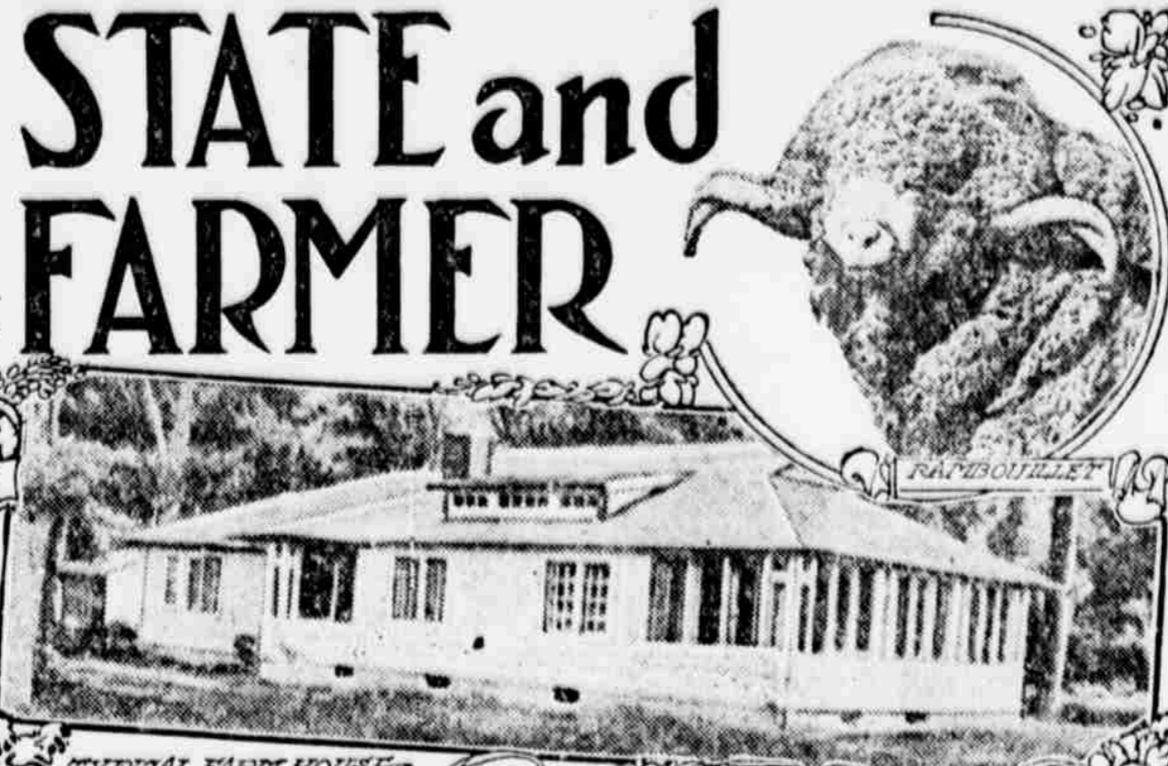
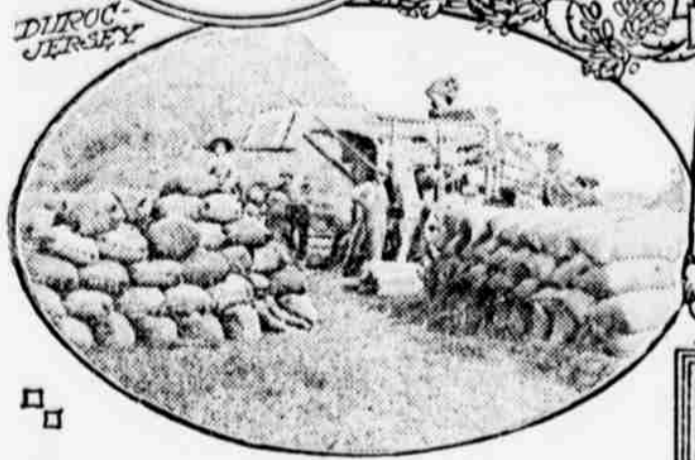


# The STATE and the FARMER



TYPICAL FARM HOUSE  
COURTESY SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN



