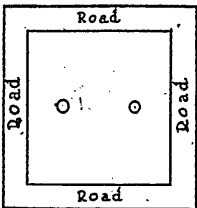


Brain Teasers

Here's a Setting-Up Exercise for Routine Weary Think Cells

Spring seems to have returned again. So we are tempted to return to the land once more; to offer another teaser having to do with a farmer who has some land to divide between his wife and six children.

This one, offered by Arnold Manson of Chisholm, is a little different from the other land problems, however. Just look.



The farmer has a wife, four sons and two daughters. He also has a square tract of land, with two wells upon it. As shown in the diagram, the distance from each of these wells to the nearest road is one-half the distance from one well to the other.

Now, the farmer drew up a will providing that, in the event of his death, the land should be divided as follows:

To his widow: Two equal portions of the same shape, each with access to one of the wells; to each of his four sons a portion of equal size and shape, each having access to one of the wells; to each of his two daughters a portion of the same shape and size as that of the sons, but each portion having access to both of the wells.

How was the land to be divided?

Does this strike you as complex? If so, you'll be surprised to learn how simple it really is. Mail your completed diagrams to The Problem Editor, Duluth News Tribune.