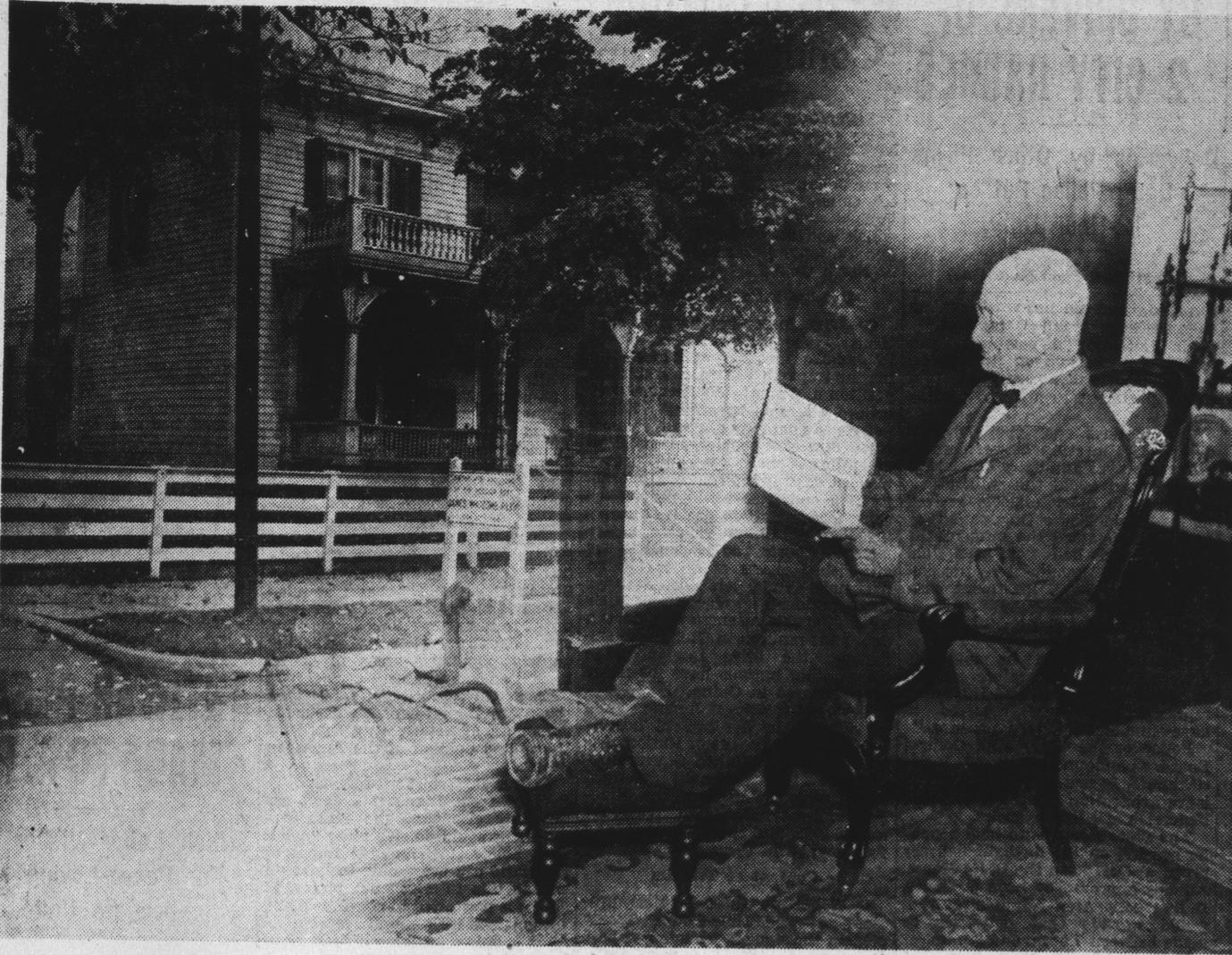


## Brandywine Bank Is Memory Lane for Poet's Chum



The bank of Brandywine was memory lane today for J. Mart Hinchman (above). The Greenfield schoolmate of James Whitcomb Riley paid his tribute to the poet with a visit to the Riley homestead.

'Jim Didn't Care for School,'  
Friend of Riley Remembers

(Continued from Page One)

myself played hooky for 10 days. There was too much excitement to stay in school. Those were Civil War days and we went off along the railroad tracks to watch, trainloads of soldiers go by."

He went about examining an old case in the homestead which contained early records and programs of events in which the poet participated.

