



#### KEEPING THE BOYS ON THE FARM

This farmer in Quebec studies and practices progressive farming methods. He thus secures larger profits and, at the same time, retains the interest of his sons.

Commission of Conservation

#### PROTECT THE IMPLEMENTS

The business ability of the farmer is in no way more clearly indicated than by the condition of his tools. Allowing his machines to remain in the field where last used or uncovered in the barnyard results in quick decay. Nothing so injures machinery as exposure to the weather.

If an implement shed is not available, the machines should be assembled where they can be covered with temporary roofing, to keep off the snow and ice.

Roofing is cheap. Any farmer can erect a frame work to carry a roof. The two sides whence the storms approach should be closed. The protection thus afforded will amply repay the owner, while as an additional advantage, he will be able to utilize spare time in cleaning and painting his implements when close at hand and protected, which he could not do were they scattered over the farm.

## Forest Fires and Settlers

### Permits for Burning Necessary to Overcome Loss From Settlers' Clearing Fires

Formerly, one of the chief sources of fire damage in the Adirondack mountains of New York was the setting of fires by settlers in forest sections for the clearing of land. The damage resulting from the escape of such fires, set in periods of drought, was so great that a law was enacted providing for the regulation of settlers' fires, by requiring that a permit for burning be first secured from a forest officer. The result is that it has become a rare exception for a settler's fire to escape and cause damage. Out of a total of 413 fires reported in 1914, only 20, or less than five per cent, were caused by settlers clearing land, and of these only one did appreciable damage. This indicates clearly both the desirability and the practicality of controlling this menace in such a way as to reduce the hazard to a minimum, while at the same time interfering as little as possible with the legitimate development of agricultural lands.

The same lesson has been learned by all the provinces of Canada, and all except Ontario have made material progress in applying the lesson in a concrete way, through improved legislation or regulations. Quebec and British Columbia have provisions requiring settlers in forest sections to take out permits before setting clearing fires, and the same is true as to the Dominion forest reserves in the prairie provinces. New Brunswick has recently made a similar provision, applicable to the settlements of Hazen and Grimmer, where serious damage was caused by unregulated settlers' fires during the past summer.

In Quebec, notable progress toward securing better observance of the permit regulations has been secured by the Lower Ottawa and St. Maurice Forest Protective Associations, throughout some fifteen million acres of forest land, principally on the watersheds of the Gatineau, Lievre and St. Maurice rivers.

The organization of forest protective associations by limit-holders, and the enactment of a settlers' permit law by the provincial government would constitute notable steps in the progress of forest protection in Ontario.—C.L.

Efficient provision for first aid treatment and the instruction of employees in first aid to the injured should be a branch of safety work in every well-organized establishment.

## Safety in Our Schools

### Every Available Precaution Should be Taken to Protect the Pupils.

At 8.30 a.m. (Sunday) an alarm sent the firemen to Hopewell Avenue school. A heap of rubbish in the basement was found to be on fire. It was extinguished without much difficulty and the damage was small.—*Ottawa Citizen*.

The following Wednesday evening the Collegiate Institute in the same city was considerably damaged by fire. Supposed cause: Defective electric wiring.

The foregoing are only two instances of the dangers to which school children are continually exposed. Fortunately both of these fires occurred when the pupils were not at school. No credit, however, is due to the school management that such was the case.

With the great number of lives in the care of school authorities, it is certainly incumbent upon them to take every precaution to assure the safety of the children placed under their charge. There appears to be a looseness in the management and inspection of our schools when conditions such as the above surround the children. It should be the first duty of teachers and others in authority over the school children to provide for their safety from fire and panic, and it is due to the parents that during the time the children are at school they may feel that their safety is assured.

The prevention of accidents is the duty of both employer and employees. Simple precautions may save lives.

## The Farmer

I do not want to deal with this subject more than in a passing way, but I would like to point out, gentlemen, that after all, whatever you may do for agriculture, there must still be much of loneliness and isolation and tragedy for the man who tills the soil, in a country like this of Canada. No great success, or permanent success, of course, can be reached without some knowledge of the basic facts which underlie what one might call the scientific side of agriculture. The man who is happy in his task, can take a keen delight in it, or make a great success of it, must be able to link his efforts with the great forces of nature that contribute to the success that he otherwise could not achieve. . . . The farmer, after all, stands for the necessities. In the great household of Nature, the farmer stands at the door of the bread room, and weighs to each man his loaf. He has the final say in this thing.—*Hon. Martin Burrell, before the Ottawa Canadian Club.*

## Forest Nurseries

### Future Timber Supplies are being Provided for through Replanting

The State of New York has planted on state lands, up to the end of 1914, over four and a half million trees, enough, at the rate of 1,200 trees per acre, to reforest nearly 3,800 acres of land. From the state nurseries there have been sold to private landowners, for reforestation purposes, over thirteen million trees, while more than two and a quarter million have been furnished free of charge to state institutions.

In Canada similar work, though on a somewhat smaller scale, is being done by the provincial nurseries at St. Williams, Ont.,

and Berthierville, Quebec. Similarly, the Dominion Forestry Branch has a large nursery at Indian Head, Sask., and another is in process of preparation at Sutherland, Sask., from which nursery stock will be available during 1916. The number of trees shipped from the Indian Head nursery has steadily increased from over two and a half millions in 1910 to about three and three-quarter millions in 1914. These trees are distributed among farmers throughout the prairie provinces, mainly for shelter-belts, woodlots and the beautification of grounds around buildings.—C.L.

"Mica Bran" is being manufactured by some United States factories. It is used for concrete facing work to produce rock effect.