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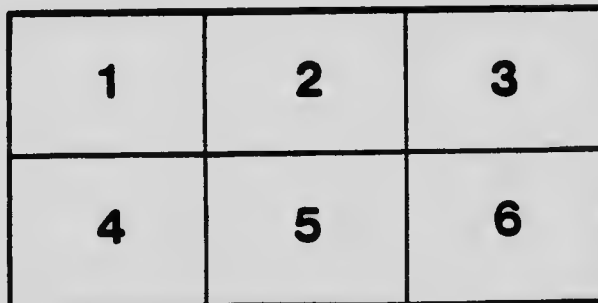
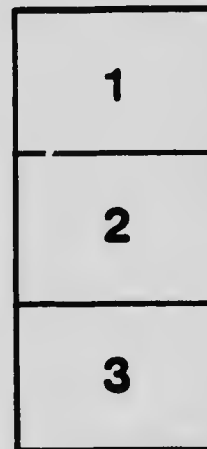
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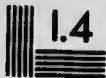
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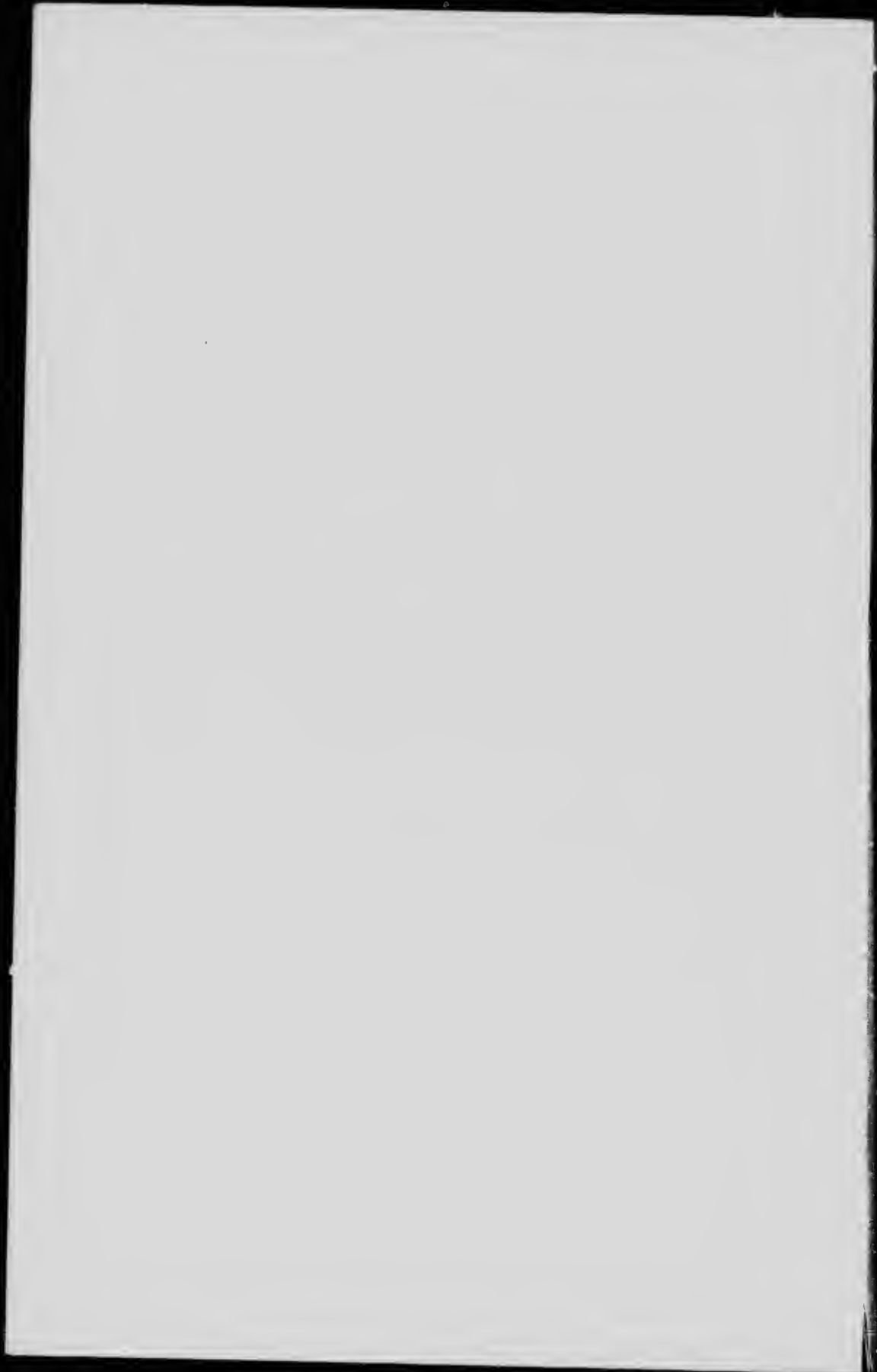
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# THE INTENSIVE CULTURE OF SMALL FARMS

