MEN - FARM AND LABOR

Reading "Today and Tomorrow" on the point of the factory and the farm, I am impressed with its course of events, the inevitable changes thatare going to be the strongest factor in bringing these two essential elements of production together for the worker. Take Mr. Ford's Village Industries along the River Rouge. Farm and Factory have not been combined in those localities simply because Mr. Ford thought it a good idea to bring them together. He took small special industries out of his Dearborn district because he had an opportunity in the locality which he went of cheaper power. Cheap power, he says, somewhere, is the chief element in producing cheap goods for people. I belige he believes the chief factor in low price goods are cheap power, cheap transportation ahd high wages. He considers a minimum of six dollars a day as quite as influential as power which he generates himself through the use of water, but, by taking his industry out into this country he was able to get from the adjacent farms men and women to run his machines,

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

It was for making the industries transported into the country. One for instance was the making of valves. These valves were costing 8¢ at Highland Park. He soon brought the cost down to 3 1/2¢ in the village to which he went. Ah! but it was cheaper labor there, someone will say. Not at all. Mr.Ford is paying in these villages a $6.00 minimum for eight hours five days a week. The people who have come to him are not giving up their farms or their industries. Here is a women who has supported herself by raising flowers. She still raises flowers and earns thirty or so more dollars a week. Pure velvet, she considers it. (Get stories of these women other than those of Crothers)

It was the natural work of Mr. Ford's industrial creed that has brought the farm and the factory together in this instance His great producing center was too crowded, It was becoming more and more expensive to do things there. Their great tracts of land and unused water power beckoning. He goes to them in the interest of economy andfinds, as he has always contended you would find, that men and woman on thefarms could under the conditions that he produced, unite the two occupations, they united them in

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

the same way that all the ancestors of Abraham Lincoln did. It is true that Mr. Ford arranges in the specially busy seasons of the farm, the planting and harvesting, that the workers can provide substitutes, but they themselves can arrange this outof the community. It is the development of industry, the conditions under which factories find themselves, that often contribute to the growth of the towns, as so many have around Pittsburgh, that has also driven workers out into the country for farms. People sometimes talk, as if the great industries around Pittsburgh, Homestead, Duquesne, had been deliberately placed within city limits. When Homestead was built

Quote from Ideals - Passion for soil - for spring - flowers - birds - ever to nature - He & Mrs. go to old home - alone - outing - Can't endure all men should not learn same planning - out of factory - quote -