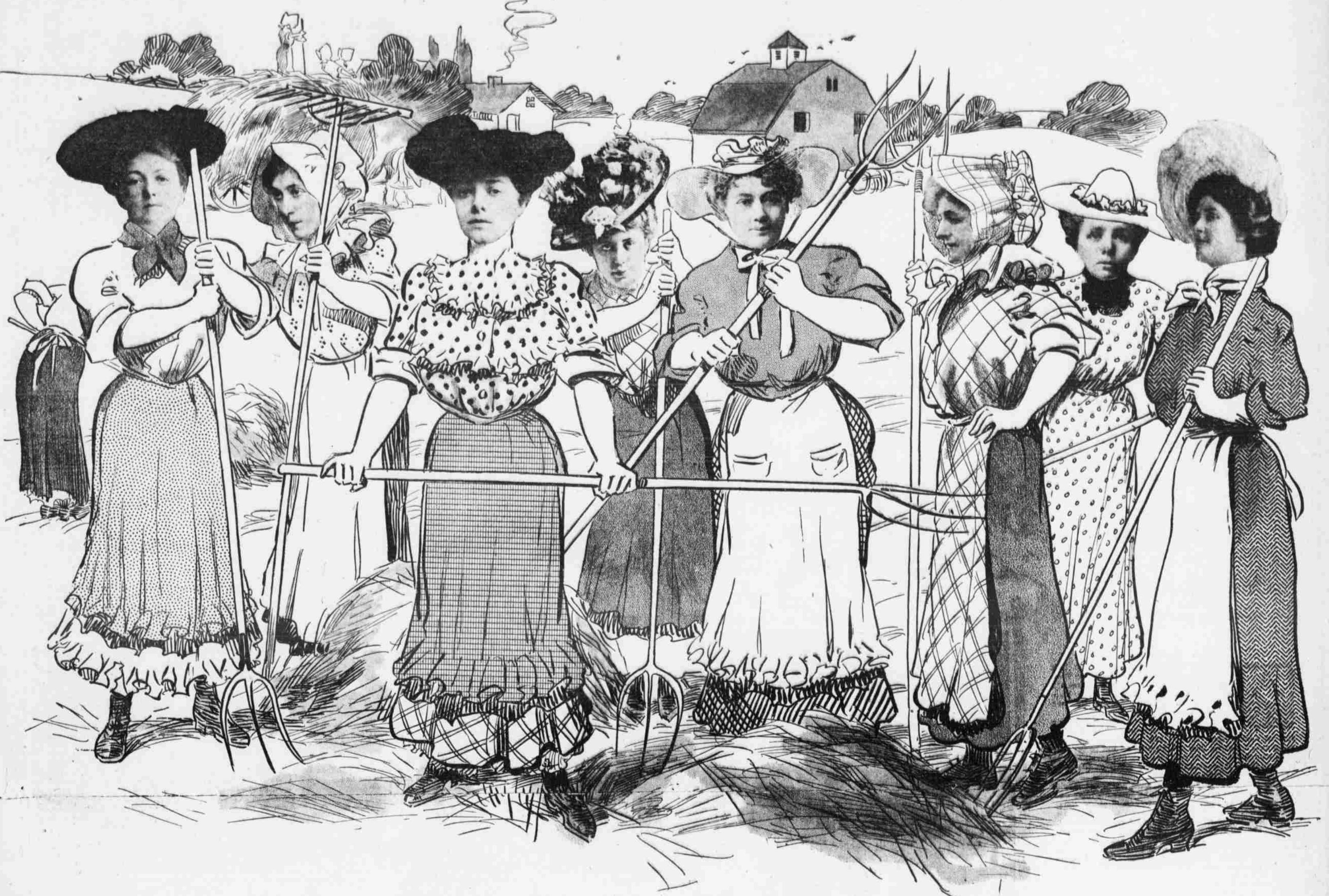


Joy of Rural Life Lure Actresses to the Farm.