BY

J. ENOCH THOMPSON

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"A little farm well tilled  
Keeps the pocket well filled."

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TORONTO  
WILLIAM BRIGGS  
1911

*1000 700*

*1000 700*

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# THE INTENSIVE CULTURE OF SMALL FARMS

## INTENSIVE CULTIVATION

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Intensive cultivation simply means the thorough cultivation of small areas instead of the slipshod methods of half cultivating large farms. By this system the smaller the acreage the greater the product per acre. The sandy lands of Surrey and other parts of England some years ago were unsaleable at £5 per acre. Laid out into five-acre lots under intensive farming they now bring an annual rent of £3 to £5 per acre.

This system has given birth to a new agriculture. Clerks in cities, particularly those with a taste for gardening, who are struggling to support their families on a small salary; mechanics making \$10 or \$15 per week, could with ordinary intelligence and industry, have more healthful surroundings, live better and save more by the intensive cultivation of ten acres than they can in their city occupation. The high cost of living does not worry the small landowner who raises his own fruits, vegetables, eggs, chickens, honey, butter and milk. Children even of a few years take an interest in the work and in many ways their assistance is utilized. In city life they have no such opportunity of "helping father," be they ever so willing.

Speaking of intensive cultivation, Kropotkin says: "They smite at taking from the field one crop every year . . . because their ambition is to have six and nine crops from the very same plot of land during the twelve months. They do not understand our talk about good and bad soils, because they make the soils themselves . . . . . They aim at cropping not five or six tons of grass to the acre, but from 50 to 100 tons of vegetables from the same space. Not £5 worth of hay, but £100 worth of vegetables of the plainest description, cabbage and carrots."



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The lure of the West has induced many families to leave the genial climate and comfortable surroundings of life in Ontario to undergo the long severe winters and dry hot summers of the Western Prairies with their hardships and solitude to do what? Raise 25\* bushels of wheat or less to the acre, which at 80c. per bushel gives a gross value of \$2,000 for 100 acres, or no more than a ten-acre fruit and vegetable farm in Ontario can produce.

The intensive cultivation of small farms is of great importance to Ontario. The crowding of non-producers into the cities where many must live in unhealthy surroundings, and the increased cost of living caused by these conditions is a serious social problem. The number of unemployed in the cities is always in evidence. It is not only in winter that relief societies have to help the unemployed. It is common remark of those not conversant with conditions to say to applicants for relief, "why don't you go out on the land?" Except at harvest time there is little demand for extra help. The introduction of improved machinery has decreased the number of farm hands in Ontario, although the quantity of land under cultivation has increased.

At the last census the area under cultivation in Ontario, 21,305,000 acres, showed an increase over the previous census of 214,000 acres; the number of men employed on farms, 224,127, showed a decrease of 61,481.

Three hundred thousand immigrants arrived in Canada last year, and more will come this year. The cities can profitably absorb only a small proportion of them. Their destination should be the land, or they will be lost to this Province. A hundred-acre farm cut up into ten small farms would employ eight or nine times as many as the original farm, and produce five to ten times as much in value.

"Back to the land" is now the cry. In England and the United States thousands are taking up intensive farming and find it healthy and profitable.

