

FARM.

Turnip Harvesting.

A few more days and turnip harvesting should commence. While some seasons will admit of the crops standing in the field until the end of October, in four cases out of five the man who plans to have his crops all housed or pitted by October 27th will come out ahead in the long run. As the last two months have been particularly favorable to growth, the crop is now fairly well grown and matured. While the ground is dry and the weather fine, the roots go in clean and nice with really pleasant labor, but with a wet spell, especially if accompanied by snowstorms, as so frequently occur about the 1st of November, the job is disagreeable, the roots go in in no condition to keep, and much time is lost by unavoidable delay.

Perhaps there is no other crop grown in which there is such a variety of harvesting methods used. In some sections the old plan of hand-pulling and topping and tailing with a knife is still in vogue, but this method costs too much in labor for this age of expense-cutting. Some growers, in fact a great many, top with a hoe, and harrow the roots out with an ordinary diamond harrow, and this method answers a good purpose on tolerably dry soil, especially in a season like the present when the roots are well-grown, but it is a slovenly, dirty method in a wet time, especially on heavy land. In such cases, much earth is hauled to the roothouse, in which the rooty turnips are almost certain to heat and give trouble. A fairly good plan is to top the turnips, two rows into one, with hoes, and dig them with light mattocks, turning the rows two into one between the double rows of tops. In this way the long fibrous roots are cut from the

on either side is sufficient. It is needless to pile on a great thickness of soil, as six inches at the bottom, graded to four at the top, is quite enough when an ample covering of straw has been used. Some good farmers leave, until near freezing up time, a space along the top of the entire length of the pit, which should be covered by boards, laid upon cross-pieces. Whether this be done or not, when the top is covered with earth, three-inch drain-tile should be inserted on end, at intervals of about eight feet, to allow heat to escape if it accumulates. When cold weather sets in to stay, the north side should have a fairly heavy coat of long manure, which will hold the snow and keep out frost.

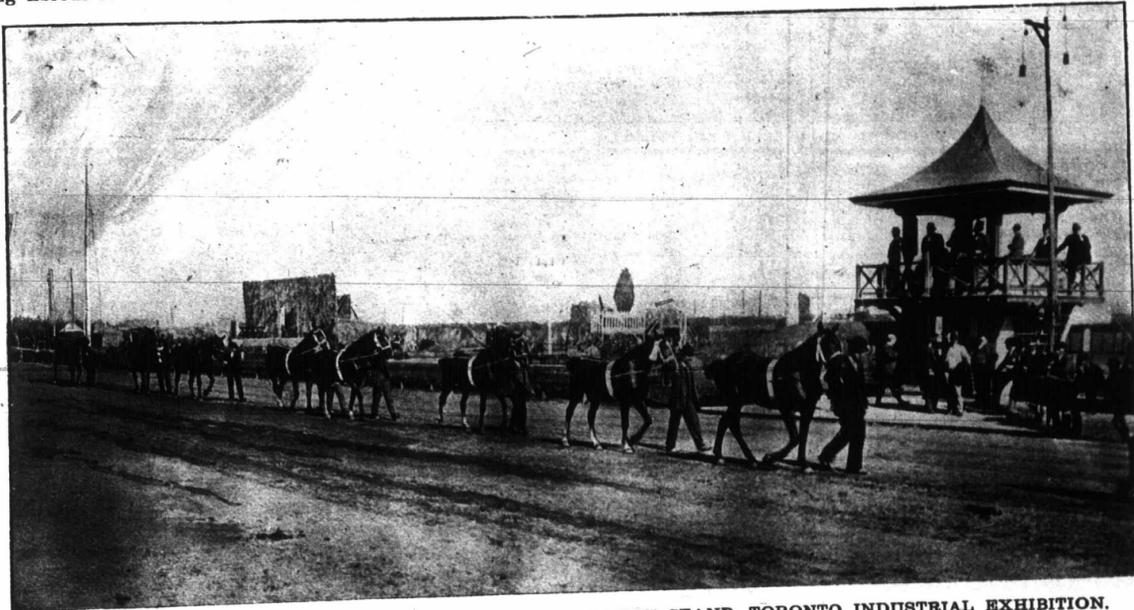
Bay of Quinte District.

The Bay of Quinte Fair held at Belleville, Sept. 17th to 21st, was a great success, and every credit is due the manager, Mr. J. M. Hurley, to whose efforts the fair owes its present successful condition. The principal exhibitors of pedigreed cattle were Messrs. Alex. Hume, Ayrshires; B. Mallory, Holsteins; Spragge & Son, Jerseys; and J. C. Hauley, Short-horns; while in sheep and swine, Messrs. R. G. Martyn showed long-wooled sheep, and Berkshire and Yorkshire pigs; R. Garbutt, long-wooled sheep and Berkshire pigs; L. Bate & Son, Southdowns, and Poland-Chinas; J. M. Hurley & Son, Yorkshires; Alf. Brown, Shropshires; and Terril & Son, Shropshires, and Berkshires. The swine classes were exceptionally good, the stock being of good quality, and as a general thing brought out in good shape; the Belleville district has of late been sending out some extra good specimens in the way of hogs, and certainly the exhibit at this fair points towards their keeping up the good work they have begun.

help to protect from the ravages of mice during deep snows. But a better protection, and one which is rabbit-proof as well, is to place about the trunk a piece of sheetiron rolled in the form of a tube, 12 inches long and 4 in diameter. These can be procured at the small cost of 2 cents each, and after the trees have outgrown their need, may be removed and placed upon newly set ones. One important point in fall planting which must not be neglected is to place a heavy coat of straw or strawy manure about the base of the trees, with the object of keeping the frost from penetrating too freely among their roots. If trees are set and cared for after the above manner they will thrive equally as well, if not better, than when done in spring.

