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Inventor Answers Queries

Leo W. Cornwall

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Women Working

An audience-participating radio program is sometimes part of our after-lunch rest. Listeners, mostly women, phone in comments to the guest of the day. Frequently they discuss the "woman question." Betty Friedan has been on twice, urging women to fulfill themselves outside the home. (See June and August 1964 *Green Revolution*.) They've had Phyllis McGinley whose book comforts women with, "It's O.K. to be a homemaker and enjoy it." Recently the program had Edith DeRahm, author of *The Love Fraud*, who repeats Betty Friedan's theme.

Interesting. But our dozen fruit trees needed their dormant spray. On our homestead, fruit-raising is the woman's job. Cold weather had persisted, and it was late for a dormant spray. Any day, in a sudden warm spell, the leaf buds would swell. Then it's too late for the dilute oil that smothers the mites and fungus. So I turned off Edith and her pals and went to investigate the sprayer. Praise be, it worked! Then, Ladder and I sallied forth. While I shot a fine mist into the trees I kept thinking about women "working."

Personal Inventory

Do I really prefer spraying trees on a chilly day to being a teacher, a doctor, a lawyer, a secretary, a "big" journalist?

The twigs snagged my scarf, the ladder tipped in the soft earth, and the briars scratched my legs. I should have brought the clippers and rake and got rid of the briars; I should have done this spraying when the ground was frozen. Take the consequences of your own mistakes! Didn't Emerson say something like, "If you don't work with Nature, you won't learn persistence"? Maybe that's why so many people are "soft" these days, and fail to tackle difficult "problems."

So take a longer look! What's a little discomfort today, when your work insures your not having to buy sulphured and poisoned apples next fall? Remember the thrill of that burst of Golden Delicious harvest will come again. And the satisfaction of bags of fresh, ripe Yellow Transparents in the freezer to pop into a brown betty when a carload of young people arrives unexpectedly. Nothing like inexpensive, and therefore carefree, generous hospitality! And don't forget the jars of sweet but unsugared sauce from the summer Wealthies, or the bushels of Rome Beauties to add to the winter daily carrot juice.

Modern Women Working

And what's so wonderful about teaching today? I had years of it, without much chance to present challenges such as the green revolution. If I were a doctor, would I, like most of them, have to dole out drugs and deal with symptoms? I'd rather practice and teach valid health regimens and a do-it-yourself prevention system. If I were a lawyer, would I then merely interpret (and charge for) laws that uphold an unjust land-and-property system? Secretary? I'd rather do my own writing than copy what others want done.

How about being an editor of an influential woman's magazine? Not if my livelihood depended on the advertising that keeps them in business. Take a look at the June 1964 issue of *Ladies Home Journal*, guest-edited by Betty Friedan. By my count some 60 pages of beautiful ads included 18 pages of Wow Hostessing and Party Foods; 13 pages of shampoos and cosmetics; 11 of fancy disposable paper products; 11 of glamorous house furnishings and appliances; and several each of cars, kodaks and jewelry. Only one page with an intellectual appeal (Great Books) was headed by the sex-rivalry tease: "The Woman Your Husband Works With" (she reads Great Books!). I found only two columns (note, *columns*) devoted to real necessities: one to diapers and one to sandals. I'm afraid my dealing with basic problems of living would be like a heavy downpour at a summer picnic.

No, in April 1965 I'd rather work with my fruit trees, garden all summer and eat our whole food all year—minus a big salary, of which a large percentage would have to go as taxes to support projects I don't like. I prefer Lane's End Homestead—with its association with the lively readers of *Green Revolution* and *A Way Out*—to any woman's work I can imagine. Ours is a good life of mental-physical-emotional balance. How about other readers? Are you finding fulfillment in your homesteading?

Let, cont'd

Note 1: We're holding \$865 in a savings bank for Headquarters Fund. \$155 is due this fund.

Note 2: Out of personal savings, Mildred Loomis prepaid \$2400 for 600 copies of *Go Ahead and Live!*, to get 2000 copies published. (After two years of searching for a publisher, during which Devin-Adair said they'd like to publish it if we could guarantee sales of 2500 copies, we thought the arrangement we did make was a reasonable one.) Half of our supply of 600 has been sold. After we sell the other 300, the

Letters to the Editor

Proposes Oregon Meeting

To the Editor:

We would like to have an area Homestead Festival at our place during July, when our homestead is at its best. We would need help, and would like to hear from Green Revolutioners in the northwest who would like a get-together on a "pot luck" basis. . . . We are becoming more self-sufficient each year; now have three freezers full of home-processed food; a shed full of wood, and more for coming years in our woods. We used non-poisonous sprays last year, but are aiming at spray-free fruit and nuts. We would like to obtain a cider mill, to use our small and blemished apples, and also want to learn to process and use rose hips.