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\* Government Report, 1909, gives the average yield of wheat for Manitoba at 17 bushels per acre; for Saskatchewan 14½ bushels; for Southern Alberta 29.70 bushels. For 1910 gives Manitoba 18.77 per acre, "being above the average"; Saskatchewan, the report says, "the yield was extraordinary," 23.13 per acre; Alberta 24.90 per acre. Ontario's average fall wheat, 1910, 27.7 bushels. It costs (Manitoba official report) \$6.95 per acre to plow, sow, cultivate and market wheat in Manitoba and \$4 more for original breaking and back-setting; total, \$10.95 per acre.

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The possibilities of farming in Ontario have only been touched upon. The object of the writer is to show what has been done by others and how, profiting by their experience, thousands of small farms of ten to twenty acres may become the homes of contented and prosperous intensive agriculturists, to their own material profit and to the advantage of the community generally.

The following facts, with the authorities for the statements, will show the wonderful results of this system achieved by people who, in some cases, had no agricultural experience whatever, often in sterile soils, notably sand reclaimed from the sea.

The Ontario Government has issued a pamphlet, entitled "Fruit Growers' Opportunities in Ontario," from which the following extracts are made.

"Eleven Acres and Independence." The owner of an eleven-acre lot near Walkerton, Bruce County, states that the money returns from his crops, based on the average of a number of years, are as follows:—

1 acre strawberries .....	\$275
1 acre strawberries, newly planted.....	0
$\frac{3}{4}$ acre raspberries .....	235
$\frac{1}{2}$ acre gooseberries and currants .....	100
$1\frac{1}{2}$ acres plums and cherries .....	200
5 acres apples .....	600
1 acre tomatoes .....	125
$\frac{1}{4}$ acre potatoes and vegetables .....	10
Returns from 100 hens .....	100
	\$1,645
Less wages of extra help and expenses.....	500
Net balance .....	\$1,145

The owner did not devote his whole time to the eleven acres.

### ANOTHER EXAMPLE.

Twelve acres near Arkona, a village in Lambton County. Soil: front end of lot, rich, sandy loam, with exceptionally dry bottom, adapted to tomatoes, grapes and peaches; centre, heavy clay loam, suited to small fruits; back end, "clay muck," the best of celery land. This man makes a specialty of early celery and tomatoes, and finds

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that they pay him well, and are "almost a sure thing." He has a young orchard of apples, plums and peaches coming into bearing; also a good-sized vineyard. He has two greenhouses; grows his own plants and sells \$200 worth of bedding plants and vegetables in addition. The first two years his net income was about \$875 per year. The last three years, profiting by his experience, he has raised it to \$1,200 per year. This man is heavily handicapped by being far from a railway.

From the same pamphlet we quote: "The Superintendent of the Forest Fruit Growers' Association places the annual cost of maintaining an acre of bearing apple trees including cultivation, manuring, spraying, &c., at \$25; harvesting, packing and packages, \$35; total, \$60. The average yield was 60 barrels per acre, exclusive of wind-falls, culls, etc. Price realized, \$3.20 per barrel.

**Onions:** One dollar a bushel is deemed a fair average market price, and at that figure onions probably pay as well as anything that can be raised. Five or six hundred bushels are often produced on an acre of good rich loam, but 400 bushels may be considered a good, fair crop.

**Melons:** An acre of musk melons, or cantaloupes, is capable of producing 800 dozen, watermelons from 400 to 500 dozen, weighing possibly some fifty tons. These estimates would be an excellent crop, but a possible one. For early melons it is necessary to start them in hot-beds.

A grower at Leamington states: "My best musk melons (Unsworth Perfect) are started under glass. We get at the rate of \$350 an acre for melons started in that way. We intend to plant about five acres next year."

Mr. Pratt, M.P.P. for South Norfolk, in a recent address said: One man in Norfolk County planted 17 acres in cauliflowers. The crop was 127 tons sold at \$30 per ton (\$224 per acre). From 5½ acres of apple orchard he received \$1,200 more.

Another from four acres of apples netted \$1,264; another from 33 trees, \$575. These lived in Norfolk County. In Simeoe County, 192 trees gave a crop worth \$529.

These statements refer to Ontario.

Intensive cultivation has been brought to greater perfection in other countries of which we give some examples.

Denmark, one of the most progressive agricultural countries in the

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world, has 150,000 farms of 7 to 10 acres, and only 1,500 farms over 200 acres.

