

severely cut back when first set out. This encourages the making of side branches close to the ground, one of the most desirable features of a good hedge.

With our comparatively light rainfall it is folly to expect success without frequent cultivation; this is particularly true on the stiff soil of the Red River Valley, where the clay loam quickly bakes after a shower, and soon kills the plants if not at once loosened up.

Hedges can be divided into three classes, depending on the purpose for which they are used, and each kind requires a distinct class of tree or shrub.

On the Experimental Farm there are forty-four different plants used for hedges, varying in height from a foot to fifteen feet, but time will only permit of my mentioning a few of the most promising for the different kinds of hedges mentioned.

First. We have the tall and often coarse hedge used for a wind break on the exposed side of a belt of trees, or to protect farm buildings from fierce winds and drifting snow. This class of hedge requires a large and rapid growing tree, and one not liable to break down readily with the weight of snow or ice. The following are suitable for this purpose and are given in the order of preference: American White Willow, Sharp-leaved Willow, Cottonwood and Ash-leaved Maple. The three first mentioned are grown from cuttings and the last from seed. Three feet apart is the proper distance to set any of these trees for hedge purposes, and very severe pruning is not necessary, one cutting a year being sufficient. Among the second class is included such hedges as are most suitable for division fences between town lots, or for the purpose of screens, dividing the front and rear portions of town properties. This class of hedge requires a finer and better tree or shrub, and more frequent pruning. For the taller hedges of this class our native White Spruce is one of the best trees. It stands pruning well, is very handsome

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