

### Farm Cadet Work.

One day last May, I went home from school to spend the week end with my parents. They said, they could hardly spend the time to come after me, for they were so busy putting in crops. My father told me how difficult it was to secure hired help, and as my brothers go to a district school, he had no one to help him. Father asked me if I could leave school for farm work and also house work. I had never thought of it before, and so I told him I would see if it was not too late to receive credit and also if my class standing was above 75%.

At first I did not want to leave school, but I saw how necessary it was, so on May 28 1918, I left school for Farm Cadet work. It was not too late to receive credit and my class standing was above 75% in every subject.

My father came to Syracuse the next day with butter and eggs, so I went home

with him. The next day I began working. I worked from half past six in the morning until five at night. But not always out doors I would help my mother in the morning until my father and brothers had done the chores. I only milked two cows all summer and that was when my father went to the city and my little brother hurt his hand. I always helped my mother wash on Mondays and iron on part of Tuesdays.

The first Friday after I came home I helped my father plant potatoes all day. we planted nearly three acres that day. I was some tired.

The next week it rained so I helped paint the dining room. Papa always works in the barn or fixes fences on rainy days. That afternoon, I turned the fanning mill and helped father clean up ten bushel of barley. I dragged and rolled the ground for cabbage the next two

days.

Beginning June 9, I picked straw berries the remainder of the week. I picked two hundred and eleven quarts. The next week I set cabbage for my father on the saturday, and the day before I pulled plants all day. my sister and I set all our cabbage. we have about four acres.

The next week I picked cherries. I hoed cucumbers in the garden and pulled weeds. on Saturdays I cleaned in the house.

July 13. I sprained my ankle but was able to walk on it after two days. It was just a slight sprain. I helped mow away two loads of hay, but it was so hot I fainted in the mow, my ankle pained me very much. The next day I picked rasp berries and also black caps. I made a skirt the next day. my mother helped me cut it out and I sewed on it all day. Every other day I picked berries. we have two



berry patches. Toward evening my father would take the berries to some near town or village to sell them ~~berries~~. I often went with him and helped.

July 18. I hoed thistles out of our potatoes. my brothers and sisters helped also. The first of August the pease were ripe, and so I spent a week in picking them. We picked every other day. Between whiles, I helped my mother can pease and also berries.

My mother and father usually went to Syracuse on Saturday so I had to do all the baking and cooking.

The second week in August it was terrible ~~swarm~~ weather. All that week I helped draw in grain. I never pitched it on the wagon but once and papa said it was too hard work for a girl. I always helped mow it away.

The last of August I picked plumbs

and fixed crab apples, so my mother could can them and make jelly.

I helped fix cucumbers for pickeling, and also picked tomatoes and pared them for canning.

Sept 3, 1918 my Farm Cadet work ended on account of school. But I go home every night and still help, when I can. The potatoes will have to be dug and many other things to be done on the farm.

I have enjoyed my work on the farm very much and I understand farming lots better. My father said I have been a great help to him. I believe, I have aided my country by working on a farm, and doing house work all summer.

Very Sincerely  
Elsie Blum.

Sept 12, 1918.

Elsie Blum,  
Syracuse  
Onondaga County  
Farm Cadet Work

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