

From the DIRECTOR

A. G. HAZEN



Dr. John Carew, head of horticulture at Michigan State University, first published this poem in the "American Fruit Grower".

In the beginning
There was Earth; beautiful and wild;
And then man came to dwell.
At first, he lived like other animals
Feeding himself on creatures and plants around
him.
And this was called IN BALANCE WITH NATURE.
Soon man multiplied.
He grew tired of ceaseless hunting for food;
He built homes and villages.
Wild plants and animals were domesticated.
Some men became Farmers so that others might
become Industrialists, Artists, or Doctors.
And this was called Society.
Man and Society progressed.
With his God-given ingenuity, man learned to feed,
clothe, protect, and transport himself more
efficiently so he might enjoy Life.
He built cars, houses on top of each other, and
nylon.
And life was more enjoyable.
The men called Farmers became efficient.
A single farmer grew food for 41 Industrialists,
Artists and Doctors.
And Writers, Engineers, and Teachers, as well.
To protect his crops and animals, the Farmer pro-
duced substances to repel or destroy Insects,
Diseases, and Weeds.
These were called Pesticides.
Similar substances were made by Doctors to protect
humans.
These were called Medicine.
The Age of Science had arrived and with it came
better diet and longer, happier lives for more
members of Society.
Soon it came to pass
That certain well-fed members of Society
Disapproved of the Farmer using Science.
They spoke harshly of his techniques for feeding,
protecting, and preserving plants and animals.
They deplored his upsetting the Balance of Nature;
They longed for the Good Old Days.

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ON THE COVER: The pasqueflower (crocus if you prefer) still can be found as a sure sign of spring, the earliest blooming thing on the prairie. But you can't find it everywhere. This hardy little perennial can maintain its own place among the wild plants of the native prairie, but it cannot survive the plow.

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(Continued from Page 2)

And this had emotional appeal to the rest of Society.

By this time, Farmers had become so efficient, Society gave them a new title:

Unimportant Minority.

Because Society could not ever imagine a shortage of food

Laws were passed abolishing Pesticides, Fertilizers, and Food Preservatives.

Insects, Diseases, and Weeds flourished,

Crops and animals died.

Food became scarce.

To survive, Industrialists, Artists, and Doctors were forced to grow their own food.

They were not very efficient.

People and governments fought wars to gain more agricultural land.

Millions of people were exterminated.

The remaining few lived like animals.

Feeding themselves on creatures and plants around them.

And this was called IN BALANCE WITH NATURE.

Correction: We inadvertently omitted the Department of Botany from the listing of Experiment Station staff in the January-February issue of Farm Research. Here is the additional listing:

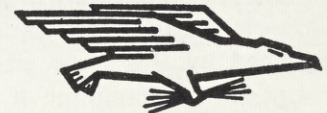
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