

# Col. Roosevelt Gives Some Sound Advice as to Bettering Public Life

Addressing the Farmers, He Told Them That Conservation and Building up of Soil was the Prime Asset of Any Country--Some Problems Affecting Country Life were Fully Dealt with, and the Necessity of Co-Operation in Agricultural Interests For Mutual Benefit was Essential if the Greatest Good was to be Accomplished.

Utica, N. Y., Aug. 23--Theodore Roosevelt wound up the first day of his pilgrimage into the west by placing himself directly in opposition to Vice-President Sherman. Speaking to day in the vice-president's own country, he warmly endorsed State Senator Frederick Davenport, a staunch progressive, whom Mr. Sherman had said that he would not support. Mr. Sherman was out of town and did not see Col. Roosevelt.

It was late in the afternoon when Col. Roosevelt reached Summit Park ten miles west of here, a summer resort set up high on the bluffs overlooking the Mohawk River. Ten thousand persons who attended the grange picnic there today were waiting for him and raised a cheer as the figure of the ex-president appeared on the platform. At every stopping place along the way from New York to Utica, the colonel was cheered, but the roar of applause which went from the throng at the park shook the pavilion.

Colonel Roosevelt spied Senator Davenport at once and greeted him warmly. As soon as he began his speech, he turned to the senator and said: "I am glad to see you on the platform, Senator Davenport. The only kind of politics I care for is the kind of politics in which decency is combined with efficiency. I hold that the only way in which a politician can really serve his party is by helping that party efficiently to serve the people. Because the senator and men who have acted with him have stood for this principle I am glad to be on the platform with him."

There was more cheering as the colonel uttered these words. When he could be heard, he added: "You will at least notice that my utterances are free from ambiguity."

Then the colonel proceeded with his talk to the farmers.

## LAUDS ROOSEVELT

Senator Davenport made a speech after Colonel Roosevelt had concluded. He said that the Colonel had been his idol and that he considered him to represent the heart and conscience of the great body of the people.

Senator Davenport supported the direct nomination bill in the legislature and has been a warm supporter of Governor Hughes' policies. Col. Roosevelt's move in endorsing him is regarded as his first step in the New York state fight. On leaving New York this morning the colonel said that there could be no compromise so far as he was concerned. He has let it be known that he was reluctant to take part in the struggle but that now that he is in, he will fight hard.

In his prepared speech Col. Roosevelt dealt with the problems of life in the country and how to solve them. "You see, my friends, you've got yourselves in for a sermon," he said to the throng that filled the natural amphitheatre in front of the speaker's stand, and overflowed on the top of the hill. It was a good-natured holiday crowd which was always interrupting with laughter and applause. The colonel kept his hearers in good spirits with his epigrams, some of which were not down in his speech.

"I think a good man and a good woman can get to heaven in a dozen different ways," he said, "but I do not think they can get there unless they are good. The motto for Americans should be: 'All men up and not some down,' he said, and a little later he added, "We hear a man tell his wife that she does not do as his mother did, but that man is frequently a man does not do as his father ought to have done."

What pleased the grangers most of all, however, was this: "I will never go with the type of farmer who says 'I am down on lawyers and bankers; I am against the business man.' I will go with him when he says 'I am against a bad type of lawyer or bad type of banker.' In other words I will go with him when he pronounces judgment on a man not in accordance with his opinion, but in accordance with his conduct. That is good American doctrine."

"Sometimes we hear a man say he is the poor man's friend. I am the poor man's friend, if the poor man is straight, and I am the rich man's friend if the rich man is straight, but I am against the crooked man, rich or poor."

The colonel told the farmers that they ought to avail themselves of expert advice from technical men and not be content to go on without improving their methods of farming. He said they ought to learn to combine effectively in business as has been done in the industries. He thought that farm life should be made more attractive and that the farmer's wives ought to have an easier time of it. He spoke a good word also for the country church and urged the farmers to have the right kind of religion.

"I want to be able to recognize the good Christian by the way he acts on week days," he said.

Col. Roosevelt then spoke on farming life as follows:

"There are no two public questions of more vital importance to the future of this country than the problem of conservation and the problem of the betterment of public life. More over, these two problems are really interdependent, for neither of them can be successfully solved save on condition that there is at least a measurable success in the efforts to solve the other."

"In any great country the prime physical asset--the physical asset more valuable than any other--is the fertility of the soil." All our industries and commercial welfare, all our material development of every kind, depend in the last resort upon our preserving and increasing the fertility of the soil. This, of course, means the conservation of the soil as the great natural resource; and, equally, of course, it furthermore implies the development of country life, for there cannot be a permanent improvement of the soil if the life of those who live on it, and make their living out of it, is suffered to starve and languish, to become stunted, and weakened and inferior to the type of life lived elsewhere.

