

sumers on the same supply lateral to pool their water supply and each use the entire flow for the combined acreage they control for a limited time periodically. The Company will lend every assistance in carrying out such mutual arrangements.

Mail boxes are provided at certain intervals along the ditches and canals, the location of which water consumers will be advised of by the Company. These boxes will be visited each day by the "ditch rider" in charge of the water distribution in each district. At any time water is required, notice must be left two days before the water is required in one of these boxes. Upon receipt of such notification the ditch rider will open and afterwards shut the gates supplying the applicant's farm. These ditch riders are experienced men who have handled the distribution of water in irrigated sections elsewhere. They are instructed to render settlers every assistance and give any advice that may be required in properly handling the water.

It might be here mentioned that the gate in the Company's ditch supplying your farm is absolutely under the control of the Company, and you are strictly prohibited from opening or shutting this gate. The Dominion Irrigation Act and the Criminal Code provide penalties and imprisonment for tampering in any way with these gates.

Waste of Water.

The subject of the **use** of water for irrigation cannot be dismissed without a few words in regard to the **abuse** of water. It is safe to say that more harm than good has been done by inexperienced farmers, who would not listen to advice, by the use of water injudiciously. The fact should never be lost sight of, that there is no royal road to success in any system of farming. Cultivation and soil condition comes first; moisture supply comes only second. It is very tempting to put the seed in the ground, perhaps badly prepared, and trust to irrigation to do the rest. Irrigation never can take the place of cultivation. The two must go hand in hand.

In newly irrigated sections, the sight frequently meets the eye of road allowances and natural depressions being filled with waste water, alkali in quantity being brought to the surface, meadows water-logged and made unproductive, and various other forms of destruction caused entirely by the too liberal or indiscriminate application of water. Thousands of acres have been water-logged and rendered unproductive in the best irrigated districts through wanton carelessness and by men who were supposed to understand irrigation.

Under the climatic conditions of Southern Alberta, no greater boon could be extended to any intelligent farmer than a sufficient supply of water for irrigation. On the other hand, no more dangerous element could be placed in an ignorant and careless man's hands than an unlimited supply of water. It is, unfortunately, human nature to use indiscreetly that which costs nothing. The fact cannot be too strongly impressed upon colonists on the Company's irrigated lands, that it is absolutely suicidal to use more