

left. The birds are starved for 24 to 36 hours before killing and are put on the market un-drawn.

To the amateur my counsel would be: Start with good blocky birds; don't overfeed during the first week, especially, or at any time; feed regularly; keep the chicks quiet, do not allow dogs to come in sight of them; make the feed palatable by using a little salt. For the first week the birds will gain very little. They will make the largest gain during the second week. When the birds are fed, their crops should be full and if when you go to feed them again, their crops are nearly empty, your birds cannot help but be doing well.

FIRST CLASS PRODUCT IN DEMAND.

It should not be thought for a minute that there is a possibility of overdoing the business of fattening chickens. One of the main causes of the low prices for poultry during the past two seasons has been the very poor condition of the birds marketed. People get disgusted with skinny poultry and they buy other meats, whereas if the poultry was well fattened, it would create a better appetite for poultry and this would mean increased consumption. There is very little danger of over production of the first class product; in fact there is very little No. 1 poultry to be seen on the markets. The demand is almost unlimited for crate fattened chickens. The universal opinion of those that I have supplied with crate fattened chickens is "I never knew what a good chicken was before." If you don't fatten your poultry as I have outlined, make them as good as you can in the ordinary way. You would not think of trying to sell your hogs when half fattened if they are intended for killing. The same principle applies to poultry and the loss by selling unfinished poultry is much greater.

After Harvest Cultivation

L. C. Cameron, Halton Co., Ont.

Fields, that are to be fall plowed, should be turned over lightly as soon after harvest as possible. Where advanced methods of farming are practised there will not be much to plow save soil. After plowing, such cultivation as is necessary to put the soil in good tilth should be given. This will cause rapid decomposition of the stubble and other vegetable matter.

Three weeks after plowing bring the broad-sharred cultivator into use. This will cut all weeds and leave them near the surface. Then by means of the harrows bring the roots on top where they will be killed by the sun. Cultivating twice with the broad shares and following with the harrows is a very effective way of destroying weeds.

Late in the fall the land should be ribbed up in shallow ridges. This will allow the frost to penetrate readily into the soil. The many furrows will carry off the water in the spring with little wash, owing to the amount of water being small that passes down each furrow. Land handled in this manner will be in fine condition in the spring. It will work down readily with the spring-toothed cultivator into a fine seed bed.

Municipal Forests in Canada

The agitation that has been conducted by Farm and Dairy in seeking to arouse greater interest in the matters of reforesting the waste lands of Ontario, is having effect. A bulletin prepared by the Canadian Forestry Association, under the direction of Mr. R. H. Campbell, Supt. of Forestry at Ottawa, has just been issued to newspapers throughout the Dominion drawing attention to the convention recently held at Cobourg, where at the instigation of Farm and Dairy, a number of forestry experts and others met to discuss the feasibility of reforesting the waste sand lands of Durham and Northumberland counties.

The bulletin deals with matters discussed at the convention and is as follows:

Small municipal ownership be extended to forests? This question, it is hoped, will shortly be answered affirmatively in Ontario, and perhaps in other provinces of the Dominion. The question was discussed lately at a meeting in Cobourg of representative men of the Counties of Durham and Northumberland, which are united for municipal purposes. In these counties, along the ridge, which forms the watershed between the streams flowing into Lake Ontario, and those adjoining the Trent River, is a large tract of sand land, some 15,000 acres in extent. Originally this land was heavily timbered with a fine crop of pine. After this was cut off the land was for some years farmed with fair success. The fertility of the soil, however, has steadily diminished, and now few farmers are left on the ridge. Buildings and fences are going to ruin and areas of "blow" sand have developed which in some cases are drifting on, and covering up good land. Not only is this the case, but the streams throughout the district have been affected, with the usual result, that instead of flowing steadily throughout the year, they are torrents in springtime, while in summer and autumn their beds are almost dry.

CAPABLE OF PRODUCING TIMBER.

The land is capable of producing fine timber. Abundant evidence of this is seen in the large stumps still existing in many places, and in the fine young timber that is springing up. Already one plantation made on sand land in Durham county some four years ago, is growing well and thriftily.

The sand land can, it is thought, be bought at an average price of five dollars an acre. If the land is bought at this price and planted with white pine, at a cost, for plants and planting, of \$10.00 an acre, the cost per acre of the planted area would, at the end of sixty years, amount to about \$165. This includes a liberal allowance for expense of management and protection, and for taxes at the rate of 17 mills on the dollar. (Money is assumed to be worth three and a half per cent. per annum.)

The pine timber standing on the acre of ground would be worth, even at prices now prevailing, \$600. In other words, not only would the investment repay the interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum, but in addition would yield an amount equivalent to a yearly payment throughout the 60 years of about two and a quarter dollars. Thus the yearly revenue would amount to almost half the amount paid, in the first instance, for the land.