Teacher Recognized Talent

"That puts me in mind of some of the others who were in our room," Mr. Hinchman said. "There was Will Pierson, John Guyman and Jerry Martin. I can't remember all the teachers we had, but there was a fellow named Stevenson, Col. Foley, one named Van Wee and of course Lee O. Harris."

"Now Lee, I guess, was about the first one who thought Jim really could be a poet and he taught him about rhyme. But think of it, Lee, how sneak down the aisle, stop at my seat and ask: 'Got a chew?' He'd always chew in school, but wouldn't let the rest of us."

Mr. Hinchman continued his latest tour of the restored homestead with Arthur Downing, Old Home Society president, who this afternoon was to accept it upon presentation by Mayor Arthur Allen. Dean Herman Wells, acting Indiana University president, also was to speak.

Old Furnishings in Shrine

The solid walnut doors, old maple dining room table, four-poster beds, trundle bed and other handmade furnishings were examined by Mr. Hinchman.

"Cap Riley, he was Jim's father. He was a lawyer and went to the State Legislature. He could make a fine speech until he spoke too long and spoiled it. He had a hobby for making furniture. I used to watch him in my father's planing mill."

"Cap always was making rolling pins, towel rollers, potato mashers like this (he picked one he had made off the kitchen table) instead of tending to his business."

"Cap wanted Jim to be a lawyer, but he wouldn't and kept on drawing and writing. Guess maybe I did read some of his early poems in the *Democrat* (Greenfield), but I don't remember. Nobody really paid much attention, then. They didn't think he was going to be the great poet he was."

"But everybody thinks different of Jim now. Wonder what he'd think about that shelter house for putting on bathing suits down at his swimmin' hole they're going to

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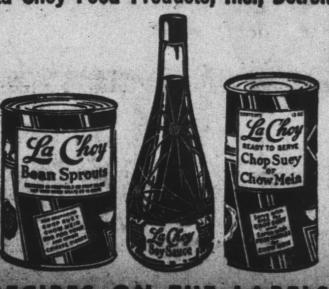
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## ABANDONMENT OF FARM LAND FEARED LIKELY

Change of Tillage Tactics  
Needed, Expert Tells  
Purdue Group.

Times Special

LAFAYETTE, Oct. 7.—Abandonment of a major portion of Indiana's agricultural land is inevitable unless present tillage practices are changed, H. H. Bennett, Washington, Soil Conservation Service chief, warned at the annual extension conference at Purdue University today.

The conference is composed of county agricultural agents, home demonstration agents and farmers' institute workers.

"About two million acres of state farm land essentially has been destroyed by soil erosion and the present rate of abandonment is four times as fast as the decade from 1910 to 1920," Mr. Bennett said.

Land records are cited. "From 1910 to 1920, Indiana farms were abandoned at the rate of 28,000 acres a year. From 1920 to 1930, the rate increased to 137,000 acres a year. And the worst of it is, erosion is now progressing in Indiana at a rate much faster than ever."

"Results of a recent survey reveal

that less than half of the land area of 52 Indiana counties is suitable for the production of cultivated crops under present farming practices.

"This means that if farmers continue to plant open-tilled crops on steep hillsides, run their crop rows straight up and down the slope, leave fields unprotected by vegetation for long periods of time, and continue to use countless other destructive practices, this enormous aggregate area is going to suffer serious erosion damage."

The task ahead is not hopeless, Mr. Bennett assured the group.

"The adoption of sound soil-conservation methods will make it possible to cultivate a greater share of this land safely and profitably." Soil defense measures listed by

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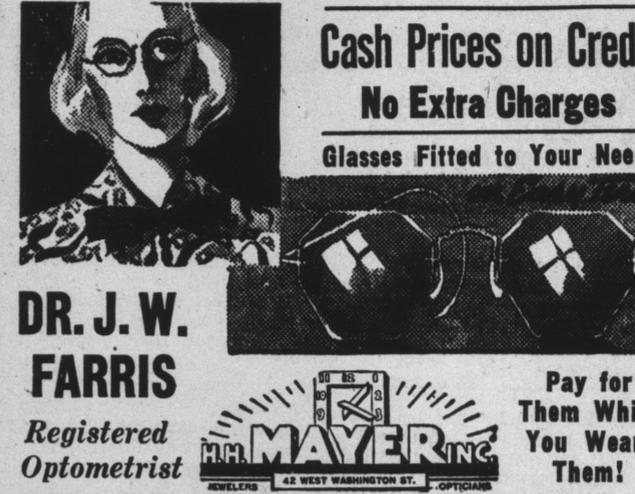
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