MODERN METHODS MAKE LAND CLEARING EASIER

Many farmers, not familiar with modern land clearing methods, have an entirely wrong conception of what the problems are on a cut-over farm in Wisconsin. They think that each acre must be laboriously cleared by hand before any crops can be raised on the land. They think no money comes in until each acre is cleared. And they think it costs a great deal to clear an acre of land. These mistaken ideas have kept back many farmers buying a wonderful cut-over land in Wisconsin.

Land clearing has been developed to a science in this state. The University of Wisconsin has spent thousands and thousands of dollars in working out the best and simplest ways to clear land, and the National Land Colonizing Company also has been to a great expense in the same work. We have our own development men who teach you how to clear land.

The way we try to get the men to clear land is to work with nature. The farmers call this “letting the land clear itself.” Here is the way it works. The first thing to do is to take a scythe and cut the brush close to the ground. Then, if there are any down logs, pick them up and pile them and the brush around each stump, and burn them out. When the trees die down, only the bigger stumps are left.

Besides, there always will be many open places where the stumps have rotted out years ago. Have one of our men show you how to blow out with dynamite the few stumps left in the open places. Then pile and burn these stumps. Plow these open places for your garden, for a place to raise mangles, cow beets and rutabagas for the cows for winter, and for a place for a big potato patch, where you can raise those big crops of famous Wisconsin potatoes.

Now, you start to let the land clear itself. You continue to brush by hand. This work requires no horses, and many men start without even a team. As you brush, you continue to burn around the stumps. Then, you drag over this land between the stumps with a spring tooth harrow, and sow clover and timothy right among the stumps.

You will get a tremendous crop of hay this way, from two to four tons to the acre. You now can get more stock and feed this hay, or else sell it for cash. There is a good market for hay, because of so many new dairy cows coming into this country. The hay crop from an acre will usually more than pay for the land. In this way you get your land making money quickly.

Next you should continue to brush by hand until you have the whole farm seeded down. All this time the stumps are rotting (practically all our stumps are hardwood and rot) and the farm is not only “clearing itself” but it is also making you money. Then, you can return and blow out the stumps that have not rotted out, fence up your fields of different crops, different crops, different crops, different crops, and a cleared farm worth many times the cheap price you paid for it.

First Cut The Brush With A Scythe

Cut the brush close to the ground so you can sow a big acreage of clover and timothy. Pile the brush and down logs around the stumps and burn them out. Leave the ones that do not burn out to rot out. This work can all be done by hand.

Next Plow The Open Places

Plow the open places you have brushed for a garden, for winter feed for the stock, and for a potato crop. Then, go over the rest of the brushed land with a spring tooth harrow, as this man is doing, and get in a money-making crop of hay right away.

Clean Up Your Stumps Last

After you have the whole farm seeded down, and making money for you, come back and give any stumps that have not rotted out a shot of dynamite or T. N. T. Modern blasting is very simple, and safe, and cheap. We teach you fully in regard to the safe and rapid use of dynamite. Next pile and burn the stumps. Now, fence in your regular fields and put a fancy price on your farm.