

THE FARM WOMAN'S PAGE OF NEWS AND OPINION

Waiting for the League

Montana Woman Hopes for State Sugar Factory

EDITOR Nonpartisan Leader: I am interested in the success of the Farm Woman's page and I wish to help it along all I can. I am hoping the League will win this state this fall, as I wish to experience its benefits myself. The present regime has failed to make living any easier. Prices of foodstuffs and clothing keep rising, while many farm products have decreased in price. So I, for one, say give the League a trial at any rate and see if it can't do better.

I hope one of the first things the League accomplishes in this state when it gets in power will be to establish a state sugar factory. It would surely lower the cost of sugar and probably pay the farmers a better price for sugar beets too. Can someone else give any information along this line?

In answer to the editor's question in a recent Leader, I would state that we favor the guarantee of the price for wheat now, although we could have gotten along without it during the war.

In a "Montana Loyalist" I noticed a statement that there always have been poor people and rich and there always will be. Is that true? There always have been, I will admit, but can we be sure that there always will be? The world is supposed to be progressing toward bigger and better things. Surely, some day, it will get big enough to eliminate the too-rich and the too-poor. At least, give us the right to hope for it.

Teigen, Mont.

MRS. W. F. ARCHER.

Answers "F. G. B."

Editor Nonpartisan Leader: While I am no writer, yet I can't help but try in my most humble way to answer "F. G. B.," who wrote in a recent Leader, "If I Were My Wife." Alas—if I were my husband!

Isn't it a shame that we farmers' wives have not enough to do without taking the hammer and saw in hand and be cabinet builders and carpenters or declare war with the head of the family to have what conveniences or comforts we need? I have lived on a farm for eight years now and all this time have had to coax for water in the house. F. G. B. would recommend, no doubt, for me to take a shovel and dig a well, install my water plant and call hubby to see what I had done with my own hands!

Now, my dear, just you get up and fix that screen door, put that water in the house and quit grumbling about the cost of living. Put in those lights and if I am at all able to prophesy you will be repaid 100 times with what money can not buy, a woman's love. Or, if you may be one of those who have already done these things for that little woman—take that big brother of yours and see that he does likewise.

Loveland, Col.

J. E. W.

COLONEL PATTERSON'S CONFESSION

Editor Nonpartisan Leader: Would it not be a good plan for all Nonpartisan, labor and real farm papers to carry, in every issue, in a prominent first page place, your quotation in the Leader of November 3, 1919, page 6, from a book, "Confessions of a Drone," written by one of the owners of the Chicago Tribune, Colonel Joseph Medill Patterson, in 1905? In that book Colonel Patterson says: "Be it remembered that whenever the first person pronoun is used it is used to represent the type and not the individual. I have an income of between \$10,000 and \$20,000 per year. I spend all of it, I produce nothing, am doing no work," and the rest of it. It would seem that if the whole quotation were kept continually before the eyes of the "worker bees," who must gather the "honey," it would help to keep them from going to sleep or "day dreaming" again—it is so clear and simple. It ought also to be printed in dodger form and sent to those 1,280,000 members of the farm bureau, who adopted a resolution denouncing the attempt to ally the agriculturists of America with "the radicals of the

industrial world." It might wake up some of them. Richland, Mont.

Colonel Patterson said, in addition to what "PEGGY," "Peggy" quotes:

"It takes to support me just about 20 times as much as it takes to support an average workingman or farmer. And the funny thing about it is that these workingmen and farmers work hard all the year around, while I don't work at all.

"The work of the working people and nothing else produces wealth, which by some hocus-pocus arrangement is transferred to me, leaving them bare. While they support me in splendid style, what do I do for them? Let the candid upholder of the present order answer, for I am not aware of doing anything for them.

"The reason the whole capitalistic class doesn't give away money and go to work is because it doesn't want to. * * * And as long as the working class is satisfied * * * the present arrangement will continue.

"But whenever the working class wants to discontinue the present arrangement it can do so. It has the great majority."

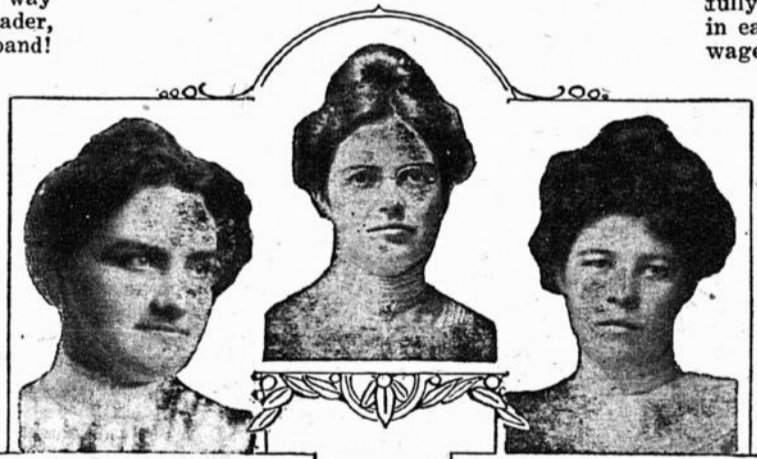
A Live Women's Club

Grass Lake Leaguers Will Get Help From Wives on Election Day

Here are the officers of Grass Lake Women's Nonpartisan club No. 8, one of the live local women's clubs in the state of Minnesota. All live at or near Braham, Isanti county. This club was organized on March 15, 1920, with 15 members. It now has a roll of 28 members and they meet twice a month and find each meeting more interesting and instructive.

