

By Mr. Cochrane :

Q. Would you recommend, from your observation of the timber belts on the ordinary farms of the North-west, belts of any considerable extent, or of any particular width for most farms ?

A. Circumstances differ so much that I don't think it would be possible to lay down any rule for such work. We have planted our principal belts at Indian Head, one hundred feet wide, and extending the whole length of the western and northern boundaries of the farm about two miles. We have found that width to answer very well there. It has made a dense mass of wood which not only protects from the wind, but it gathers also the snow in winter and this through the influence of the trees extends some distance out into the fields which when melted in the spring gives favourable conditions of moisture.

Q. How far are the belts apart ?

A. They are not planted at any regular distance. Besides the 100 feet belt running on the two sides of the farm, there are several large blocks of trees and some miles of avenues. Shelter hedges have been made by planting the seed of the Manitoba maple thickly, so that when it comes up the trees will make a thick hedge. Many of these hedges have been planted.

Q. How far are they apart ?

A. No regularity is observed as to distance in this respect.

Q. Say 100 or 80 rods apart ?

A. They are at different distances, some of them closer than that.

By Mr. Stephens :

Q. One row on the north and west sides of the farm of 640 acres would be sufficient, would it not ?

A. The people there seem to think that they cannot get too many trees. And when you have a square mile of land to work on, 100 feet in width of trees seems to be a small matter. We have the protection of the belt I have referred to and trees or hedges along the roadways on either side, and have also introduced here and there, wherever we thought it could be done to advantage, larger plantations; we have one of five acres.

By Mr. Cochrane :

Q. That is rather indefinite, to my mind, for Ontario. Your roads are roads through the farm ?

A. I am speaking, you understand, from a North-west standpoint where land is plentiful. In Ontario such work would be done differently. Reference has been made to the trees interfering with the crops for some distance, and farmers in Ontario would not want to devote a very large portion of good land to such purposes. We have not the same difficulties to contend with here, and hence do not need to adopt the same methods.

BROME GRASS PASTURE FOR FATTENING STOCK.

By Mr. Wilson :

Q. You did not think of saying something about cattle in the North-west. I do not know whether you have time or not ?

A. I shall be glad to answer questions.

Q. I was out in Brandon in August last year, but I have not with me the notes I made then on the result of an experiment with two young oxen there pastured on Brome grass. The result was marvellous.

A. That experiment is reported on in the annual report now in the press. Two steers were inclosed in one acre field of Brome grass, and they were given nothing