To keep the "villain from foreclosing on our homestead" I teach and Herman works out. But we have some time for homesteading and harvest, and soon it will all be ours without this outside work.—Nina Johnson, Rt. 1, Box 249, Newberg, Ore.

Homesteading Areas

To the Editor:

After long study, communication and some experience, I submit the following sections as ideal for homesteading, in this order:

Butte County, Calif., particularly around Oroville and Chico; mountains, lakes, streams; outstanding for farming year round.

Around Hendersonville and east of Marion, N. C., similar to above.

In Oregon, Grants Pass, Medford, Roseburg, Eugene; never hits freezing.

In Texas, Alpine, near Big Bend Nat. Park and the Laredo area; same as above.

In Arizona, the Douglas area in southeastern corner; great for everything.

I'd like to see the School of Living headquarters community ultimately in one of these sections, with the homestead movement and *The Green Revolution* as the prime mover. A true homestead village centered around your newspaper as catalyst and inspiration is the best way to insure prospects to participate. Location is important and it need not be isolation from the rest of the world.—Mel Ducat, 1003 Willmohr, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dietrichs To Project

To the Editor:

We're just back from Richard Allen's Sylvania Ranch community which you mentioned in January *Green Revolution*. Mr. Allen is an honest, vital man of tremendous organizational ability and infectious enthusiasm. The amount of work he has accomplished in 10 years is almost unbelievable. We're now headed down there.

Arthur has found in the past few years that more and more the atmosphere of re-circulated tobacco smoke and industrial fumes where he works are intolerable, especially health-wise. So, by the time the February issue of *Natural Food and Farming* magazine arrived at our house, we had about decided he would quit his work and we would build on our property in the Fort Valley, Virginia, some 25 miles over the Blue Ridge Mountains from Sperryville, produce all our own food and use his workshop tools to earn a cash income. In January's issue of the magazine, we had already noticed Richard Allen's ad in the classified.

Then came the article "A Dream to Live By." We were so impressed by the whole story and the thought of how pleasant it would be to live among people who had a common belief in the organic way of gardening and

School of Living will have the dealer's discount of \$1.60 per copy for our treasury. Hence, we can all assist our financial status by active sales of *Go Ahead and Live!*

farming, and how advantageous it would be to be part of a group working together on marketing produce, that we decided to look into this community in Gordonsville. Over Washington's Birthday, we went down to Sylvania Ranch. Mr. Allen took us to four places of different sizes which he knew to be for sale and then we went home to think it all over once more and figure it all out on paper. The end result is that we went back to Gordonsville and contracted to buy a 26 acre place complete with buildings just suitable for our use. Art has handed in his resignation to IBM, our home here is on the market now and we are enthusiastically looking forward to a new and better life. Just when we will complete the deal in Gordonsville remains to be seen. In the meantime we will begin to take our things down there and make a start on planting the garden. Our house here has yet to be sold, and there are many things to do to accomplish this move. Praise be! This is our "way out," and we are on our way.

We have no doubt that the many years of reading *Balanced Living* and *A Way Out* influenced us and gave us the vision to find a way out. For your part in it, we thank you.—Art and Margaret Dietrich, Titusville Rd., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Caught In the Trap

To the Editor:

I work on an assembly line at American Motors (Rambler). Being an introspective person I observe life as it flows past me. I feel agonizing pity for all of us caught in the trap and even at the risk of being branded a communist, or a misfit or discontent, I sometimes talk about the *Green Revolution* or *A Way Out* or *Natural Foods*, or some aspect of what you are trying to tell the world. It is a very slow leaven, but it almost never fails to interest even the most hopeless cases. Very few have begun to realize what is really wrong, but everyone feels that something is very radically wrong, and they want to do something about it in their personal lives.

What I am trying to tell you is that, in my opinion, what you are doing is well worth the effort, and that I would like to help—endow you with a thousand or a million dollars. But I am caught in the trap and haven't a dollar to spare. Installments coming due, layoff imminent, shutdown probable. But I do send you a few hard earned dollars. You who are divorced from the rat race and showing us a way out do not realize how desperate so many of us are, and how disillusioned all of us are, and how much we need a way out.—L. T. J., Milwaukee, Wisc.

