Live Stock Must be Kept

Or Soil will be Impoverished—Crop Rotation and Growing Legumes not Sufficient

In any scheme to maintain or build up soil fertility, crop rotation, including the growing of legumes, is vital but not sufficient. Clovers put the soil in better physical condition, so that the plant food in it becomes quickly available to the next crop. There is a danger then that we may mistake a more productive soil for a more fertile soil and be inclined to give too much credit to the growing of the clover and not enough to the feeding of it to farm animals. No matter what crops are grown, if they are all sold away from the farm, the soil will become exhausted. Live stock must be kept. Nature has provided a balance between animal and plant life, and man cannot long disobey nature's decrees.

When every particle of manure is saved and applied to the land, there is money in live stock; in dairy products, in beef, in the annual increase, and most of all in the next year's crop. According to figures of the United States Department of Agriculture the yield per acre of corn in Kansas dropped from 34.3 bushels in the decade 1870-79 to 21.3 in the decade 1890-99. Kansas has also grown large quantities of alfalfa, but the corn and alfalfa have both been sold away from the farms and decreased yields have resulted. In Illinois, which is a stock-raising and stock-keeping state, the yields have actually increased. It is a significant fact that the stock states show the smallest losses in crop yields. This is true of a state and the same principle applies to the individual farmer. —*F. C. N.*

TOWN PLANNING

Is the *selection of the site and environment*, and the adaptation of the same for settlement by an intelligent method, having in view health, amenity, and convenience;
is not a fad, but simply an *orderly method* of doing what must be done in any case;
means *life* for the babies, and *better health* for each person in the town;
assures to mothers and children as *healthful homes and home environment* as the factory act provides healthy workshops for mechanics;
supplies *suitable streets* for all sections, whether residential or industrial;
provides for cheap and rapid *transportation;*
gives the children *playgrounds* in lieu of dusty streets and dirty lanes;
prevents the undue encroachment of business upon *residential areas;*
allocates to *factories* their proper place;
is an important factor in giving a *higher morality* to the people;
bestows on the many advantages at present only possible to the few, giving to the poor blessings denied them under existing methods;
pays, because it is of economic value to the municipality permitting it to acquire property, which is sure to enhance in value, at a minimum of cost;
is what all should work and strive for, *ennobles citizenship* and elevates the nation.

Honey Bees Increase Fruit Crop

Pollenization of Blossoms must be Properly Effected to Ensure Good Yield

Many remarkable facts have been noticed by fruit inspectors, while on their regular tours of inspection, regarding the importance of bees in orchards in spring during the apple-blossoming period. In the county of Middlesex there were comparatively few apples one season. Practically the only exception was an orchard of 12 or 14 acres, the proprietor of which was also an extensive bee-keeper. The explanation given was that, as the bees were kept in the orchard, they were able during even the short periods of sunshine, to fertilize the blossoms fairly well.

Bee-keeping is a paying and profitable occupation; one that should receive much more attention than is given to this very important industry. Fruit blossoms of nearly all kinds depend almost exclusively upon insects for their pollenization. The wild bees include about 50% of the insects useful to the fruit grower for this purpose, but in large plantations, such as orchards, plantations of strawberries or bush fruits, etc., the large number of blossoms coming in at the same time overtax the usual number of wild bees in the neighbourhood so that is is advisable to have a special stock of honey bees to supplement them. More than this, tame bees being kept in the immediate neighbourhood, or directly in the fruit plantations, are more useful than the wild bees which may in many cases have to fly long distances, and cannot reach the orchards during the mild spells between showers.—*J. F.*

GOOD ROADS MEAN:

An increase in the value of farm land ranging from $5.00 to $25.00 per acre;
A more intensive agriculture, owing to the fact that a much greater variety of crops can be profitably marketed;
Hence, an improvement in soil fertility due to better farming methods;
The advantage to the farmer of being able to sell at the most convenient time, instead of waiting for good weather conditions;
The marketing of perishable goods in fresher condition;
Bigger loads and fewer trips to town;
Less wear and tear on harness and waggons;
Greater feasibility for gasolene traction;
Lower prices for the city consumer, because produce can be delivered at less cost for haulage,
More traffic for the railways, since roads act as feeders of the main lines of travel;
Free delivery of parcels and mail to farmers' homes;
Better school attendance;
The promotion of social intercourse among the dwellers in rural districts;
Country homes in summer for city people and increased automobile tourist traffic, thus creating more local demand for eggs, dairy and garden produce.

