

THE INTENSIVE CULTURE OF SMALL FARMS

years as the time required to make a new apple orchard bear. Ten years, he says, was the time when no one knew how to raise apples. He says four years is now the time.

Mr. Fullerton says he will undertake to set out fifty 25-cent trees on an acre of land in any suitable locality, and pick 300 bushels of apples the fourth year. That's 120 barrels, the retail price of which is \$840. The grower's price would not be less than \$400.

Aside from spraying trees to kill insects, Mr. Fullerton says the secret is in growing apples instead of cordwood. A tree, left to itself, spends its vitality for the first few years in growing cordwood. Mr. Fullerton stops the cordwood industry, while the trees are still young, by cutting off the tops. The first result is to send the branches out at the sides. But in a little while, the tree wearies of trying to grow wood and begins growing apples. Another advantage is that the apples can be picked from the ground; ladders are not necessary. The same treatment may be successfully applied to pear, cherry and plum trees. Mr. Fullerton has several such trees around his house.

Incidental to intensive farming, a cow, some pigs and hens should be part of the establishment.

"Chicken farming" has been advocated in many pamphlets and advertisements as an easy and certain means of making a living, but the majority of those who have tried it alone have met with failure and disappointment. Where food has to be specially bought, the profits disappear, but every farm can feed a limited number of hens with the waste and odds and ends unfit for the market. The author of "The Fat of the Land" claims under these conditions that each hen's product sells for \$3 per annum. Probably a hundred hens would be the safe limit on a farm of ten acres.

There is no question as to the value of cows or pigs, but they scarcely come under the head of intensive culture. Two acres would be required to support one cow, but the returns in milk and manure would justify the appropriation of this space. A pig is an easy way to turn small potatoes and other unsaleable products into money.

Artichokes are a profitable crop, giving as much as ~~2,500~~ 1500 bushels to the acre. They sell in the market for considerably more than potatoes and make fine hog feed.

A man cannot start a peanut stand without enough capital to buy the peanuts and barrow, neither can he start an intensive farm without enough capital to buy tools, implements and seed, and to live