

THE SPRUCE ON the left has been well pruned and cared for. Note how thick and full the foliage is. The long terminal stem at the top will be cut back this spring. At the right is a tree on which a yearly pruning had been omitted. The open space between the top cluster of branches and the next cluster is the result. By cutting back and shaping, the tree can be brought into good shape in about two years. (LF Photos)

Christmas Trees Are Crop Requiring effort on their part. Special Care for Adequate Return

Many farmers who are putting | and in the conservation reserve 10 years that they must agree to

They feel that in the eight or

of the Soil Bank have decided or keep the land out of production, are thinking about using the land a good crop of Christmas trees for Christmas tree production. | can be grown with little or no

At the same time, they are being deluged with catalogs from tree nurseries loaded with glowing promises of 100 per cent profits, no work required and, of course, how good the stock is.

Most farmers know, however, that there is not a crop that will produce a profit without work and are not misled by these anxious sales pieces.

And Christmas trees are a crop. They take about 10 years to mature, but they are a crop in every



WHO'S THE CHICKEN?

Teen-agers who know the facts about alcohol won't be much bothered by sarcastic remarks when they say "No thanks, I don't drink!"

They know that alcohol, in gin or vodka, wine or beeror what have you, is a DRUG which men from ancient times have used as an escape from mental discomfort. To be a drinker demands no courage and requires no brains. In fact it takes real courage NOT to drink and secretly the drinker often admires the person with sense enough to say no. Meanwhile, aloud, he may be teasing: 'Aw c'mon, take a drink. It won't hurt you! What are you Chicken?" Funny how many drinkers put on a big front to cover up their own failure to be original!

Here's the way one high school senior put it in a

Everybody's doing it? No! Not Yet! Because - I'm Somebody, don't forget! Anyone with courage to stop and Think Is certainly somebody. I Don't Drink!

Many a "somebody" who didn't think, Became a "nobody" because of drink. Anyone can follow what crowds do; I'm trying to be somebody! How about you?

(Free copies of this article may be secured by writing to Grant D. Brandon, Sec'y, Committee of 100, 818 State Street, Lancaster, Pa.)

The seedbed must be right and and rabbit damage is heavy.

the soil must be suitable. Howver, in the case of Christmas rees, the piece of ground that is best is one that has not been imed for several years and that s acid. Other plant nutrients should be available in good sup-

saving. They can be planted with a shovel in a furrow. The trees should be planted about four feet apart.

compete with the young trees for moisture and light must be cut before planting. To plant the trees, a single furrow planter is best and the most time and labor

fall to keep damage as low as possible the biggest and most constant job is that of pruning.

Brush and weeds that might

The first winter is the most critical time for young trees.

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WINTER COMFORT

Most commercial growers try

In Christmas tree production,

For the farmer, the best tree to grow, so far as pruning is con-

cerned, is the spruce. This tree

(Continued on page 13)

to trap out all the rabbits in the



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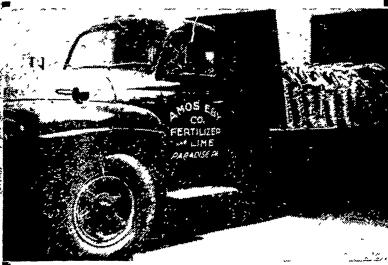
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