

land owner set out ornamental trees along the highway. You may never know what poor wayfarer has called down blessings on your head, but you will be conscious of the good work done, and even if done from selfish motives it still adds to the value of your property, and does good to the many. All along this line are signs of progress, and with this progress is coupled a desire to make our lives brighter by contact with all things that elevate and refine. There is little room in the heart for coarseness when one has made love to nature, and to nature's works. I care not how humble the home, if the owner surrounds it with a lawn, or a fringe of trees, or makes a few bright spots with flowers. I am assured, that home has much to be envied. We cannot compel anyone to add to this refining influence, but we all can work a change by our example, and if each town in our province would have a public place and beautify it with nature's offerings it would start

A Chain of Refinement

that never would be forgotten, and when you and I had passed out of the memory of this generation, every tree and shrub that we have planted would still speak and reveal their wondrous beauty. The trees are never voiceless, and no doubt many of you when working in your orchards have heard them speaking to you with a peculiar tone, perhaps soft and low, and yet distinct and clear.

It is a suggestive fact that the parts of our province in which our people take the least interest in the refining influences of trees and shrubs,—in those parts intemperance, poverty and crime are most prevalent. Now if this is a fact, and we believe that a close relationship exists between all classes, we should then believe that whatever tends

to refine a part of humanity helps the whole. There is no doubt that we are all (even if we do not admit it) more or less in need of reforming, and none of us live up to our full capacity for refinement. Many of you no doubt who have the trees, shrubs and plants always with you can understand how much they add to the joys of life, and how close they come in contact with your best and highest qualities. How often in the daily grind of every day life come back to you thoughts of the old-fashioned garden that had the trees, shrubs and flowers that your mother tended so faithfully, and so lovingly, and it may be, that under some favorite tree in the home garden, you planned out your life work, and under the sheltering branches drew inspiration that kept you from growing cold and cynical. How often has a single flower called forth the better part of human nature and opened the eyes to the beauty and needs of some refining influence. How sad it is to see in even

This Beautiful Country of Ours,

this Evangeline Land, so many homes whose surroundings are lacking in the refinement that a few trees, shrubs and flowers might change! Is it any wonder the young people long to leave such homes and reach out for something different, or go to other lands where such things are held in esteem? Granting that trees, shrubs and flowers exert a refining influence, the question that would naturally arise is, how are we to get our farmers and fruit growers interested in the work? The first thing we find is the matter of expense, and if this can be overcome the rest is not so formidable.

In a paper of this sort one can only outline the plan of action. Now as far as the matter of expense is concerned I think that can be easily met. Most of you have some vacant lot, or odd