

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION

A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION TO IMPROVE AND EXTEND THE USES OF CONCRETE

ATLANTA
BIRMINGHAM
BOSTON
CHICAGO
DALLAS

DENVER
DES MOINES
DETROIT
HELENA
INDIANAPOLIS
JACKSONVILLE

KANSAS CITY
LOS ANGELES
MEMPHIS
MILWAUKEE
MINNEAPOLIS
NEW ORLEANS

NEW YORK
PARKERSBURG
PHILADELPHIA
PITTSBURGH
PORTLAND, OREG.
SALT LAKE CITY

SAN FRANCISCO
SEATTLE
ST. LOUIS
VANCOUVER, B.C.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

111 WEST WASHINGTON STREET

CHICAGO

January 19, 1924

File 10-14 Canada

Mr. Arthur Atkinson
P. O. Box 7
Hamiota, Manitoba, Canada.

Dear Sir:

In answer to your request of January 12, I am pleased to enclose herewith a sketch showing details suggested for the construction of a small lily pond.

The size and shape of this pond can, of course, be changed to suit your wishes. We would recommend in this construction that you use concrete containing one part cement, 2 parts of clean sand and 3 parts of clean, well graded pebbles or crushed stone of good quality, and that all concrete be mixed with the least amount of water required to produce a workable consistency.

Yours truly,

W. H. Hart
Manager, Structural Bureau

CDH*IR
Enclosure

The Skov Lumber Co., Ltd.

RETAIL YARDS

R. SKOV
GENERAL MANAGER

High River, Alberta, Jan. 17th, 1924.

Mr. Arthur Atkinson,
Hamiota, Man.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 14th inst., with reference to the Cement Pool in my garden, this pool is 16 ft in diameter, 26 inches deep in the center and is saucer shaped on the inside, the manner of construction was as follows, after excavating the necessary depth, making allowance for 10 inches of concrete, a wooden form, circular, was put up in sections to form the outside of the pool, in the exact center, a piece of iron pipe was placed upright, to this, as a pivot, was fastened a piece of board, sawed to proper shape of the inside of the finished bowl, the concrete was then poured in, sufficiently thick so that it would not run and after roughly forming the inside of the bowl, the wooden shaper was rotated around on the inside, making a smooth, even finish.

After the cement had set, the iron pipe was taken out and the small hole filed up with cement. This bowl is filled by a garden hose, if you have water connection at your place, you can run a pipe underground, before pouring the cement and let it come up in the center, as a fountain, the fixture you see in the middle of the pool, is made out of galvanized iron, as is the four boxes placed on the set-out buttments.

Trusting that this will answer your inquiry, I am

Yours truly,



AGRICULTURAL
PARLIAM
WINNIPEG



Mr. Arthur Atkinson, 19
Hamiota.
Man.

Lilly Pond
Plan

210 60

18 55-

6 75-

180 530

1 00

440 50

250

144 500

HOME ECONOMICS HOP'S QUIET HOUR INGLE NOOK

The HOME JOURNAL

OUR YOUNG FOLKS LOVE AND WORK WOMEN'S CLUB WORK

Where is Heaven?

By Bliss Carman

Where is Heaven? Is it not
Just a friendly garden plot,
Walled with stone and roofed with sun,
Where the days pass one by one,
Not too fast and not too slow,
Looking backward as they go
At the beauties left behind
To transport the pensive mind?
Does not Heaven begin that day
When the eager heart can say,
Surely God is in this place,
I have seen Him face to face
In the loveliness of flowers,
In the service of the showers,
And His voice has talked to me
In the sunlit apple tree?

Pleasant Places

"A garden is a lovable spot" says the poet and we all say amen to his creed. But many of us stop right there because we feel that for one reason and another a garden is not for us. We haven't the time and we haven't the money, so we feast our eyes on passing glimpses of the lovely places that others have made to live in and go back to treeless prairie, weedy lawns or half-hearted, parched bits of flower beds and wonder why all the good things go to the other fellow. They don't. He goes to them.

Generally speaking the west is prairie country. Therefore we cannot have such natural beauty as lies in hills and valleys. But we can have our own special beauty of wide horizons and long straight lines. To many eyes, hills are always lovelier than plains but consider how much more work they are for those that try to farm them! Plains are kindly, homelike places if we will but have it so.

