

# Rebuilding Rural America



Above, Drouth Leads to Cattle Slaughter in the West. Below, Left to Right, Henry-Ford, M. L. Wilson and R. G. Tugwell.

By WILLIAM C. UTLEY

**M**OVING day is fast approaching for hundreds of thousands of America's most destitute farmers since President Roosevelt declared his intention of rebuilding rural America and moving poverty-stricken families into new homes where they may have a considerably better chance to make a living and find happiness. The moving bills will be paid out of Mr. Roosevelt's \$4,800,000,000 work relief allotment, and the boss foreman of the movers will be Rexford Guy Tugwell, under secretary of agriculture and pride of Columbia university, who thinks he can lift pianos easier than the farmers can lift mortgages.

For the eight main types of relief work to be done there are some 60 federal departments and divisions already existing to administer the funds and three entirely new divisions are being created. The one which deals with the retracting of the agricultural map of the United States under Tugwell is the rural resettlement division. The recent exodus of 200 farm families of the north central states of Alaska, there to begin life anew with the slate wiped clean, was only a curtainraiser to the main bout against rural poverty and privation which Mr. Tugwell and his forces will conduct.

Single farm families who have conducted something of an isolated battle against overbearing odds of depression, drouth and poor land, will be moved into new and better lands and given a fresh start at Doctor Tugwell's discretion. By the same token, whole area groups of farm families who have collectively—and in many cases literally—bitten the dust will be gathered into Doctor Tugwell's moving van and rolled away to new homes where the land and the life will give them something more closely resembling an even break. Pale and underweight communities, suffering from economic pip in their industrial sections, may be moved to where change of climate and a few hoped dollars will revive them; if they can't be moved, new and healthy industrial sections will be grafted (no double meaning intended—perish the thought!) into them.

**Break for Slum Dwellers.**

Citizens who have found the going a little bit too tough in the slum sections of the larger cities will be moved 20 or 30 miles out in the suburban, semi-rural territories, given small plots of land on which to raise three squares a day and found factory jobs where the hours are short and the remuneration adequate.

Officially known as the Resettlement administration, Doctor Tugwell's division has been allotted \$10,000,000 by the President for administrative expenses. What further funds are necessary for each authorized project will be allotted at a later date.

President Roosevelt himself outlined the purposes of the resettlement by dividing them into three brackets:

First: To administer approved projects involving resettlement of destitute or low-income families from rural and urban areas, including the establishment, maintenance and operation, in such connection, of communities in rural and suburban areas.

Second: To initiate and administer a program of approved projects with respect to soil erosion, stream pollution, seacoast erosion, reforestation, forestation and flood control.

Third: To make loans as authorized under the emergency relief appropriation act of 1935 to finance, in whole or in part, the purchase of farm lands and necessary equipment by farmers, farm tenants, croppers or farm laborers.

In carrying out these threefold purposes, Mr. Tugwell was authorized by President Roosevelt to acquire in the name of the United States government any real property which he deems necessary. In the Resettlement administration are incorporated the en-

tire personnel and funds of the land program of the Federal Emergency Relief administration. This land program has already been extended into 25 of the states and includes in its operations the movement of farmers and their families to the Matanuska valley of Alaska.

**Never Tried Before.**

No projects such as these have been carried out by any other nations, according to M. L. Wilson, assistant secretary of agriculture.

"This only nation-wide planning with the conscious idea of removing land too poor to farm from cultivation is being done in the United States," he asserted.

Commenting on the resettlement program, he said that there are approximately half a million farm families who are unable to produce anything to be exchanged. Their homes, which often average three persons to a room, are on the poorest grade of submarginal land.

"The land must be shifted to better uses. It has been tradition in this country to get land into ownership, but the land on which families are falling because of its poorness is partly cut-over timber land, areas in the semi-arid plains, land whose surface soil has been washed away by erosion, etc. It is largely land which is not adapted to private ownership. It is breaking its private owners. The thing to do is to bring it back into the hands of the government.

"The solution is the gradual transfer of people on it to what we have been calling rural-industrial communities." Assistant Secretary Wilson estimated that three-fifths of the people on this kind of land have some idea in mind concerning what they would like to do about it and have a little money with which they might carry out their plans. The other two-fifths will require assistance from the Resettlement administration.

"Some families will be moved to better land," Mr. Wilson explained. "A richer farm may be cut up into smaller tracts. For instance, a 320-acre farm may be divided into 32 ten-acre farms. Such a move will be made only where it will not particularly increase agricultural production for sale.

"Then we'll try to get an industry located thereabouts. The people who have been relocated will find employment and will earn wages. The government will sell them land and houses. We can let them put their common labor in on the building of the houses. Farmers have their option. They make their own decisions whether to stay or go."

**New Kind of Community.**

Mr. Wilson even went so far as to say that there must be a great deal of shifting of population to maintain the democracy, adding that considerable economic planning would be required. He said that a new kind of community, the like of which this nation has not had, will be created.

"They will furnish a life akin to that of European villages where they raise their own food and work for wages," he declared. "It is a new type of industrial setup, in which industry to quite an extent is decentralized."

