

Results of the Prairie Tree Planting Campaign

The following letter has just been received from our Western organizer, Mr. Archibald Mitchell, who with Mr. Angus Cooch, is carrying forward our Tree Planting Campaign in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, with the aid of our Tree Planting Car.

"The Tree Planting Car"
En Route—Cardston, Alta.
May 2nd, 1921.

Well, we are off to a good start and already we are seeing results from our last summer's tour.

Calgary is in the middle of a great planting campaign where the Board of Trade, the Kiwanians and the Rotarians have joined forces and are putting over the biggest planting campaign over, this Spring. We were at the committee meeting and found a bunch of enthusiasts indeed. Several carloads of trees will be planted by the citizens of Calgary this year.

Then the small towns are not behind hand. Vulcan, enterprising as usual, is boulevarding her streets, as well as planning a new children's park.

Champion again is another tree planting town. A new park and the re-modelling of the school grounds being under way. At both places we supplied plans for the parks and other information which seemed to be appreciated.

Nor are the farmers behind hand.

Roy Walker of Vulcan, a member of the Association, is planting a mile and three quarters of shelter belt, ten rows wide this year and is planning for two miles more next year. No more soil drift for Mr. Walker if he can help it.

We went out to his place and they kept us busy; what to do with the currants, the raspberries, the Russian Poplars, the most effective places to plant shrubs, what to plant, and so on. Half of his plants this year will be cuttings so we had to visit the smith and show him how to make a cutting-planting iron. Three hours after, when the afternoon lecture was over, we called on the smith to see if the iron was up to specifications but found it was finished and already half way to the ranch.

At Lethbridge we found a busy campaign of tree planting on under the energetic leadership of our good (and big) friend, Peter Lund. "A tree for every citizen" is the slogan at Lethbridge this year, and all

hands are busy.

At Cardston we found the proportion even higher, for a town of 4000 is planting 6000 trees. Their streets are being boulevarded, a new park, the grounds of the tabernacle and of the temple are all being planted and tree planting is in the very air.

The park is to have a band stand and lots of open spaces with clumps of trees and shrubbery for shelter in stormy weather. Our island system for the small town park is being used and they will have a fine asset to the town in a very short time.

Our route takes us next over another section of the soil drift country and then south to the boundary, into a district where some of the school children have never seen a tree. Our pictures should introduce them to an entirely new world.

Yours very truly,

Sgd. ARCH. MITCHELL.

The Hickory Supply for Autos.

(Editorial, American Lumberman)

In talking to an automobile salesman recently about the superior qualities of wooden wheels for automobiles as compared to wire wheels, he rather dolefully said that the public would have to get used to metal wheels soon, for it is now almost impossible to get the hardwood with which to make such wheels. I am wondering if this is correct or has some propaganda been circulated recently against the wood auto wheel?—Inquiry, No. 206.

[Hickory is one of the best woods for automobile wheels, and there is no immediate danger of the exhaustion of hickory. So far as can be judged from present conditions, it will be one of the last woods of this country to fail in supply. Much is used for handles and vehicles, but it grows rapidly. It is at least as much of a domestic tree in its habits as black walnut, and grows along fences and in old fields where it is at its best. It is peculiar among woods in that the faster it grows, the better it is. Second growth—that is, fast growing, hickory—is preferred for many purposes. The wide rings of spring wood which are found in open ground hickory trees, give a strength and toughness, exactly what is desired by makers of vehicle wheels. It will be a long lime in the future before automobile makers can not get wood for wheels if they want it.—Editor.]