The farm garden is our text to-day but one cannot get far with this subject before the farm home intrudes. Indeed, it is the Firstly of any discourse. The garden is a setting for the home and an extension of the living place. Some homes are wished upon us but if we have any say in the matter the house should be placed after the most careful thought and if there is any choice of outlook see that the windows have a chance to frame the view that lies beyond them. The house itself follows the lines of its frame if it be a really artistic house. Long, low lines are ideal for prairie architecture, with an occasional perpendicular line. The two laws of harmony and contrast cannot be evaded if we would make lovely places on the earth. But whatever the style of the house there is one that should be forever taboo on every farm in the world. That is the ugly, narrow, meaningless house with gim-crack trimmings that has been transplanted from the cramped city lot to be forever alien and unlovely in its frame of wide open spaces. It is not only ugly in itself but it offends the first law of beauty which is suitability. A home must look as though it belongs so truly in its own setting that it is difficult to fancy it anywhere else but just there. The loveliest homes on earth are country homes and wealthy city folk pay fancy prices for designs that copy the lines of old manor houses but they can't get the real effect in a city background. Build a cosy house that looks almost as though it grew there along with the other natural growth and then everyone that passes by will wish to live in such a home.

Suitability in house; suitability in garden. This law works out in very practical details. There are famous gardens in the world that are a source of joy to all who have the privilege of visiting them. And there are lovely places of which many of us carry the memory, places that just suited their environment, but if we try to duplicate them in a foreign setting the result is always disappointing. Formal gardens have no place on a farm and if they had no one would have the time to take care of them. But some of the details of formal gardens persist in obtruding themselves where they do not

belong. Gardens that require much time and expense are out of place on almost any farm for they either go to ruin or are maintained at an unjust expense to some devoted set of muscles. Exotic plants can be forgotten by most of us for real beauty will lie in the garden that has the greatest possible supply of native flowers and shrubs.

Did you ever see a garden like this? The house stands bare and lonely looking with never a vine nor a flower near it. There is a very good lawn but it is all broken and patchy because of the presence of four or five aimless flower beds, all of them with barren spots where some tender experiment has gone down to defeat. The lawn is also dotted with here a spruce and there a peony cut off from all its kin; here a lilac, looking lonely and forlorn, and here, there and everywhere trees stuck in at random. From the gate the door is hidden by a spruce and only by dodging can one get a view of the windows. How then do the folks inside get a view out of the windows? They don't! Like the man in the story, they can't see the scenery for the trees. Even those misplaced flower beds that represent a good deal of time and money can only be seen by going upstairs for a bird's eye view over the tree tops or by going outdoors. No happy glimpses from the kitchen window while the dishes are washed and no fleeting breath of loveliness every time a busy woman passes a window as she flies about her work. What a pity.

This type of garden is usually the mark of an amateur

value in dollars and cents. If you doubt it just wait till you want to sell one of these days. Clever people have worked out the value of a tree as one dollar a square inch, simply for shade and beauty. And the farm with trees does sell more readily and bring a better price than the one that looks bare and lonely. Then we want a view from the house, several views indeed, for there should be an outlook from every window. We want plenty of flowers for cutting. And we want permanence so that the work done each year will really count permanently. This means more perennials and more permanent trees; trees that will be a joy forever and not so many that grow quickly and then die. Above all we want a garden that will be lovelier every year. That means that we must not follow fads and fancies. One never grows tired of flowers but one does grow very tired of stiff beds of fancy shape and of exotic plants and shrubs that do not fit in with the landscape and natural growth.

You will begin to see that your flower beds are doomed! It is a principle of gardening (home gardening) that irregular borders and foundation planting, which means a border round the house, are the places for our flowers. The foundation planting makes the house seem at home; without it the house always looks alien and as though it did not quite belong there. For this purpose choose shrubs that are compact in form and not too high as they should not grow above the window line. Vines are a big factor in making the house look homey

but do not let them cover the windows nor grow wild over the verandah. It is better not to have trees too close to the house certainly it must not be hemmed in by trees.

