

ty with disuse, spasmodic with emotional stress. Between the two, there is more hope for the woman's brain; you can polish up an unused machine sooner than you can make over one that is battered out of shape.

We quote the above from "The Center" a monthly published by Harmony Club of America at 700 West End Avenue, New York City. We have been perusing this little magazine for some months with much pleasure and with no little profit. It contains much that is suggestive, interesting and inspiring. It does not follow that everyone will accept all that it says; but sometimes we can profit as much by reading what we do not accept, especially if it is new thought to us, as by reading what we do accept. At all events the magazine is worth all its cost which is but one dollar a year.—Editor.

### BEFORE CO-OPERATION

We have been urging the formation of co-operative societies and we are prepared to give a series of articles from the pens of those who have had marked success in this direction. These articles will tell the difficulties to overcome, how to organize and how to succeed after organization, and we can give to those who desire it a proof copy of constitution and by-laws of one of the successful societies.

Before real co-operation is successful there must be a better feeling of fellowship between the people of the community intending to co-operate. The fruit growers and truck gardeners have been moderately successful in their cooperation because this class of producers live on small tracts, form a thickly populated district, and hence are more willing to unite with each other because they are better acquainted.

Farmers living on large farms become very independent of each other. They live unto themselves so much that they can't or won't pull together. To co-operate some one must be manager—boss if you please, and all the rest must be submissive to the manager. This goes against the grain of these independent farmers who have been their own boss so many years.

It doesn't take long to create a jealousy that ruptures the society. Hence we say that there is something necessary before co-operation is an assured success—and that something is a better social understanding and friendship.

Every business man and his family must learn to trust the motives of his neighbors. Every one must have confidence in his fellowman and must overlook the insignificant faults and try to bring out the best in him. A community of interests must exist before co-operation can succeed. This community of interests is the secret groundwork of the big trusts. Isn't the farmer shrewd enough to see that he must do as they do if he would have the success that the trusts have?

How can we create this fellowship—this community of interests? By the social organizations such as the Grange, or the farmers' club. The farmers club can become a veritable "big stick" in securing justice at the hands of legislators, railroads, commission houses and even in their buying of supplies.

The pioneer was too busy and too isolated to give any thought to the social side of his nature. He was so taken with the idea of making a living that he wasn't very sociable with his distant neighbors. And this spirit has grown up with him in almost every community. Get out of your shell, break away

from yourself and mix more with others. You men meet at the postoffice and store, you get together in a sort of way at auctions, threshing time, etc., but you don't provide any means for the women folks getting together likewise. Nor do you meet as whole families with whole families. And herein is the secret of failure in so many attempts to co-operate.

The boys and girls leave the farm why? Because they long for the social life afforded by the city. While they will not meet and know as many in the city as in the country, while they will have less social life in the city than in the life they leave behind; yet they are among folks, they see folks, and the fact that they are total strangers makes little difference.

Folks like to flock together as soon as they get a taste of that sort of life. That's why you can't drive the poor people out of the crowded tenement districts of the cities, and make healthy, dappy country citizens of them. They miss the crowd and go back to the squalor just to see folks.

And you farmers must recognize this trait of human nature and get together socially in order to hold the young folks on the farm.

The farmer's club, or the Grange, has a distinct mission to fill. It fills a long felt want—it satisfies the craving for social intercourse. The only advantage the Grange has over the club is that of state and national backing—it has a large membership that stands for something definite and speaks with authority that commands respect and attention in national affairs.

The club can accomplish as much locally as the Grange—in a social way. Meet regularly and discuss the local problems such as seed corn, good roads, taxes, office seekers, country schools, proposed laws, methods of farming, etc. Have music, recitation, debates, speeches, lunches, picnics, good fellowship. In this the men and women, boys and girls can take part.

The Grange usually constructs a Grange hall in some favored location. The Club can meet from place to place. The Grange has some secret work. The Club has none.

In every community where there is a Club or a Grange there is a marked improvement in the home grounds, the schools, the country churches, in everything. There exists a better fellowship and this makes possible a co-operative society for the selling of grain, cream, fruit, or any product of the farm.

It is for this reason that we urge the formation of Clubs and Granges before any attempt is made to co-operate.—Successful Farming.

Board of Local Improvements of the City of Highland Park.

#### NOTICE FOR LETTING CONTRACT

Notice is hereby given that bids will be received for the construction of a ten (10) inch cast iron lateral main water supply pipe together with 2re hydrants, shut off valves and special castings to be constructed and laid along and under Linden Avenue, Cedar Avenue and Sheridan Road in the City of Highland Park connecting with the water main now laid in said Linden Avenue at its intersection with Lincoln Avenue thence south easterly along said Linden Avenue to Cedar Avenue, thence easterly along said Cedar Avenue to Sheridan Road, thence easterly and southerly along said Sheridan Road to and connecting with the water main now laid in Roger Williams Avenue as a whole in accordance with the ordinance therefor.

Said bids will be opened on the 18th day of October A. D. 1910 at the hour of 8 o'clock p. m., at the office of the Board of Local Improvements in the City Hall in said city.

The specifications for said improvement and blank proposals will be furnished at the office of the Commissioner of Public Works at the City Hall in the City of Highland Park.

The Contractor will be paid in bonds which bonds will draw interest

at the rate of five (5) per cent per annum.

All proposals or bids must be accompanied by a certified check payable to William M. Dooley, President of the Board of Local Improvements of the City of Highland Park, for a sum not less than ten (10) per cent of the aggregate of the proposal. Said proposals or bids must be delivered to the President of the Board of Local Improvements in open session of said board at the time and place fixed herein for opening the same. No proposal or bid will be considered unless accompanied by check as herein provided.

The Board of Local Improvements reserve the right to reject any or all bids should they deem it best for the public good.

WILLIAM M. DOOLEY, President of the Board of Local Improvements of the City of Highland Park, Ill.

Dated at Highland Park, Illinois, Oct. 8th., A. D. 1910 412w

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