

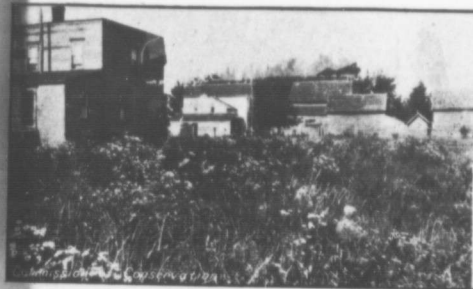
# Conservation

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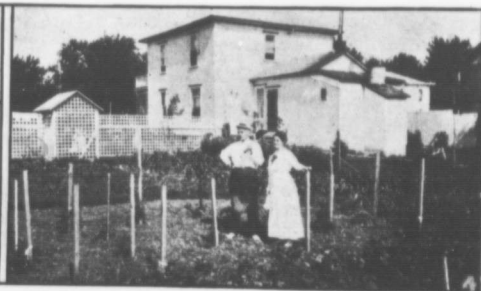
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No. 4



NEGLECTED AND WEED-INFESTED LOT



IMPROVEMENT, PRODUCTION, DECREASED COST OF LIVING, HEALTH AND HAPPINESS

The above photograph is of two adjoining properties; the owner on the right is growing his own vegetables, while the owner on the left is not only neglecting his opportunity to contribute something to the general good, but is allowing his weed-infested lot to be a menace to his industrious neighbour.—Cut No. 156.

## Planting the Farm Home Grounds

Lack of Home Attractions  
Makes the Boy Dislike  
the Farm

There are two equipments necessary for every farm home—an equipment for work and an equipment for living. Too often the equipment for work receives much more attention than the equipment for living. We are influenced by our surroundings more than we know or are willing to admit. Children especially are sensitive to these things. Many boys have been driven from the country to the city by the unattractiveness of their homes rather than by the hard work of the farm. The unattractiveness of home surroundings and the lack of common comforts have made many a farmer's boy dislike the farm. Every farmer owes to his family and to himself the best that he can do in the way of equipping the farm home and making the home grounds beautiful in order that the simplest and richest life possible may be enjoyed by all.

The cost of improvement and planting will be one of the first considerations. The first item of improvement, neatness, need cost nothing more than the effort necessary to put things in their right

places. Then, if planting is to be done, there should be a plan. This will cost only a little time and study in deciding upon how and where the planting is to be done. Very often the plants and trees required can be mostly, or wholly, secured from the neighbouring woodland. This is especially true of trees. Many home grounds are planted entirely with native trees and shrubs. These will nearly always give better satisfaction than the varieties offered by tree agents. Grape-vines can often be used for decorative purposes and at the same time supply fresh and luscious fruit. Many of the wild flowers, if given care in the flower border of the home grounds, will thrive and bloom so well that they will hardly be recognized as wild flowers.

Home improvement, therefore, need not take much money, but it does take interest. If the farmer is interested in having a well kept and attractive home and grounds, he will find the little time necessary to accomplish this end.—F.C.N.

## Make the Boy a Partner

Secure his Interest in the  
Business Side of the  
Farm Work

Six per cent of the 400 farmers, who were visited in connection with an agricultural survey by the Commission of Conservation in Dundas county in 1916, were paying members of the family who remained at home to work on the farm. No farmer was found who had taken the members of the family into active and actual partnership in the farm enterprise.

It is essential that many of our best boys remain on the farm and help in developing rural life into what it could and should be. Some of our farm boys may be better suited for occupations other than farming, but those who are suited for farming and wish to farm should be given every encouragement to do so.

Boys on the farm are too often

allowed to drift along with very little attention being paid to them. The boy will be more likely to become a willing worker if his interest is aroused in the business side of his work and he will gain ability to save if he is taught to spend thoughtfully and wisely. These two factors, willingness to work and ability to save, are fundamental for future success. Permit the boy to participate in the practical business transactions of the farm as the conditions allow. Let him do some of the buying and selling. When he has decided that he will be a farmer, the father may be gradually relieved from some of his responsibilities through a partnership management.—F.C.N.

## USE THE SOIL

It is just as important under present conditions to have reserves of food as reserves of cartridges. When so much is dependent upon a good crop, the entire community should concern itself about the situation from the beginning of the season. There are certain common vegetables, comprising a large part of the food supply, such as potatoes, beans, onions, etc., which do well in all parts of the country. They can be grown in a small way without machinery, and their production this year in ample quantities should be assured beyond chance or doubt.

Use more time and lower heat in cooking to develop flavours and to secure all the value in the food.

*"Of all forms of productive capacity there is none more vital, indispensable and steady than the application of human industry to the cultivation of the soil. And if there is one point at which order seems beginning to emerge from the present confusion of our political and social aims it is precisely with regard to this fundamental necessity of making a better use of the greatest of all natural resources."—Viscount Milner.*