

if possible. These machines are sometimes called "scrapers" and sometimes "graders." A good road machine will do the work of twenty laborers, and when put to its best it will do the work of forty. Besides, it will be done uniformly and thoroughly. The best time to use a road machine is when the road is not too dry, and the best way to use it depends upon the machine we are using. Each manufacturer aims to get the best work out of his machine, and to use it so as to give the best satisfaction to the buyer. He will tell us how to use it to the best advantage, and by following his directions as closely as possible, we shall be sure not to go far astray.

The following points taken from the printed instructions sent out by one of our leading road machine companies, will be found generally useful :

SUGGESTIONS TO OPERATORS AND POINTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN SELECTING A ROAD MACHINE.

To the fair-minded, intelligent road official of the present day, there is no question as to the many advantages of road machinery over any other method of repairing dirt roads.

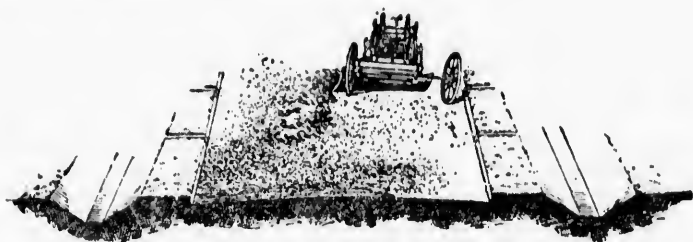


FIGURE 5.

Showing proper form of country dirt road. There may be only one side ditch when space is scant, but two are always better. A strip of sod three feet wide runs along between the ditch and roadway. The roadway may be from eight to fifteen feet wide, according to the amount of travel, and is connected with the side ditches by short drain ditches, running across the grass strip at frequent intervals. The figure shows a road machine employed in repairing the roadway.

Besides doing the work at less than half the cost, vastly better results are obtained. The difference between the results obtained by the use of a road machine and the old-fashioned plow and shovel method is clearly defined. A road machine of recognized merit will plow an even ditch of uniform depth, and will plow where an ordinary plow will not enter the soil. The scraping blade of the machine moves the earth from the ditch to the middle of the road, distributing it evenly and leaving the roadbed smooth, without any