

low a knowledge of their life, habits and value. The child who has thrown his handful of earth about the roots of a tree, will ever after watch its growth, and through the love of one will come interest in the woodlands.

Tree planting is educational in the largest sense, the handling and planting encourage observation, and cultivate a love of all natural objects, and above all teach unselfishness in seeking to enrich the future.

Speaking of investing a tree with interest recalls a sugar maple from whose

A Marked Tree. rugged trunk the life blood flowed freely in the spring time. It grew on a mountain roadside, and was a noble specimen with wide spreading branches. Upon it was a board bearing this verse:

"Most sacred tree that ever grew,
True type of Him whom sinners slew,
From thy pierced side thou dost bedew
With sweetness, those who pierced thee through.
Now a new name give I to thee,
Be called henceforth the 'Christus tree.' "

Just below it, over a spring, was this inscription:

"Oh traveler stay thy weary feet,
Take from this fountain pure and sweet
A cup of water in his name.
It flows for rich and poor the same.
Then go thy way, remembering still
The wayside spring beneath the hill."

Old and young in the neighborhood had learned the verses, and it occurred to me that appropriate inscriptions hung on favorite trees in the school yard, or upon especially noble trees in our parks would idealize and sanctify them.

What are the possibilities for Women's Clubs? Arbor Day history is yet to be

Work for Clubs. written. What greater service can Women's Clubs do than to first inform themselves on the subject of forestry and seek to impress the present generation with the imperative need of tree planting and tree preservation? It would be a most worthy ambition to infuse into our school system, reaching as it does the heart and life of every child, the purpose and the will to exert every effort to change this destructive process to one of increase, in every state and territory, and teach those habits of thought and feeling in regard to the benefits and uses of tree planting, to deter them from the destruction of our lawns and parks.

We can encourage the organization of forestry associations in every city, town and school district.

Organize. As part of our educational program we can plan attractive Arbor Day exercises, and interest the teachers in our vicinity to use them. Suggestions for such exercises, with appropriate poems and songs, can be found in libraries under the title of Arbor Day, and Hon. B. G. Northrup of Connecticut, Hon. B. L. Butcher of West Virginia, and Dr. Peaslee of Connecticut are authorities on planting in school

yards. The State Superintendent of Wisconsin issues a yearly Arbor Day book of fifty pages, full of original suggestions appropriate for Arbor Day celebrations. In what more practical way can our Forestry Associations and Horticultural Societies encourage the love of tree culture than by inspiring Arbor Day celebrations in our schools?

On Arbor Day the children may apply the knowledge gained from nature study, out-of-door schools, field work, whatever name you choose to give that broadening educational impulse that brings the child in touch with the out door world, rather than with books.

It is permeating our schools today. Let us hope that in the near future field work will be incorporated in our public school system. Every graduating class should hear a few practical lectures on forestry. Use less and waste less, should be taught in the primary schools, for as the Germans say, "What you would have appear in the national life, you must introduce in the public schools." Let the boys be called the Forestry Cadets, and the magic of the name will work wonders, as it has in the children's street cleaning brigades. Lessons in the care of camp fires will decrease the horrors of forest fires. Plant trees in our door yards, and our streets will soon be bordered. Lead a few horses away from trees being gnawed to their death, and wire guards will follow.

I believe the easiest way to solve great problems is to begin with individual effort. Try, however simply, to right

Individuality. the wrong, and growth will follow. If such men as Hon. B. G. Northrup can change the aspect of some parts of Connecticut by his well planned efforts, how much more can we, 160,000 club women, do in our respective states? Twenty-five per cent, of our states would be covered by forests. Let us learn how much of our state is covered. If our Washington Elm during every fair day in the growing season gives out $7\frac{3}{4}$ tons of moisture to the air, let us not be discouraged; if we cannot plant a forest, plant one tree.

France has planted, and is planting, all of her 19,000 miles of public roads with wayside trees.

The French. Our city of Rochester has just freed its trees from tent caterpillars by aid of the children—the sum spent was small, the public sentiment aroused great; have we no caterpillars in our own town?

It is a marvel that in any city where a Forestry Association, Horticultural Society or service club thrives that their first work is not to rescue the trees from destruction and death. The cost is so small, the return in health and comfort and beauty beyond compare. Why do we, who love nature, spend our time and strength on work that can wait, while our trees, which money cannot

buy and only generations of time can replace, slowly succumb to the ravages of horses and electric wires?

The appalling statistics of tree destruction make the planting of a few trees, the teaching of a few children, seem insignificant.

To those who do not realize that from Arbor Day celebrations Village Improvement Societies have arisen, as did Arbor Day itself from the efforts of one man, to the club women of the city to whom practical tree planting seems a difficult undertaking, I would like to tell the story of a postal card, hoping it may from its small beginning to its happy ending, serve as encouragement.

In one of our large cities a woman's club was formed in the spirit of helpfulness

A Woman's Club. and work. The question arose as to what practical work should be done, and the members were asked to write on a postal the subject which they would like to have the club study. Among the many suggestions was one "The preservation of our city trees." That with others was selected for the winter's work and a tree committee formed. The story of that tree committee would be a fit subject for a book. Full of hope and enthusiasm they studied the condition of the street trees, found them in such a state of decline and decay, so horse gnawed and wire burned, with no public funds reserved for their protection that the city stood next to the foot of the official list for wayside trees. Here indeed was discouraging work for an untried club.

They planned to ask the city for an appropriation; they began by writing

Glorious Success. for the papers to arouse public sentiment, and to make people notice the trees. They talked long and earnestly with the city forester to find a lack of funds the chief cause of neglect. At last armed with facts and figures, knowing full well the necessity of reclaiming the trees if the city was ever to enjoy shade, health and beauty, they sought the Mayor. No one but that struggling committee knows how many times they found the doors closed by press of business, how many times appointments left unfulfilled by unforeseen absence. Of the Mayor's approval they were assured. Many times by arguments and entreaties they seemed to have convinced the Board and Council, only to be told, that while the subject was praiseworthy, the city debt was too great to allow making new appropriations. This committee unused to political methods and work in public affairs, learned through bitter experience how difficult was the road to success when one had for their object the public welfare only. In that period of discouragement they began individual work on a small scale. The City Forester gave them young trees, and the club induced property owners to pay for