



A roadway glorified! Ontario will in a few years possess 1,800 miles of such highways. Room for wires but no mutilation of trees.

Beautifying the Provincial Highways

By Henry J. Moore, Forester, Public Highways Branch of Ontario

IN conjunction with its policy of good roads, the Ontario Government have established a policy of Beautiful Roads. Good roads are an absolute essential from the view point of national progress which means the development of our natural resources. The creation of industry. Better homes and better living conditions, thus, fewer homes for the destitute to be maintained, lower tax rates and better financial conditions. Beautiful roads are an absolute essential from the viewpoint of spiritual progress. The development of beauty to inspire the soul, to fill the minds of men and women with lofty thoughts, to make them forget their selfishness, to drive out sordid thoughts and to educate the children who will be the citizens of the next generation.

Beautiful roads mean increased farm and suburban property values, more valuable on account of the asset of beauty which previously did not exist, more desirable as residential areas on account of the refining influence of their beauty, more attractive to tourists than roads that are not beautified, and thus altogether more desirable. Beautiful roads are essential if for no other reason than for the fact that men and women

live their lives upon them and the expense of beautifying them is justified for this reason alone. What a world this would be were there no beauty along the main arteries of life, along the great human highways. No trees, birds or flowers to cheer and to gladden? What a calamity it would be were all of us to consider the road merely as a medium for making money, as a means of getting quickly between two points, forgetting that it should be the thing we live. Beautiful roadways in Ontario will be an asset, the value of which cannot be comprehended in terms of money.

Treeless Roads Mean Dreary Travel.

Why should not the main roads of Ontario be beautified. Why not those of every province? To-day less than 25 per cent. of the total length of the 2,000 miles of Provincial Highways in Ontario are tree lined, 15 per cent. of these trees are diseased or are out of proper alignment,—leaving only approximately 10 per cent. in good health, and in satisfactory positions. To align beautiful trees along these main arteries, or to lay out park spaces at intersections will cost the Province a comparatively small sum, and as this cost will be distributed over many years