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RAILWAY FENCING

By R. W. LEONARD, M. Can. Soc. C.E.

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The subject of railway fencing, especially of determining the most economical and efficient type, does not appear to have received the consideration that the first cost and cost of maintenance would seem to justify.

The many different kinds of fencing that one sees in common use in farming and woodland districts in Canada, where cattle are allowed to roam at large, may be estimated to cost all the way from \$300 to \$1,500 or more per mile, and the most expensive is not always the most efficient, durable or economical to maintain.

The continued decrease in supply of suitable timber, and the consequent increase in cost, should make this subject of keen interest to railway companies and to farm land owners.

In Canada the fencing of a railway in country districts is necessary for the purpose of protecting the trains from danger arising from running down trespassing cattle or other domestic animals, or of protecting the company from damage suits arising from resulting injury to such animals, and for the protection of the railway from the accumulation of snow.

With the modern heavy locomotive and rolling stock, there is little danger to trains to be apprehended from striking the smaller