

DOCTORING A PROFITLESS FARM

By GEORGE H. DACY



Preparing the Ground by Taking Out All the Old Roots.

If you were a countryman whose farm was not paying very well and an agricultural expert came along and said: "Let me show you how you can double and triple your present income;" if the man looked sane and intelligent, you would doubtless jump at the chance.

Furthermore, if he made good on his assertion he would win your everlasting gratitude and perhaps you would recompense him with a little cash bonus. Now this is just the opportunity that the farm management department of the Missouri Agricultural college is offering to the farmers of the "show me" state.

The department says: "Ask for our aid and we will show you how to tonic your sickly bank accounts and how to increase the profits of every branch of your farm." Even the most skeptical who, to begin with, made fun of the proposition have been silenced because the Missouri farm management department has made good on all its assertions.

Today some 500 local farmers are annually recording greater profits on the credit side of their ledgers as a result of following the advice and plans mapped out for them by the department.



An experiment in growing cow peas with corn on one of the demonstration farms. The peas will fatten from six to 10 western lambs at a profit of \$10 per acre.

The department was organized in 1906 under the direction of Prof. W. J. Spillman of the United States department of agriculture, and F. B. Mumford, dean of the Missouri Agricultural college. For four years its work was confined to an accurate study of local farm conditions—a resume of the knotty problems of the Missouri farmer and how he could be best aided in solving them.

Then when the force was thoroughly conversant with the "star boarder" farms of the state and had planned an efficient campaign whose object was to eradicate the evil features of the unprofitable farm, they offered to help the general farmer re-map his system of management, his crop rotations, his methods of marketing his produce, and to adapt his line of farming to the region in which he resided.

Confidence in Organization Grows. It was a case of "first come, first served," and after these business management doctors had cured a few severe cases of "loafing" farms and made them profitable and more productive, applications requesting aid came in

like hot cakes from countrymen in all portions of the state.

As an illustration of what these expert farm managers could accomplish in rehabilitating a good farm which was run down, due to mismanagement, take the case of "Jim" Brown, who was considered one of the best farmers in



Removing With Dynamite Some of the Largest Roots.

this district; yet he, on the quiet, appealed to the department for aid.

A representative visited the farm and found it apparently in good condition, supplied with good buildings, and annually yielding bumper crops of grain and roughage, 30 bushels of wheat, 60 bushels of corn and two tons of hay to the acre.

It was a different story, however, when the expert examined the live stock. The dairy cows were scrubs of the worst variety, with starting coats and every rib showing, and with udders not larger than a man's two fists. The swine and horses were also inferior specimens of twentieth century live stock, while the supply of farm machinery was in no sense modern and efficient. Here was a case of a countryman who was exerting all his energies toward the production of profitable crops, only to feed them to unprofitable live stock.

From 12 cows he obtained only enough milk to supply the need of his family of six persons. The department showed him where the leak was, and explained to him how he could harmonize all his operations and render his farm more fertile and profitable by maintaining better live stock. He acceded to their advice and today is gaining a profitable livelihood and yearly fattening his bank account under a standardized system of management.

Farmers Take Kindly to the Plan. The popularity of this movement to rejuvenate sick farms increased to such an extent that a year ago the department organized the Missouri Farm Management association, the pioneer society of its character in America, the members being recruited from among the ranks of the owners of unprofitable farms who desired to nurse all the operations on their acreages back to a wage-earning condition.

The object of this association was to organize and combine the farmers of Missouri who were interested in practical system of farm management. It aided the department in so much as the countrymen who needed and wanted help were centralized in the organization, while it aided the farmers in so far as the department, experts promised to visit and replan each place in turn. Two hundred earnestly interested farmers joined the society the first year, while at present the enrollment is double that number. Each countryman pays \$1.25 membership fee—the

funds being used to aid the department in its work.

Farmers Co-Operate With Department. After his farm has been inspected by the department, in case a member of the society follows out the suggestions of the experts (although he is not in any way bound to carry out these suggested changes) he becomes a co-operator. The majority of the co-operators adhere strictly to the advice of the department.