Action In California

To the Editor:

I have written to most of the persons you named in the March editorial as interested in a School of Living meeting in California. I'm suggesting that if they are really serious that we arrange a date to meet here at our homestead. We have no overnight accommodations but there are motels nearby. This is an invitation to any other interested Californians to get in touch with us. My letter was to the point: we have to do some "talking" yes, to work out some plan, but we need folks who are not all theory; who have some ability to put action to their plans. We would like to hear from them—not just a card, but a letter presenting ideas, plans, etc., what they really want. We need to know what we want and then go after it.—Lucia Biser, Box 71, Lucerne (Lake County), Calif.

Organic Gardener Needs Help

To the Editor:

Our Organic Gardens and herd of nine goats, rabbits and chickens is now in full production, and

The Green Revolution

Second class mailing privilege authorized at Brookville, Ohio 45309.

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Telephone: TE 8-4522 (New Lebanon, Ohio).

enjoying a growing market. We plan a market-and-picnic pavilion this year, and are going into freezing quality organic food for all-year-round sale. We need help, and can offer the right couple a four-room house rent-free, all the produce they can use, plus some cash wage. I am 31, my wife 29, and children are 7 and 4 years.—Lee Musgrave, 357 Wolf Road, Rt. 3, West Alexandria, Ohio.

Halvorsens To California

To the Editor:

We once lived in the San Francisco Bay area, but it was too smoggy. But my husband and I have been thinking about settling in California again. And I am definitely leaving in mid-April for the organic Graham Creek Ranch (33622 Globe Drive, Porterville, Calif.) for rest and recuperation. This was recommended by Dr. Randolph as inexpensive, with lots of space and organic food. Today, in spite of bad weather and consequent bad symptoms, I have the feeling of being on the right track, and that I'm taking a step in the right direction. Ralph will bring the children later, and we will try to find a place to homestead. Is there anyone I can contact in Southern California? —Rita Halvorsen, 1646 Glenwood Dr., Glenview, Ill.

Breathes Ocean Air

To the Editor:

To get out of smog and poisoned air we are building a home near the ocean so that the air we breathe comes off the ocean in prevailing onshore winds. Rita Halvorsen might find such an environment helpful. —Morgan Harris, 4530 Russell Ave. Los Angeles, Calif.

Inventor Answers Queries

To the Editor:

I am an inventor, engineer and tool and die maker. To those who inquired in your March issue:

Anyone has my permission to make use of the ideas in my *Patent Solar Heating Assemblies*. Send 25c to the Commissioner of Patents, Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

For hulling sunflower seeds, I use a "Corona" corn mill. First I open the plates to a space narrower than the thickness of the seeds, and feed them through sparingly; then sort out unhulled ones; then I decrease the space, run these through again and then

(continued on page 4)

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Name _____

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City _____

State _____

School of Living Calendar

at

Heathcote Homestead
Maryland Line, Md.

JUNE 11, 12, 13, 14—
Youth Rally and Workbee.

JULY 3-10—Community
Workshop: work, play, discussions.

JULY 11—Annual Meeting,
School of Living Members.

MILK AND HONEY—

It's All Planned To Fit Together

By John Seymour
Author, *The Fat of the Land*
Orford, Woodbridge,
Suffolk, England

Part III

We get a lot of letters nowadays from people up and down the land, who do much as we do, although it's always interesting to see what a variation there can be in methods, to suit different people, in different jobs, and in different parts of the country. We call these people "homesteaders." People who have a trade, a job, a profession, but run a small holding and produce most of their own food, and sometimes a surplus to sell too.

I know of many more people who would like this. After all—not everybody is satisfied with a life that begins every day with a stuffy ride in the underground and ends with an orgy of watching TV. I believe it should be made possible for everyone to get his fair share of his own country, provided he can prove that he is capable of farming it. I'm not suggesting that all such people should try to earn a full living off the land. I think the educated peasant-craftsman is the highest form of life on this planet.

A Trade Plus Homesteading

If I were a boy again I would learn some honest trade—cabinet making, building, engineering, doctoring, music making or composing—and then I should get hold of my five acres, by hook or by crook, and practice my trade and grow the food for myself and my family, and sell a small surplus of food. Do much as I do now, in fact.

The Satisfaction of Husbandry

It's no way to get rich, of course, but what wise man wants to get rich? You take your ulcers to the grave with you, but not all that money you've grabbed. That man with the nine thousand acres of our country—he'll have to leave it all behind when he goes.

