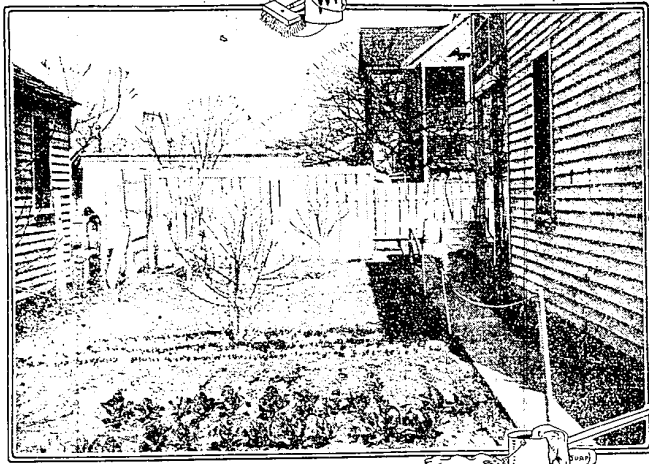


# How "Clean Up and Paint Up" Started

THREE years have made the movement successful in hundreds of cities and towns. Every farmer should apply the idea to his premises. How it improves rental property.



The upper picture shows a vacant lot in a southern town before a Clean Up and Paint Up campaign. It was rid of all the trash by negro children in the neighborhood. Then they planted a vegetable and flower garden on the plot and had fine success with the enterprise. Can't we do something equally good with some of the vacant lot eyesores in this town? The lower picture shows what can be done with a ragged, good-for-nothing side yard. It took a great deal of persuasion to wake up the owners and tenants of the property, but once aroused they made up for lost time—as the neat garden indicates. This is a lesson for us.

"CLEAN UP and Paint Up" has become a nation-wide slogan in the interests of homes and towns beautiful since Allen W. Clark, a St. Louis publisher, organized the National "Clean Up and Paint Up" campaign bureau in May, 1912. Mr. Clark, for many years identified with the American paint trade, sought to arouse and organize into a single national movement the "clean up" spirit which surges each spring in every normal man and woman and nearly every thriving community.

The first year something like 1,939 towns and cities conducted local clean up and paint up campaigns based on plans suggested by the national bureau. This number has increased each year until in 1915 approximately 5,000 local campaigns were organized. Each of these took the form of a real civic movement.

Where Everybody Helps: City and town officials, women's club leaders, boards of trade, health officials, fire insurance and fire prevention leaders, school children, boy scouts and the local paint men all co-operated in the interests of a more beautiful, more sanitary and more homelike home town. Individual property values were increased, loss through disease and fire waste was lessened, and the importance of cleanliness, thrift and civic pride in any movement for homes and cities was thus convincingly pointed out everywhere.

Clean Up the Farm Too. With the idea of making the farm home more attractive and more healthful a farm clean up day has been suggested. Why not this idea long ago? Cities, towns and villages have had their clean up days, and because of these and similar influences beauty

has been brought in and disease driven out. The creator gave to the country a peculiar charm. Beauty—beauty of blade and blossom, of hill and hollow, of dawn and sunset—comes as the bright of every person who is country born. In the springtime nature writes in pink her orchard proclamation of plenty, and in late summer and fall time fills the fields with grains of gold. Sometimes civilization has cluttered, but never has nature. Whatever there is of ugliness in the great out of doors is man made.

Means Better Health. Beauty is a part of the farmer's unearned increment. Health, too, should be for him and his—health and happiness, best of ancient blessings so often wished for friends. Because we absorb environments, a farm clean up day may result in better living, better thinking—yes, and better health. It may also play no small part in the solution of a big problem, that of keeping on the farms of the nation a large number of agriculturally trained and efficient men and women. Such as these will find in their work not only a living, but a life. They will share in the spirit of joy in the excellence of production. There is much work for a farm clean up day. It may be that there are disease breeding places that need attention. The appearance of the barnyard—often such as to suggest that various old vehicles and farm implements had taken fright and backed into the corners—might be changed for the better. Maybe there is a corn post heap—rich in nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium and valuable as a fertilizer if spread over the fields, but in its present place an incubator for insects and dangerous as a possible source of fever.