White Pine Growing is Profitable

Six per cent Compound Interest may be Earned in about Fifty Years

The growing of white pine, according to a U.S. government bulletin recently issued on the subject, is a profitable undertaking, returning 6 per cent compound interest if the trees are cut when not more than from 35 to 70 years old.

The original white pine forests are approaching exhaustion, and, with the growing scarcity of large-sized, high-grade white pine lumber, lower grades now find a ready market. In addition, the tree grows rapidly, has a heavy yield, and is easy to manage.

Second-growth white pine, 50 years old, on good soil, may yield as much as 49,000 board feet of lumber per acre; on medium soil 36,000 feet; and even on poor soil, 24,000 feet. White pine boxboard lumber, one of the chief products of such stands, sells from $12 to $18 a thousand board feet. Material for making matches, another product, sells for from $17 to $18 a thousand. Even larger material, suitable for sashes and blinds, some of which may be cut from a 50-year old stand, brings from $30 to $35 a thousand feet. Second-growth white pine, the kind that is found on thousands of abandoned fields and pastures in the eastern part of Canada and the United States, and which has sprung up in many places after the original white pine forests have been cut out, has a value to-day that makes it well worth the attention of the owner.

The best second-growth white pine, 45 years old, will yield about 42,000 board feet per acre, but the same stand, when 55 years old, will yield 55,000 feet, an increase of 13,000 feet per acre in 10 years. In addition, with the increase in quantity comes an increase in quality. Not only more, but better timber is to be had. Including this factor of quality, the lumber from an acre of best white pine, 55 years old, is worth about $1,900 against a value of $750 when the stand is 45 years old.—*Ex.*

New Organization to Reduce Fire Hazard

Formation of Lower Ottawa Forest Protective Association, Ltd.

The spread of the co-operative idea in forest fire protection is evidenced by the recent organization of the Lower Ottawa Forest Protective Association, Ltd. This Association represents nearly 10,000 square miles—or over 6,250,000 acres—of timber lands on the watersheds of the Gatineau, Lievre, Rouge, Coulonge and Nation rivers, in the province of Quebec. The staff will comprise a manager, three inspectors and about 50 rangers. The headquarters of the Association will be at Ottawa. In order to co-ordinate the efforts of all the agencies interested in protecting this region from fire, the manager of the Association has been appointed an officer of the Forest Protection Branch of Quebec, as well as of the Fire Inspection Department of the Dominion Railway Commission. To reduce the fire hazard as much as possible, a close degree of co-operation with the settlers and with the railways operating in this territory is also proposed. —*C. L.*

Increase in C.P.R. Fire-Fighting Staff

The Forestry Branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway has assigned three men to handle fire inspection work for the Company on its lines in British Columbia, and three additional men on its Eastern lines, in Ontario, Quebec, Maine and New Brunswick. These men not only make investigations for the purpose of collecting information to be used in fire claim cases; what is more important, they also help to prevent the occurrence and the spread of fire by personally meeting sectionmen and other employees of the Company and thus ensuring that the men are fully informed regarding the very strict instructions issued by the General Manager relative to the reporting and extinguishing, by railway employees, of fires occurring along rights of way. These inspectors also assist the Operating Department in securing efficient action in connection with the requirements of the Railway Commission relative to the maintenance of special patrols in forest sections, and the removal of inflammable débris from the Company's right of way. Under this method of organization, it is expected that much better results will be obtained than formerly. —*C. L.*