What Does Homesteading Mean for Us? (Part V) - Our Drainage Problem: First We Got Experience by Doing the Wrong Things

Carl Ogren
John and Lynn Hill, Antioch College students with co-op job in a Dayton school and hospital (Antioch has an alternating work study which you try to get a job for significant living. They say, we're trying to put into our mara­riage ceremony some evidence of all our joys and values. We were married in Antioch's Glen Helen, with only two friends, old friends, little children, our Hu­manist counselor. We wrote our own vows and ritual. Lynn made the shirt and dress: the cake and the wedding was home-made. Our friends held hands escorting us. The enter and exit music was from certain good rock groups we like. We held hands encircling us, which John's brother brought. At one point in the ceremony, Lynn said, "So many times we've asked ourselves and each other: What does marriage mean? It is not willed by strange, mystical forces. It is not something that can be defined absolutely. John and I believe it is created by two people who take responsibility for each other. Marriage becomes a dynamic process for the people who choose to develop it and to grow within it."

We approve. Provided they remain in the relationship, the same is true for each of us. John and I are now considering the "land problem." We live on a 10-acre parcel in Exeter, N. H. with which John's brother brought. From it an ever-renewing, ever-growing life.

We choose the strength and possibility of the small, the personal, and the local over the power and size of the business as usual.

The Avator (Boston) will be urging his many VYield-style readers to go to the land this August, to own and operate their own "omitted." John and I are going to "Help to finance his farm­ing." We will go up to "lend our credit-money system, for the Inter­national Independence Insti­tutes (the teaching and training unit) and for the "Bural Credit in Jordan." Credit will be granted on pilot plans.

The path of progress lies, I believe, in encouraging our hearts and instincts and bacterially diverting our attention away from the things they don't exist. In addition to applying for a farm loan, one might also now recognize more clearly those other basic needs of human be­ings which are not covered by identity by giving a sense of pur­pose to the individual and of absence of ownership of land.

There is no need for you to do any­thing except to clean out every last pocket. But we got the answer to this one too.