of citizens.

CHILDREN THE BEST CROP.

The best crop is the crop of children; the best products of the farm are the men and women raised thereon; and the most instructive and practical treatises on farming, necessary though they be, are no more necessary than the books which teach us our duty to our neighbor, and above all to the neighbor who is of our own household. You young men and women of the agricultural and industrial colleges and schools—and, for that matter, you who go to any college or school—must have some time for light reading; and there is some light reading quite as useful as heavy reading; provided, of course, that you do not read in a spirit of mere vacuity. Aside from the great classics, and thinking only of the many healthy and stimulating books of the day, it is easy to pick out many which can really serve as tracts, because they possess what many avowed tracts and treatises do not, the prime quality of being interesting. You will learn the root



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principles of self help and helpfulness toward others from "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," just as much as from any formal treatise on charity; you will learn as much sound social and industrial doctrine from Octave Thane's stories of farmers and wageworkers as from avowed sociological and economic studies; and I cordially recommend the first chapter of "Aunt Jane of Kentucky" for use as a tract in all families where the men folk tend to selfish or thoughtless or overbearing disregard of the rights of their womenkind.

NO SYMPATHY FOR SHIRKERS.

Do not misunderstand me. I have not the slightest sympathy with those hysterical and foolish creatures who wish women to attain to easy lives by shirking their duties. I have as hearty a contempt for the woman who shirks her duty of bearing and rearing the children, of doing her full housewife's work, as I have for the man who is an idler, who shirks his duty of earning a living for himself and his household, or who is selfish or brutal toward his wife and children. I believe in the happiness that comes from the performance of duty, not from the avoidance of duty. But I believe also in trying, each of us, as strength is given us, to bear one another's burdens; and this especially in our own homes. No outside training, no co-operation, no government aid or direction can take the place of a strong and upright character; of goodness of heart, combined with clearness of head; and that strength and toughness of fiber necessary to wring success from a rough work-a-day world. Nothing outside of home can take the place of home. The school is an

invaluable adjunct to the home, but it is a wretched substitute for it. The family relation is the most fundamental, the most important of all relations. No leader in church or state, in science or art, or industry, however great his achievement, does the work which compares in importance with that of the father and the mother, "who are the first of sovereigns and the most divine of priests."

PROF. H. S. ARKELL.

H. S. Arkell, whose appointment to the position of Professor of Animal Husbandry at the Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que., was announced last week, and a half-tone portrait of whom is presented herewith, was born at Teeswater, Bruce Co., Ont., in 1880, and is in his 27th year. He graduated from the Ontario Agricultural College in 1904, with the degree B.S.A., and then spent seven months as Instructor in Animal Husbandry at the State Agricultural College, Columbus, Ohio. In March, 1905, he succeeded Prof. Cumming as Lecturer in Animal Husbandry at his alma mater, the O.A.C. His appointment to Ste. Anne dates from June 1st. Prof. Arkell's capability is exceeded only by his modesty. Esteemed as a man, successful as an instructor and a trainer of students, unusually proficient as a judge of stock, practical in ideas and energetic in whatever he undertakes, he has won golden opinions from those who know him best, and will undoubtedly make good at Ste. Anne's. Notable among his successes has been the honor of helping to train the O. A. C. stock-judging teams, which won the Spoor trophy at the Chicago International Live-stock Exposition, and ranked highest in general average among the competing colleges in 1905, and again in 1906.

QUEBEC NOTES.

A cold April and a backward May was not conducive to early vegetation, but our farmers did not lose the spirit of hope, and sowed and planted as usual, although about two weeks later than former years. Seeding was well-finished about May 28th, and planting has been in order ever since, and that will be completed about the end of this week. At this writing (June 5th) much corn for silage has been planted, although there is yet a considerable acreage to put in, as some are breaking up old meadows that have been winter-killed and planting them to corn, which is a judicious move, as there will likely be a shortage of rough feed this fall. Much of the grass and clover, both in old and new meadows, has been winter-killed, and even if we have the most favorable weather for the next six weeks, hay will be a short crop, and as the old hay is well cleaned out of our country, it is up to our farmers to put in a larger acreage of corn and so provide a large supply of feed to take the place of the hay. It is quite possible that the building of silos may be encouraged this season as they have not been for some years, as no better way has been devised to store the corn crop for the winter feeding, nor as an auxiliary food have we any better for this section. Roots are not grown very successfully, as our soil is rather heavy.

A larger acreage of grain has been sown, mostly oats and barley, as a larger acreage of land was plowed last fall. I think more spring wheat has also been sown on account of the possibility of a shorter crop in the West, and a probable higher price for flour. Many of our farmers had given up raising wheat of late years, owing to the uncertain yield, finding it more profitable to grow oats and barley instead, and buy the flour required. The grain was sown with the land in good condition, and, although just through the ground, it appears to have a good even stand, and all that is required is a moderate amount of moisture and heat to bring it on. With the fine, warm, showery weather since the advent of June, the grass has come on rapidly, and cows are getting a good bite now (June 5th); but, owing to the lateness of the season, cows were kept in the stable much longer than usual, this, with poor grass, has cut down the milk flow at least 30 per cent., and it is now a question whether the cows will come up to their usual milk flow in the months of June and July. In many cases, they were underfed in May, and have become so thin and gaunt that it will take several months for them to recover their full flesh again.

Prices of cheese are well maintained, over 12½c. was realized at the board here last week, and 20½c. for butter. Creameries paid for April from 95c. to 98c. per cwt. for milk. It is expected that, for May, cheese prices will pay about \$1.10 per cwt. for milk, and creameries about 85c.

Huntingdon Co., Que.

W. F. S.

FAIR DATES FOR 1907.

July 13-20—Winnipeg Industrial.
July 22-26—Brandon, Man.
Aug. 23-30—Iowa State, Des Moines.
Aug. 26 to Sept. 9—Canadian National, Toronto.
Aug. 29 to Sept. 6—Detroit, Mich.
Sept. 2-4—Dominion Exhibition, Sherbrooke, Que.
Sept. 13-21—Canada Central, Ottawa.
Sept. 6-14—Western Fair, London.
Sept. 9-13—Indianapolis, Ind.
Sept. 9-14—New York State Fair, Syracuse.
Sept. 17-19—Guelph.
Sept. 18-20—Woodstock.
Sept. 27 to Oct. 5—Springfield, Ill.