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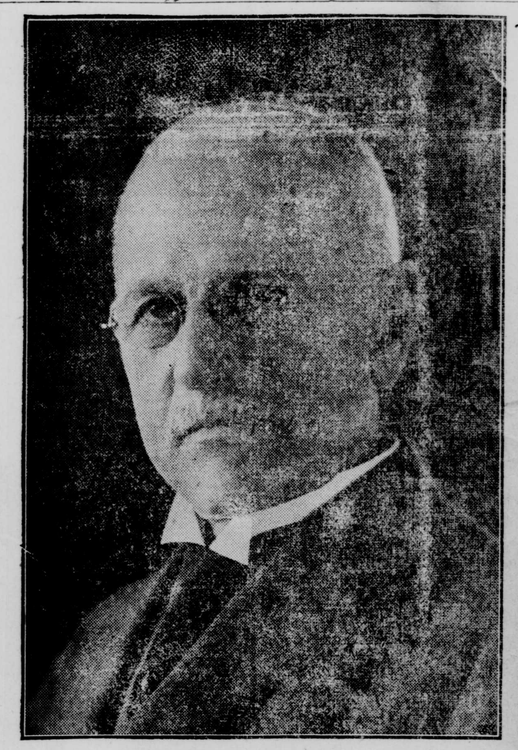

O. E. WELLER, Candidate for United States Senator.

SPEECH OF O. E. WELLER

To the Farmers of Maryland

In view of the agricultural developments of the past few years, I take this opportunity to inform you, as a candidate for the office of United States Senator from Maryland, where I stand on the questions affecting the welfare of the farmer.

As a result of the mistaken policy, in many respects, of the present administration, toward agriculture and the farmer, for the greater part of the past seven years, it is vital to your interests to vote for men whose past record or attitude in both public and private life are indicative of a close and sympathetic knowledge of or interest in the problems of the farm. The farm question being administrative and legislative, it is highly essential to the welfare of agriculture and business as a whole, that a Congress be elected that will be in sympathy with the needs of agriculture. The man who is an enemy of agriculture, who has willfully placed obstacles in its path of progress can not be included in any honor roll of true Americans.

The Underwood Tariff Bill, which became effective October 3rd. 1913, directed a blow at American agriculture by placing many farm products on the free list. It forced the American farmer into competition with the cheap farm and peasant labor of Europe and Asia, while at the same time it protected the manufacturing establishments from which the farmer had to buy the implements with which he tilled his soil. Cheap agricultural products from Canada, Australia, Siberia and China, were placed in open competition with the product of American farms to the extent of millions of dollars per year. The importation of corn alone increased from less than a million bushels in 1913 to more than twelve million in 1914 under the operation of the Underwood Bill. During the same period the importation of oats increased from 750,000 bushels, to over 22,000,000 bushels, with many other agricultural products showing substantial increases in proportion. These figures are for the twelve months ended June 30th, 1013 and 1914. Even a superficial analysis of this drastic measure, aimed at the very vitals of American agriculture, discloses the lack of regard which the Democratic Party has had for the welfare of the farmers.

During the world conflict the message flung to the farmer was —Produce! In spite of labor shortage brought about by attractive pay in the war industries, aided and abetted by the draft which carried off the farmers' sons from his field, the Farmer Produced, and the world was fed. the cry for food, and still more food, yet continues.

The world needs all that the farmers of the nation can grow; but if the farms are to produce in increased quantities the farmer must be paid. Waste in transportation and in marketing, the elimination of glutted markets—these problems, and many more —must be worked out by a Department of Agriculture In the hands of practical agriculturists and marketing men, before the farmers of the nation can be placed on an economic and sound business basis. The task is a large one, but it can and must be done. It can be done by an agricultural department which will not only tell the farmer how to grow his crops—a thing which for the most part he knows—and what it costs to grow them, but, what is infinitely more important —How to market them.

Money for the farmer must be made more easily available through the offices of the Federal Farm Loan Banks, which, though financially stronger than formerly, are not now functioning so far as new loans are concerned, because of litigation which must be brought to an end, The Federal Farm Loan Act should be strengthened and extended. Unless the farmers can, through cooperative buying and selling, and through the medium of long term loans at low interest rates permitting the making of necessary purchases at favorable times, get a fair living from their farms and a competence for their declining years, I fear, not only for the future of American agriculture, but for the future of American industry and the entire business fabric as well.

In order that every phase of our business life may prosper I shall advocate those measures which make for increased prosperity on our farms. I stand for more good roads, better rural schools, extension of the parcel post, and more practical methods of agricultural education. I shall favor the appointment of a Secretary of Agriculture who has actual knowledge of farm conditions,—a country minded man, who will make extensive studies in farm management problems and cost of production, including losses in soil fertility, and who will publish the results of such investigations. I shall favor any feasable plan whereby farm implements and machinery may be simplified and standardized, making possible quantity production of original machines and repair parts. I believe that millions of dollars may thus be annually saved the farmers of the nation.