At Hyde Park, Pa., Mr. Oliver R. Shearer owns 3 1-3 acres, only 2½ of which is cultivated, but they yield the owner, annually, \$1,200 to \$1,500. From the profit of his intensive farming Mr. Shearer has paid \$3,800 for the property.

Bolton Hall, the well-known writer, states that an orchard well sprayed and cultivated produces \$700 per acre. This is exceptionally good. The average in Western New York, without special care, is \$110 per acre.

The well-known writer Prince Kropotkin in "The Possibilities of Agriculture," makes the following statements of results produced by intensive cultivation of small farms:

French gardens around Paris raise vegetables valued at \$250 to \$1,500 per acre. The Paris gardener not only defies the soil—he would grow the same crops on an asphalt pavement—he defies climate.

M. Goppart has grown on a drained and well-manured field an average of 60 tons of grass, giving 15 tons of dry hay to the acre.

M. Gross, of Autun, grew 300 tons of beets and carrots per acre.

Mr. Champion, of Whitby, has occasionally grown 75 and 100 tons of beets per acre.

Mr. Knight, a well-known agriculturist, once grew 1,284 bushels of potatoes to the acre.

At a competition in Minnesota 1,120 bushels of potatoes were ascertained to have been grown on one acre.

The meadows around Milan, irrigated by water from the city sewers, yield 8 to 10 tons of hay per acre.

Sir John Lawes, of Edinburgh, by using sewer water for irrigation cut 4 tons of green fodder every month off each acre, equal to 56 tons in 14 months.

The Government Farm at Ottawa has produced 611 bushels of potatoes per acre. The average of 9 varieties was 461 bushels per acre.

The New York Delinicator, a woman's magazine, contains interesting articles on social subjects. The November issue has one on "The Five and Ten Acre Farm," by Allan L. Benson, from which we give the following extracts (reprinted by permission):

The average American does not believe there is much money for

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him in the small farm. Ask him if he believes he could make a living on a ten-acre farm for a wife and three children, and he will throw up his hands. Suggest five acres to him, and he will begin to suspect that you have designs upon his life. Even if he be disposed to wrench his living from the soil—which, probably, he will not be—he will tell you that he could do nothing on less than forty acres, and that eighty would barely give him decent comforts. More likely, he would reject the farming proposition altogether, and take a polite clerkship at twelve dollars a week, or place in a factory at ten dollars.

A little land is enough for a living. All land is good. Crops can be grown on sand if the grower knows how to grow them. No farms ever become useless. It is the farmer who becomes useless. Broadly speaking, no land in America ever produced for a year a tenth of the wealth that it is capable of producing every year. If railroads were run as poorly as farms are tilled, a passenger would require a week, instead of eighteen hours, to go from Chicago to New York. Lack of understanding is the rule on the farm. There are just enough exceptions to prove the rule. It is the exceptions that will be set forth here. What some men have done will be told to show what all men can do.

The understanding of two or three little facts unlocks the outer secrets of the land. A living can be made from land in each of these ways:

1—By having much land. If one have much land, and is content with a poor living, he may do the minimum of work. The surplus of land will make up for the deficiency of labor. He can let beef-eattle fatten on the grass while he loafs. He can till ever so poorly, and still be alive at the end of the year.

2—By having less land and working more. Nothing except land and labor can make crops.

3—By having a little land—five or ten acres—and understanding it; by caring for it as an engineer would care for a great machine that he perfectly understood and wanted to drive to its capacity; by making up for a deficiency of land with an abundance of intelligent labor.

The five or ten acre farm is precisely as feasible a method of making a living as the eighty-acre farm. The small farm must be devoted to the raising of little things that bring big prices; crops with which any man can make a small farm as profitable as he could

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make the largest farm that he could attempt to till with his own labor.

Mr. Benson here tells the story of a German peasant named Frischman, who, after working two years in a Brooklyn sugar factory seven days a week and often eighteen hours a day for a bare living for his family of five, determined to try truck farming, with no capital but his industrious hands. The following is an abridged account of his experience:

Frischman's eyes finally rested on a hillside near Ardsley, in Westchester County, twenty miles from New York. Eight acres lay tilted just enough to catch the afternoon sunshine.

Frischman bought the eight acres at one thousand dollars an acre. The buyer paid nothing down. Instead he was to make monthly payments equivalent to rent, during the first summer, and thereafter annual payments. There was a good two-story house on the land and a barn. Frischman moved on to the premises and went to work.

