

placed in charge of each group of five gardens and of the nature study work at them. He spent one day at one school and the next day at another. The cost of this was met by Sir William Macdonald.

At the school gardens an effort is being made to give the children information and training in three important matters a connection with agriculture, viz., the selection of seed, the rotation of crops, and the protection of crops against disease and insects. It is really industrial education. Children find out something by doing, observing, and recording results themselves, and I say it over again that all worthy progress, in matters that are worthy of thinking about, springs from learning the lessons of consequences. As soon as a child understands that, and governs his life accordingly, he becomes a better pupil and the promise of a better citizen in every sense.

The school garden is one way of making rural life more popular as well as efficient. It may be the first step towards actuating the people to pay more to make the schools more efficient. The best education in rural schools should make the people like rural life and also enable them to make it more profitable. The best way to make any workman like his work is to make him understand it. The beginnings of all that and much more are laid in the schools.

I cite only a few instances of the results from the experimental plots in the gardens managed by the children themselves. In Prince Edward Island, at Tryon, the children obtained an increase of 32 per cent. in the yield of wheat from a plot on which selected seed was sown, as compared with a plot alongside for which the seed had not been specially selected. In Prince Edward Island, also, the children obtained a yield of 17 per cent. increase in a barley plot after clover, as compared with a plot alongside where no clover had been grown.

At most of the gardens two plots, side by side, were planted with potatoes under similar conditions. The treatment of both plots was alike, except in regard to the spraying with