Planting Memorial Trees on Roadways

Some Instructions as to the Proper and Improper Course to Follow



No road is a long road — with trees beside it.

TO BE as concise as possible and to fill this article with as much instruction as its limited space will allow, are the objects of its writer. If it conveys to the mind of the reader the idea of what is proper and improper in the planting and care of trees along our roadways, its publication will be justified.

Success in the planting of trees depends absolutely upon the application of knowledge in practice. Ignorance in practice will surely result in failure. This article may be the means of guiding someone to success in the glorious work of tree planting who otherwise would fail. Such is its purpose.

Tree planting is not child's play by any means although even a child may successfully plant trees under the instructing hand and the watchful eye of an expert, and it is to be hoped that this text will be found of such simple language that children may read and understand for themselves.

A tree is a living, breathing thing, and requires careful treatment in planting, pruning, and other cultural operations. Trees are our

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friends and should therefore be treated as such and if we cannot actually love them we can at least respect them.

Trees are both useful and beautiful. So useful that man cannot live without them; so beautiful that the Creator could not make them more beautiful. Trees impart to barren roadsides beauty and shade. They make our roads impressive, they make them livable, and a pleasure to travel upon. Roads beautified by trees express the intelligence characteristic of an advanced stage of civilization. Civilization always surrounds itself with beauty and weaves it into the fabric of its life.

Trees are symbolic of life. They, in their strength and majesty, suggest immortality. Towering toward the sky they spread a protecting canopy over every living thing. Even the birds of the air in them seek shelter and protection and in their kindly shade their nests are made, their broods are hatched and a million songs from gladdened throats fill the air with the music also symbolic of life—of life and of happiness. Trees impart music to our lives.

Old stone road, you have not suggested life, rather you have existed as a mute expression of carelessness and apathy. Hot, dusty, barren and parched, those who have used you have not loved you. We are going to line you with trees to make you a lovable way, a livable way and the way of everlasting happiness and of beauty.

Roads of Remembrance.

To plant memorial trees in avenue form along roadways and at the approach to municipalities is a work which should receive the commendation and the whole-hearted support of every intelligent citizen. Memorials to symbolize deeds that are immortal should suggest life and permanency. What form of memorial is more suggestive of these than avenues of trees? The traveller will in passing learn of their reason, he will be constantly reminded of the time when



A COMPANIONABLE ROAD.

A public highway should be something more than a bumpless lane between two towns. After all, there's nothing friend-lier during a long journey than a uniformed guard of grenadier elms or maples. No Canadian road can be called 'finished' until trees have been established at proper intervals.

Canada's manhood stood the test in the greatest struggle of all time—that for human liberty, and emerged victorious therefrom. Surely no memorial will more eloquently express this purpose.

Such avenues will have a story for future generations. They will weather the storms of the ages and become strong in so doing. The sun and rain may efface the name from the granite monument and the winters' frosts cause it to crumble. These and the ever returning spring will but cause the trees to burst into glory, — everlasting glory befitting the purpose for which they were planted.

Trees for memorial avenues should be selected above all for permanency. Long lived subjects alone are worthy of such use. White Elms, Red Oaks, White Oaks, Hard Maples, White Ash, Black Walnut, native Planes or Button Balls, are splendid native trees. There should be no mixture of trees in the avenues. It should be an