FACTORS IN THE MAINTENANCE OF PERMANENT FERTILITY OF THE SOIL.

The fact that the fertility of the soil is dependent on the proper adjustment of several conditions needs to be continually emphasized. Attention to a single factor, or perhaps two, is very likely to result in a state of bad adjustment which decreases productiveness. The scientific investigator needs frequently to be reminded of this fact, but especially in dealing with farmers is it important to keep before them the several things essential to a fertile soil and particularly those practices which tend to keep the soil in good condition.

Not only must all these practices be presented but their relation to each other and their relative range of influence must be noted. In order to fix attention on these factors, practices and relations, we have drawn up the following diagram (Fig. 5) which is designed to take account of the soil and the requirement of the crops most commonly grown as well as the more convenient lines of farm practice. The diagram is made up of the general practices available for improv-