

The Farmer's Advocate AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE is published every Thursday. It is impartial and independent of all cliques and parties, handily illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers of any publication in Canada.
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hallock used in British Columbia is a neater, more attractive and more desirable package, all things considered, than our somewhat ugly hallock with sloping sides and less stable appearance. We venture to hope that the fact that Eastern markets are accustomed to this package for berries will not always stand in the way of its elimination. An advertising campaign by the fruit growers of Ontario must soon mark another step in the history of the industry and it would be too bad if our packages were not of the most desirable stamp.

A distinct step in advance is marked by the legislation with reference to the marketing of immature fruit, a practice which in the past has checked the consumption of some kinds of fruit and has blasted the honest efforts of many fruit growers to win recognition on the markets for their product. No less important are the regulations regarding the pilfering, re-marking, re-packing and re-use of packages and the alterations made in the recognized grading standards. Here, too, is a matter for regret, in that it was deemed advisable to lower the high standard of the Act by the inclusion of a number three grade. No grade such as this should have been permitted, since to recognize it is to encourage its use. It is to be hoped that in thus urging the inclusion of this grade the Nova Scotia growers are not assisting in pushing the industry a step backward. Of greater justification, but less consistency, is the sandwiching of the "Domestic" grade between number two and three. In order to save the number three position for a grade which may contain everything but culls, so long as it is properly packed, it was necessary to mutilate the Act by the adoption of an altogether different grade name, and thus provide added cause for regret.

One other feature of the Act seems worthy of comment, and that is with regard to the penalty imposed for wilfully altering or effacing marks on packages which have undergone inspection. The penalty is reduced from \$100 to \$40, thus making it a lesser crime than heretofore to defy the law. It was, perhaps, too much to expect perfection in the Act, which on the whole is a decided improvement; so much so that the growers throughout Canada deserve commendation for the spirit in which they tackled the problem at the conference in March, while no less deserving of praise is the expediency shown by the Fruit Branch and the Minister of Agriculture in making effective the recommendations of the growers.

Nature's Diary.

A. B. KLUGH, M.A.

Roads and Trails.

To many of us a road always has a fascination. As a child we looked along it and wondered whither it went; we looked and longed for the day when as a man we could set out on that road and go on and on and on—out into great world. We doubted not that out on that road the we should meet with fairy princesses to whom we could render most gallant service, with dragons to be fought and overcome, for was it not so in all our favorite books? In respect to the dragons our childish imagination was not so far astray, for upon the road of life we meet with enough dragons to fight—the only difference is that sometimes the dragons overcome us. And those of us who are fortunate have found our fairy princess. In the prime of manhood the lure of the road is still strong upon us. We have travelled hundreds of roads, smooth

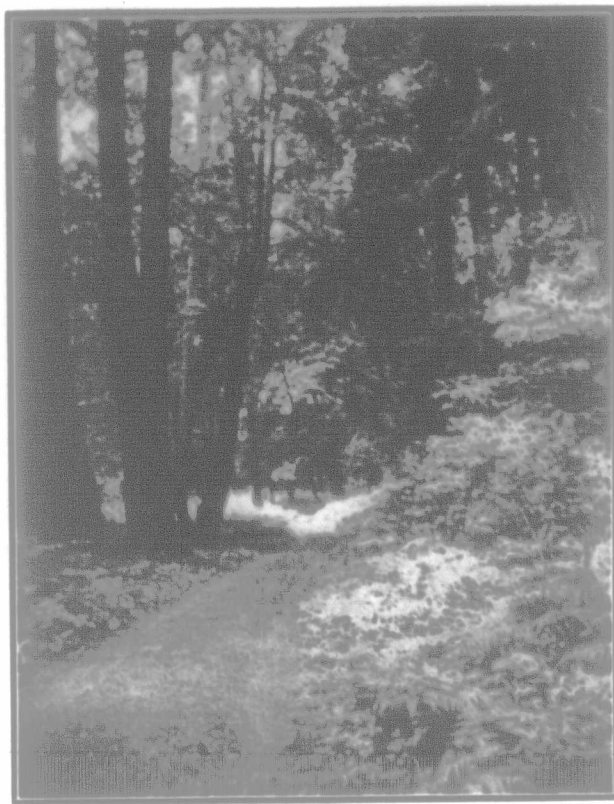


Fig. 1.—A Road on Vancouver Island.

and rough, up hill and down dale, in the hot sun and fighting against the wintry blast—but there are still roads to travel. The old man, his once sturdy legs now no longer able to carry him forth on a long journey, settles down beside the road, and shades his eyes against the sun as he watches his children fade from sight along the highway, watches them and prays that the dragons may not overcome them. Many a road he knows, but he is back again to the condition of his childhood—the next road he will take leads into the unknown indeed.

The love of the road is strong in the Anglo-Saxon race. Is it not this very fact that has made it the greatest colonizing race that the world has ever known? Has this race not established roads on the ocean as well as on land? Is it not now fighting against stealthy dragons of the deep to keep these roads open?



Fig. 2.—A Road on Deer Island, N. B.

