Short Shorthorn—Gene Holter shows off Ferdinand, one of the herd of dwarf cattle he found in a secret "lost canyon" near Jamestown, N.D. Ferdinand is 28 inches high and weighs 225 pounds. Veterinarians say he's a perfect dwarf Hereford, about two years old. At that age, Ferdinand should be an excellent source of minute steaks and short ribs.

THE FARM FRONT

When people drive past your farm today, they might say, "That's the Soanso place. Best farm in the county." But did you ever wonder what they'll be saying about it 10 or 15 years from now?

* * *

Recently, the editors of Wallaces' Farmer, published in Iowa, have been looking over a number of places that once were considered the "best farms in their communities." This is what they report—**"Some of them look terrible now! Buildings are run down. Soil is getting thin. Often, there is a one-year tenant on the place."**

* * *

What happened? Did a tornado strike or a drought hit? No. Did low prices wipe out the operator? No, prices have been good.

All that happened was this: The farmer who owned the place held on to it until his death. Then it was divided among several children.

* * *

That is the customary way for farm operators to handle their property. It also—in some cases—is a good way to ruin a good farm.

Take John X, for example. We don't dare call names and counties in a case like this. But John is like a dozen other farmers we know.

John died in 1928. One of his boys bought out the two girls and the other son. That started the boy on the farm with a heavy mortgage.

* * *

He lost the place in 1932. The farm has been rented since. The community has lost a first-rate farm family. The farm itself has gone downhill.

John's boy, now farming elsewhere, and getting along, had a hard time getting over his bad start.

Are there better ways to handle the job of passing on a farm from one generation to the next? We think so.

There are two major points to watch:

1. Get the settlement made early so that everybody will know how things are going to work out. Don't leave it to the executor of your estate. He's no smarter than you are.

2. In any disposition of the farm, use an appraisal based on 30-year average yields and prices. Don't put an inflated value on the place.

* * *

Maybe John X, 65, calls the four children in, and says: "Your ma and I are going to quit farming. I've had the farm appraised. If prices the next 30 years average out the way they have been the last 30 years, it's worth about $20,000. We'll sell for that. Who wants it to live on?"

If only one of the children wants the farm, that makes it easy. If two want it, they may have to match coins. But don't split it up unless it is plainly too big. If it is a good working unit now, leave it that way.

* * *

What terms? John X goes on:

"I'll sell the machinery and live stock for cash. You can have the place on contract. I'll make you a rate of interest just a little below the land bank rate.

"But you'll have to keep books and pay me one-half of the net income of the farm each year. That applies on the principal and interest.

"If you have a bad year, your payment will be cut down accordingly. And I'll have to draw on my bonds to get along. But you won't be wrecked by heavy payments in a bad year."

* * *

It might be still better if John X, at 50, has his boy coming to work the farm on shares. And for John to say then:

"Fifteen years from now, I'll probably retire. When I do, this is the kind of deal I want to make with you. And I'll fix my will so that if anything happens to me, that deal will start at once."

* * *

It's hard to ask outright about things like this. A boy can't say, "Pop, some day you'll be hauled off by the undertaker. What happens to me and the farm then?"

Yet a boy, working on the home farm, has a right to know what's ahead. Definite plans should be made for disposition of the farm when the father quits or dies.

All men are born equal. How they finish depends on what they're equal to.

Bucky's Back—Stanley "Bucky" Harris smiles broadly as he signs a three-year contract in Washington to manage the Washington Senators baseball team. It will be the third time as the Senators' manager for Bucky, whose most recent job was with San Diego in the Pacific Coast League.

How I Subdued Wild Fiery Itch—

Dr. Dennis' amazingly fast relief — D. D. D. Prescription — did the trick. World popular, this pure, cooling, liquid medication speeds peace and comfort from cruel itching caused by eczema, pimples, rashes, athlete's foot and other itch troubles. Trial bottle, 35c. First application checks even the most intense itch or money back. Ask druggist for D. D. D. Prescription (ordinary or extra strength) now.

SPORTS &
by A SIXBIT CRITIC

More and more it is coming to look as though the honeymoon is definitely over so far as sports promotion in the United States is concerned. Of course fight gates have been "off" for many months; but that was put down, by sports writers and other "experts" as largely due to the sad lack of colorful and reasonably workmanlike leather heavers, especially in the heavyweight division.

* * *

But now the folks who set in cash at the box-offices are staying away from football—both the college and honestly professional varieties—in increasingly large and painful quantities. Stadium sellouts, which were the rule during wartime and immediately post-wartime days, are the exception now. In sport, as in many other lines of trade, they're having a buyer's rather than a seller's market. And the colleges and promoters who went clean overboard building huge arenas and vast stadiums are beginning to worry more than a trifle.

* * *

Take the University of Pennsylvania, for example. In Franklin Field, Penn has one of the biggest stadiums in the States, seating more than 78,000. Last fall they had sellouts for practically every home game, with a total attendance of over 460,000 in seven contests. Their first two opponents this season were Dartmouth and Columbia, both generally big drawing cards. Yet in the two games the paying clients numbered only around 70,000 all told. And that with a winning team!

* * *

This is merely one example, taken from many; and the reason we mention it is not because we think that both our readers are especially interested in United States football, but because sports trends here have a way of following those south of the border. What is happening there is liable to be duplicated, before too long, right here. When that day comes, the reactions of certain promoters, in danger now of becoming round-shouldered from patting themselves on the back, will be worth watching. And hearing.

* * *

From the first we have contended that major league hockey was more or less smacking easy-to-please customers in the face by cutting out the overtime, and allowing teams to settle for a draw. But, "Just look at the sellout crowds and mobs begging for tickets" was the only reply we ever got.

* * *

Well, as already stated, what happens in the States can, and frequently does, occur right here. And if certain hockey bazzaars should some day be begging for patronage, instead of turning it more or less politely away, in our opinion the tie-game farce will have had no little to do with bringing about such a condition.

* * *

The National Hockey League season is still young. As we pound out these lines a total of twenty-six games have been played. And of those twenty-six, exactly ten—almost forty per cent—have ended in draws.

* * *

Boxing bouts used to be—perhaps still are — advertised with a line reading something like FIFTEEN ROUNDS TO A DECISION.

* * *

If things keep up as they are going, we suggest that professional hockey games should be billed SIXTY MINUTES TO NO DECISION.'

Don't drive when you're drinking. One out of six drivers involved in fatal accidents last year had been drinking.

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