SHORTHORN CATTLE



LEVELLING AND CHECKING LAND  
COURTESY SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN



**T**HE population of the United States, as shown by the 1920 census, is 105,683,108, as compared with a population in 1910 of 91,792,293. The increase is therefore 13,710,812 or 14.9 per cent. The figures of this census show that the trend of population from the country to the city has become accentuated since 1910 and that for the first time in our history more than half of the entire population is living in urban territory, as defined by the census bureau. This is to say that 54,816,209 or 51.9 per cent are living in incorporated places of 2,500 or more inhabitants and 50,806,899 or 48.1 per cent in rural territory. In the census of 1910 the corresponding percentages were 46.3 and 53.7.

While the increase in total population was 14.9 per cent, there was an increase of the urban population of 12,192,826 or 28.6 per cent. On the other hand the increase of the rural population was 1,518,016 or only 3.1 per cent. Worse still, the figures show that the rural class living in incorporated places of less than 2,500 inhabitants increased 21.5 per cent, whereas that class living in purely country districts shows an actual decrease of six-tenths of 1 per cent.

The country is therefore off balance. There is trouble ahead for us if we continue to have more food consumers than food producers. Ways and means to meet this situation are therefore a national topic. There must be a return to the soil. One way to bring this about is to make it easier for the small farmer to secure title to the land on which he works and to help him make a success of his work. Consequently there are all sorts of national, state and community plans, under discussion, half established and under actual test.

### California State Experiment.

One experiment that every sociologist and community worker, to say nothing of others, is watching with intense interest is the California land settlement scheme, which was launched in 1918 and is the first of its kind, at least in the United States. H. A. Crafts thus describes in the Scientific American the successful development of this California land settlement scheme:

The California state land settlement scheme at Durham, Butte county, was launched in 1918, and is the first settlement of the kind to be established in the United States.

A tract of 6,219 acres of farm land purchased by the state was subdivided into small farms, ranging in size from two to one hundred and fifty acres.

The split in which the colony was started is best indicated by the enabling act adopted by the California state legislature in 1917, which contains the following clause:

"The legislature believes that land settlement is a problem of great importance to the welfare of all the people of the state of California, and for that reason through this particular act endeavors to improve the general economic and social conditions of agricultural settlers within the state, and of the people of the state in general."

By provisions of this act the legislature appropriated the sum of \$260,000, of which \$250,000 was constituted a revolving fund for the purpose of purchasing and improving farm lands to be sold in turn to bona fide settlers.

The land purchased for this first settlement was a part of the old Senator Leland Stanford estate and with the exception of about one thousand acres is composed of deep, rich alluvial land, lying along the shores of Butte creek.

Under two allotments and sale in 1918 the entire tract was quickly disposed of, and provided beautiful and productive homes for 120 families, including 200 children.

The enterprise is not of an eleemosynary character, but one designed to help real farmers, possessing real capital, to accomplish better results in the way of practical agriculture. The state land settlement board, a body consisting of five members appointed by the governor of the state, exercised great pains in allotting the settlement farms to desirable purchasers. Due consideration was taken of moral character, practical farm experience and financial standing, with a view of welding the settlement into a permanent and prosperous community.

### Terms of Sale Easy.

The cost of the land to the board was \$100 per acre for that portion which was susceptible of irrigation, and \$10 per acre for that portion that was non-irrigable. Of the latter there were only about 700 acres. This land in turn was sold to settlers at an average price of \$150 per acre, and the total price of farm units ranged from \$3,000 to \$15,000.

The terms of sale to settlers included a cash payment of 5 per cent of the purchase price, with deferred payments extending over a period of 40 years, at 5 per cent interest. Loans were extended for farmhouses and other permanent improvements up to 60 per cent of their cost with 20 years for repayment. No loan for this purpose was made above \$3,000.

Very wisely the state land settlement board took cognizance of the vexed question of farm labor and provided for the allotment of two-acre tracts for this class of settlers. These lots were eagerly taken. The initial payment on each lot was less than \$20, and deferred payments were arranged on the same basis as those made to farm settlers.

