



Part of the shelter belt of Laurel leaf Willow on the Brooks' Demonstration Farm in Southern Alberta, together with the irrigation lateral.

a good foothold in a plantation it is only a matter of time in most cases until the trees gradually die out. There is not sufficient precipitation to support a growth of grass and trees on the same piece of ground. This is a point which must be fully realised, as it is the whole secret of success. We have never yet seen a failure where proper methods of cultivation have been intelligently carried out.

To be successful in tree-growing requires patience and perseverance, as one is certain to meet with many discouragements. One season it may be damage from insects, next winter-killing, then hail or perhaps rabbits may destroy the whole of a young plantation a year or two after the trees are set out. However, such setbacks are generally only of a temporary character, and probably the majority of planters will largely escape such disasters. But even should one's

trees be occasionally more or less injured by winter-killing, which is perhaps the most serious of our difficulties, that is no more reason for giving up tree culture than for a farmer to stop growing grains because his crop is once in a while destroyed by frost.

A well-established and properly arranged system of tree belts is an enormous asset to any farm. We have in our office hundreds of letters from farmers who place the value of their belts at very large figures, running from some hundreds of dollars to, in many cases, three or four thousand. At present few farmers plant trees with a view to the ultimate value of the wood products. The first consideration is always to provide shelter and improve the appearance of the homestead. Only those who have lived on the open prairies can realise just how much such shelters add to