

traps, placed in those parts of the farm where they will catch most gophers. Boys, as a rule, delight in killing such farm pests, and a bonus of one or two cents a head would save dollars on the crops, and add a little spice to the boy's life.

*The Mole or Pocket Gopher.*—Moreover, in the case of the mole or pocket gopher, trapping seems to be the best method of control. Since its burrows are entirely underneath the surface, and since the point in the runway at which he comes to the surface to deposit the earth excavated in the construction of the runway is closed with earth, there are no openings in the runway through which to introduce the poison readily. His habits of life thus render him comparatively safe from the poisoning method described above, and compel the adoption of trapping as the means of control or extermination. The pocket gopher digs a large number of runways which converge at



Mangel Field showing destruction of crop around a Gopher Hole; Gopher in foreground.

certain points. Traps should be placed in the bottom of the runway at this point of convergence. A slight excavation is necessary so that the pan of the trap is level with the bottom of the runway. The chain is carried to the surface at the side of the runway and fastened to a small picket. The opening is then covered with a small board or shingle and earth is placed on top to exclude the light. Traps so set and attended by a boy who makes regular rounds, will catch a large number daily, since many different families use the same run.