In Canada, with our vast expanse of territory, we naturally have a very extensive system of roads, some good, many bad, and the majority indifferent. A road is, of course, primarily a means of communication between one place and another, and to many the main consideration is the condition of the road-surface—that it be such as shall allow of quick travel. But to the artist and the naturalist this is not the main consideration, to him it is the beauty of the road that appeals. Many of our roads are atrociously, and often needlessly, ugly. But we have in Canada many truly beautiful roads. Look at the road shown in Fig. 1, a road on Vancouver Island, and at Fig. 2, a road skirting the Atlantic in New Brunswick. When travelling along such roads the eye is constantly delighted by the most beautiful vistas, and along such roads the naturalist finds a wealth of plant and animal life.

A trail is even more fascinating than a road. A trail is usually in a wild part of the country, it is often faint and taxes one's power of wood-craft to follow it. It is not a safe game for the amateur woodsman, this following of faint trails, and here let me give a word of advice to those who would try it. As you proceed break an occasional branch backwards. The wisdom of this course becomes apparent when you find you have to back-track, as then the paler underside of the leaves on the broken branches show up and guide you safely out.

I would most earnestly urge those who have anything to do with the upkeep of our roads to give a little attention to their beauty. Let them not remove trees unless it is absolutely essential, for they cast a most grateful shade on the traveller in summer and break the biting blast in winter, and at all seasons help to make the world more beautiful.

Sandy Inspects the Crops.

BY SANDY FRASER.

I wis oot for a bit o' a drive yesterday, partly on business an' partly juist to see the crops an' the country tae find oot how ither peoples' business wis progressin'. Sae lang as ye dinna offer them ony advice the farmers willna mind yer takin' a look at their fields as ye pass by. They're what I hear the boys callin' "fed up" on information aboot how to grow big crops to feed mair cattle that will build up yer farm sae that ye can grow still bigger crops that will feed still mair cattle, and sae on, till they pit ye in yer lang box an' tak' ye off tae the graveyard by the church, wi' a' yer friends wipin' their eyes an' sayin', "puir chap, he juist killed himsel' wi' hard wark."

However, an' nevertheless, a wee bit o' instruction noo an' again has been known to do as muckle good as harm, an' we're not sayin' a word against it. But we ken juist the same that action has got to follow this instruction or there will be neither crops nor cattle. And to judge by the looks o' things in the part o' the country I wis through yesterday the farmers there must be men o' action. Unless maybe Providence is in a mind to to give them one mair guid chance to raise a crop that they canna find an excuse to complain aboot. The auld counties o' Glengarry an' Prescott never looked better since I first set eyes on them, and that's some time noo, believe me. The fields o' clover that ye see, one after the ither, are a pretty guid indication that the coos will be weel fed next winter, whether the corn grows or not. And there seems tae be coos on every farm. Maistly ye wad see them lyin' doon chewin' their cuds, juist as though the matter o' eatin' grass was o' no importance whatever. Na doot they'll think mair o' it before August, but at present ye have to look twice before ye can tell a pasture from a hay-meadow. They hae been tellin' us doon here, where there is a cheese-factory at ever second crossroads, that cheese is gainin' tae help to beat the Kaiser, sae I'm thinkin' that, by the looks o' things, we should gie him a black eye, onyway, this summer. The price o' the article wis raised again this year and although it's not high enough yet, according tae some, on account o' the cost o' grass and the increase in the wife's wages, still it's na worse than it wis a few years back when cheese sold for six cents, and three cents o' that went to the manufacturer.

But tae return tae my trip. There seems to be plenty o' corn gainin' intae the ground this year in spite o' the fact that a couple o' months ago they were tellin' us that seed couldna' be had and that in some places they were sellin' it at auction for fifty dollars a bushel. As a matter o' fact maist o' the corn that has been planted in this part o' the Province came from the Southern States, but it seems as though there wis always an over-supply in some part o' the country to mak' up for the shortage that there is somewhere else. The people that say they live by faith would seem to hae something to back them up in the doctrine they preach and na doot it's a' richt if ye ken the proper amount o' wark to mix in wi' it. Up tae the present time vera few people hae starved to death in this pairt o' the world and I'm inclined tae think it's because we hae the kind o' faith that makes us believe that we'll get oor wages if we earn them, but not unless. Onyway, as I said, the corn is gainin' intae the ground, whether it will all come up or not. In fields that were planted early aboot three-quarters o' the seed seems to hae sprouted an' maybe that's enough, for I'm thinkin' that we were inclined to pit in mair than wis necessary.

Grain o' all kinds is lookin' juist aboot the way it should for the time o' year. It wis a great spring for gettin' the seed intae the ground and since then the weather has been unco' favorable for growth. We had only tae ask for rain tae get it. As I heard one chap say "they must hae pit someone on the job this year that knows his business. We get rain juist when we're needin' it."

We've kind o' got oot o' the way o' growin' wheat in this part o' the Province but a guid many farmers hae pit in a bushel or twa to please Borden and keep peace in the family. Oats is the main crop in the line o' grain, wi' maybe a little peas or barley mixed in for grinding.

Potatoes were a short crop here last year for the reason that the maist o' them rotted in the field, and as a consequence a guid many farmers had to buy their seed this spring. However, there seems to be the usual amount o' ground planted again and na doot we'll hae better luck than last year. Ither roots such as turnips an' sugar-beets are not grown on what ye would call a vera large scale doon this way. Juist what can be thinned oot an' kept clean, without gettin' a sore back by it, is enough for the average farmer. It's easier to grow corn

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