



The silent advance of a great power of destruction. Sand dunes creeping across farm land. Four roadways lie beneath the billows.

age 20 feet in height and are a testimony to what may be expected from planting such species. Much credit is due those who initiated this work and for selecting the species which they did, because none other could have done the work better.

The movement of the sand is so rapid that only a few fast growing and tenacious trees can be used for such purposes, among the best being certain species of Willow and Poplar. And, moreover, such planting material is easily obtained, is quickly planted, takes root readily in the sand, and, best of all, stands an unlimited amount of punishment.

Planting in Belts.

The trees planted this year by the Forestry Branch consisted of 150,000 mixed

cuttings of "Holland" Willow (the same species used by the local farmers ten years ago), and our native Carolina Poplar. The trees were planted in belts 100 feet apart, each belt containing from 6 to 8 rows of trees of both species and ran at right angles to the direction of greatest drift.

The areas under process of reclaiming is in the neighborhood of 150 acres and includes the part where the damage is most imminent. In succeeding years the work will extend along the entire 5 miles towards the town of Wellington, and the time is not far distant when, where there was once desolate waste carrying destruction in its path, there will be, through wise and practical forestry methods, an area of valuable and beautiful woodland.

Beautifying the Barren Areas

By Henry J. Moore, Forester, Ontario, Dept. of Highways.

It is not too much to expect that men and women who are fortunate enough to travel along the Ontario Provincial Highways, even of the present generation, will be privileged to enjoy some of the results of the policy of beautification of the Department of Public Highways. Already many miles of roadway have taken on a more cheerful appearance and this augurs well for the future. But it is not to the trees which line the roads alone that the writer would draw attention in this article, but largely to the work of landscaping and reforesting the barren and unsightly areas which from time to time have or will come into possession of the Department.

Engineers, in order to create more easy grades have had to make considerable cuts, and fills, and were oftentimes steep and barren slopes of these to be left un-beautified many cheerless and uninviting scenes would obtrude themselves upon the

vision. These areas, however, are not to be left in this condition. They are to be planted with trees and restored to a condition of natural beauty.

Reforestation Plots.

The Department of Public Highways owns many quarries and gravel pits, and when these are finally abandoned the areas are to be reforested with trees of commercial value, fortunately many of these areas are adjacent to or contiguous with the Provincial Highways, and from these the tourist will be able to see the results of the work without even alighting from his motor. It is hoped that apart from the commercial value of the timber, a valuable educational factor will be established, for as men see the improved condition of these areas and the profitable use to which they are put, they are very likely to follow the example.

At one point namely the steep banks of the rouge cut about fifteen miles east of Toronto on the Toronto-Montreal Highway, reforestation has already been started. Three thousand seedling pines were planted during the past spring, and it is expected that the planting of this particular area will be completed next year. The seedlings were kindly supplied by Mr. E. J. Zavitz, the Chief Forester of Ontario, from whose Department, as time goes on, the Department of Public Highways expects to get much planting material.

Departmental Nurseries.

The demand for small stock for planting on the Department's lands having become so great it is within the bounds of possibility that nurseries will be established to produce the many necessary kinds of trees. It is essential that these nurseries be located at central points from which will be facilitated the quick removal of the subjects to their permanent positions during the planting seasons.

So far the cost of planting along the highways has been small and an increase in the cost is not expected, in fact it is so small that the value of the timber in the next generation on the areas to be reforested will more than pay for entire planting operations along the 2,000 miles of Provincial Highway. This does not mean that the trees which are lined along the roads, or grouped in the various parks will be cut, but those on the areas which are planted under a proper scheme of reforestation.

Even should the commercial trees fail to pay for the work, what of the beauty? Is it not worth something? Twenty years hence Ontario will not care to sell the asset of beauty along its highways for millions of dollars for if as men and governments come and go, they in their wisdom continue the policy of beautification and reforestation, the highways of Ontario will express to the world the fact that long ago our legislators rose above petty politics with a desire to beautify and to dignify what will be the greatest highways of the world. Will they not be? For do not all roads lead to Canada?

Men and women of vision look into the future,—fifty years hence; can you see the heritage of your children, and of those who in the order of things will come from other lands? At all times these trees will be beautiful. In spring with bursting bud, in summer with garb of livid green. In autumn with russet and gold, and in winter when garbed in a mantle of shimmering white and clearly silhouetted against a frosty sky the very beauty of their nakedness will baffle human expression. Silent as the snow which caresses them words will fail to describe their imperious beauty as queenlike they rise out of the haze to be crowned by the morning sun.