Mr. Wilson said that the economic system was developing more leisure time, and that some constructive use of it must be devised or we will degenerate.

"There are spiritual and ethical values which come from contact with the soil," he said. "I don't believe you can find anything to which everybody is adapted save gardening and flowers. Practically everybody is interested in growing things. There is value in this process of raising a garden. You produce something used by the family. If we develop in this direction, all the workers can be absorbed into industry at a five or six-hour day.

"This is not socialism. It goes counter to a great many elements of socialism. Most of the working people would own their own homes and plots

of land in the readjustment outlined. As it develops and becomes widely known, it will become very important in the program of the liberal elements of society."

About 75,000,000 acres of poor submarginal land were recommended for retirement by the national resources board last winter. The inhabitants of this land were said to be "characterized by incredibly low standards of living."

Resettlement is hardly the answer to the nation's farm problem, in the opinion of the 150 delegates to the conference of agriculture, industry and science, which met at Dearborn, Mich., to honor Henry Ford for his contributions to "chemurgic" farming and to sign a "declaration of dependence upon the soil."

Principal speaker in the convalescence in the town that Henry Ford built was Louis J. Taber, master of the National Grange, who urged farmers to grow every plant and every product that can be grown in the United States. He said, "The American farmer hopes this conference will set in motion influences that will do more for rural life than the politician has ever been able to accomplish."

**"Chemurgic" Farming.**

What the conference, sponsored by Chemical Foundation, suggested as the remedy was, of course, "chemurgic" farming. This would shorten the distance between production and consumption by having the farmer once more assume more of the elemental services and processes, and claims that chemistry will drive man back to the farm, just as the machine age took him from it.

"Chemurgic" farmers would bend much of their efforts to raising farm products for purposes other than food. Farm production would need to be doubled if agricultural alcohol replaced petrol as a motor fuel, the conference concluded, and it would open up a new farm income of \$5,000,000,000 a year. It was said that no unsolved technical problems stood in the way "although important improvements in processes can confidently be expected."

It was only a few days later when 4,000 farmers, mostly from the South, marched for the larger part in railroad trains and automobiles in a pilgrimage to Washington, to express their thanks personally to the President and the AAA for what the administration is trying to do for them. Thinking they smelled a rat, opponents of the New Deal, on the floor of the senate and elsewhere, openly charged that the "marchers" were hand-picked by the AAA officials for a stunt to arouse public sympathy for the program, and that the farmers' traveling expenses were paid by the government.

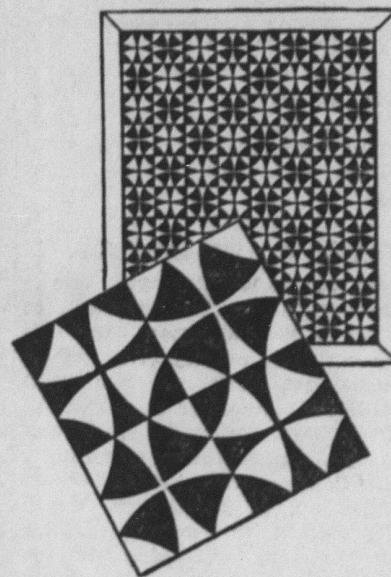
At any rate the 4,000 farmers cheered the President wildly when he denounced to them the "liars" who criticized the operations of the AAA. They expressed themselves to a man as being heartily in favor of the proposed AAA amendments, some of which even propose to make it necessary for every manufacturer, wholesaler and retailer of food products to obtain a license from the Department of Agriculture. Such amendments would put in the hands of that department the prescribing of rules governing business practices, advertising and the general regulation of the manufacturers' and merchants' business. They aim at control of every step in the process of distribution of food, including the advertising—under Tugwell, who has declared advertising to be "an economic waste."

There are 110,000 food manufacturers, 62,500 wholesale and 911,000 retail dealers in food products who, no matter how small and insignificant they might be, would be subject to penalties of from \$50 to \$500 a day for violation of any rule made by the Department of Agriculture.

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## Wheel of Mystery Quilt Picturesque

By GRANDMOTHER CLARK



This quilt dates back many generations and there are possibly several reasons why it is called the "Wheel of Mystery." Each 18-inch block is composed of 4 9-inch blocks set together in reversed color combinations. Two small blocks are light on dark material and the other two dark on light material. When the 18-inch blocks are set together, as illustrated above, you will see dark wheels with light colored material and light wheels with dark colored material. Count the circles from left to right in the above assembled quilt. The colors seem to reverse as the eye travels across.

When making the quilt use two contrasting solid colors for patches to get the proper effect. Twenty 18-inch blocks with a 6-inch border will make a quilt 81x99 inches.

This is one of the 33 patchwork quilts in book No. 23. All illustrated, with instructions, cutting charts, and showing different ways for assembling, will be mailed to you upon receipt of 15c.

Address—HOME CRAFT COMPANY, DEPARTMENT D, Nineteenth and St. Louis Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.

Enclose a stamped addressed envelope for reply when writing for any information.

