

A Park Plot in the Centre of the Town of Brockville

of school grounds; 3, care and management of streets and boulevards; 4, establishment of parks and playgrounds; 5, abatement of public nuisances; 6, promoting rural improvement; and 7, the press. Many others might be added, but this would make a good beginning. If the right person were put at the head of each committee and work was begun at once, this association would make itself a power for good in the country, and we should have valuable reports from each at our next meeting.

As a matter of encouragement to those who may be looking for more rapid changes, it may be well to call attention to the steady and even rapid progress that is being made in many parts of the province. There have been a number of agencies contributing to this progress

which may be used to still greater purpose in the future:

1. The more general use of cement in the making of pavements and sidewalks has had a marked effect on most every town and village in the country. In many Ontario towns cement has almost entirely replaced the old wooden walks during the past ten years.

2. Accompanying the laying of permanent walks has come the removal of street fences. In many up-to-date Ontario towns and cities we may now go block after block on the residential streets and see no fences, either in front or between lots.

3. Immediately following the removal of fences has come the proper grading of the lawns and boulevards to the line of the pavement, and more attention to

keeping the grass nicely cut. A prominent citizen of Woodstock told me that it was not many years ago that he owned the only lawn mower in the town. Now it would be hard to find the citizen who did not own and use one regularly.

4. In some places where systematic tree planting has been done along the boulevards, there are now fine avenues of street trees. But just here is where so many towns have been spoiled because the street planting has been left to the individual property owners, no two of whom have the same idea of what kind of trees should be planted, or where they should be placed on the boulevard. This has rendered it impossible to make a uniform continuous row of trees, because of the great variety selected and the hap-hazard method of their arrangement. The street planting and care of the trees in every village, town and city, should be under the management of a park board or commission, which can adopt a definite plan for the regular planting of certain kinds of trees on certain streets and see that they are properly cared for.

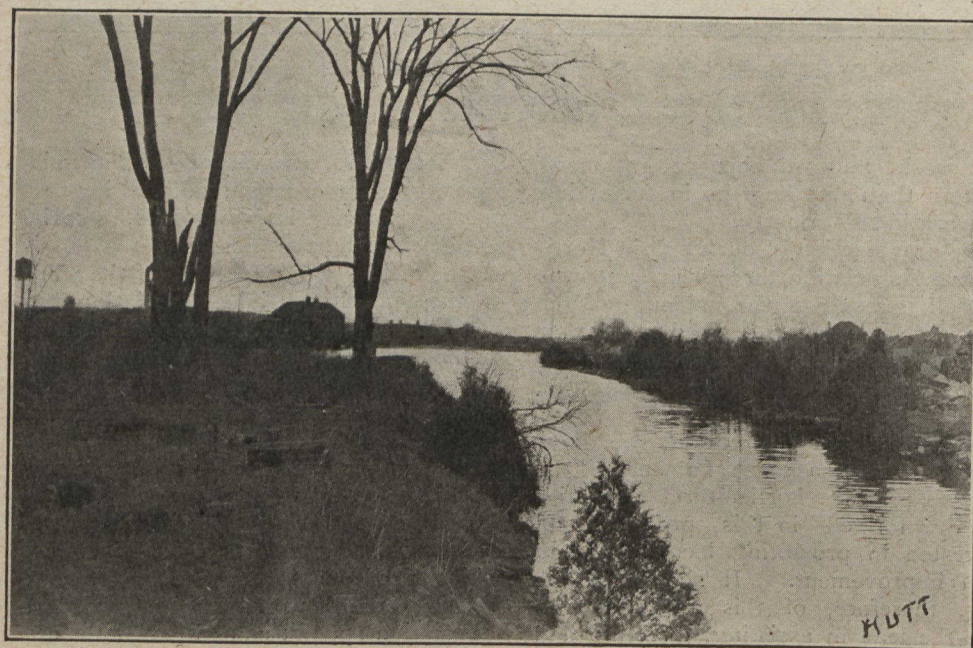
5. In a number of our cities and most progressive towns, park boards or commissions have been appointed, as provided for by the Ontario Parks Act. This means that much greater progress will be made in such places, and other places will wake up to the necessity of similar action.

Within the last few years many of our Ontario towns and villages, to say nothing of the larger cities, have seen the advisability of making park reservations, and have purchased lands for park purposes. In some cases, the development of these has been undertaken by the town council, and in others by a park board, but experience has proved that greater continuity of action may be expected from a board or commission which is more or less permanent.

Evidences of progress in the establishment of parks may be seen in such places as Ottawa, Brockville, Havelock, Toronto, Brampton, Hamilton, Galt, Guelph, Berlin, Waterloo, Woodstock, Stratford, Barrie, Orillia, London, Leamington, and many other places.

For a town of its size, I know of no place making greater progress in the establishment of beautiful parks than the town of Galt. It has now three good sized parks and seven or eight small plots and squares about the town which help to make Galt a town beautiful.

*(To be concluded in next issue)*



A Little Work and Expense Would Make this Scene Ten-fold More Beautiful

Many towns in Ontario have near them beautiful river banks which should be purchased now while the land is cheap and gradually improved for park purposes. The scene illustrated is within the town limits of Smith's Fall

If you have any photographs of your garden, orchard or lawn in winter, kindly send them to THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST for publication. An excellent article entitled, "Planting for Winter Effect in the North," will appear in an early issue.