This arrangement was made with a double pur-

pose—that of providing the settlement with a permanent supply of farm help and also of raising the standard of general farm help to a higher level.

The farm laborers of the settlement were enabled to earn from \$2.50 to \$3.50 per day, with board, or \$4.50 without board. Carpenters were paid \$5.25 per day of eight hours and were enabled to improve their allotments outside of the working hours.

These settlement farm laborers have the option of either working inside or outside of the colony. They are permitted, as soon as they are financially competent, to purchase larger farms, and thus become proprietary or employing farmers.

The offices of the California state land settlement board do not cease with the mere buying and selling of this land, leaving the settlers to shift for themselves. The most important work comes after the settlers have selected farms and have begun the arduous task of producing a revenue that will enable them to pay for and equip their new homes.

### Expert Advice on Tap.

The board does all in its power to guide the collective work of the settlement along safe lines, supplying farm advisers, farmstead engineers and other experts to help the good work along. It is the plan of the board to assist the settlement in welding itself into a successful co-operative community, and to inaugurate a system of the most scientific and up-to-date cultural and administrative methods.

At the very outset the Durham settlers organized a co-operative stock breeders' association. This was done with the prime object of making the settlement the home of purebred live stock. The board inculcated the idea of uniform selection of breeds so that there should be no untoward mixing of blood.

It was agreed that there should be but one or two breeds of cattle, sheep and hogs in the association. For cattle the Holstein was adopted as the type for dairy stock, and shorthorns for beef purposes. Duroc Jerseys were selected as the desirable type of hogs, and the Romney Marsh and Rambouillet for the sheep breeds. The executive committee of the Settlement Co-operative Live Stock association has done nearly all the buying of live stock for the settlers, thus simplifying and expediting matters.

Instead of leaving each of the 120 families, composing the settlement, to buy material, find workmen and secure designs for their dwellings and farm buildings the board took it upon itself to lend a most welcome helping hand. It aided the settlers in their purchase of fencing material, cement, lumber, pipe, etc., in carload lots, thus saving the new farmers much labor trouble and insuring them the best of material at lowest prices.

The plans for the new farmhouses and their proper location on the respective farms were worked out with much care by the farmstead engineer under the eye of the farmer and his wife and in co-operation with them. In fact, all the important details of farm improvement and farm methods have been carried out under the advice of the board's experts, free to the settlers. Nothing in the community has been done in a loose or haphazard manner and under this modus operandi a model farm community was evolved in less than one year.

### Help on the First Crop.

In the meantime practical farm development was taken up, soil maps consulted, fields, orchards and gardens laid out, and crop production arranged. The board has made itself the friend and counselor of each settler, and has been unstinting

in advice as to the planting of crops, purchase of live stock, tools, equipment, seed, etc. It also gave valuable advice in the organization of co-operative buying and selling organizations among the settlers; the construction of an extensive scheme of roads, drains and irrigation works; as well as advising the farmers as to the best methods of leveling, checking and smoothing their lands and the preparation of seed beds and the planting of seed.

In order that no time be lost in the production of crops the first year the board helped the farmers by having a big outfit to prepare land for seeding and irrigation and actually to put in crops of barley, oats and wheat, taking the pay for the work out of the crop.

### Net Returns to Settlers.

Here are some of the net returns to individual settlers from some of these crops: C. W. Baker, 15 acres of oats, \$105; E. O. Messenger, 18 acres of barley, \$308.28; William Deveney, 20 acres of barley, \$63.10; Carl Nelson, 18 acres barley, \$476.75; A. I. Maxwell, 12 acres barley, \$313.40; E. E. Will, 47 acres barley, \$636.38; Joseph N. Thornton, 54 acres wheat, \$624.50; Frank M. Hall, 47 acres barley, \$955.15; Roy White, 60 acres barley, \$1,390.50.

The survey and mapping of the settlement land were based largely upon the story told by the soil map. Samples of soil were taken at such intervals as was necessary to make an accurate map of the whole area.

With this in mind and the sizes of the farms were determined so as to give considerable choice to intending settlers, keeping each farm within such limits that one family, with the help of one farm hand, could take care of it.