Flowers and New Paint. If mother is fond of flowers, and usually she is, the farm clean up day might mean a new flower bed or perhaps a fence lined with a row of a cat whole. It stands five feet high and has a 15-foot expanse of wing. Many of the western boards of education are equipping high schools and colleges with electrical cooking apparatus, and in state and city institutions, especially hospitals, the cooking is done by electricity.

At the present rate, \$1,000,000 will be expended in electric ranges this year. The adjutant or marabout bird of India, which is valued on account of its feathers, will swallow a hare or a cat whole. It stands five feet high and has a 15-foot expanse of wing. Many of the western boards of education are equipping high schools and colleges with electrical cooking apparatus, and in state and city institutions, especially hospitals, the cooking is done by electricity.

long has sagged and cranked or that needs painting, and it so the R. F. D. mail box is sure to need brightening up. Whitewash on poultry or other buildings will work wonders. Before the day's work is done, prompted by a new pride in the place, it may be that the farmer will display the farm name near the main entrance to the place. States, counties, communities, churches, schools or farmers' clubs may proclaim farm clean up days, but best of all each individual farmer may have his own.

Don't Neglect to Paint. It is apparent to even the casual observer that many property owners let their rented houses, or houses for rent, go too long without painting. This neglect makes the houses look shabby, but also hastens the day of decay. A little paint is a good investment from every viewpoint. It preserves the wood and it keeps the houses rented. The writer visited an Illinois town last spring after a careful observation found not a single house which was not well and fairly recently painted. There had just been a clean up and paint up campaign. The impression left was one of a thriving town where a man would like to live and bring up a family. The yards were well kept, with lawns, flower beds and shrubbery, and each householder seemed to vie with his neighbor in making his place look attractive.

New Sterilizing Agent. German scientists have found that glycerine is a valuable sterilizing agent. Various deadly germs, when heated in it to a temperature of 238 degrees Fahrenheit, were completely killed in one minute. This process is particularly valuable for sterilizing surgical instruments, for the reason that the metal is not attacked nor is the temper affected. Rubber tubes can be sterilized in it, and instead of being injured, the elasticity of those which have become brittle is restored by the treatment.

His Fate. "Did you hear how Smithers got caught in a copper corner?" "No, how was it?" "He had been taking a little too much, and ran whoping into a bunch of policemen just as he turned around the street."

Consistency. "There is one thing which ought to be, but does not, go with the unwritten law."

"What?"

"Payless lawyers."

## Maintaining Earth Roads

Drainage of Prime Importance—Drag Should Not Be Used on a Dry Road—How to Operate Road Drag

(Prepared by the U. S. Department of Agriculture)

The first and last commandment in earth road maintenance is to keep the road well drained. To insure good drainage the ditches should be kept open, all obstructions removed and a smooth crown maintained. Side ditches of ample capacity should be maintained with sufficient fall to dispose of surface water. These ditches in most places can be constructed and repaired with a road machine. The road machine or grader may in general be used effectively for this work. The machine should be used when the soil is damp so that it will pack and bake into a hard crust.

All vegetable matter, such as sods and weeds, should be kept out of the road, as they make a spongy surface which retains moisture. Clods are also objectionable for they soon turn to dust or mud. Boulders or loose stones are equally objectionable if a smooth surface is to be obtained.

A splitting drag or some similar device is very useful in maintaining the surface after suitable ditches and cross-sections have once been constructed. This drag can also be used to advantage on most gravel roads as well as on earth roads. The principle involved in dragging is that clays and most heavy soils will puddle if worked when wet and set very hard when dry. The little attention that the earth road needs must be given promptly, therefore, and at the proper time if the best results are to be obtained.

