

# Farmer to Plant Medicine

*Davenport Democrat, Dec. 1938*

University of Iowa Physicians, Engaged in Research Work, Discover Alfalfa Rich in Vitamin K Essential in Preventing Hemorrhages in Gall Bladder Operations—Work Started Five Years Ago and Is No Longer Regarded As an Emergency Measure—Grants Aided in Study.

*Special to The Democrat*

Iowa City, Ia., Dec. 31.—When Farmer Jones takes the fields next spring to plant his 40 acres in alfalfa he won't just be planting something to be used for hay—he'll be planting something that has become one of the greatest aids to modern medicine, following research work at the University of Iowa.

Alfalfa has been shown to be a source of vitamin K, of vitamin important in preventing hemorrhages during and after operations on jaundiced patients with gall bladder trouble. The research was carried on in the university hospital laboratories under the direction of Dr. H. P. Smith, end pathologist.

Experimenting with both animals and humans, Dr. Smith and his assistants have found that if a patient, who is to be operated on for gallbladder trouble, bleeds too freely and the blood does not show