THE CONVENTION.

At the meeting referred to, addresses were given by Messrs. Thos. Southworth and Jas. Lawler, president and secretary, respectively, of the Canadian Forestry Association, Dr. B. E. Fernow, Dean of the Faculty of Forestry, of the University of Toronto, and others. Figures given by the last-named speaker with regard to similar planting in Germany and France aroused much interest. Resolutions were passed by the meeting favoring the reforestation of the lands in question, the co-operation of the provincial government to be secured, if possible. The matter will be further discussed at a series of meetings to be held during the autumn, to conclude with a meeting of representatives of the counties in December.

Other parts of Ontario present much the same problem as the district referred to and similar action could with advantage be taken in them. In other parts of Canada, too, there are good chances for municipal forests. The city of Prince Albert, Sask., for instance, has a splendid opportunity for the creation of such a forest reserve in the sandy jack pine lands lying to the north of the Saskatchewan. The state legislature of Pennsylvania, it may be noted, at its last session passed an act permitting the municipali-

ties of the state to acquire forest lands for the purpose of establishing municipal forest reserves.

To Encourage Earth Road Improvement

D. James, York Co., Ont.

Much is being written in our daily papers just now in reference to good roads; not too much of course, for good roads are quite necessary. The Provincial Government and the County Councils both appear to need more light on the subject in order to make the proper financial adjudication so as to cause more of the good work to be performed. Or, it may be a matter of education of some sort that is required. While the matter of good leading roads is important to farmers and merchants, it also appears to be all important to that increasing class, the automobilist. If people of wealth in our towns and cities use our leading roads, not so much on matters of business, but of pleasure, to the great injury of the roads and also to the hindrance of farmers and their families who have contributed so largely in building and maintaining the roads, there should be some way of equalizing the matter and of making the roads accessible and safe for all classes who may wish to use them.

Having recently visited a section in Lincoln Co., and knowing of the good work done by Mr. W. B. Rittenhouse, I suggest the following way of equalizing the financial part of a good roads scheme, especially from a farmers' standpoint. It refers to the split-log drag road, which has proven so successful in Lincoln and in some other counties.

FUNDS FOR A COMPETITION.

Let the Provincial Government set aside \$20,000 or \$30,000 annually for a term of six years for the encouragement, by means of competitions, of the use of the split-log drag. Limit the number of municipalities to be assisted from three to five in each county according to the size of the county; the municipalities in a county first making application to have the preference. No municipality should be assisted that did not have at least 15 or 20 competitors. The length of road for each competitor should not be less than one quarter of a mile; the municipality should exempt each competitor from statute labor or payment of commutation tax during the term of three years in which he shall use the drag up on the portion of the road; the municipality to maintain an inspector or instructor, or both, during said term; the municipality to offer prizes for the best pieces of roads, taking into consideration the length of road, the condition before commencing, and at the end of each year during the three years term; the Government grant to be depended upon by each municipality for at least three years and of course supplemented to some extent by township or private subscription.

These portions of roads, kept as they should be, would be an object lesson to all who would visit them, from the different parts of the township, or county, as the case might be. No doubt, many, later, would enter into the scheme, which would bring not only good returns financially, so far as saving of cost of hauling is concerned, but would increase the value of lands adjoining or contiguous to those roads. From the aesthetic standpoint, and this is not the least pleasing feature of the scheme, a well kept wayside speaks well for the people of a community, besides being a pleasure for the travelling public.

I hope, Mr. Editor, you will see your way clear to urge upon municipalities and upon the Provincial Government the value of educating, initiating and assisting our people in improving and beautifying our true farm roads, not necessarily upon the aforementioned plan, but possibly on a better one, this communication merely calling attention to the need and to some extent a feasible way of assisting the farmers of the whole Province.

T. R.

Preparation made many ways arated from the do in the way the foal. This is undertaken is begun the this preparate grain. This the dam in the floor where the follow will examp her seeing it has got a share every tin The best age has plenty of c the youngster months or even er. In case the ie weaned early milk is fed al be diluted with er and sweet with a little at SEPARATING DAM

FOAL

When well h broken and tak to eat grain, w ing can be without checki growth apprecia One of the methods, when convenient, is to place the dam and foal adjoining box st with a small opening through which they get their milk together. Discontinue the grain ration of the dam. For her only dry hard ously, in order to For the first foal to suck in four days, twice be often enough foal suck once a then do not allow If two stalls are which adjoin, but tween them thro may get their nos

To tie the foal placed on each side-strap should go These rings should will not be any de either rope when A large, light and on feed box, water place for a foal di can be led out to a bucket can be plac out of and be remov should be given in floor, the box also eaten.

THE

The grain ration ed should consist of ably the former, two bran. Begin with a until the foal is eati the grain ration. Fo of oats and two of w three feeds will be