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Ontario Will Stop Tree Butchery Along Roads

*By Henry J. Moore**Forester, Public Highways of Ontario**Stringing of wires causing ruin of trees is now
under control*

NEVER before was there such a real desire to save the valuable shade trees of our roads and streets as there is to-day. The ruthless manner in which they have been butchered, in nearly every case where wires have been strung has aroused a feeling of resentment in the hearts of all lovers of trees, and as an outcome of this feeling steps are being taken to forever end the butchery.

Along many of our residential streets, once beautified by magnificent trees, now mere stubs remain, these slowly dying tell their pitiful tale to the passer by, until the day when they will of necessity have to be removed as dead things and be consumed in the furnace or stove as the case may be.

Many of these trees 75 or more years of age, gave of their shade and beauty before the oldest living resident was born, and the pity of it is that still in the vigour of youth and in the fullness of their glory they were sacrificed. Things which should have been revered were mutilated to finally die, and give way to a line of unsightly wooden poles.

What is the reason of this mutilation?

Public demand for telephone, telegraph, electric light, and power service. These demands made it imperative that wires be strung along tree lined roads and streets, and as all of the aforementioned companies know, interference from branches of trees cannot be tolerated, as the service under such condition will cause annoyance to customer and company alike, short circuits, and loss of current always do. These are common results of interference from branches. It is thus necessary that when new lines are strung good clearance from trees is essential, and so every branch and even twig in the way must be eliminated. In the case of high voltage electric lines several feet of clearance is necessary in all cases where branches are likely to bend with the weight of snow or sleet, or to be blown against the cables, thus the work of clearing the lines is a problem which all companies have seriously to face.

Control of Company Cutting.

There are but two solutions of the problem—the companies will either have to place their lines on private right of ways, or expert supervision over the