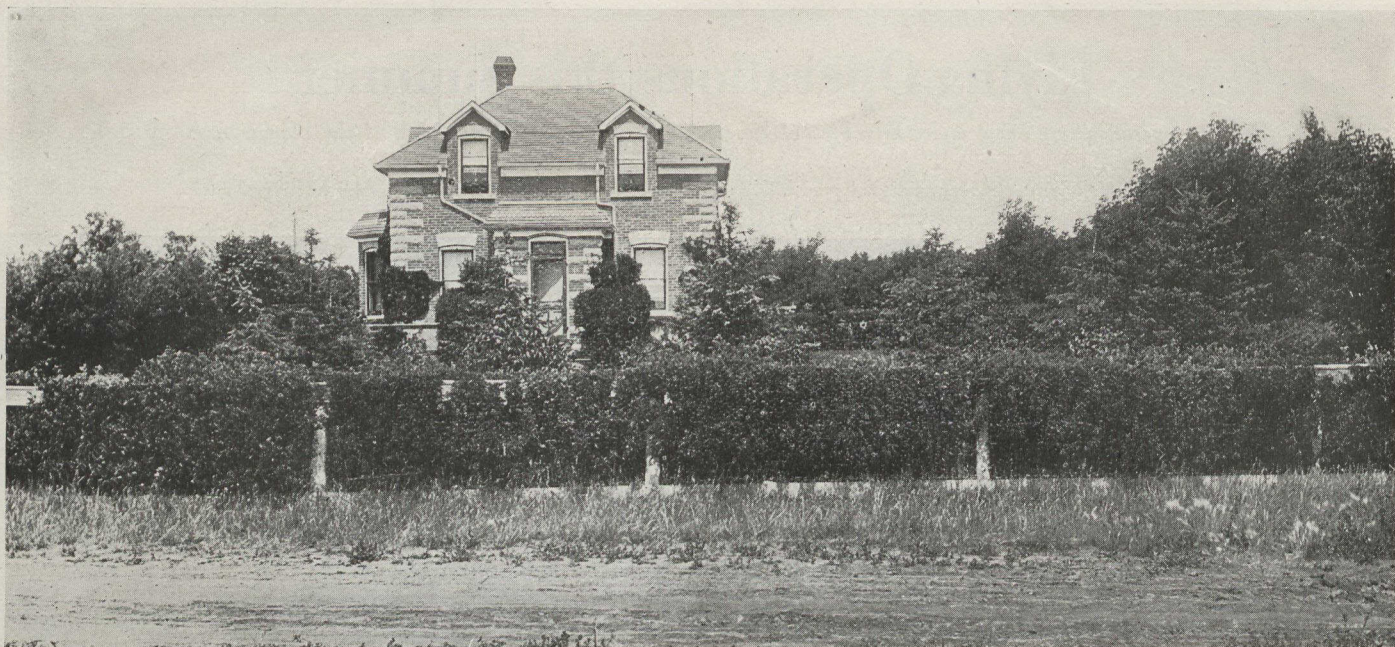




HE WANTED TREES ON THE "BARE PRAIRIE" AND GOT THEM.

A progressive resident of Oxbow, Saskatchewan, who came to a treeless plain and changed it into "Home Sweet Home."

Transforming the Prairie

Oxbow, Sask., May 10, 1921.

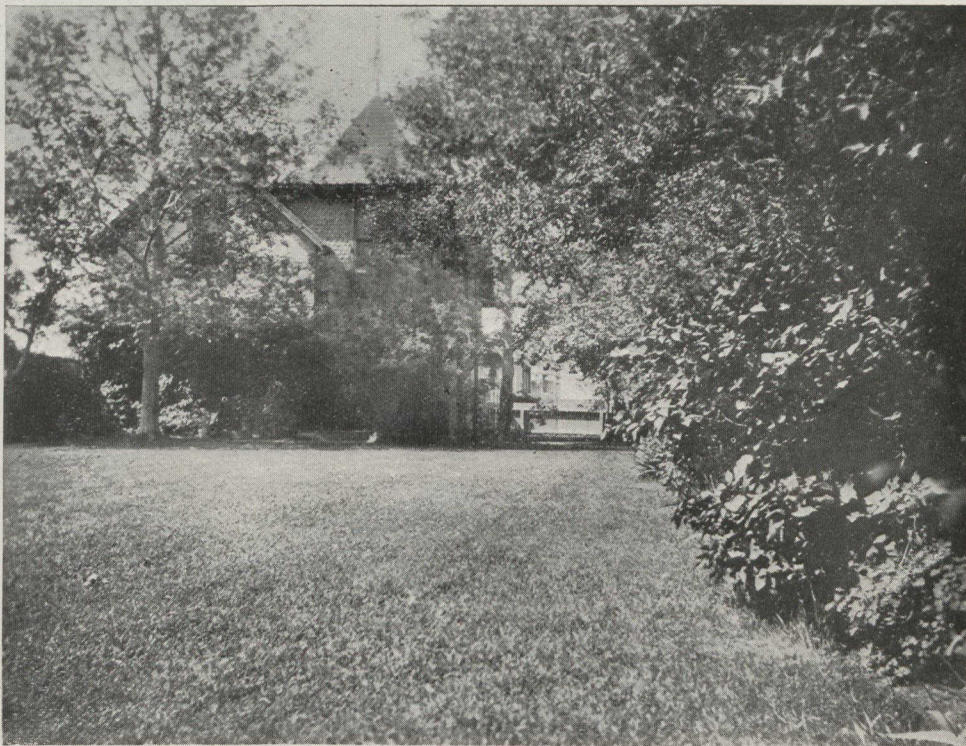
Illustrated Can. Forestry Magazine,

Just a word of encouragement in your work, and I would say that I think you have a long hard row to hoe before you will get people interested to the extent of abandoning money grabbing in order to plant trees in a big way. But don't give up the ship, I think the salvation of this whole western country depends upon tree planting to a larger extent than anything the writer can think of. As a proof that tree planting can be carried on successfully, I am sending you by concurrent mail a photo of a private residence in Oxbow, and I can remember when this plot was as bare as your hand as far as shrubs and trees are concerned, and that is not so very long ago. I can remember when we came here in 1882, there wasn't a shrub of any kind from the Moose Mountain to the International Boundary. Prairie fires no doubt were responsible for this condition, and as soon as we got the system of fireguards, especially the native poplar, began to appear in the low places around the sloughs, and today, this entire country is like a park, that is, the greater sections of it, and I can see no earthly reason why our main roads should not be lined on each side of the road with trees, even if they were one hundred feet apart.

Any tree with life in it will grow if properly planted and taken care of as I myself have seen it proven in thousands of cases. All we need is push, and it will take a lot of it to get the people interested. The magazine is fine provided it reaches enough of the people.

Yours very truly,

T. W. BAIRD.



WHY KEEP THE PRAIRIE FOREVER BARE?

Mr. R. G. Mathews, of Macleod, Alberta, is the owner of this handsome place. The trees are not more than seventeen years old and were planted without irrigation.

"I CAN'T SPARE THE TIME."

By Archibald Mitchell.

An acre of 1,800 trees 4'x6' planted by two men and a team in a day does not look such a terrible job, and three days switched out of the middle of seeding time on a prairie farm and tacked on to the end of it doesn't look so disastrous. "John Smith"

and "Tom Brown" with similar fields, starting to seed on the same day and coming out at the end of the season with similar wheat yields apiece, but with "Smith" having a fine plantation in addition, and "Brown" with nothing else but the wheat, gives them a different slant on the proposition. "It looks different when you put it that way."