Each year the department selects the best co-operative farm in each county and makes it a demonstration farm which conducts local experimental work under the direction of the experts. In the case of the demonstration farm, the department assumes the initiative and devotes as much attention to the place as is necessary to make it pre-eminently successful, and spares no pains in assisting the operators of these farms to bring them to the highest possible state of fertility and to the maximum point of profitability.

On the other hand, co-operator must take the initiative in all phases of his work, although he receives aid and assistance from the department experts when he stumbles onto a knotty problem. At present there are 75 co-operative and five demonstration farms in the state, and each summer, public meetings are held on the places of the demonstrators, where typical and illustrative results have been obtained.

Farmers from all parts of the country are invited to attend these meetings at which prominent agricultural experts and authorities on farm management discuss the various lines of farming practiced in Missouri. At noon, a basket lunch is served by the ladies of the county in which the gathering is held, and in the afternoon the men visit each individual field, study the crop, and informally discuss the efficiency of the methods of seed bed preparation, planting and cultivation which have been practiced in the development of this crop.



These meetings have been fittingly termed "Show Me Institutes on Legs," and are really regular motion picture shows minus the nickel.

Woman's Work Included in "Doctoring." While the men are busy with their field study, their wives under the direction of an expert in home economics occupy themselves with the problems of the farmhouse. Efficient methods of replanning the home, home decoration, modern methods of cooking, the elimination of wastes and the utilization of byproducts, handy aids in the kitchen, and the beautification of the farm yard are explained and discussed in detail.

The woman expert in charge of this work occupies herself throughout the year in visiting and remapping the systems of home-management practiced by the housewives who request her aid. She is a sort of a traveling home economics department which



Getting Things Ready.

works according to the theory that if you cannot bring the farmer's wife to the college then take the college and science to the kitchen of the housewife.

She plans out the management of each home as practically and systematically as the home pocketbook will permit. The Missouri farm management department also maintains a farm accounting branch which teaches the

state farmers how to maintain a practical and business-like system of records and accounts.

One Missouri farmer last winter lost \$300 on work stock alone, due to the fact that he had more animals than he could keep busy. It is really a question of each farmer studying out how many head of animals he can profitably maintain, and then not exceeding this number. The same thing is true of the scrub cows which eat up the profits of the other farm departments.

The work of the Missouri farm management department is state-wide in scope and is efficient in solving the problems of the five-acre farm, the 500-acre farm, or the farm whose owner merely desires to keep the wolf from the door, or to save his place from being burdened with a mortgage.

In a word, the department is devoting just as much attention and study to replanting an unprofitable ten-acre truck or fruit farm as it is to remodeling an 8,000-acre stock farm.

The Concrete Examples. Among the practical results which the department has obtained in its first aid work to the farmers is the case of a 140-acre farm which, the first year it was worked, yielded ten bushels of corn, 15 bushels of potatoes, and one-fourth of a ton of hay to the acre.

The managerial experts recommended the use of better seed, the fall distribution of 15 tons of manure to the acre, and modern methods of culture; this farmer followed these directions and the second year afterwards he harvested 40 bushels of corn, one and three-quarter tons of hay, and 100 bushels of potatoes to the acre on the fields on which these crops were grown.

He was a man of very limited capital and the season he requested departmental assistance his assets amounted to \$2,000, while his liabilities totaled \$1,800. At the end of the second year following, he was out of all danger of debt and had a tiny sum stored away in the bank.

Another notable illustration of managerial efficiency resulted where a hog raiser on a rough, 700-acre farm shifted his troubles to the shoulders of the expert managers who set him right on his feeding system and got him to study market conditions and requirements, so that he last year realized \$1,200 from the sale of his swine, whereas previously his high mark for hogs for a single year was \$500.

Although ordinary work stock are not supposed to yield much of an annual profit another farmer cleared \$300 in one year from his work animals subsequent to consulting with the departmental experts who advised him to decrease the number of work animals which he kept and to work the horses and mules more during the winter.

A city man, inexperienced in farming, struggled along for five years just about making ends meet and then he employed the assistance of the farm experts who diagnosed his troubles as a poor rotation, the use of scrub seed, and the under-feeding of his market animals.