Dr. Randolph On Chemicalization

The Jan. 15-16, 1965, symposium on man and his environment in the Pick-Congress Hotel in Chicago, sponsored by Northwestern University, attracted experts from over the nation.

Dr. Theron G. Randolph, a member of the staffs at Swedish Covenant Hospital in Chicago and Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, charged that man today is being subjected to unprecedented "chemicalization" through chemical pollution of air and water and addition of chemical additives and contaminating agents to food.

Too Many Exposures

Randolph said man may adapt without apparent effect to repeated minimal quantities of chemical agents for long periods, but may reach a point where such repeated exposure breaks through his bodily defenses. Then comes what Randolph described as a new kind of "hangover."

"First to occur may be such localized effects as nasal stuffiness, frequent colds, mild gastrointestinal distress, and itching," he said. "More advanced localized manifestations include asthma, hives, eczema, and other responses. Closely related to such general effects are chronic fatigue and impairment of higher integrated cerebral functions."

Letters, cont'd

sort. Space is decreased again, and after this time I put in a pan with water. Hulls and pieces that float are poured off with the water. This is an effective method but you have to be a good homesteader to follow this up every day. I am working on an inexpensive sunflower seed

But the main satisfaction of our way of life is something very deep and fundamental. I could never describe it—but I believe every person has it in him to understand it.

It is the satisfaction of husbandry—of the cultivator, the herdsman, the forester, the hunter. To labor to grow a crop, and harvest it, and prepare it and eat it and see your children eat it and thrive on it—not all the money in the world can buy this satisfaction. There is only one currency the merchant who deals with this merchandise will accept: the sweat of a man's brow.

Balanced Commonwealth

Another and very strong and subtle pleasure is watching your own little well-run domain—a balanced commonwealth—a hundred different species of animals and vegetables, living in harmony and beneficial interaction through your own good management.

Before I go in at night I take a stroll round. The horse and three cows are grazing peacefully at the end of the field. They are benefitting by the fact that I dragged chicken arks over that grass last year—the hens scratched the old rough grass out and manured the land and the grass and clover has grown up strong and green. The cows had a good feed of kale today—the kale was good because the pigs had rooted up and trod down and manured the land on which it was grown the year before. There the pigs are—they are well fed on potatoes and fodder beet which grew marvellously because I planted them in dung dragged out of the cow shed—by the horse. There is a horde of baby pigs running about—fit and healthy because their mothers are getting skimmed milk from the cow. So everything fits in—everything benefits from everything else—everything interacts. The cows eat the coarse grass the horse won't touch. The geese crop the short grass the cows can't get. The pigs come along and root up the grass when we think it has got past it and improve the land for arable crops—to be followed by grass again.

It all fits in. And what a pleasure to pick up a handful of soil. Ours was pure sand when we came here. Now it is pure "gold." (to be continued)

Important Program For Summer Workshop, July 3-11, Shaping Up

Heathcote Haven — Freeland Exit on Rte. 83 — Maryland Line, Md., will be an exciting place during the July 3-11 workshop. At that time School of Living members and friends will gather for their annual training and study period, with the annual meeting on Sunday, July 11.

The Old Mill is now sufficiently renovated for summer use. A five room apartment is clean and ready—even to electric stove, sink, cabinets and carpeting—salvage gifts from interested persons. A large garden will provide food. Low costs will approximate those of last year: as follows:

\$1 a day per adult for food; 50c for children. \$1 per person for education. 25c a night for campers and \$1 for those who use shelter.

Program

The program of speakers and discussion includes the following: Scott Nearing will talk on the first Sunday on homesteading in an automated age; Hugh Graham will present local tax,

sheller, and hope to be able to place it on the market. I have no solution for hulling oats.

I'm about to retire, in fairly good health, and would like to be useful on someone's homestead. —Leo W. Cornwall, 909 Santa Fe Ave., Albany 6, Calif.

California Group Works with Youth

Youth Resources, Inc., is a non-profit corporation founded by Paul J. Marks and friends, to launch a new system of self-help youth. Their first project is now schools for potentially capable under way near Los Banos, Calif. Here is developing a campus community where members and faculty have their own homes, cottage enterprises and small farming activities. Opportunities are open for teachers, work supervisors, house parents and counsellors.

Paul Marks, a reader of School of Living publications for a number of years, has designed his first "school-community" to serve high school dropouts, with a vision of extending it to every age level, including adult education for living. Education and community living will advance together with self-generating and self-perpetuating factors.