That was five years ago. The farm is now Frischman's. Every dollar of its price has been paid. Frischman's five children have been kept in school. The family have lived on what might appear to a sugar-refinery employee to be the fat of the land. This is success. One of Frischman's well-to-do neighbors said: "Even the cats and dogs work at Frischman's place." That was the neighbor's explanation of the German gardener's achievement—much work on little land.

But, as an explanation, it is incomplete. Frischman did more than work. He understood his work. He did things that a man who didn't understand his work couldn't do. And his land paid him a better return upon what he knew than it did upon his mere plowing and hoeing.

A farmer who does not know how to till a few acres, sows nothing but wheat in the fall. During the winter, he does his chores and sits around the stove. When spring comes, he goes to work.

The stove recipe for happiness is all right, if one can stand it. Its greatest drawback is that it brings in no money. When the stove season is on, the money season is off. Frischman's mortgage drew interest the year around, and he could not afford to sit around the stove all winter. He was compelled not only to work, but to think.

Late in September he sowed an acre of greens. The greens had only begun to look good when winter came and froze off the tops.

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Frischman knew the freezing did no harm. He knew the roots were still alive; that new tops would grow with the first warmth of spring, and that the new tops would bring him, at wholesale, a dollar a barrel.

Then he put an acre of land under glass; no hothouse with steam heat—just planks a foot wide, set on edge, with glass frames over them and manure banked against the sides. Under the glass frames, he sowed more greens. Also, he sowed cabbages, beets and onions—sowed all of these things in the fall; put flat crates stuffed with hay over the frames at night and during snow-storms; removed the crates each morning to let the sunlight in.

The greens grew throughout the winter. Every barrel brought as much as a bushel of wheat. The cabbages, beets and onions, after getting a start in the fall, remained alive all winter, but did not grow. Nor did they shrink. They were ready, when transplanted in the spring, to begin growing where they left off in the fall.

In February, Frischman planted, in his glass-covered beds, lettuce, tomatoes, cauliflower and asparagus. By the middle of March, the vegetables he had sown in winter, as well as the ones he had sown in the fall, were crying for room. Every bed was thinned out, and the surplus transplanted to other covered beds.

With April began the busy season. The acre of greens that were sown in the fall were ready to pick. A hundred and ten barrels brought \$110. But there wasn't much time to count the money. Plowing must be done. The land must be whipped into shape and put to work.

Before Frischman plowed, he covered the surface with manure. This fact will not strike any farmer as strange; every farmer puts manure on his land. But the American farmer who, on an average, grows thirteen bushels of wheat to the acre, as against England's average of thirty-two, has peculiar ideas about fertilization. He believes a little fertilization is enough. He doesn't realize how exhausted his land is, after its summer's labor. He cleans out his barnyard and believes his land to be satisfied.

Frischman bought manure in New York by the car-load. The manure cost him, including freight charges, \$1.40 a ton. On every acre he put eight tons—ninety dollars for manure! Ninety dollars, not every three or four years, but every year. As great an annual expenditure for manure as \$900 would be for an eighty-acre farm.

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It is not necessary to tell how the crops grew. It is necessary to tell only what the crops did. They fed the family and the hired man. They paid the hired man \$20 a month twelve times a year. They provided \$15 a week, or \$780 a year, with which to buy hay and grain for three horses.

Yet, after paying all expenses, Frischman had enough left, each year, to pay a fifth of the purchase price of his farm.

Now comes the story of even a more remarkable success on a small farm:

Jay Hambidge, a well-known magazine illustrator, decided to remove to a farm. He was not so particular about raising crops as he was about raising children. He had small urchins that needed grass and fields. They didn't know their needs, but he did. He had grass and fields himself when he was a farmer's boy in Canada. He was sure the country would be helpful in rearing his youngsters. Besides, he hoped to raise some crops.

On the south shore of Long Island, near Great South Bay, Mr. Hambidge found an abandoned farm. The place was overrun with weeds. The fences were down. The land's only occupation was the growing of weed seeds for birds. It was one of many farms of the same sort. Nobody wanted any of them. The land was "run out."

