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Destroy Roadside Weeds

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WITH the scarcity of farm help, intensification of the season and bad weather conditions, there is no doubt will arise in the minds of many farmers the problem of keeping up with the work this coming season. It is given unto man to accomplish only a certain amount of work. "We will do all we can and let the rest go," is a statement we hear on every side. In some ways this is a wise conclusion under the present circumstances. But we feel that there are some things that we cannot afford to let go. One of these is the crop of weeds that annually infest our roadsides.

One of the biggest sinners in the neglect of roadside weeds is the township council. Many of our weeds that are hardest to eradicate are kept alive by being allowed to go to seed, or propagate in other ways on the roadside. A little money expended at the right time by township councils would do much to remedy this evil. It would also help matters if pathmasters would keep back part of the statute labor to be expended in cutting weeds on the highway. The big objection of most councils and pathmasters to this work, is that the condition of the ordinary roadside will not lead itself readily to the cutting process. If the roadsides were level, free from stones, stumps and other unsightly and unnecessary things, the problem of dealing with the weed nuisance would be greatly simplified. A nice appearing roadside also adds many dollars to the selling value of the place, to say nothing of the saving of time and energy expended upon fighting weeds which come in from these neglected places.

The levelling and clearing of roadsides could be quite successfully carried on during the early spring days of each season as these, when nothing can be done on the land and yet some work is needed to harden horses and men for strenuous labor of spring seedling. If the importance of clearing the roadside is realized, the time will be found to do it. It may be necessary to bring pressure to bear on the township council. Is not this a subject worthy of careful consideration?

Horse Notes*

John Gardhouse, York Co., Ont.

TAKE good care of the colt's feet. Don't allow him to run on hot manure or the feet will grow out of shape.

Overloading with fat does not lead to the best development of joints and limbs. Give the colts lots of fresh air and exercise.

I would rather feed a little under than a little over the colt's requirements. I don't believe it is possible to give a fixed rule, such as so many pounds of feed per one hundred pounds of live weight, as every colt is a law unto himself.

This winter it will be necessary to give extra attention to feeding hay as much of it is of poor quality. Shake it up well and moisten. The average feeder I believe, gives too much hay.

Hay steamed off is good to keep the bowels in shape.

Rolled oats, bran, a few roots, a medium quantity of well-cured hay, mixed hay or alfalfa, will give good results if fed with moderation.

Rolled oats, 40 per cent; bran, 20 per cent; molasses, 20 per cent and water 10 per cent, all mixed together, is a splendid mixture for colts.

*Extract from an address at the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair at Guelph, December, 1915.

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