He followed their directions, improving his methods, and now is gaining a profitable return from his made-to-order farm.

The farm has materially gained in fertility, it has increased in annual crop production, and this year it paid off its back indebtedness and begins a new season with a clean slate.

Indian Legend of Interest.

When the Creek or Muskogee Indians adopted into their tribe the remnants of other tribes which were nearly extinct many superstitions were found among them. One of these tribes was the Tuckabatches. The legends of the Creeks state that the Tuckabatches brought with them seven plates, the origin and object of which have puzzled scientific men for centuries. The Tuckabatches claim that these plates were given them by their ancestors. They were not to be handled by all persons, only by particular men, and those chosen

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department, the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

LESSON FOR JANUARY 25

SERVING JESUS.

LESSON TEXT—Luke 8:1-3; 8:57-62: 10:34. GOLDEN TEXT—"Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even the least, ye did it unto me."—Matt. 25:40.

The first section of our lesson text has no connection with the other two it is taken from a time several months previous to the time of the Perea ministry and was undoubtedly chosen as an indication of the company who traveled with Jesus and his disciples, and who provided for his needs. We must remember that Jesus was not supported by a board, a church, nor by some philanthropically inclined fellow citizen. It is to the second two sections therefore that we devote our chief attention.

Different Classes.

I. Those who would follow Jesus. 8:57-62. Read carefully Matt. 8:19-22. Three different classes are here represented: (1) The impulsive follower (v. 57, 58). This is the man who is moved by a sudden desire to accompany this marvelous Teacher, but like the man in the parable, does not sit down and count the cost ere he starts to build his house. This thought is emphasized when we read (Matt. 8:19) that this man was a scribe, one who would not be expected to make such a resolve. He must have been deeply stirred by what he had seen and heard in the life of Jesus. Such a resolve promised well, but it is soon revealed to him that he did not realize what was involved in his promise (v. 58). Jesus showed the man that to go "whithersoever" with him means to share his experiences, his fare, his quarters, and to receive the same treatment he received, 2 Tim. 3:12. It is a mistake to tell folk that the road of righteousness is a primrose path. The road of disobedience is a rough one, as the man who went to Jericho found, still the road of righteousness is a narrow one, Matt. 7:13, 14. Every follower of Jesus must be willing to take what he took, and to receive what he received, John 15:20; 1 Pet. 2:21.

This sentence (v. 58) has done more to give us a comprehension of the earthly surroundings of our Lord than any other in the gospels, 2 Cor. 8:9. (2) The procrastinating follower (v. 59). Jesus did not forbid the first man, he simply showed him what was involved. This man, however, Jesus invited to a place as disciple—learner. That he was willing to accept is evident, only he was not yet quite ready, "I will, but—" It is not at all probable that this man's father was awaiting burial; had his father but just died, and awaiting burial, Jesus would not have prevented. Rather he was indicating a father about to die and that he would follow after his father's death. Hence the sharp words of the Master, "Let the dead bury the dead." A proper duty, a sacred duty, but not so proper nor so sacred as to have precedence over the claims of Jesus, Matt. 6:33; 10:37.

Ever Ready to Serve.

II. Those who did follow Jesus. 8:38-42. We now turn to consider this little company who were ever ready to serve our Master. From v. 58 we know that not every home was open to receive Jesus as was this one in Bethany, John 11:1. Though this was Martha's home (10:38), and therefore she felt the burden of hospitality, yet she did not hear the word as did her sister Mary, Mark 4:19. Martha was occupied with duty and Mary, with Jesus. Martha was occupied with many things, Mary was occupied with the "one thing needful." The result was that Martha was "distracted" (R. V.), while Mary was at rest. Jesus wants his disciples, his followers, to sit at his feet and to learn of him. He knows all about duty's dull demand, but the one thing needful is, first of all, to learn of him. Martha's love prompted the service, but there was doubtless much pride that accompanied it. Jesus, as we have seen, was not cumbered with much comfort, and it is doubtful that he was desirous of a big dinner. Jesus does, however, commend communion with himself as being, "that good part." Afterwards, when death invaded that circle, it was Martha that had the most intimate dealing with our Lord, see John, chapter 11, hence we conclude that she learned on this day the lesson Jesus sought to teach, viz., that in the life of quiet communion (Isa. 30:15) we shall receive that strength that is absolutely essential, if we are to serve him acceptably. We must not allow the daily, legitimate demands of duty to interfere with a life of full, free, fellowship with the Master.