Three-Day Conferences

A number of three-day conferences of interested persons has been held. Seventy-eight persons, including nine California School of Living members, attended the March 20 weekend, where they viewed a film of an American Farm School, followed by discussion.

Do-It-Yourself Pays—

Home-Produced Food Cheaper

By Carolyn Guy
East Calais, Vt.

Part II

I acknowledge the difficulty of accurate record of cost of home-produced food, but one thing I know: it doesn't cost me any 49c to grow a head of cauliflower. And how can I figure the value of a pail of wild raspberries which took three hours of hiking through the woods, marsh and hills to gather? For me, getting up in the hills is worthwhile even if I come back empty-handed, so I don't really try to put a money value on everything.

I have \$21 invested in a pressure cooker for canning, and less than \$5 spent on jars. Many were given in exchange for eggs.

Cucumbers

Seed was 45c (two kinds) and caps, for covering, \$1.25. We had sliced cucumbers every day from mid-July until frost, and I gave many away. They are 3 for 25c during that season here. I make



KEN MARKS relates humorous anecdote during his talk on proposed dropout school at Youth Resources gathering. His father, Paul Marks, director of the organization, and Mayor E. Mastrangelo, of Los Banos, Calif., are seated at table.

At the May Day Ingathering (April 30-May 2) they will have informal seminars on Land Acquisition, Finance, Campus Community Development, School Programming and Staff Recruitment. They will also enjoy the annual May Day Fair of Los Banos, including parades, agricultural exhibits and activities. Interested persons should notify Mr. Paul

Marks of their wish to attend (Box N, Los Banos).

Decentralist Emphasis

Youth Resources, Inc. stresses member participation and voluntary support. They arrange adequate time for discussion of issues and group decision; they never "ask for money," but depend on those who feel the project is worthwhile, giving on their own initiative. Expenditures are reported periodically. At this time, none of the workers are paid. They are eager to be in touch with all who have a contribution to make to shared goals.

Larger Vision

Mr. Marks stated in his last letter to the School of Living, "All of us who agree on the 'mad state of affairs in the world' should begin seriously to analyze our problems. As thinking persons we should lay plans that will eventually alter the current trends which increasingly deprive families of opportunities to live close to the soil. Green Revolution folks want a chance for themselves—where they can earn their living and not be bothered by the troubles of the world. I think we should consider these problems in the light of larger numbers of people. A broader view might help many attain that place in the sun. We need a concern for others—not just for ourselves. This in itself is a step toward maturity."

"Eventually I see the need for lobbying to change laws, enforcement of the 160-acre limitation law for watered lands, changes in financing of farmers, as well as increased numbers of training programs for small or would-be farmers. We criticize South America where 5% of the people own 95% of the land, but the USA, especially in the West, is moving in that direction."

Sweet Corn

We plant two kinds of corn; the short season allows only one planting. We start picking early in August and use 15 ears at a meal, five days a week. Our fresh corn during the summer would cost \$12.50 at the store. We spent \$1.30 for seed, one half pound each of Northern Belle and Spring Gold. We dried a few pounds and froze 16 boxes, which would cost \$2.40 in the store.

Swiss Chard

20c worth of seed produced all the chard we could eat and we gave away all season. If we had bought spinach at the store in place of our chard it would have cost at least \$5.75.

Summer Squash

25c for seed. We had all we could use, gave it away, and fed to chickens and rabbits.

Cabbage Family

Cabbages grow fine in our cool climate. Packages of seed have far more than we need each year. We spent, for red, ballhead and Savoy cabbage seed, each 20c; broccoli 20c; cauliflower 20c; or a total of \$1.00. Had all the fresh cabbage we could use and give away; stored red and winter cabbage through December; and froze 24 boxes of broccoli and 10 of cauliflower. Fresh cabbage was 5 or 6c a pound last fall; broccoli 40c a box; cauliflower 60c a box; my stored supply of these last two would have cost me \$15 last winter.

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The first ten families are to be selected on what they can contribute to the community in the way of skills via individual and cooperative activities that will benefit both children and adults, in on-going projects that will educate and train the participants while improving the community.

If interested, please write to

Homestead Haven,
Box 62, Baltimore, Md. 21008

CORRECTION

We have had an error in the quoted price in the ad from the Wolfe Memorial Clinic (under "Miscellaneous" in classifieds). The third line should have read:

Complete course, \$8.95. 10-day

We apologize to Mr. Wolfe for our error and to inconvenienced readers.—M.J.L.