Another very important factor in farm gardening is the use of vines and shrubs to screen unsightly objects. No woman wants to see the same old barn and silo and manure pile every time she looks out of the window. Trees or vines placed judiciously will make all the difference to the outlook. Vines are often used to screen the framework of a windmill and they clamber up the posts that support the clothesline. There is room for difference of opinion as to how far this should be carried for things of utility are not ugly, but the quickly growing wild cucumber and grape vines are a blessing to the farm gardener.

Western Canada is rich in flowers and trees

and it is always wise to use native growth wherever possible, not only because they are suited to the climate but also because they naturally look at home in their environment. The windbreak is not perhaps strictly speaking a part of the garden but it certainly is the friend of the garden and is almost to be taken for granted before a garden can be planned. There is no question of the value of the elm. It is a permanent tree and with the oak it shares the place of first honor as the best tree for use about a homestead. The elms that are known as vase-formed give a sort of Gothic arch that makes the best of all frames for a home picture. With elms there is often need for careful spraying each year. For a very small house sometimes there is the fear that elms and oaks will dwarf the dwelling and so many prefer to choose trees that will always remain small. Then following our rule of beauty we choose trees that repeat the horizontal lines of prairie and clouds. Hawthorn and crab-apple are among the best for this purpose. Among the flowering shrubs there is a Japanese lilac that blooms late and escapes the frost and is a thing of beauty indeed. Then have some evergreen for their winter beauty but be sure to plant them in clumps, not as individuals nor yet in stiff and orderly rows. The Scotch Pine, White Spruce and Balsam Fir are among the best for this purpose, either in a windbreak or for ornamental purposes. The windbreak of course has its own place and value and what we say about straight lines does not apply in that case. For ornamental purposes the best bushes are the Tartarian Honeysuckle, Ginnalian Maple, Lilac, High Bush Cranberry and Caragana. The Caragana is the favorite hedge for western gardens.

Flowers for the farm garden had best be perennials. With so short a summer it is foolish to choose varieties

(Continued on page 508)



Isn't this a lovely nook to find on a western farm? Just a step from his house R. Skov of High River, Alberta, has made this charming garden of lily pond and gravel walk and perennials and shrubbery.

whose enthusiasm has outrun his discretion. The beginner nearly always wants to grow every kind of flower that ever caught his (or shall we say her) fancy. Then to show them off well they are isolated in formal beds. And never, never do such amateurs spend a few hours with pencil and paper working out that little detail of the views from the window and the vista from the gate. Well, hardly ever.

Here is another homestead. (It's such a pity to confine that lovely word to a mere legal definition. In the old, real sense it means a home and its setting.) There is a lawn about the house that looks wonderfully spacious though it is no larger than the other but that is because it is unbroken save for trees that look as though they had always been just where they are. Only after study do we discover how cunningly they were placed. From the gate those two elms frame the house and make a real picture of it. From the house those elms are a joy forever and they frame a glimpse of prairie that fades away to a distant skyline. There are vines growing over the house and shrubs against the walls and below them gay borders of flowers. Plenty of flowers here to keep the vases full all summer and only a step from the door where they seem to nestle in such a homey way, ready to welcome any member of the family who cares to bring out a bit of work or reading—or idling. Some day when the children are older and there is more time there are to be more flowers in the corners but when a lawn and trees are so perfectly lovely surely they may well content any family. This is the artistic garden and it is far less work than the other and cost a fraction of the amount.

What then are some of the things we want in our farm garden? First a view from the road. We are not talking of commercial aspects, just now all this has a

Patmore's Reliable Nursery Stock

OUR EXPERIENCE—Our nursery was established at Brandon in 1883, and for over thirty years we have devoted our whole time and attention to the study and growth of trees, shrubs and plants of all descriptions, best suited to this climate. During this time we have sent trees to all parts of the North-West and have learned how different are the conditions of climate and soil in the various districts. The experience we have gained enables us to supply our customers with such stock as will be best suited to the localities in which they live.

