COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: MAKING THE SMALL TOWN A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE IN AND A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO DO BUSINESS

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Community Development: Making the Small Town a Better Place to Live in and a Better Place in Which to Do Business by Frank Farrington

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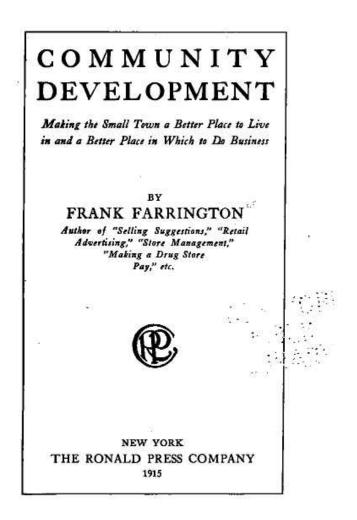
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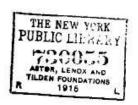
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DEDICATION

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To one woman who has made her home town a better and happier place by her interest in public affairs; to a woman who recognizes the principle that a community develops only through the willingness of its citizens to make the public good their private interest; to my wife.

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HOW TO MAKE USE OF THIS BOOK

The terms "village" and "town" are used interchangeably in the present volume, while the term "commercial club" must be taken as meaning any local business men's organization the object of which is the development of better local conditions.

Experience in working with such clubs more particularly in the smaller towns — has shown me that there frequently come times when the workers want to know what to do next and how to do it. Beginners in the work, too, are looking for information. They want to know how to organize, whom to interest, and how to interest them.

To set about the development of a successful commercial club without proper information as to how to proceed, necessitates the making of many mistakes, just as in a similar starting of a private business. If the commercial club workers can profit by the mistakes of others, if they can work by text-book rule as one works in arithmetic or algebra, the necessity for learning everything by experience will be removed and progress will be smooth and rapid.

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vi HOW TO MAKE USE OF THIS BOOK

It is the object of this volume to provide, in simple and understandable form, information that will make the organization and operation of a commercial club and allied organizations and their departments comparatively easy. 1

It is designed to be a simpler "What to Do and How to Do It" for the use of all kinds of civic organizations.

As a suggestion for its early use in the community where there is no commercial club, though there is a desire to form one, I recommend that the individual who is taking the initiative, call together a number of possible fellow workers for the purpose of studying the situation.

Such a meeting of interested and kindred spirits should discuss the needs of the community and consider what kind of an organization will operate most satisfactorily to remedy the existing deficiencies.

One meeting of those interested will not suffice to start the movement. There should be several. Perhaps into each meeting should be called a different group of prominent citizens. The clergy might be asked to give their ideas at one session, the newspaper men at another, the school workers at another, and so on, through the doctors, lawyers, manufacturers,