Summary—It has never been recorded that Jesus ever complained of the hardships of life, yet he had his intimates who were glad to minister to his needs. The call to companionship with Christ, the call, "follow me," is the most stupendous program yet presented to man. The perfect disciple, as well as the ideal woman, is the one who is a blend of the divergent characters of Martha and Mary. It is at the feet of Jesus we are to receive that equipment which is necessary for effective service. "Making excuses takes much time that had better be put into 'making good.'"

DIZZY, HEADACHY, SICK, "CASCARETS"

Gently cleanse your liver and sluggish bowels while you sleep.

Get a 10-cent box. Sick headache, biliousness, distention, coated tongue, foul taste and foul breath—always trace them to torpid liver; delayed, fermenting food in the bowels or sour, gassy stomach.

Poisonous matter clogged in the intestines, instead of being cast out of the system is re-absorbed into the blood. When this poison reaches the delicate brain tissue it causes congestion and that dull, throbbing, sickening headache.

Cascarets immediately cleanse the stomach, remove the sour, undigested food and foul gases, take the excess bile from the liver and carry out all the constipated waste matter and poisons in the bowels.

A Cascaret to-night will surely straighten you out by morning. They work while you sleep—a 10-cent box from your druggist means your head clear, stomach sweet and your liver and bowels regular for months. Adv.

Aeroplane Kept as Memento.

All that is left of the historic Wright biplane with which Calbraith P. Rodgers flew from the Atlantic to the Pacific two years ago is to be presented to the Carnegie museum at Pittsburgh by the late aviator's mother. The machine was badly damaged when Rodgers fell to his death in the Pacific ocean a short time after completing his wonderful flight. Subsequently it was used by Andrew Drew until that aviator also was killed with it. The machine has been restored to its original condition. Both Rodgers' and Fowler's Wright machines have motors of but 30-horsepower, yet they flew across the continent in opposite directions at a time when the aeroplane had not been equipped with the 100-horsepower motor of today, which makes it much more stable, nor had it developed anywhere near the speed of which it has since shown itself to be capable.

Modern Ostentation.

Thornton—Fannie Flashley carries her bankroll in her stocking. Rosemary—I'm not surprised; she always seemed fond of flaunting her wealth.—Judge.

Putnam Fadeless Dyes do not stain the kettle. Adv.

Don't do any worrying today that you can put off till tomorrow.

WOMAN REFUSES OPERATION

Tells How She Was Saved by Taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Logansport, Ind.—"My baby was over a year old and I bloated till I was a burden to myself.



I suffered from female trouble so I could not stand on my feet and I felt like millions of needles were pricking me all over. At last my doctor told me that all that would save me was an operation, but this I refused. I told my husband to get me a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and I would try it before I would submit to any operation. He did so and I improved right along. I am now doing all my work and feeling fine.

"I hope other suffering women will try your Compound. I will recommend it to all I know."—Mrs. DANIEL D. B. DAVIS, 110 Franklin St., Logansport, Ind.

Since we guarantee that all testimonials which we publish are genuine, is it not fair to suppose that if Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has the virtue to help these women it will help any other woman who is suffering in a like manner?

If you are ill do not drag along until an operation is necessary, but at once take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., (confidential) Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman and held in strict confidence.

Don't Persecute Your Bowels

Cut out cathartics and purgatives. They are brutal, harsh, unnecessary. Try

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. Purely vegetable. Act gently on the liver, eliminate bile, and soothe the delicate membrane of the bowel. Cure Constipation, Biliousness, Sick Headache and indigestion, as millions know. SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE. Genuine must bear Signature.

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