"We are now trying to preserve it for exploitation by individuals, but for the permanent benefit of the whole people, the waters and the forests, and we are doing this primarily as a means of adding to the fertility of the soil; although in each case there is a great secondary use both of the water and of the forests for commercial and industrial purposes. In the same way it is essential for the farmers themselves to try to broaden the life of the man who lives in the open country; to make it more attractive, to give it every adjunct and aid to development which has been given to the life of the man of the cities. Therefore, friends, the conservation and rural life policies are really two sides of the same policy; and down at the bottom this policy rests upon the fundamental law that neither man nor nation can prosper unless, in dealing with the present he steadily take thought for the future."

## CITIES DRAIN THE COUNTRY.

"In one sense this problem with which we have to deal is very, very old. Wherever civilizations have hitherto sprung up they have always tended to go through certain stages and then to fall. No nation can develop a real civilization without cities. Up to a certain point the city movement is thoroughly healthy; yet it is a strange and lamentable fact that always hitherto after this point has been reached the city has tended to develop at the expense of the country by draining the country of what is best in it, and making an insignificant return for this best. In consequence, in the past, very civilization in its later stages has tended really to witness those conditions under which the cities prosper and the men decay. There are ugly signs that those tendencies are at work in the nation of ours. But very fortunately we see now what never before was seen in any civilization--a serious and alert public interest in the problem, a recognition of its gravity and a desire to attempt its solution."

"The problem does not consist merely in the growth of the city. Such a growth in itself is a good thing and not a bad thing for the country. The problem consists in the growth of the city at the expense of the country; and, even where this is not the case, in so great an equality of growth in power and interest as

to make the city more attractive than the country, and therefore apt to drain the country of the people who ought to live therein."

"The human side of the rural life problem is to make the career of the farmer and the career of the farm laborer as attractive and as remunerative as corresponding careers in the city. Now, I am well aware that the farmer must himself take the lead in bringing this about. A century and a quarter ago the wise English farmer, Arthur Young, wrote of the efforts to improve French wool: 'A cultivator at the head of a sheep farm of 3,000 or 4,000 acres would in a few years do more for their wools than all the academicians and philosophers will effect in ten centuries.'"

"It is absurd to think that any man who has studied the subject only theoretically is fit to direct those who practically work at the matter. But, friends, I wish to insist to you here--to you practical men who own your farms--that it is pernicious absurdity for the practical man to refuse to benefit by the work of the student. The English farmer I have quoted, Young, was a practical farmer, but he was also a scientific farmer."

## EXPERTS NEEDED.

"One reason why the great business men of today--the great industrial leaders--have gone ahead, while the farmer has tended to sag behind the others, is that they are farmers willing, and indeed eager to profit by expert and technical knowledge--the knowledge that, can only come as a result of the highest education. From railways to factories no great industrial concern can nowadays be carried on save by the aid of a swarm of men who have received a high technical education in chemistry, in engineering, in electricity, in one or more of scores of special subjects. The big business man, the big railway man, does not ask college-trained experts to tell him how to run his business; but he does ask numbers of them each to give him expert advice and aid on some one point indispensable to his business. He finds this man usually in some graduate of a technical education in chameistry, in he has been trained for his life work, the farmer does. I am not now speaking of the man who has had an ordinary general training, whether in school or college. While there should undoubtedly be such training as a foundation (the extent differing according to the kind of work each boy intends to do as a man), it is nevertheless true that our educational system should more and more be turned in the direction of educating men towards, and not away from, the farm and the shop."

"During the last half century we have begun to develop a system of agricultural education at once practical and scientific, and we must go on developing it. But after developing it, it must be used. The rich man who spends a fortune upon a fancy farm, with entire indifference to cost, does not do much good to farming; but, on the other hand, just as little is done by the working farmer who stolidly refuses to profit by the knowledge of the day, who treats any effort at improvement as absurd on its face, refuses to countenance what he regards as new-fangled ideas and contrivances and jeers at all 'book farming.'"

"I wish I could take representatives of this type of farmer down to Long Island, where I live to have them see what has been done, not as philanthropy but as a plain business proposition, by men connected with Island Railroad, who believed it pays to encourage the development of farms along the line of that railway. They have put practical men in charge of experimental farms, cultivating them intensively, and using the best modern methods, not only in raising crops, but in securing the best market for the crops when raised. The growth has been astounding, and land only fifty miles from New York which during our entire national lifetime has been treated as worthless, has within the last three or four years been proved to possess a really high value."

## MAKE COUNTRY LIFE ATTRACTIVE

"The farmer, however, must not only make his land pay, but he must make country life interesting for him self and for his wife and his sons and daughters. Our people as a whole, should realize the infinite possibilities of life in the country; and every effort should be made to make these possibilities more possible. From the beginning of time it has been the man raised in the country--and usually the man born in the country--who has been most apt to render the services which every nation most needs. Turning to the list of American statesmen, it is extraordinary to see how large a proportion started as farm boys. But it is rather sad to see that in recent years most of these same boys have ended their lives as men living in cities."