Consequently the farms suited to fruit growing were made small, while the lands suited to farm crops were laid out in larger units, running as high as 100 acres. In some cases a tract of grain land went with a small tract of fruit land, say, 15 or 20 acres, the two tracts sometimes not being contiguous.

The state land settlement board was not insensible to the social needs of the community, consequently it set aside a fine tract of 22 acres as a community center. It is planned to erect upon this plot a community hall where different social and business organizations will find meeting rooms. There will also be laid out and equipped athletic grounds where the boys may play baseball and the girls lawn tennis. Upon this community center is a fine grove of native oaks where picnics are held. It is also the intention of the board to establish on these grounds a vocational school.

Thus Durham has been made a model rural community. It is benefited not only by the paternal influence of the state but by the fraternal character of the settlement.

### State Buys More Land.

The state not only supplies financial backing for the settlers but it educates them in the most up-to-date farm practices. It has inaugurated both a system of collective buying and of collective selling, thus insuring the settlers against the wiles of sharpers and profiteers.

The settlers themselves become imbued with agricultural ambition and pride. The close intimacy of the settlers begets a common feeling of fraternity.

The concentrated nature of the population works for friendliness and sociability, and thus the proverbial dullness of ordinary rural life is done away with and the life of the farmer seems less irksome and burdensome, all of which inures to contentment, happiness and prosperity.

Acting upon the recommendation of Governor Stephens the California legislature of 1919 appropriated \$1,000,000 for continuing the land settlement system, and also authorized a bond issue of \$10,000,000 for a like purpose. Under these provisions the state land settlement board has purchased a 10,000-acre tract of farm land in Merced county in the central part of the San Joaquin valley for settlement in the near future, along similar lines as those governing the Durham settlement. In the settlement of this second tract the preference will be given to the men who served in the war.

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I have a bargain for you, come quick.  
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It is easier to see through the plot of a play than through the ear puffs in front of it.

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That respect which is due to age is dealt out with a ladle to the wealthy grandparent.

**Different Viewpoints.**  
Jimmie was playing with the boy next door. His older sister was sent to get him, but he refused to come, so she picked him up and carried him, screaming, away. This is the way his actions were viewed by the spectators:

Sister—He's a contrary little rogue.  
Father—He's a stubborn littleascal.  
Neighbor—He's a little savage.  
Mother—How strong-willed Jimmie is.

**Influenza and Consumption.**  
Dr. Charles H. Marcy of Pittsburgh, stated before the medical society of Pennsylvania, that he had studied 583 cases of tuberculosis, the onset of whose symptoms was referred to an attack of influenza. The number of patients known to have had tuberculosis prior to the onset of influenza was comparatively small. In the majority of these cases the influenza had reactivated old quiescent lesions. In 34.3 per cent of the series studied the onset of tuberculosis dated from the influenza.

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**PUTTING IT UP TO DADDY**  
Small Girl Evidently of Opinion That the "Laborer is Worthy of His Hire."

The girl temporarily hired to help out during mother's illness had just left. During her stay five-year-old Clara absorbed with interest many of the details of housework; in fact, had been of material assistance in such ways as setting the table, helping with the dishes, etc.

When Mary quit unexpectedly the housework got behind and little Clara voluntarily set about to straighten things out, and that night met father at the door when he came home from work, saying:

"Come right on out to the table, daddy; everything's all ready. Mother's feeling better and you must eat the supper I got for you."

After viewing the bread cut at a 45-degree angle, cold potatoes from the previous night, and other things which Clara had gathered for the royal repast, father said:

"Well, my little girl is right on the job, eh? We'll never miss Mary, will we? That's just fine, honey; daddy knows you will look out for him, all right, won't you?"

"Oh, yes," said Clara, then coyly. "Dad, how much do you think you ought to pay me?"

**Neat.**  
She—See that girl at the third table. Don't you think she's awfully young to wear such a décolleté gown?  
He—Well, she certainly is a strip-ling.  
The theatrical deadhead is both passed and present.

**There's More Than Flavor**  
Many foods, while pleasing to taste, contain but little nourishment.  
**Grape-Nuts**  
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