THEATRICAL managers, actresses themselves, and observers of the stage foresee a relief from the overcrowded condition of the profession existing today. The farm, they say, is luring the young woman from the stage. A well-known manager who knows from personal observation the effect of farm life upon actresses, says: "When the actress remained in the city under the glare of the footlights or went off to crowded summer resorts for her vacations, surrounded by mobs of flatterers, as she did twenty years ago, there was little hope. She would play up to the last ditch regardless of such flings as 'Superfluous legs the player on the stage.' But take her to a quiet country place to which, with improved conditions of farming, she is not exceptionally adverse—where she sees nothing of the old life—the glamour and glitter of it—and the yearning becomes less intensified. While she may protest against any fondness for pigs and cows and even well bred horses, the quiet country atmosphere and the beauty of large, well kept grounds grows upon her and calm her into

peaceful resignation to letting some one else play her favorite rôle for a time and win from her public laurels." Such has notably been the case in regard to some of the most prominent actresses who in the last score of years have graced the American stage. Most of them have announced their retirement from the stage and settled down on her California farm in blissful unconcern as to how Shakespearean heroines were impersonated by aspiring young actresses. Maggie Mitchell folded her hands several times at Elberton, N. J., before settling there for good, and Lotta Crabtree with a well filled purse did the same thing at Lake Hopatcong. Among the less known actresses scores of even more marked examples might be enumerated. Charlotte Thompson, who starred successfully as Jane Eyre years ago, left the stage at a seasonable age for a plantation near Montgomery, Ala. Katie Putnam, well remembered by old theatergoers, settled on a farm at Bouton Harbor, Mich., long before the roses began to fade from her cheeks, and there she is still living, and another actress who toured with fairly good suc-

cess through this section not long ago has followed her example, taking a farm at French Lake, Ind., where she now resides. This tendency, started some years ago by a few actresses, seems now on the increase. Nearly every woman on the stage who can now mass together a few dollars invests in a farm of her own, where she can retire and remain as long as she chooses, quite independent of managers and theatrical engagements. Annie Russell has a farm in the Maline woods, Julia Marlowe one in the Catskills, Mary Manning an estate at Greenwich, Conn., Lillian Russell at Far Rockaway, Rose Coghlan a ranch in Montana, Elsie Bates a farm in California, Mrs. St. Maur, formerly Miss Vanderhoff, of a family of actors, has tried farming in New Jersey; Maude Adams conducts a farm with remarkable success at Ronkonkoma, L. I.; Miss Helen Lowell, now playing with Maude Adams, and Miss Marion Abbott, a Chicago girl, who made her first great hit with James A. Herne in "Bag Harbor," and who is now playing with Otis Skinner, have made a great success of a violet farm on Long Island, just out of New

York; and one might prolong the list indefinitely. While many of these actresses and others in the same class may remain on the stage for years to come, with farms of their own, they find they can take longer vacations and indulge in temporary retirements, which, with boarding house life and sea side extravagance, they could scarcely afford. Of the actresses who have recently visited Chicago Miss Lester of the John Drew company has a modest little five acre farm of her own on Long Island, where she spends her vacations and remains between rehearsals, engaged in poultry and pigeon raising and vegetable and flower gardening. "Of course, she says, "this is mere play farming, but I find it does me good to get down to solid earth once in a while after the hurry, worry, and general nervousness of stage life. Then, too, when an actress has a home of her own, especially a farm which brings in an income, she finds she can afford to make shorter engagements, playing with a company offering only a thirty week season if she chooses, without supplementing it with a vaudeville engagement in the summer."

Mrs. Josephine Cohan, with the Rogers Brothers, says she is quite surprised at the number of actresses who are retiring to farms, or supplementing their stage work with farming. In an automobile run which she made across Long Island some time ago she saw the remnants of a great many farms owned by actresses, and that she then selected a nice little one of her own at Amityville, to which in two years she intends to retire. Though she is now only a young woman, having begun acting when she was only 8 years old, she says she considers twenty years quite long enough for any woman to remain upon the stage, and the farm a good place to keep her from the temptation of returning to it. And so many actresses are beginning to feel and are turning to the country both as an outlook to financial independence and as a place to dispel such visions of the footlights, as curtain falls, with electrical and warming triumphs, audiences growing in size and waxing in enthusiasm, houses projecting a dispiriting influence, and all the other extremes of lights and shades coincident with stage life generally.

