

deemed to be the property of the owner of the land adjacent to the highway and nearest to such tree, shrub or sapling.

"This property of the adjoining owner in the trees is not absolute, however. It is of a peculiar character. The trees cannot be cut down without notice to him as above mentioned, nor yet can he himself cut them down or remove them, unless a special resolution of the council has been passed, without becoming liable to fine and possibly imprisonment."

### Advice to Fruit Growers

"Fruit growers will do well," said P. J. Carey, of Cobourg, to the Horticulturist a few days ago, "If they take long to consider before investing in the method of protecting trees against almost all known diseases advocated by a firm which has operated in some of the western counties of the province. The firm claims that by boring a hole into the trees and giving them a sort of hypodermic injection of a mixture composed in part of charcoal, sulphur, soda and gunpowder, the sap will dissolve this mixture and carry it to all parts of the tree, thereby protecting it against the various pests."

"The firm which is selling this mixture presents its case in such a plausible manner that a large number of fruit growers have been led to adopt the method which I am satisfied is absolutely worthless. In a number of cases parties have actually paid \$200 for townships for the right to sell this mixture. At a number of the meetings I attended during the latter part of March and the beginning of April with Mr. Sherrington, of Walkerton, we found growers who had paid as high as 25 cents per tree to have their orchards operated on in this way. We told them frankly what we thought of the method—that it was no good. It has been tried so extensively in the United States that Prof. Taft, at Washington, has issued a warning to beware of the method."

### Growing *Catalpa Speciosa*

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I have read contradictory reports concerning *Catalpa speciosa*. Would you as a farmer plant them out for fence posts or shades? Are they hardy? Do they attain sufficient size to wire to in five or seven years? If you recommend them, where can the seed be obtained?—(W. J. C. Franconia, Ont.)

**C**ATALPA SPECIOSA, commonly known as the Hardy or Western Catalpa, is quite hardy in Southern Ontario, and even does fairly well here in Guelph, where we have several species, this, however, being the hardiest of the lot. This species has been largely planted in the west for shade and also for fence posts. It makes a very rapid growth from the seed and usually attains a height of two feet the first year.

On good soil and well taken care of, it should be sufficiently large to support fence wires in five or six years. I have seen it planted for this purpose in some parts of southern Ontario, where it has proved a complete failure, but this was largely due to lack of attention. The trees should not be left to grow in sod without protection of some sort. If they can be kept cultivated, or even heavily mulched, they will make double the growth that they would in sod.

As shade and ornamental trees they are very desirable, not only on account of their large leaves but because of the large showy flowers which appear in July. The seed is listed by J. M. Thorburn, 36 Cortlandt St., New York, at one dollar per pound. If good seed can be procured, the trees can be very cheaply grown from seed. They should be started the first year in nursery rows and kept cultivated the same as corn. In the spring of the second season they should be taken up and transplanted into other rows or where they are to remain permanently. The seedlings form very strong tap roots, and give difficulty in transplanting unless taken at one year.