As I see it, the farmer is the great producer of real wealth. It is the farmers business which makes the wheels of every other business go round. In spite of the fact that thousands and thousands of farmers have lost money in crops and live stock this year, the farmers of the nation have produced enough wealth to pay off two-thirds of the country's net war debt, the value of their products—your products—being well over $15,000,000,000. And you did this under conditions of price and labor more difficult than war times.

The business of farming should be placed foremost in our national policy. We should give the business its full economic rights. We should map out a great constructive program of agriculture and put it through, aiding every legitimate co-operative movement among the farmers, and taxing the speculator in farm products out of existance.

I stand for an encouragement of legislation legalizing collective bargaining by farm organizations. I want to see fair prices for farm products. I shall favor such measures as would provide a better market for American farm products in Europe and other parts of the world. I shall advocate the elimination of profiteering.

While Chairman of the Maryland State Roads Commission (1912-1916), we accomplished the practical completion of the State Road System, and I offer with a pardonable degree of pride my part in that record. There were expended on the road system $16,000,000, without the slightest suspicion of graft. and with a return to the State of one hundred cents of value for every dollar spent.

I rejoice that an opportunity now presents itself for a greater extension of our State Roads system, and our lateral roads, through Federal appropriations to aid Maryland, so that our farmers may more economically transport their products to market and haul back their supplies. Our State needs help from Washington to do this. The Federal Government has already appropriated $225,000,000 in all for this purpose, of which Maryland's share is $2,400,000, including $825,000 for this year. I shall have a deep interest, if elected, in endeavoring to increase this amount. My experience in road building—which no other Senator would have—together with my influence with a Republican administration, would place me in a strong position to aid road extension for the farmers and people of Maryland.

In my advocacy of a more extended and prosperous agriculture—an agriculture which will draw men from the cities to the farm—I am presenting the same views I expressed to the farmers of the State in my address to them in 1915, when I was a candidate for Governor of Maryland. I have then, as I have now, a strong desire to aid our farmers in the advancement of their interests and in their claims for just recognition at the hands of the Federal Government.

I feel that the present Democratic administration unjustly discriminated against the farmers of Maryland when it placed a price limit on wheat, while it left cotton undisturbed to seek its natural market value. I stand for equal treatment of the agriculture of the nation by the nation's lawmakers. It will be my duty and privilege to favor legislation in Congress which may serve to advance the interests of the tobacco growers of Southern Maryland. As an advocate of a prosperous agriculture as the true and lasting basis of a thrifty nation, I respectfully ask your support at the polls.

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As I have been successful in securing the services of Mr. JOHN WILSON, my former manager, I will hereafter operate two complete Artisian well rigs beginning March 20th, 1920. We can now serve you to a better advantage than ever before. So send in your orders for wells at once. Can give you reference to our ability by asking most any person in St. Mary's County, who live on the water front farms.

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FARMS WANTED

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The Universal Car

REDUCTION IN PRICER OF FORD PRODUCTS

The War is Over and War-Prices Must Go.

The following prices on Ford products are effective September 22, 1920:

Chasis	$360.	
Runabout	395.	with dual electric starting and lighting system $465
Touring Car	440.	with dual electric starting and lighting system $510
Coupe	745.	with dual electric starting and lighting system and demountable rims
Sedan	795.	with dual electric starting and lighting system and demountable rims
Truck Chasis	$545	with pneumatic tires and demountable rims
Tractor	$790.	

These prices f. o. b. Detroit.

The Ford Motor Company makes this reduction in the face of the fact that they have on hand immediate orders for 146,065 cars and tractors. The Company will suffer a temporary loss while using up the material bought at high prices. They are willing to make the sacrafice in order to bring business back to a going condition as quickly as possible and maintain the momentum of the buying power of the country. Henry Ford says: "The war is over and it is time war-prices were over. There is no sense or wisdom in trying to maintain an artificial standard of values. For the best interests of all it is time a real practical effort was made to bring the business of the country and the life of the country down to regular pre-war standards."

We are at your command, with regular Ford efficiency in service and eagerness, to fill your orders.

Leonardtown Implement Company,

Leonardtown, Maryland.

E-B Manure Spreader

Spreads Evenly A Strip Full 7 Feet Wide

TWO tons of manure applied with this spreader has the efficiency of three tons spread with a fork. Every farmer in this locality will be interested in this machine.

The E-B Spreader is built low down—easy to load—easy to pull. Water-tight bed holds liquid in manure. Drives through a 6 ft. door. Double steel beater with 102 chisel pointed steel teeth and 18 wide spread steel blades thoroughly shred and evenly spread in most available plant food form. Wheels track. Turns square corner. Weight only 1800 pounds. 55 to 70 bushels capacity—only 3 ft. 5 in. from ground to top of box. Glad to talk spreaders with you. Come in and see us.

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