In dragging roads only a small amount of earth is moved, just enough to fill the ruts and depressions with a thin layer of plastic clay or earth

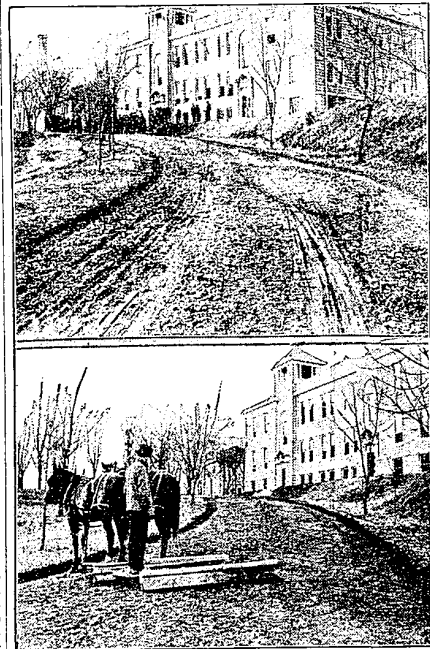
a small amount of the damp soil which is smeared over the surface of the road.

### BEAUTY OF OUR STATE ROADS

Plan of Planting Shade Trees Along Roadside Is Good One—Decision of Maryland Court.

The decision of the court of appeals sustaining the validity of the law which confers upon the state board of forestry regulatory power and authority in the matter of planting or cutting and pruning trees along the state highways, is of potential importance in connection with the latest proposal to improve the side lines of the state roads by the planting of forest or fruit trees. The state road law apparently, in the original draft, contemplated such a scheme of improvement, says Baltimore American. While the planting of shade trees is not made a mandatory duty on the state road commission, there is a clause in the law that opens the way for such a plan of beautification.

The state forestry board would perhaps be the agency through which such a plan could be best realized. The activities of the annual arbor days have not been largely resultful in the matter of roadside tree planting. Such a scheme can only be brought to realization through systematic and persistently maintained effort. But the idea is a good one and should be brought to realization even though it is necessary for the state to invest some money in the undertaking. Nothing would more conduce to the beau-



Above: Road to Be Treated With Split-Log Drag—Below: Same Road Thirty Minutes Later.

which packs very hard so that the next rain, instead of finding ruts and depressions in which to collect, runs off, leaving the surface but little affected.

Using the Drag. The drag should be light and should be drawn over the road at an angle of about 45 degrees. The driver should ride on the drag and should not drive faster than a walk. One or two round trips, the first straddling the wheel tracks, is usually sufficient to fill the ruts and smooth the surface. If necessary, the road should be dragged after every bad spell of weather, when the soil is in proper condition to puddle well and still not adhere to the drag. If the road is very bad it may be dragged when very wet and again when it begins to dry out. A few trips over the road will give the operator an idea as to the best time to drag. Drag at all seasons but do not drag a dry road.

The side slope or crown of an earth road should be about one inch to the foot. If the crown becomes too high it may be reduced by dragging toward the ditch instead of from it. If the drag cuts too much, the ditch should be shortened and the driver should change his position on the drag. If it is necessary to protect the face of the drag with a strip of iron, it should be placed flush with the edge of the drag and not projecting. A cutting edge should be avoided as the main object of the drag is to move but

lification of rural neighborhoods than the lining of the highways with shade trees.

### STATE TO MAINTAIN ROADS

Amount Exceeding \$160,000,000 Expended Annually for Construction and Care of Highways.

The realization has become quite general that, in order to render maximum service, state highway departments should be given some measure of control over the construction and maintenance of local roads. For this class of roads an amount exceeding \$160,000,000 is expended annually, with comparatively little result to show in the form of improved road mileage for the great outlay. The state of Iowa has met this situation by placing all the road work in the state under the direction of the state highway department.

Traffic is increasing so rapidly as to cause excessive wear upon the roads, especially in the vicinity of congested centers of population. This results in a heavy annual maintenance cost, averaging in the large Eastern states not less than \$750 per mile per annum. Many experiments have been made in the effort to devise types of road which can be maintained at relatively low cost. Thus far, aside from the cheaper forms of construction, the states are depending upon the various forms of bituminous macadam, concrete and vitrified brick road.

## HIGH PRICES—GOOD CROPS

And Good Demand for All Farm Products.