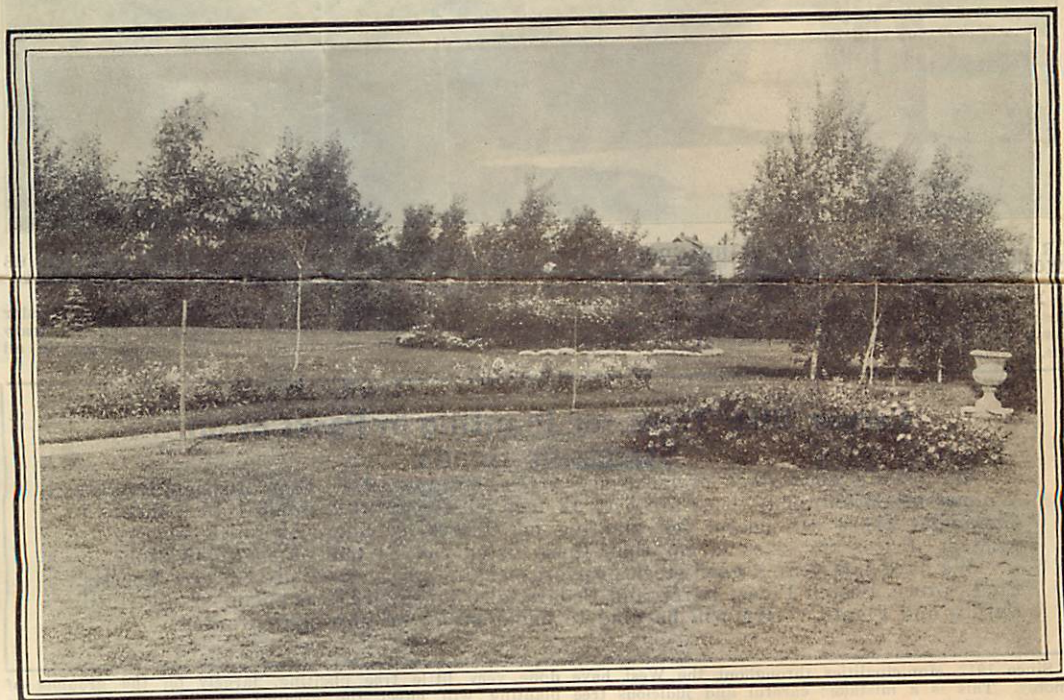
HARDY STOCK—SUITABLE FOR PLANTING IN MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST

Nearly every person who settles in this vast district recognizes the need of trees and shrubs for shelter and ornament, and also of fruit trees and hardy plants. In an effort to satisfy this need many thousands of dollars are annually lost because so much nursery stock is bought and planted which is unsuited to the climate. Although certain varieties of nursery stock will grow here, it does not follow that all varieties succeed, and it is the benefit of our long experience in these matters we offer you when you entrust your orders to us.

We want to interest you and to secure an order from you, but if you do favor us with an order, please remember we want the transaction to be to your benefit as well as our own, for thousands of satisfied customers are our best advertisement.

Note.—There are many varieties of trees and shrubs which are perfectly hardy and grow well in this climate. Some people can plant these and they will be successful while others handle them in such a manner that they die or make only a sickly growth. The nurseryman is always blamed for this, but there are so many causes for failures—for example, slow transportation, overheated cars or station houses, delay in calling for trees or delay in planting them, and there is so much difference between careful and careless planting—that we cannot agree to guarantee the growth of our stock. We will accept orders only on such condition, and will not agree to replace stock unless fault is entirely on our part.

We would especially impress upon our customers the fact that we have, growing in our nurseries at Brandon, all the stock listed in this catalogue. The descriptions are very carefully compiled from personal observations and may therefore be relied upon with every confidence. Our stock is shipped direct from the nurseries, freshly dug, thereby insuring a minimum of loss by roots dried out.



Municipal Tree Planting

Every Town or Village should have one or more small Parks; they would be one of the greatest possible assets to its inhabitants.

We are inserting a number of photos of views in small Parks, which have been planted with trees and shrubs from our Nurseries. These show results which have been obtained in a few years, and are an illustration of what can be accomplished in any town or village in the West, if suitable and hardy trees are used.

Some of the larger Cities in the West have expended thousands of dollars on Parks, but cannot get results such as we show here, because they have not used the suitable, hardy and quick growing trees and shrubs, which we offer.

Even these Parks could be improved by planting an ornamental hedge of Lilac or Caragana all round them; the hedges would form good boundary enclosures, giving the interior of the Park a more secluded appearance, and at the same time making it appear very much larger than its actual size.