Mr. Hambidge never tilled the thirty-one acres—he never intended to. He tilled only fifteen. Most of the land he devoted to market-gardening. But he raised a little wheat for the chickens and a little corn for the pigs.

The chicken department began with a flock of six. The flock of six showed the possibilities of a flock of one thousand. The flock of one thousand came the second summer. Most of the chickens never lived long enough to lay an egg. The butchers from the surrounding towns would not let them live. The chickens came and took them away, a score at a time. Once a month, Mr. Hambidge visited the butcher to see how he stood. He found his flock charged with so many chickens, so many chicks, so many roasts. He could come home with a half roaster. The butcher was always in his favor. He expanded his butcher bill and paid it with the money he raised on five acres of wheat and providing chickens to convert the wheat into feathers and skin. Furthermore, the chickens that escaped the axe provided the family with eggs. Eggs are a good way to pay the grocery bill.

As a market-gardener, Mr. Hambidge, like Mr. Frischman, spon-



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manure from New York—ten tons to the acre. The second summer it occurred to him that fish might do as well as manure. The bay was full of fish that were not fit for food because of their bones. With nets, the fish could be caught by the boat-load. He hired men to catch fish and paid them \$1.50 a load.

Thereafter, when he planted cauliflower, melons, cucumbers and so on, he planted, with the seed, a fat fish. Within a week, the ground above would be soaked with oil. Vegetation flourished wonderfully.

"Didn't you every try fertilizing with fish?" Mr. Hambidge asked a farmer's son whom he had hired to catch fish.

"Yes," replied the boy, "dad tried it years ago, but he never kept it up. The truth is, dad is lazy. Mother says there is nothing he likes to do as well as to sit behind the stove and eat dessert."

Mr. Hambidge's specialties were green corn and peas. By careful selection of seed, he beat everybody else to the market. His crops were earliest—they were also the best. A New York commission merchant told him he could handle such green corn in car-load lots. Both sweet corn and peas brought the highest prices.

Mr. Hambidge remained on the farm five years. His children then needed the city schools. Preparations were made to move. Everything on the place was sold. The clean-up brought enough to send the whole family to England and pay their expenses for a year. Yet Mr. Hambidge himself had never worked more than three or four hours a day on the farm. All the years that he lived in the country he continued his art work; hired men did most of the work on the farm. One man was employed all of the time, and three or four men were employed some of the time. Mr. Hambidge simply told them what to do and when to do it. The land paid the men and supplied the Hambidge family with a living.

Mr. Hal. B. Fullerton, of Medford, Long Island, also proved that no land is too poor to yield a good living. The quality of the soil never alarms Mr. Fullerton. He is more concerned about the quality of the farmer and the size of the farm. He believes in small farms and big farmers; farmers who are big in the sense that they understand their work and therefore do not attempt to till more acres than they can till well. On Long Island, he has worked out his ideas in a big way. When he began his work five years ago, the island was all but deserted by agriculture. Vast areas were overgrown with scrub oak and pine. Plenty of land could be bought for \$5 an acre.

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Now little can be bought for \$25 an acre, and much can not be bought for less than \$150.

Mr. Fullerton places his first reliance upon manure as a fertilizer. His contention is that any land contains the chemical properties necessary to the raising of crops. Sometimes these properties are locked up so that crops can not get them. Manure, or, rotted vegetable matter, releases them. Give any soil manure, or rotted vegetable matter, he says, and it will produce enough to pay for the manure many times over.

The success of Mr. Fullerton's experiment on Long Island puts his theory beyond the zone of debate. He has actually done splendidly all that he says any one can do. He has made waste land grow at a profit crops that could not be surpassed on the best land. But he has fitted the crops to the land. He has not tried to raise things that nature intended should grow elsewhere.

Hundreds of others have done as much. The New Jersey coast is lined with market-gardeners who are raising the best produce on "sea-wash," or common sand. None of these gardeners tills more than five or ten acres. Each of them makes up for his lack of land with an abundance of intelligent labor. Each of them plows manure into the soil until all of the locked-up chemical properties are released. Each makes more money from his little land than the average Western farmer makes on eighty acres.

E. E. Davis, of Coram, Long Island, set out three-quarters of an acre to strawberries. His income last year from this patch was \$468.55. The summer before the land was planted to potatoes, from which he received only a fraction of his strawberry income.

