

from fire and managed for continuous production? What would the resources from such forests mean in terms of reduced taxation, in furnishing the financial aid in the building of highways, the endowment of schools and universities, the founding of hospitals and libraries? You see, you are to be important factors in the effort to lead your own country into the path of its higher destiny. Unless you have this vision and faith in the ultimate success of that vision, you will have failed in the duty of your profession and in the obligations of citizenship.

SHELTER-BELTS AND SOIL FERTILITY.

A blanket of four or five inches of snow over a prairie farm during winter and until early spring means a large amount of moisture for the soil. The problem is to keep it there and not have it blown away by high winds. This is where shelter-belts on the farm prove their value by preventing drifting and thus retaining moisture and fertility.

PRAIRIE TOWN PARKS.

(Concluded from p. 517.)

The grass should be Kentucky Blue and it should be sown thickly with about a fifth of white clover. The grass should be sown first and the clover after. After being raked it should be rolled if possible. Weeds will appear the first summer but if they are kept cut off with a mower the first year they will trouble very little afterwards.

After the tree groups are from eight to ten feet high, which will be in three years, there will be no further need for cultivation but it will then be an additional assurance for good growth to cover the ground underneath the trees with straw, 8 to 10 inches deep to keep in the moisture. In doing this, the branches must not be trimmed off. They must be allowed to remain until they drop off naturally. No artificial pruning is allowable in these forest islands.

Somebody will some day come along and suggest pruning or thinning, and whoever is in charge then may be inclined to do it, but if he does, he will undo all the work already done and your park will revert to a condition similar to what it is in now. You are growing, not **trees**, but a number of miniature forests and they must be managed accordingly.

Making the Walks.

After the trees are all planted, the walks should be pegged out ready to be made. The easiest way to do this is after the walks are pegged out, to plow along the line of the pegs, using a rolling coulter if possible to cut a clear furrow and throwing the earth into the walk. Three or four inches deep will be quite enough.

The grass edge bounding the walk must be sharp and a clean clear furrow is essential, and while the clean sharp edge can be restored with the spade, the less of that the better as it takes time. It should of course be dressed with the spade. After the furrows are made the centre of the walk should be rounded up by using a—V—along the furrow throwing the loose soil into the middle.

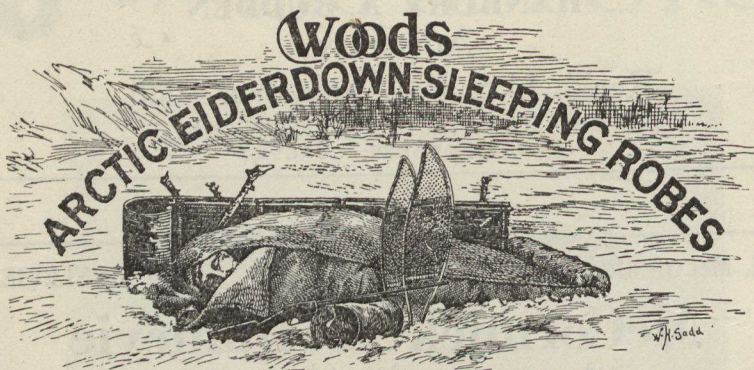
The —V— is made of 6-inch plank as per the sketch enclosed. It makes a fine job and saves a lot of work.

Care of the park after the trees require no further cultivation and the grass is grown.

The finish of the park is everything and no matter how well your trees and grass are growing it will never have the pleasing appearance it should have unless the edges of the tree groups and the walks are kept trimmed. These should be gone over once a year with a half-inch turf iron. It will not take more than a day or two to do, and perhaps even need not be done

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