Nothing will add so much to the comfort or pleasure of the community in Western Towns or Villages as the planting of trees.

We have a good stock of suitable trees and shrubs of such varieties as have been found most suitable for planting on streets and in Parks, School grounds and Cemeteries, and are prepared to offer suggestions or furnish estimates for any such planting.



OUR NURSERY WAS STARTED AT BRANDON IN 1883. THE CITIZENS SOON FOUND THAT OUR TREES WOULD GROW, AND PLANTED THEM FREELY—BRANDON IS NOW THE GARDEN CITY OF THE WEST

This photo was taken on one of the streets in September. The Native Maple or Box Elder, although frequently condemned, still continues to be one of our most popular trees; during the past summer of 1923 it has been at its best, untroubled by insects or drought, and its leafy growth and abiding hardiness has restored it to popular favor. We have in our Nursery 700,000 young trees in all sizes.

Larger Size Trees for Planting in Parks or on Streets or Roads

We have a good stock of large size trees of Maple, Ash, Elm, Russian Poplars, Willows or Cottonwood; these are 6 to 12 feet in height, with stems 1 to 2 inches in diameter. These are useful for planting on streets or wherever quick results are wanted. Prices for sizes larger than those listed can be quoted on application.

We have this year a good stock of evergreens in all sizes: White Spruce, Koesters Blue Spruce, Scotch Pines, Larch and Cedars, also large size specimens of all Hardy Shrubs and Plants. We will be glad to quote prices on any sizes wanted

Since 1912 Municipalities throughout the West have done very little tree planting, largely on the grounds of economy. This is a mistake; careful and judicious tree planting will effect the greatest possible improvement in a town or village, and when growing, will constitute one of the greatest assets of the district. For instance, the Town of Springfield, Massachusetts, amongst its financial assets, lists 25,000 trees at \$100.00 each, or a total of \$2,500,000 for trees alone. Ann Arbor, Michigan, lists 3,000 trees at a valuation of \$80,000.00. Newark, New Jersey has appraised their avenue trees as an asset for many years, their value in 1922 being placed at two million dollars, and many other cities place similar value on their trees in streets and parks.

If the Cities to the South of us value their trees as such a big Municipal asset, we in the North would surely be justified in placing an even higher value, and when they can be obtained at such small cost, it is poor economy to neglect planting from year to year, especially in the prairie districts where trees are such a great necessity for both shade and shelter.

Municipal wood-lots should be provided near every centre of population. Five or ten acres could be planted at very little cost, and in 15 or 20 years their wood value alone would be very considerable, and in this country, with its severe winters, they would be of great value as a reserve against times of stress, such as traffic blockades and mining strikes.

In the past, too much attention has been paid to the ornamental value only of trees and shrubs. A small plantation around a house or buildings has been considered all that it was advisable to plant. But now we are beginning to realize that trees have a greater agricultural and commercial value on our prairies than we have been prepared to admit. The northern districts of our provinces, where trees and bluffs abound, are not subjected to crop failures from winds or droughts as are the prairies; we begin to realize that bluffs of trees will stop the drifting soils and the hot winds. Weeds are beginning to show the damage they can do and the drifting winds carry along the weed seeds from farm to farm. Here again we see the value of trees; a low hedge across a farm will stop the drifting of tons of weed seeds, which under the shade of the hedge will be smothered and rotted out instead of being scattered over the fields where they would crowd out the growing crops.

March 1-77

Dear Folks:

About time I was writing you. The weather has been around 32° Faren. after a cold winter, we had about 3 inches of snow and some rain but very little snow left now.

This was the first winter that I ever seen the crows (which stay here all winter) come into town and eat out of the bird feeders. But we sure need a lot more moisture.

How do you like the price of coffee? I sure wish we had some of that good molting barley down here, it makes good coffee if you roast it and grind it. you Canadians better go back to drinking tea. There is a man here from Wainstord Manitoba told us how to make tea, Onda drinks it all the time. We may take a trip down to Ohio ~~some~~ some time this spring. Onda is having more arthritis, and I have

55-1 1/2
A belly ache eating too much
and not enough ^{exercise} ~~(exercise)~~ I sure
have lots of work out side when
it dries up around here.