**Beyond Human Power**  
We may give advice, but we cannot give the wisdom to profit by it.

## BLACK WALNUTS EXCELLENT CROP IN DROUTH AREA

One neglected tree which offers possibilities not only of a sure financial return, but an excellent solution of drouth conditions is the black walnut.

This type of tree roots deeper than most and because of its habit of sending its roots far down into the lower soil can maintain its life and produce its crops when all the surface crops around it fail.

Heavy yields of walnuts were reported last fall from practically the whole commercial range of the tree, from Pennsylvania to Arkansas, says the Chicago Tribune. One dealer in walnuts in western Arkansas buys an average of 900,000 pounds of nuts each season. Two years ago he purchased 1,000,000 pounds, and had a heavy carry over, which he disposed of easily last year, when the walnut crop was short. The nuts keep very well stored in cellars.

Commercial cracking plants have been established in many parts of the country. The farmer, however, has certain advantages over the large operator. By careful cracking and removing of the kernels on the farm, an average of 14 pounds of kernels may be obtained from 100 pounds of nuts. The industrial plants using machinery net about ten pounds. The hulls make excellent fuel.

Food and confection concerns consider black walnut kernels a staple product, and some place single orders for as much as 10,000 pounds.

Farmers and state forestry depart-

ments planted millions of walnuts and large numbers of nursery raised seedlings last year, especially in the Ohio valley states. A dual purpose tree, the black walnut is a favorite for farm planting over a wide range. Once plentiful in the hardwood forests, walnut was used prodigally for fencing, fuel and building. Later demands for gun and furniture stock further depleted the supply. Fortunately the walnut tree is a fairly rapid grower, and excellent for farm forestry purposes. Foresters are urging more extensive plantings of both nuts and seedlings where remaining old trees indicate the walnut will thrive.

## Try CARDUI For Functional Monthly Pains

Women from the 'teen age to the change of life have found Cardui genuinely helpful for the relief of functional monthly pains due to lack of just the right strength from the food they eat. Mrs. Crit Haynes, of Essex, Mo., writes: "I used Cardui when a girl for cramps and found it very beneficial. I have recently taken Cardui during the change of life. I was very nervous, had head and back pains and was in a generally run-down condition. Cardui has helped me greatly."

Thousands of women testify Cardui benefited them. If it does not benefit YOU, consult a physician.

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## Believe the Ads

They Offer You Special Inducements

Sometimes in the matter of samples which, when proven worthy, the merchandise can be purchased from our community merchants.

## George repairs his Disposition

**WELL... I JUST THOUGHT PERHAPS I COULD HAVE THE CAR TOMORROW, THAT'S ALL.**

**AW, LET HIM WAIT! HE'S ALWAYS IN A HURRY—WHEN SOMEONE ELSE IS DOING THE WORK!**

**WHAT DO YOU THINK I AM—A MAGICIAN? I CAN'T WORK MIRACLES!**

**GEORGE—THERE GOES ANOTHER CUSTOMER MAD AS A WET HEN! YOUR BAD DISPOSITION IS LOSING US BUSINESS EVERY DAY!**

**YEAH? WELL, IT'S EASY FOR YOU TO BE CHEERFUL—YOU'RE NOT HAVING HEADACHES AND INDIGESTION!**

**WHAT IF HE IS YOUR PARTNER—TELL HIM TO PULL IN HIS NECK. BEFORE YOU WRAP A MONKEY WRENCH AROUND IT!**

**DON'T EXPECT ANY SYMPATHY FROM ME, GEORGE—YOU KNOW WHAT THE DOCTOR TOLD YOU—YOU'RE DRINKING TOO MUCH COFFEE!**

**OH, BUNK! COFFEE NEVER HURT ANYONE!**

**ASK HIM WHAT HIS JOB IS, ANYWAY... REPAIRING CARS OR GIVING HEALTH LECTURES!**

**YOU KNOW YOU'VE GOT COFFEE-NERVES—SWITCH TO POSTUM FOR 30 DAYS LIKE THE DOCTOR SAID!**

**OH, ALL RIGHT! I'LL DO IT! IF YOU'LL JUST QUIT NAGGING AT ME!**

**CURSES! THAT KNACKS MY PLANS FOR A LOOP! NOW I'LL HAVE TO SCRAM!**

**30 DAYS LATER**

**SURE—BRING THE CAR RIGHT OVER! I CAN HAVE IT FOR YOU BY NOON!**

**GEORGE CERTAINLY HAS CHANGED! LATELY HE'S THE MOST ACCOMMODATING MAN IN TOWN!**

**I CAN TELL YOU WHY, TOO! SINCE HE SWITCHED TO POSTUM HE'S FELT LIKE A NEW MAN!**

**"Sure—coffee's bad for children—but I never dreamed it could be bad for me!"**

**"There are grown-ups who find that the caffeine in coffee disagrees with them. It can upset their nerves, cause indigestion or sleepless nights!"**

If you suspect that coffee disagrees with you... try Postum for 30 days. Postum contains no caffeine. It is simply whole wheat and bran, roasted and slightly sweetened. It's easy to make, and costs less than half a cent a cup. Postum is a delicious drink... and may prove a real help. A product of General Foods.

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