The Seven Most Eligible Bachelors in the United States.



JAMES HAZEN HYDE is 29 years old and worth \$20,000,000. He is an authority on French literature and has been made a chevalier of the Legion of Honor. He is a graduate of Harvard and is fond of athletic sports, is a fine cross country rider, and has a stable full of thoroughbreds. He is 6 feet tall, dresses so as to accentuate his height, and has his clothes made in Paris. He has an establishment at 9 East Fortieth street, New York, next door to his mother's. He works eight hours a day at his desk, and has done a great deal for university settlement work.

MARCELLUS HARTLEY DODGE is 23 years old and worth \$20,000,000. He is a graduate of Columbia college and a hard worker, having gone into the sporting goods store, in which his grandfather made the millions, right after he graduated. He is learning the business and works more hours than anybody else there. He is large, an athlete, and has a boyish face, is pallid, and has dark eyes. He is extremely fond of outdoor sports and was distinguished at Columbia as a boxer. He is economical almost to the point of penury, but dresses well and is extravagant about his clothes and his books. He has no other luxuries or expensive habits.

AUGUSTUS HEINZE is 34 years old, and is worth over \$30,000,000. He is tall and erect, with muscles of iron and nerves of steel. When he was worth \$7,000,000 some one told him he ought to retire. He said: "What, stop now; why, I've come out here to get rich!" He was educated in Germany, and graduated at Columbia college. Politics and athletics are his greatest diversions. He refused \$15,000,000 for his copper holdings, and the "Miami Healy" mine alone is worth \$10,000,000. Heinze is a fighter, and his legal and other battles with Daly have shaken Montana and astounded the nation, and made Heinze an international figure.

NICHOLAS LONGWORTH is 36 years old. He has inherited \$20,000,000, from his father's estate, which is worth double that amount and which is invested in Cincinnati real estate. He is a graduate of Harvard and of the Cincinnati Law school. He has always had a taste for politics, has been a member of the school board, and has been in the national house of representatives and in the Ohio state legislature. He is the author of the municipal code providing for the form of government of the cities and villages of Ohio. He is now serving his second term in Congress. He has been lately distinguished chiefly for his attentions to Alice Roosevelt.

EUGENE HIGGINS is 37 years old and worth \$50,000,000. He is a graduate of Columbia and a member of all the prominent New York and continental yacht clubs. He spends most of his time upon the water and cruises all over the world on his beautiful yacht Varuna. Upon it he maintains the discipline of a man of war, even his guests being expected to conform to its rules. While cruising abroad he has lately given lavish entertainments to the army officers and American girls at all the points where he has stopped, including Parame and St. Sevan and Dinard. He is said to have played havoc with the hearts of hundreds of maidens.

JAMES HENRY SMITH is 50 years old and is worth \$50,000,000. He has passed most of his life in New York and has been a well known figure in the social metropolis for 25 years. He is of medium height, is well built, and has a dark and ruddy complexion. He talks little, which fact, combined with his singularly imperturbable countenance, has given him the name of "Silent Jim." He always wears black rimmed eyeglasses, and it is his habit to take a walk daily on Fifth avenue. He had accumulated over \$1,000,000 when his uncle died five years ago and left him his total fortune of \$50,000,000. He is devoted to art and books.

ROBERT WALTON GOELET is not quite 30 years old. He has already a fortune of \$10,000,000, and at the death of his mother will be worth \$40,000,000. He has never done a day's work in his life, although he is business manager for the Cercle Francaise plays at Harvard. He has lately settled down to study law, with the object of marrying a rich young divorcee. He was chiefly distinguished for his rivalry with his cousin, Robert Wilson Godet, for the hand of the beautiful Miss Elsie Whalen. He is known by the name of "Bertie." The flirtations of "Bertie" have made conversation at Newport for years.