There is some tulips coming up
in the front of the house already.
Do you intend to come down here
soon? Glad to hear that you
are a little better Grace.

I am building a still out of
some old refrigerator parts (coils) etc.
but my boiler is all rust on the
inside all I want now to complete
it is a gas hot plate.

Well it is going to be up in the 40's F.
Today so can work in the yard.

That about all,

Love Ernest & family.

Hello folks - Ernest left me only enough
room to say "Hello". A nice day coming up and I hope
the sunshine thaws out my joints. Love and
best wishes to all - Onda

R 1 Box 351

Lebring Fla.

Jan 27/80

Dear Folks:

Well here it is Sunday once
more near the end of Jan. and
raining, but we have had good weather.
We just got home from church.
There is a small church (Baptist) just
about 2 ~~blocks~~ blocks from here, yes
we are just across the fence from Larry
and Frans trailer ~~court~~ court.

Well my fishing friend came, with
his boat, and we are catching a few bass
last week one day I got 7 he got 1 also
one day he got 5 I got 1.

It is nice to have a warm winter
once in a while, what a good time
we had in those winters.

Well if we get home safe & sound
this time, we will stay close to
home using my bicycle.

Why don't the farmers make there own
fuel and then we can tell the Arabs
to keep there oil. We could if the
oil companies that run our country would
let us.

Over.

Affectionately Emie

P.S. Onda goes to a Dr. Tomorrow
To see if her facial paralysis will
clear up if so, she has found an
eye surgeon who will operate on her
"bad" eye, she will write later

E.A.

Don's
2nd wife Pyrr

July 28, 1984

Dear "Uncle Norm,"

Don passed on the letter you'd written a month ago. Thank you for your thought-out words. The sensitivity you expressed brought tears to my eyes - the experience, although dragged out well over a three year period, is still an emotional one. I've heard it said that divorce is akin to the death of a mate, and I have to agree that I have experienced anger that our troubles could not be compromised, guilt over any number of aspects of the dissolution - especially where the boys were concerned, and ultimately sorrow. Researchers (an interesting topic to study - the stages of human or even primate behavior upon familial separation) have reported that it takes up to 200 hours of tears to cleanse the soul and spirit of the deep sorrow experienced in loss of a mate. It is believable. Your letter served as a catalyst - should I be logging the hours to (1) see if the researchers are right? or (2) to ~~see~~ know when the tears should stop!! Of course it has got to be an individual thing, and time ^(no matter how many hours) rinses away the pain & sorrow & leaves good, warm memories. I'm already experiencing that. And yes, I have to agree that (I, too have the same sense, that is) judgement is undoubtedly meted out with love and concern for the growth of one's spirit. I think we also sit in judgement of ourselves, and hopefully there will be growth from one set of mistakes to the next.

I appreciate your praise to us regarding Jimmy. In some respects it was perhaps easier not being a biological parent, but I think ultimately the differences between two parents, ^{one} who ~~was~~ ^{was} biological and ^{one who was} not, added to the complexity of the situation. And of course, when I was a starry-eyed 23-yr-old, neither of us - least of all myself - had any notion of the strong biological time clock that lay within me, chiming "Motherhood" when I approached 30, turning our world, already complex enough, into a state of confusion. I guess - no, I know, one just doesn't compromise over a baby. One cannot have one and "hope" the mate will learn to love it and accept it. Not if there's the chance that it will drive a wedge and bear the sense of responsibility for splitting up a marriage. Of course, the baby issue was the tip of the iceberg, and the eleven years and two children's worth of experiences seemed to complete the complement of problems.

We are each standing on our own feet, experiencing new growth, & I think admiring each other for the changes. It would be easy to say, "Why didn't we do that when we were together?", but that - the change - seems to be part of healing. I am glad we are remaining friends, for there are parts of my mind and soul that I'm sure will be touched by no one the way the 3 Atkinsons did!!

Thank you for "au revoir." I will keep in touch. You are exactly the amazing "gentleman" farmer Don has often described.

I will be writing a separate letter to Grace soon.
Love, Peggy

NOM
NAME

No.

Ernest & Della
Alkins
& Connections

Mom's
family