

# LEXINGTON WHEATFIELD

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## DRY FARMING—THE HOPE OF THE WEST

A METHOD OF PRODUCING BOUNTIFUL CROPS, WITHOUT IRRIGATION, IN SEMI-ARID REGIONS

BY JOHN L. COWAN  
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(Continued from last week)

under the management of Superintendent W. P. Snyder. He has proved not only that as good crops can be grown on those parched and wind swept lands as in the irrigated valleys, but also that perhaps the most profitable way of utilizing those crops is in the raising and fattening of hogs and cattle. The extension of dry farming therefore, will not mean the extinction of the great stock raising industry of the Western public land states, but it will mean its continued growth, with the distribution of the profits among many thousands of small farmers, instead of among the comparatively small number of wealthy and arrogant cattle owners. When the arid lands have been reclaimed, they will support many times the number of cattle that now graze upon them, although the open range will no longer exist, and the great cattle ranches that now cover areas as large as Eastern counties will be cut up into multitudes of small

farms. At the North Platte agricultural sub station, brome-grass, Kaffir corn, Kherson oats, emmer, and cane yield abundantly, and alfalfa is considered one of the most profitable of all crops. Durum wheat is there shown to yield three times as much per acre as the common varieties. An attempt is now being made to develop a winter variety of durum. If this is accomplished, Western wheat growers will have nothing to fear from the competition of Canadian or Argentine harvest fields.

At the Fort Hays experimental sub-station of the Kansas State Agricultural College, four cuttings of alfalfa were obtained without irrigation last year; and, although corn is regarded as particularly unsuited to that locality, yet last year's crop averaged forty-five bushels to the acre. At this station it has also been demonstrated that sugar beets can be grown as successfully and as profitably in arid as in irrigated lands. The yield in tons per acre is

smaller, but this is fully compensated for by the greater sugar contents. Apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries, and a great variety of forest trees thrive upon the simplest application of dry-farming principles upon these plain lands, which are naturally treeless and devoid of other vegetation than bunch-grass and sage-brush.

The most surprising thing connected with the subject of dry-farming is the unwillingness of the average Western farmer to give it a fair trial. It would naturally be supposed that men whose utmost labors barely suffice to wrest a livelihood from the parched and unwilling acres they own would be eager to adopt any method that gave promise of better results, or at least to imitate the methods of their neighbors, who with no better land, yet obtain results many times greater.

Before the Pomerooy model farm was started at Hill City it was advertised for six weeks that Mr. Campbell would explain his methods of soil culture at a free public meeting in the court-house. The hall was crowded with farmers, some of whom traveled for many miles in order to attend. Of the whole assemblage, only two adopted the lecturer's recommendations. These have been fully as successful as he has been, raising good crops every year. The others listened, shook their heads, and went their way unconvinced. They still cling to old fashioned methods, such as have wacked tens of

thousands of farmers in every locality between central Kansas and California, and have never yet given satisfactory results west of the Missouri River.

As a class, farmers are the most conservative men in the world. Most of those who left Eastern farms to build new homes in the Western land of promise argue that the methods their fathers and grandfathers employed must necessarily be the best methods, regardless of conditions that differ as widely as the antipodes. Full of bigotry and prejudice, they set their faces like flint against what they term "new fangled notions." A good many of them, it is feared, shrink from the unceasing toil and unremitting watchfulness demanded by the new system. In any event, it has been observed that those who have been in the West for many years can only rarely be persuaded to give dry farming a fair trial.

They will not even read dry farming literature, or visit a model farm or an agricultural experiment station to inspect the results attained by rational methods.

Newcomers in the West, however, are nearly always willing to learn and profit by the experience of others, and the younger element among the farmers hail dry farming as the dawning of a new era. It is the young men who have given to scientific soil culture the impetus it has received at Cheyenne, Julesburg, Limon, and other places. It is the young men, also, that are responsible for the aggressive campaign being conducted by the Campbell Dry-Farming Association, organized last October, with headquarters in Denver. Its object is to spread the dry-farming propaganda until every acre of arable

(Continued on page 4.)

### TORTURE BY SAVAGES

"Speaking of the torture to which some of the savage tribes in the Philippines subject their captives, reminds me of the intense suffering I endured for 3 months from inflammation of the kidneys," says W. M. Sherman, of Cushing, Me., "Nothing helped me until I tried Electric Bitters, three bottles of which completely cured me." Cures Liver Complaint, Dyspepsia, Blood disorders and Malaria; and restores the weak and nervous to robust health. Guaranteed by W. P. McMillan, druggist. Price 50c.

### WAS A VERY SICK BOY

But Cured by Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy  
"When my boy was two years old he had a very severe attack of bowel complaint, but by the use of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy we brought him out all right," says Maggie Hickox, of Midland, Mich. This remedy can be depended upon in the most severe cases. Even cholera infantum is cured by it. Follow the plain printed directions and a cure is certain. For sale by W. P. McMillan Drug Store.

## LEACH BROTHERS GREAT SEPTEMBER

### BARGAIN SALES---BETTER TAKE ADVANTAGE

Special sale on Cotton Blankets. We offer you a fine double Cotton Blanket for 75 cents. A little wider and heavier Blanket for 85 cents. 4 and 5 pound Blankets from \$1.25 to \$1.75.

Special fine lot of Ladies Rain Coats just arrived. Value from \$12.50 to \$20.00. We are offering on account of short crops at prices that will simply astonish you, from \$5. to \$12.50.

Special on Ladies 15 cent black cotton hose, per pair, 10 cents

Wall Paper stock is complete and prices are correct.

We can save you money on your fall order for groceries. Call and see and take advantage.

Hardware? Yes, we sell a little hardware too.

In Paints and Oils we can furnish you anything you want at close figures.

Don't overlook us when you want Implements and Vehicles, remembering that we sell everything you use, eat and wear.

#### CLOTHING PRICE TO MOVE THEM

\$ 5.00	Suits for	-	-	-	-	\$ 3.75
6.00	" "	-	-	-	-	4.50
7.00	" "	-	-	-	-	5.25
9.00	" "	-	-	-	-	6.75
10.00	" "	-	-	-	-	8.50
12.00	" "	-	-	-	-	9.00
14.00	" "	-	-	-	-	10.50
15.00	" "	-	-	-	-	11.25
16.00	" "	-	-	-	-	12.00
17.00	" "	-	-	-	-	12.75
18.00	" "	-	-	-	-	13.50
20.00	" "	-	-	-	-	15.00

All Boys and Childrens clothing 1-4 off.

"For cash of course"



The Famous Blue Ribbon Shoes for Girls and Boys included in this sale.

#### ALL SHOES REDUCED

All \$1.00 Shoes go at	-	-	-	-	-	\$ .90
" 1.25 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	1.10
" 1.35 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	1.20
" 1.50 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	1.35
" 1.75 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	1.55
" 2.00 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	1.80
" 2.25 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	2.05
" 2.50 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	2.25
" 2.75 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	2.45
" 3.00 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	2.70
" 3.25 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	2.95
" 3.50 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	3.15
" 4.00 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	3.60
" 4.50 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	4.05
" 5.00 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	4.50
" 5.50 " " "	-	-	-	-	-	4.95
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*Leach Brothers The Big Store*