Writing of the work of the club, Mrs. Engberg says:

"We have taken up our first course of study, the Outlines of Civil Government for Minnesota. We find it very interesting as well as necessary, as



Mrs. Peter E. Pierson, Vice President

Mrs. J. A. Mansmith, President

Mrs. Amanda Engberg, Secretary-treasurer

most of us farmers' wives never had a chance to study things of that kind.

"We urge women of every community to get busy and start a women's club and then we are sure they will not forget to be at the polls on election day, and thus help the men to elect officials who will be fair to all the common people."

FLORISTS PROFITEER

Taking advantage of the custom prescribing the wearing of carnations Sunday, May 9, in observance of "Mothers' Day," florists throughout the Northwest marked up their prices on carnations 100 per cent a few days in advance of that date. In the Twin Cities carnations which had been \$1.50 per dozen were marked up to \$3, and similar advances were made elsewhere.

RENVILLE COUNTY LEADS STATE

Renville county, Minn., is the first county in the state to establish county organization of Women's Nonpartisan clubs. Five active clubs have been established in the county, largely through the activity of Mrs. Pearl Baker, wife of a Renville lawyer and a firm believer in the League program. A county federation is now being organized.

Women Must Unite

Doctor Shipstead's Address to Women Car Workers of Minneapolis

DOCTOR HENRIK SHIPSTEAD, endorsed by the Nonpartisan league and organized labor for governor of Minnesota, recently addressed an organization meeting of the women car workers' union in Minneapolis. It was attended by about 30 women, nearly all of them more than 50 years of age, employed in cleaning passenger and Pullman cars. They found it necessary to organize and present their demands collectively to get a living wage.

Addressing them, Doctor Shipstead said:

"I hope some day we will get enough democracy in this country so that women, 50 years and over, who have already given their service to society in bearing children and rearing families, will not have to labor in their old age scrubbing railroad cars, and then, after working through a long day, have to meet at night to demand a living wage. Women like you should be able to sit around your family hearths in peace. You have already done as much work as should be demanded of you.

"I hope that day of real democracy will come, and I hope it will come soon. But it can be brought about only through political action. The people of Minnesota and of the nation have in the power of the ballot the strongest power in America today. Use it, and like the Vikings of old you will not have to ask aid of a friend or beg mercy of an enemy."

Minimum Wages in N. D.

The workmen's compensation bureau of North Dakota, after a series of hearings in which employers, employees and the general public were given equal representation, and after investigating carefully the cost of living for a working girl or woman in each industry, has fixed the following minimum wage scales for women workers in that state:

Waitresses—\$17.50 per week; with board furnished by employer, \$10.50 per week; with board and lodging furnished by employer, \$8 per week.

Chambermaids and kitchen workers—\$16.70 per week; with board, \$9.70 per week. with board and lodging \$7.20 per week. In these classes two apprenticeship periods are established. During the first two months beginners must be paid at least \$14 per week and during the next two months at least \$16 per week, after which the specified minimum wage for an experienced worker is effective.

Office workers—\$20 per week for experienced worker. For the first three months of apprenticeship the minimum wage is to be \$14, for next three months \$16, for the third three months, \$18, at the end of which time the \$20 minimum applies.

Laundry workers—\$16.50 per week for experienced workers (\$16 if employe's laundry work is done by employer). During the first four months an apprentice is to be paid \$12, during the next four months \$14, at the end of which time the \$16.50 minimum applies.

In considering each class of employes separately the compensation commission took into consideration the fact that office workers and other employes in constant touch with the public are required by their employers to spend more money for dress than employes not in touch with the public.

MRS. TOWNLEY JOINS CLUBS

Mrs. F. Townley of Parkers Prairie, Minn., is one of the latest members of the Women's Nonpartisan clubs. Mrs. Townley is the mother of A. C. Townley, president of the Nonpartisan league, and is just as keenly interested as her son in the emancipation of the farmers.

MEMORIAL FOR GIRL HEROINE

The Courier-News of Fargo, N. D., is collecting a fund to build a memorial for Hazel Miner, the heroic North Dakota girl who lost her life in a recent blizzard while saving the lives of her companions.