John Fisher, of Southold, Long Island, raises cauliflower. In 1907 he tried fish as a fertilizer. On each acre he spread 8,000 fish, weighing 7,200 pounds. The top-soil of a forest would have done as well. From five acres, he cut 1,160 barrels of cauliflower, which brought from \$2 to \$4.50 a barrel, the highest prices being for the earliest cuttings. At \$3 a barrel, his five-acre crop was worth \$3,480. Five acres sown to wheat would have yielded, on the basis of an average crop, 65 bushels. The wheat would have brought about \$65. Eighty acres of wheat would have brought only \$1,040. Beans, fish and cauliflower brought \$3,415 more than a wheat farmer could have raised on the same five acres.

Mr. Fullerton says that popular opinion is wrong in fixing ten

## 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

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while the crops are maturing over and above the payment on the land. Neither can he expect to succeed without steady continuous work. There is no more interesting occupation than gardening; watching the first seedlings appear and gradually unfold, or to see the result of some new treatment and note the differences in the development of the various crops. To a man who takes an interest in such things, the business of intensive cultivation is a pleasant and profitable pastime.

Even the stones which are such a nuisance on many farms can be made to contribute to the prosperity of the small farm.

Drawn on a sleigh during the winter to the northern border of the property, a thick wall can be erected which will keep off the north winds and absorb the rays of the spring sunshine; vegetables sown on the southern side will mature a week or two earlier. If glass frames be leaned against the wall they will make convenient forcing beds.

A chicken house built against this wall will promote by its warmth the earlier laying of eggs.

The cultivator of the soil has at his disposal, without cost, the advice and assistance of trained specialists in every department maintained at the expense of the Government.

The Agricultural College at Guelph and experimental farms, both Federal and Provincial, issue frequent bulletins and pamphlets of great value.

The officials of these establishments are always ready to answer individual inquiries, and advise as to the cultivation best suited for special districts.

The office of the Minister of Agriculture, Toronto, is like a busy publishing house, supplying literature freely on all subjects useful to the agriculturist.

There is no other business enterprise which is so helped by Government as the farmer.

NOTE.—An Association is being formed to promote the intensive cultivation of small farms. Anyone interested may address J. Enoch Thompson, 154 Bay Street, Toronto, for further information.

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May, 1912.*

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## PERSONAL

*We dislike obtruding personal matters in our business announcements, but with so many extravagant offers of real estate being made to the public by irresponsible firms, we think we may be excused for reprinting the following from the TORONTO WORLD, of 12th May, 1912.*

### BACK TO THE LAND.

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The "Back to the land movement," which has taken such a hold on the English people, and has the support of many eminent writers on social reform, both in Great Britain and the United States, is being introduced into Canada in a practical way by the old firm of Enoch Thompson, Limited, as intimated in our advertising columns. They offer 5 and 10-acre farms for intensive cultivation on easy terms. Chevalier J. Enoch Thompson, the head of the firm, during his forty years residence in Toronto, has been an energetic pioneer and promoter of many public enterprises. Shortly after his arrival in Canada he organized the first Society for Building houses and selling on monthly instalments. Several years later he was appointed agent for the Guardian Assurance Company of England, and organized the Toronto House Building Association, now known as the Land Security Company, of which he was appointed Secretary. He resigned both these positions to give exclusive attention to real estate. In 1876 he called the first meeting of citizens and organized the committee which applied for the charter incorporating the Toronto Annual Exhibition. As an Alderman of the city he brought the question of deep waterways before the council, arranged the first Deep Waterways Convention in the city, of which he was elected chairman. He has been a Justice of the Peace for twenty-three years, and Consul of Spain for about the same time, has also represented Hawaii, Cuba and Panama, and for his diplomatic services has received a number of decorations, including three orders of Knighthood.

Mr. Thompson has written a pamphlet on the subject of Intensive Cultivation which has been approved by the Ontario Agricultural Department, and has given the matter a great deal of thought and investigation.

We believe this movement is the beginning of a new agricultural system for the Province of Ontario, and will add immensely to the prosperity of this already wealthy province. The richest country of Europe to-day is France, where intensive cultivation has attained its greatest growth, five million farmers in that country farm less than six acres each. Ten acres near a good market pays better than 150 acres in wheat.