"It often happens that the good traditions of the past can be regained, not by going back, but by going forward. We cannot recreate what is dead; we cannot stop the march of events, but we can direct this march and out of the new conditions develop something better than the past knew. Henry Clay was a farmer who lived all his life in the country; Washington was a farmer who lived and died in the country; and we of this nation ought to make it our business to see that the conditions are made such that farm life in the future shall not only develop men of the stamp of Washington and Henry Clay were successful farmers. I hope that things will so shape themselves that the farmer can have a great career and yet end his life as a farmer; so that the city man will look forward to living in the city."

## FARMERS SHOULD COMBINE

"Farmers should learn how to combine effectively as has been done in industry. I am particularly glad to speak to the Grange, for I heartily believe in farmer's organizations; and we should all welcome every step taken towards an increasing co-operation among farmers. The importance of such movements cannot be overestimated; and through such intelligent joint action it will be possible to improve the market just as much as the farm."

Country life should be as attractive as city life, and the country people should insist upon having their full representation when it comes to dealing with all great public questions. In other words, country folks should demand that they work on equal terms with city folks in all such matters. They should have their share in the memberships of commissions and councils; in short of all the organized bodies for laying plans for great enterprises affecting all the people, I am glad to see on such bodies. The names that represent financial interests but those interests should not have the right-of-way, and in all enterprises and movements in which the social condition of the country is involved, the agricultural country--the open country--should be as well represented as the city. The man in the open country is apt to have certain qualities which the city man has lost. These qualities offset those which the city man has and he himself has not. The two should be put on equal terms and the country talent be given the same opportunity as the city talent to express itself and to contribute to the welfare of the world in which we live."

## WHAT CHURCHES SHOULD DO

"The country church should be made a true soul centre, alive to every need of the community, standing for a broad individual outlook and development, taking the lead in work and in recreation, caring more for conduct than for dogma, more for ethical, spiritual, practical betterment than for merely formal piety. The country fair offers far greater possibilities for continuous and healthy usefulness than it at present affords."

"The country school should be made a vital centre for economic, social, and educational co-operation; it is naturally fitted to be such a centre (Continued on page seven.)"

## GUIDE FOR TRAVELLERS

### INTERCOLONIAL

#### DEPARTURES.

No. 303--Mixed for Loggieville, 5.00  
No. 317--Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 6.15.  
No. 321--Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 11.15.  
No. 323--Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 16.20.  
No. 301--Express for Loggieville, Chatham, Campbellton, Quebec, Montreal, etc., 18.30.  
No. 327--Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 18.40.  
No. 329--Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 22.00.

#### ARRIVALS

No. 306--Suburban from Marysville 7.45.  
No. 302--Express from Loggieville, Chatham Junction 11.25.  
No. 308--Suburban from Marysville 13.30.  
No. 304--Mixed from Loggieville and Chatham Junction, 16.00.  
No. 310--Suburban from Marysville 19.15.  
No. 316--Suburban from Marysville 21.55.

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#### DEPARTURES

6.20 a.m.--Express for St. John, Portland, Boston, Woodstock, etc.  
7.55 a.m.--Mixed for Woodstock and points North. Leaves St. Marys at 8.35.  
9.45 a.m.--Express for St. John and points east.  
4.45 p.m.--Mixed for Woodstock, via Gibson branch on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.  
5.50 p.m.--Express for Montreal, and Boston, Woodstock, St. Stephen etc.  
9.05 p.m.--Express for St. John and points east.

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9.10 a.m.--Express from St. John and points east.  
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11.35 a.m.--Express from Montreal Boston, etc.  
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All persons having claims against the Estate of the late Honourable George F. Gregory are requested to file the same duly attested within ten days from this date, with Honble. F. B. Gregory, Fredericton, N. B., or with Messrs. Gregory & Winslow, Solicitors, Carleton St. All persons indebted to the said estate are requested to make payment to the Executors.

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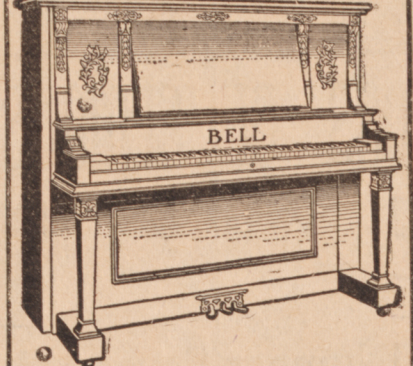
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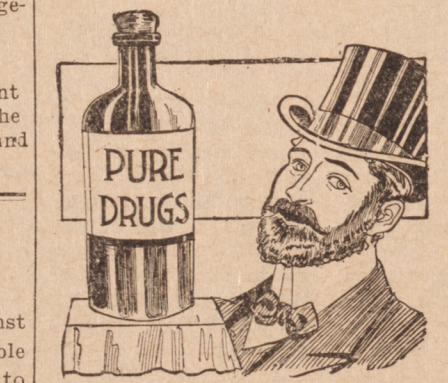
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