

Practical Talks and Plain Precepts for Farmers.

Edited for the Farmer readers of the MONITOR by an Annapolis Valley Agriculturist

The Good Roads Question.

The Ontario Road Superintendent recommends township or parish to begin their work upon their roads with the commutation of statute labor.

These conditions should be live and active men who have had some experience in handling men.

The amount of money allotted in each section of the township should be returned to, and spent by the commission of that section, and the work of grading should be done on each road at such points as will distribute it fairly.

The Council should prepare a plan of each division classifying the roads according to their importance, and specify the work to which the roads should be graded.

Early in the spring it should be the duty of each commission to go over the roads in his division, study closely their condition and determine what work they require.

The best available gravel pits should be purchased by the Council, and the commission instructed to have all surface earth stripped off before hauling is commenced.

One man should be employed to operate the machine, and another to handle the material. These men should go with the grader continuously, as constant familiarity with the work will secure better service.

As soon as the frost has left the ground and the machinery is ready, the machine should be started. A plan of each road to be graded should be furnished the operator, and he should commence at a fixed point, grading piece after piece continuously, until all the work laid out has been done over.

Having the work started out in advance, taking the grading up piece by piece, following one plan, will secure uniformity in width and crown, save loss of time in moving from one section to another, and will provide the machine will be in constant use when the work can be most easily done.

When ever culture are being rebuilt, concrete pipe should be manufactured by the commission is most convenient gravel pits.

Third, Statute labor should be either committed to a cash equivalent or else the taxpayer should contribute to give at an equivalent in labor under the direction of a skilled overseer.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ROADS TO THE FARMER.

In bringing this question before the readers we cannot do better than quote Mr. A. W. Campbell, the noted Road Superintendent for the Province of Ontario, who says:

A good road is not a luxury. The road over which a load of farm produce passes is just as necessary as the wagon which holds the load or the horse which draws it.

"The road," the opponents of the road reformer will argue, "is not necessarily a good one. A track through the fields would serve."

On the same principle the wagon, horse and harness need not be good. To follow the argument to a conclusion, they are not needed at all, since it would be cheaper to use a wheelbarrow, thereby saving the purchase of wagon, horse and harness.

Roads are cheaper than good roads. In fact the same way that a wheelbarrow is cheaper than a wagon and a team of horses. It is pays to buy wagon, horse and harness. It will pay to build good roads.

For cities, towns and townships bad roads are a great evil. They are the greatest obstacle to the progress of agriculture in this province.

Speak the Good Word. It isn't the thinking how grateful we are For the kindness of friends come to cheer Our sorrows or loss 'Neath the weight of the cross; It's telling our gratefulness.

It isn't the love that they have in their hearts, And neglect or forget to reveal That brightens the lives Of husbands and wives, It is telling the love that they feel.

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