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## SOME THINGS THAT MAKE FOR SUCCESS IN LIFE

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**A Man of Years Tells How He Made a Success of His Life.—Long Hours and Small Pay Were Not Taken into Consideration in His Early Days.—Plain Talks from the Soul of a Successful Man.**

APPARENTLY the Farm and Dairy correspondent from Prince Edward Island, who wrote in a recent issue regarding the hours of labor on farms, thinks farmers have to work too long hours. This same idea, I am sorry to say, seems to have taken possession of too many young people on our farms. To me the question has been all my life, not how many hours I was working, but what was I accomplishing by my work. Very early in life I was taught always to have some worthy object in view and to bend all my energies to the attainment of that object. Probably I cannot better illustrate my views on this question of too many hours or urge better attention to the work we undertake in early life than by giving some of my experience covering over 70 years.

Through the death of my father, I, at the early age of three years, was left to the care of my mother. When 10 years old, I was employed during one fall with a farmer helping to pick apples, get up roots and take care of his clover seed.

One lesson my mother always taught me was that I should always do all I could at whatever work I was employed. When the fall work closed, the farmer for whom I had been working, as a result of my early training, was very anxious to keep me with him. I wished to go to school, however, and my mother wished me to do so; and I am thankful now that every wish of mother's was law to me then. I received only 10 cents a day and my board for my time with that farmer, but I learned a good many things.

### SOME THINGS I LEARNED.

Among these I might mention one in particular. That was, that fruit raising was an important adjunct to farming. I found that my employer received \$2,500 for the fruit off his 12 acre orchard. I decided that an orchard would occupy a considerable part of the farm that I was bound some day to have.

At the age of 10, I went to work for the best farmer in our county, and though I have since visited many parts of Canada from Halifax in the east to Calgary and Edmonton in the west, including the various experimental farms, also the best farming districts in England, Scotland, and many parts of the United States, I have yet to see a better kept farm than the one where I was employed. Though hours were not counted and we were not supposed to be watching the sun from five a.m. until it reached the meridian or descended from that point to the horizon, yet there was a set time for every work and a set place for everything.

For my first six months (the summer), I received \$5.00 a month and board; for the next twelve months, \$4.00 a month and board; both bed and board were of the very best. At the end of each term, my employer, a broad Yorkshire man, handed me a gratuity, in the first case of \$3 extra and in the last case of \$5, with the remark, "Thou hast been a good hand; here is somewhat for thee." I imagine I see the grin on the faces of many present day farm boys at the idea of working 12 and often 15 hours a day in summer, and in winter tending a big stable full of fattening cattle from 6 a.m. until 9 p.m. for such pay as I received. Readers of this article should not forget, however, that for every dollar in cash I received, I learned what has been

faster than I had been doing and thus sooner reach my goal of a farm of my own, than I could were I to work as a laborer. I secured a situation as a public school teacher. Starting with a salary of \$240 a year, I received regular increases until, for my fifth year, I received \$300, and at its close was offered \$400 to continue. In school work as in other work, I found it did not pay to count hours, though there was then as now a six-hour limit for the work of a school day. Although the boys and girls were just as fond of play 50 years ago as they are to-day, I never found any difficulty in holding classes even up to six in the evening or getting them to meet at eight in the morning when we had any special matter in hand. The question will be asked, did not the pupils suffer in health from such long and close application? Never that I heard of. Many of them I know to-day are like myself alive, well and active, though far past middle life.

### A LARGE SALARY DECLINED.

Though the offer of \$400 per annum for a country school was considered a very big salary 50 years ago, to accept it would have meant one year less on that farm I had always planned to have. I declined the offer, taking Horace Greeley's advice to go west. To-day I have one regret—that I did not go farther west, but that is too late to mend now. I did what I thought to be the best as I was still keeping that orchard in view and an orchard would be of little use except in a district where fruit was known to succeed.

At the age of 24, I had accomplished part of what I had planned; I had the makings—the foundation of a farm. All my savings with a mortgage on top of them were in it.

### HOURS NOT CONSIDERED.

The question now was, not how many hours I should work in the day, but how to make in the shortest time, on that foundation, the farm I had planned for. Young men everywhere should ask their grey-haired sires what have made Ontario what it is to-day, how much of the work was done by counting hours or watching the sun through its daily course. They will find the answer in every case where they have succeeded, that it was by a total indifference to the hours of work. Hours of work were never thought of. Efforts were all directed to doing this, that or the other thing well and in the shortest possible time knowing that with each task completed, another was standing ready.

Your Prince Edward Island correspondent and Farm and Dairy readers will now be asking, did I succeed? My answer is yes, and I am satisfied. I have converted many acres of unproductive land into fruitful farms with comfortable buildings and attractive surroundings. I have raised a large family and have given them good educa-



**A Neglected Orchard Typical of the Worst in the Georgian Bay District**

It was just such an orchard as the one illustrated that was taken over by the Department of Agriculture under the direction of Mr. I. F. Metcalf, for demonstration purposes at Creemore, Ont. It would seem almost impossible that such an orchard could be put into good condition. Such, however, is not the case, as the work already done in the demonstration orchards well shows. Photo by an Editor of Farm and Dairy.

worth hundreds of dollars to me since, and the few words of praise given in my employer's weekly dialect, were a tribute to my attention to his interests without regard to the hours employed, and I appreciated them, if for no other reason than that they pleased mother.

For the next three years, I worked with farmers by the day, or by the month, or by the job as opportunity offered, attending school whenever I had even a day off and learning all I could in other ways.

### SCHOOL TEACHING VS MANUAL LABOR

When 18 years old, I succeeded in getting a second class teacher's certificate. At that time, I thought that by teaching I could save money