It is no new experience for settlers located in a fertile country such as Western Canada, where lands may be bought at very reasonable prices, to harvest a crop that in one season pays the entire cost of their farm. Undoubtedly this was the experience of many farmers during 1915, but one instance may be quoted. A settler who came to Canada from the United States some years ago decided to add to his holdings by buying an adjoining quarter section near his home at Warner, at \$20.00 an acre, with terms spread over a period of years. He got the land into a good state of cultivation and last spring put the whole quarter section in wheat. When the crop was threshed he found that it only took half the wheat on the farm to pay the whole purchase price of it, in shape of a single year's crop paid the cost of the land, paid all the expenses of operation and left him a handsome surplus as profit. This settler had some adjoining land, and his whole wheat crop for the season amounted to over 18,000 bushels. He is now planning to obtain some sheep and invest his profits in live stock which will assure him a good living irrespective of what the season may happen to be.

Canada's financial position is excellent. All speculation has been eliminated, and trading is done on a cash basis, with restricted credit. Detailed figures of Canada's trade for twelve months ending October 31 show how the war is forcing Canadian trade into new channels. One of the most extraordinary changes is in commerce with the United States. A couple of years ago Canada imported from the United States two or three hundred million dollars' worth of goods more than she exported. The balance of trade was all with the United States. The balance is rapidly disappearing, and the present outlook is that by the end of this year Canada will have exported to the United States more than she has imported.

The figures for the past four years are illuminating. They are as follows:

	Exports.	Imports.
1912	\$143,721,850	\$112,407,022
1913	179,070,296	142,314,810
1914	219,403,405	141,074,326
1915	314,118,774	316,569,924

Four years ago, in 1912, the balance of trade in favor of the United States was no less than two hundred and sixty-seven millions, and this year, the balance is reduced to only thirty-two millions. The figures are extraordinary and reflect the changed and new conditions in Canada. It looks as if for the first time in nearly half a century this year Canada will sell more to the United States than she will buy from the Americans—Advertisement.

Synthetic Eggs. An Austrian scientist of Graz is said to have been making synthetic eggs. He has been able to extract the albumen contained in the blood of huddocks, sheep, pigs and other animals slaughtered for human consumption, and to transform it in such a form that it has no trace of its origin, either in taste or smell. As prepared by his system, it is a coarse, yellow powder to which he has given the name of haemastab. His process has already been applied in a number of German and Austrian abattoirs, and haemastab is in use in many hospitals of the central empire as a substitute for eggs. It dissolves in water, and can also be used in the preparation of pastry and other dishes.

No Barber Bill to Pay. There is a barber's shop in Capo Town at which Sir Leander Starr Jameson can always have a haircut and shave for nothing. Years ago "Doctor Jim," then in practice, attended the barber's wife during a dangerous illness. Through his skill she recovered. The husband was deeply grateful, but he was not in a position to pay. Instead, he offered to give "Doctor Jim" a free haircut and shave for the rest of his life. Whenever Sir Leander is in Capo Town he goes to the shop, and the barber carries out his bargain.

Knew the Drama, Too. Father, in the hall, has been standing for an hour while Millicent and Harold bid each other good night in the doorway.

"Parting," quotes Harold, "is such sweet sorrow that I could say good-night till—"

At this speech father gets a Shakespearean inspiration of his own and tramps down the stairs.

"Seems to me," he asserted, "there is too much adieu about nothing here."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Neutrality. "We are maintaining a strict neutrality."

"Hardly! We are praying that the right side may win and the right be vic-toried as to which is the right side."

Men can't understand why women worry over trifles and women can't understand why men do not.

A woman doesn't realize her strength until she discovers a man's weakness.

### POSTSCRIPTS

Automobile tires made of synthetic rubber by a German inventor have shown no signs of wear after having been run more than 4,000 miles. With the idea of resisting earthquakes a hospital in San Salvador has been built of pressed steel plates bolted to a wrought iron frame.

A computing scale has been invented that shows the amounts of the ingredients required for different quantities and mixtures of cement.