The present is also an excellent time to set out a row of shade trees along the front of the farm; and nothing else adds so much to the beauty and attractiveness of a farming community as well-kept highways, neatly fenced and having continuous rows of graceful shade trees upon either side. Either the sugar or soft maple are admirable for this purpose, as both form tops of the most perfect symmetry, and their foliage, during autumn, presents such rich floods of color as elicits a world-wide admiration for the beauty of our Canadian autumnal scenery.

The soft maple is most readily procured, and is an exceedingly rapid grower, while on the other hand, the sugar maple, although of slower growth, might in future years be used for sugarmaking purposes. If the trees are set directly upon the line, they may in the course of ten or twelve years be used as posts for wire fencing. When this is done, however, the wires must not be fastened directly to the trees, but a piece of scantling should be first nailed to them, to which the wires may be stapled. When selecting shade trees for transplanting, those



A GLANCE AT THE HORSE PARADE PASSING THE JUDGES' STAND, TORONTO INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

turnips, leaving them clean and nice to handle. A still better plan is to use instead of mattocks a plow having a hooked blade about eight inches long welded unto the wing of the share. Instead of a mouldboard, two three-quarter-inch iron rods should stand out with much the same slant as the mouldboard had, for the purpose of rolling the roots over. The bars or rods allow the soil to fall through, leaving the turnips clean and nicely rowed. From three to five acres a day can be taken up in this way if desired.

It is not well, however, to leave more out of the ground, exposed to hard frost, than can be avoided, as a severe freezing does to some extent injure the roots, both in flavor and keeping qualities.

A word about pitting may not be out of place. The writer has pitted a great many turnips, and lost very few by frost or heating. Root-pits of any sort should have a dry situation. They should invariably run east and west, for the reason that only the north side will need an extra covering to provide against severe frosts. Besides the advantage of having just one side to cover, where the roots are needed during the frozen season they are easily got at through the one covering of the south side.

A turnip pit should not be wider at the base than five feet at most. It is not necessary to excavate deeper than six or eight inches, leaving the removed soil as banks on either side. The pit may be put up as high as will easily stand. After the sides are built up smoothly and evenly, a heavy coat of straw should be evenly spread over them. Six or eight inches of straw will keep out much more frost than a very heavy covering of soil. The covering of earth may be commenced by plowing a heavy furrow up to the pit, setting the plow well toward the pit to avoid scraping off the straw with the whiffletree end. The plow may be kept going round and round until sufficient earth is loosened up to cover the entire pit. Usually about five feet

Fall Planting of Trees.

BY ELLIS F. AUGUSTINE.

There are few farms which might not be made much more attractive and valuable by the addition of a number of ornamental and fruit-bearing trees. This fact is recognized by many of our best farmers, but with the advent of spring work is generally so crowded, incident to the sowing and planting of field crops, and the thousand and one other important matters which must be attended to at that season, that the planting of trees is usually neglected until too late, and then done in a hurried and imperfect manner, or postponed until another year, with the result that the farm remains barren of both shade and fruit.

But as general farm work is less pressing now than in early spring, this work should have immediate attention, for although not generally known, it is nevertheless a fact that there is no better time for setting out all kinds of fruit trees—peaches excepted—than early fall. At this season of the year the ground is usually much warmer than in early spring, and the roots of the freshly planted trees are at once encouraged to throw out new fibers, whereby the trees become thoroughly established before winter sets in and are in the best possible condition to start growing with the first warm days of spring, so that the most critical time after transplanting is well over before the heat and drouth of summer arrives. This work may be successfully done as early as September if care is taken to strip the leaves from the trees before planting; but there is still time to perform the work with satisfactory results if done during this month. The tops should be well cut back and all broken and bruised roots cut off.

When filling in the holes the ground should be well packed about the roots, and a slight mound prepared about the trunk of the tree. This will prevent them from swaying during heavy winds and

of one to one and a-half inches in diameter are of the most suitable size. They should be cut about ten feet in length and trimmed free of all branches, when new buds will shoot out more uniformly, thereby producing tops of a similar and perfect form.

When digging the trees, care should be taken to bend them as little as possible in the efforts to loosen the roots, as this loosens the bark about the base of the tree, and is one of the chief causes of their failing to grow. The maple is much subject to the attacks of the tree borer, and these should be carefully sought for in the spring, when they may be destroyed by running a thin piece of wire in the holes made by their entrance.

DAIRY.

Dairying in B. C.

The Delta creamery is far past the experimental stage. Their capacity is 500 pounds a day, but they are turning out about 250 to 300 pounds. Many of the farmers object to the creamery running on Sundays, so that a day is lost each week. Victoria is the natural market for the creamery, and with the exception of Monday's shipment to Vancouver, the Capital absorbs the supply. The freight from Ladners to Victoria is less than to Vancouver, as the shipment goes direct by the boat, being delivered at the stores by the Creamery Co., at 25 cents, and sold at 35 cents per lb. The demand is far in excess of the supply, and not until there is a large creamery in every municipality will the home demand be satisfied. The season for creameries is longer than in Manitoba, therefore less expensive to run creameries here.