

most unattractive streets in Ottawa, and to plant them as well. Circulars to this effect were sent to every resident, but the movement was not popular, the people did not wish the planting done, the main reason given being that if their places were made more attractive the assessment would be raised, and if the assessment were raised the rent would be raised. Whether their fears were well grounded or not we do not know. The shrubs and vines were planted, but planted about public buildings in Ottawa, not private residences. There are some well planted private places in Ottawa, but not nearly as many as there might be.

In 1909, a by-law was prepared by the Ottawa Horticultural Society and submitted to the City Hall, by which tree planting and tree mutilation were to be regulated through a Tree Inspector, under the City Engineer. The planting of certain kinds of trees was to be prohibited, the distance apart of the trees was to be limited, and there were many other good features of the proposed by-law. It was, however, not passed.

When will there be greater uniformity in the planting of shade trees on the streets of Ottawa? At present anyone plants what he pleases, and there may be a hundred kinds of trees on one street for all that is done to prevent it. Ottawa has much to learn from some of the prairie towns in this respect. There the city, not the individual, plants the trees, and plants a whole street with one or two kinds, with the result that instead of a hundred species, more or less, of trees of all ages, there is uniformity, with a much more pleasing effect.

As an example, take Clemow Avenue, where the uniformity of the avenue of elms is most pleasing, although later on they will be much too close for best effect, unless thinned. What an improvement this is over the planting on many of the streets of Ottawa!

A Civic Improvement League for Canada was recently organized, and no doubt, some day before long we shall have a branch in Ottawa. It can do good work by getting an improved by-law under which our trees shall be properly planted and cared for. Ottawa, as the capital of the Dominion, should be the most beautiful city in Canada, and some day it may be. Much has been done to make it attractive, but much remains to be done. The fact that it is situated where the climate is rather cold does not prevent the use of many attractive ornamental trees and shrubs, and few cities in America are so fortunate as to have in their vicinity such a collection of trees and shrubs as is to be found at the Experimental Farm, where their merits may be studied before planting is done in the city.