But He Knew What to Do

| Jay Shaff's Crowd Was "Up-and-Doing" Country Youngsters, One Used His Head and Is Now Known as Influential "Diri" Farmer and Senator |  |
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| By ESCA G. RODGER <br> "Governor!" That was the nickname given to lean, keeneyed 14 -year old Jay Shaff some 25 years ago by the fellows in his crowd. |  |
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| Now the fellows in'Jay Shaff's crowd were up-and-doing country youngsters who lived near Clinton, Iowa. In the country, a boy learns to rely upon himself. Those fellows weren't any too ready to acknowledge a leader. Yet they called Jay Shaff "Governor." Not because he was bound to be boss. No. For quite another reason. |  |
| If you could listen back in on | on some of the talk that went $s$ who used to hunt over Iowa's |
| rolling hills and fish the waters of the Wapsi river, you'd |  |
| soon "Learn the reat reatishing," some fellow would suggest. "We |  |
| Sniff sfom the thers: |  |
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| "Governor Shaff." Triumphantly. "He told me to get |  |
| ernor is going." <br> That was the way the whole crowd felt-"Governor knew what to do. |  |
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| And he was always ready to pass his knowledge along. Quietly. There was so little spread-eagling about his leader- |  |
| ship that it sometimes puzzled people. <br> One fellow's mother once asked curiously, "Why do you boys all call Jay Shaff 'Governor?' |  |
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| Her son chuckled a little. "Because he tells us what to do, that's all," he told her. <br> "Governor" Shaff didn't lay down the law; he just knew |  |
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| it. Usually they took it. They knew Jay Shaff. Knew that somehow he always knew what to do; and that he got it done. Fishing or farming, "Governor" Shaff was on the job. He |  |
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| was aself-starter. And a fine finisher. Take for instance, the matter of "Goverror" and the dozen $_{\text {a }}$ |  |
| $\stackrel{\text { or }}{ }{ }^{\text {r }}$ so the time Jay Shaff. was 11 or 12, he took sole charge of these yearlings-fed them, watered them, made their |  |
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| or" rolled out of bed without being called and went out to feed a dozen rambunctious yearlings before he fed himself. |  |
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| ing fence, "Governor made to do, did it whout being told, and did it well. <br> No wonder he and his younger brother Herman could |  |
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| No wonder their father could take an occasional hour to go swimming with them. |  |
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| "Gut even then, in the midst of work and good times, |  |
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| read his father's agricultural magazines, and a good manyother magazines and books. Listened to the talk of older men. Mulled things over-thought them out. It was his , |  |
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| made him the boy who knew what to do. |  |
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| And it was his habit of sizingup situation that sent him to lowa |  |
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| boys of his neighborhood thought of going to college. Jay Shaff didn't go from Clinton high to col ${ }^{2}$ |  |
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| lege because the crowd was golng Nor was college a habit. of histamily. Young ${ }^{\text {chovernor" wasn't }}$ following tradition; he was blaz- |  |
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|  | a good cattle-chaser. Guess I'll take her." |
| ing a trail, a trail to more effective farming. <br> He was graduated from Iowa |  |
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|  | So yay took her, and rode along |
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|  | atapacea pacedsteram-and lay down and rolled |
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|  | History doesn't say, but doubtless up on the banks Mr. Shaff and Heman did likewise. Certainly |
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|  | weren't atraid of Jay's getting hurt: he was ar too alert tor that. |
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|  | her method of crossing a ford,But "Governor" knew what to |
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