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EDITORIAL.

In the course of any travelling you have done, were you ever attracted to a community without trees? Does it appeal as a district in which you would like to buy a farm? It never does to us.

The day is coming, observed a Minister at a recent dairy meeting, when the land along the front of a farmer's property will be counted as valuable as any part of his farm. The time will be when every farm will be made as attractive as possible, especially along the roadside. Well said. May it come soon.

Growers of mangels generally are of the opinion that the Globe or Intermediate varieties have a higher feeding value than the Gate Post or Long varieties. Experiments outlined on another page and carried on by Frank T. Shutt, Dominion Chemist, have proven the opposite to be the case, the Gate Post variety proving more valuable than the Intermediate type.

One hundred and five questions were answered in "The Farmer's Advocate" of March 13th, exclusive of those considered in the Home Magazine. The number answered in this issue will be limited only by the space available. Some papers have to invent inquiries to maintain a show of interest in their correspondence columns. We can scarcely publish all we receive. Subscribers are asked not to submit unnecessary ones.

That sentiment will make but little appeal unless the farmer is able first of all to secure a living, is Prof. J. B. Reynolds' idea, as expressed in a recent address. As a means of making it profitable and otherwise attractive to people of education and calibre, he would intellectualize it by study of its business, economic and scientific problems. When such a study can be turned to profitable account, as for example in the improvement of dairy herds, farming is bound to appeal to men of brains.

The remarkable purity of the Red Fife wheat being grown by members of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, in Manitoba, was referred to at the recent annual convention by the secretary, who inspected the crops last summer. Other members had a large percentage of bearded heads in their Red Fife, which shows that the occurrence of these impurities is due largely to poor stock, or lack of proper selection. Bearded heads are very common in ordinary Red Fife and other bald varieties, but proper selection seems to be effective in eliminating them.

That the village, town and city environment of our Secondary schools helps to turn the ambition of the pupils away from the farm is the disturbing fact being borne home to the mind of many a rural father who has seen the son that has always taken an interest in the farm, and whom he had counted upon to help him run it, drifting off instead to a course in civil engineering, law, or perhaps a clerkship. Facts are rude awakeners, but they are effective. Perhaps before long we may realize that a consolidated rural, graded school, carrying the pupils two or three classes beyond the High School Entrance would be a first-class investment even if it did raise the tax-rate a mill or two.

Time for Tree Planting.

"Wise men were they who set hard maples along the boundary lines of their farms in early days. They now have avenues to be proud of. And they have also a source of revenue for these low-branched, isolated trees give abundant flow of sap in the early spring. Beautiful for shade and ornament, the *Acer saccharum* yields sugar, lumber and fuel of high quality, and finally its ashes make the best of fertilizer."—Rogers Tree Book.

Comfort, appearance and self-interest, all unite to impel the owner of ground, small or large in extent, to plant trees. To "Farmer's Advocate" readers, it surely is not necessary to reiterate the draw-backs of a tree-denuded farm or an unsheltered homestead. Long before anyone dreamed that the onslaught on standing timber would ever have reached its present stage, some of our forefathers in Eastern Canada seem to have been wiser, or at all events they took the time to transplant to the road sides, line fences, and about the homesteads rows of saplings, from the timber lots, which in those days were not laid waste and bare every summer as they are now, with herds of hungry cattle. Do not these farms stand out as pleasing landmarks—places of beauty and comfort, as homes both in summer and winter because of the shade and shelter with which they are invested? They are more highly valued by their present owners, and as a real estate proposition are worth more in actual cash. Such homesteads are an asset of which any country has a right to be proud, and to the general duplication of which every reasonable encouragement should be afforded.

The farmer who plants trees leaves a valuable heritage to his sons, and does something that will help to keep the family on the farm.

Our readers are now planning the seeding operations and farm improvements of another season. We are well aware how seriously handicapped many are because the farms are undermanned, and efficient help is difficult to secure. Still, it will pay, and pay well even in the life time of any man to invest a little time and money in tree planting. There are two directions which the work may take, one for the beautification and shelter of the homestead, garden and orchard, the farm frontage and exposed farm lines or lanes. In case of lines of trees along the south side of fields under cultivation, the planting should be less close together or the crops will suffer. For hedges and shelter, speedy and desirable results will be secured with Norway Spruce or Cedar, which can be secured readily at reasonable outlay in most sections. The main reliance will be the maples and elms and some of the nut trees. In most sections the saplings are obtainable from existing wood lots, which are being preserved. Make a start this season even with a few trees, where they are most needed. The outlay and time will be trifling compared with the results and will ensure just as certain and satisfactory returns as any spring work.

The other class of planting to be considered is for the improvement of wood lots, and reforestation of swamps, or other waste places, such as rough hillsides, or portions of good tillable land shut off from other portions of the land by streams, ponds or ravines. For this work, in the Province of Ontario, the Department of Agriculture has developed a system of co-operation for the assistance of farmers directed by Prof. E. J. Zavitz, Provincial Forester, at the Ontario Agricultural

College, Guelph. The seedling trees grown at the plantations in Norfolk County are furnished free, but the person receiving the material for planting pays the express charges to his nearest office. Directions are also given through one of the officers of the Department as to preparation of soils, varieties to plant, manner of planting and subsequent care. The trees for distribution that are "most satisfactory on poor waste land, are the evergreens, such as white pine, Scotch pine and white cedar. The nut trees for distribution requiring a deep, porous soil, are black walnut, butternut and chestnut. In addition to these are hardwoods, black locust, white ash, sugar, soft or white maple and elm. Norway spruce is not sent out now as it has been proven that the work in experimental waste land planting and plantation work in general can be carried on just as well with the others named. Persons receiving these seedlings are of course in honor bound not to resell to neighbors but to use strictly for their own premises. The work is now no experiment for the good results secured have amply justified the inauguration of the policy. The distribution will be continued this season and readers desirous of taking advantage thereof should at once put themselves in communication with the Provincial Forester, at Guelph. The time is opportune. Make the season of 1913 memorable on your farm by planting trees.

"For now the leaves are moving;
Leaf buds on every bough
Are reaching sunward, proving
How strong the spring is now;
In every mid-rib's veining,
In every footstalk straining
Sunwards, new life is reigning,
For spring is in the land."

Creameries and Cheese Factories as Local Industries.

In these days of bonused business, it is worth while emphasizing the importance of local butter and cheese plants as local industries. Within the past month the writer has visited three creameries, Winchelsea, Kerrwood, and Strathroy, the former two each with an output well over a hundred-thousand dollars a year. The output of the Kerrwood factory includes a little cheese, but that point is immaterial in this connection. The Winchelsea creamery has been worked up to its present proportions from almost nothing within the past eight years, while the Kerrwood business is a development of the past twelve. As the founder of the latter remarked at its recent annual meeting, many towns fall over themselves to attract industries of less importance and with smaller turnover, offering free site, free water, tax exemption, and even cash bonus. We do not believe in the principle of these bonuses at all, but if manufacturing industries are so highly thought of that bonuses worth ten or twenty thousand dollars are eagerly handed out to draw them, surely we should prize highly the local dairy plants, which are, from every point of view, the best kind of local manufacturing industries, not only disbursing, as these two creameries do, twelve and fourteen thousand dollars a year for labor, fuel, supplies, and so on, but, at the same time, increasing the purchasing power of the surrounding farm community, thus conferring a double benefit upon the town or village within which situated. If further argument is needed, talk to the branch-bank managers, any of whom is keen to secure the