

Conservation

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Canada's Fire Waste

**Spring Cleaning Time Should
be Used to Remedy Danger-
ous Conditions**

Canada continues her enormous fire losses, notwithstanding the efforts of many interests to reduce this drain upon her resources. During March approximately \$1,400,500 worth of created resources was consumed. The usual causes, namely, overheated and defective stoves, furnaces, pipes and chimneys, defective wiring, dropped cigars and cigarettes, and children with matches, were responsible for a large share of the loss.

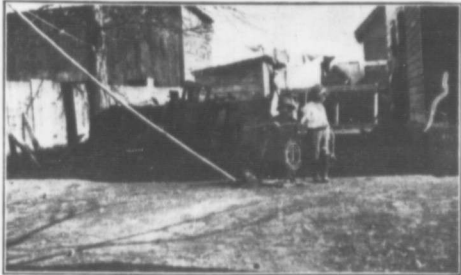
The use of stoves and furnaces for heating will soon be discontinued. These should then be carefully examined for defects. Chimneys and stove pipes should be thoroughly cleaned. Stove-pipes found corroded and dangerous should be at once replaced. Too much care cannot be taken to guard against fire. It destroys

both life and property. Last year 141 persons lost their lives in Canada by fire. Ordinary care only is required to prevent this loss, and it is hard to realize that Canadians are so blind to their own interests as not to appreciate this condition and give more attention to fire prevention.

The growing of even a few vegetables by twice as many people as have vegetable gardens at present would enormously simplify some of our economic problems, and give to so many more thousands of families fresher and more healthful vegetable food. Considered in relation to a few families, this may seem of small interest, but the cumulative result throughout the Dominion would be of great national importance.

I have seen several town-planned cities in England, and I have been greatly struck with the extraordinary common-sense manner in which those cities have been built. They have been built in a practical way, they have been built in an artistic way, and they are most comfortable to live in. There is a very healthy tone throughout the people who are living in those places.—H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught.

The Home Garden



Cut 127 A backyard scene which is anything but attractive and homelike.



Cut 128 Surroundings like these lend enchantment to the home and encourage industry.

Within the next few weeks, the time will be opportune for making home gardens out of even the most neglected areas. With no other incentive than the material, a garden should be a feature of every home. The supply of fresh vegetables for the table adds much to the health and income.

The appearance of his surroundings is usually an index to a man's character. The planting and care of a garden has also an influence for good, as well as a sentimental effect in the home, which cannot be measured by material results. This value is illustrated by the experience of a workman and his wife at a garden village in Hull, England. A house was rented to them at \$1.80 per week. They had formerly lived in a poorer

district and paid only \$1.20 per week. Explaining how they could afford to pay the increased rental, the workman said that, while paying 60 cents per week additional rental, he was actually saving 12 cents. The old house had cost \$1.20 for rent and 96 cents for his beer, or \$2.16 in all, whereas in the new house, the rent was \$1.80 and beer 24 cents, or a total of \$2.04. The difference could be accounted for by the added attractions of pleasant home surroundings. The work of the garden created an interest in the home, and an influence for good in the lives of those directly responsible as well as those of the neighborhood.

Horticultural societies and other local organizations can do no

Save the Potato Crop

**Neglect of Treatment Causes
Heavy Annual Loss**

From 1905 to 1915 the average annual yield of potatoes in Canada was 78,405,000 bushels, constituting one of our important field crops. The annual yield, however, is greatly lessened by the ravages of diseases and insects. The season of 1915 was admittedly one of the worst in years for late blight, and the Botanical Division of the Central Experimental Farm observes that, in one small province of Canada, the loss from this disease amounted to about 2,000,000 bushels, not including loss in storage.

Potato diseases may be controlled in different ways; some by spraying, some by seed treatment and some by seed selection. For early and late blight and for flea beetles, Bordeaux mixture is very effective. By adding poison to this mixture the Colorado potato beetle is also kept in check. Numerous experiments have been made which demonstrate clearly the practical value of spraying with Bordeaux mixture. At the Vermont Agriculture Experiment Station experiments have been conducted for many years. Over a period of eighteen years the yield on the sprayed area averaged 271 bushels per acre, while the unsprayed gave only 159 bushels per acre for the same period. The lowest gain from spraying was 26 per cent, while the average was 92 per cent. This evidence should be sufficient to convince every farmer that it pays to spray. It does not cost much and is not so troublesome as many imagine. If you have not full directions at hand, write now to the nearest Experimental Farm or the Central Farm at Ottawa and you will receive complete instructions regarding making and applying Bordeaux mixture.—F.C.N.

better work than encourage the cultivation of the home garden. It not only adds to the beauty of the home, but the cumulative effect upon a municipality spans the chasm between civic pride and civic neglect.