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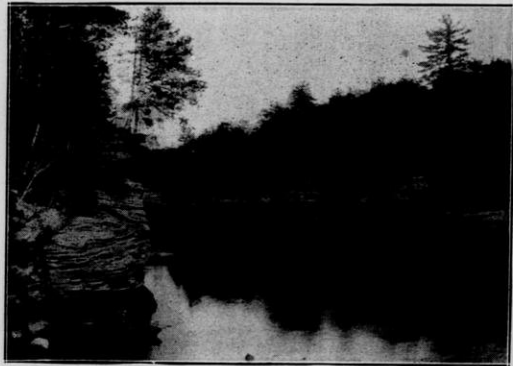
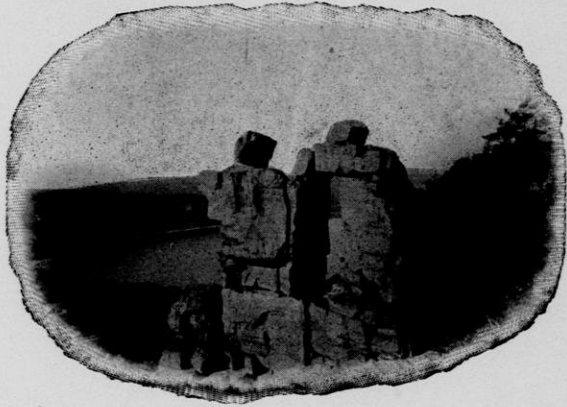
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Scenes
Near
Baraboo,
Wis.



The Wisconsin Horticulturist.

VOL. V.

JULY.

NO. 5

HORTICULTURE AT THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

E. S. Goff, Prof. of Horticulture, University of Wisconsin.

Though in a far country I have not forgotten that our State Horticultural Society is to meet at Wausau the latter part of June and I have thought that a few lines from the great Exposition would, perhaps, be listened to with interest by our members.

Intensive horticulture has, probably, been carried to a greater extent in France than in any other country. We might expect, therefore, to find much of interest in this line at the Exposition and in this expectation I have not been disappointed. In aesthetic horticulture and in the adaptation of the culture of fruit trees to small grounds, the Exposition presents much interesting material for study. The French people are noted for their love of the beautiful and among the wealthier class, at least, the culture of decorative plants is more common in France than in America. The winters of France, as compared with those of Wisconsin, are very mild and many species of plants that we can never hope to grow in the open ground thrive here to perfection. Among these may be mentioned the rhododendrons, the hollies, the ivies, the wonderfully developed Japanese maples and many of the finer evergreens.

The decoration of the Exposition grounds by ornamental planting has been carried to a greater extent than it was

at either the Philadelphia or Chicago expositions. Most of the buildings are surrounded with banks of rich foliage and flowers and large masses of beautiful trees and shrubs are interspersed with the walks and drives, throughout the grounds not otherwise occupied. Nurserymen have made competitive plantings of ornamental stock in many places, in which the specimens are, in most cases, distinctly labeled. The student of species and varieties might find material here for a whole season's study. During the earlier part of my stay in Paris, the blooming season of the rhododendrons was at its height and the display made by this magnificent plant on various parts of the grounds was beautiful and brilliant beyond description.

The culture of fruit trees in small gardens has undoubtedly attained its highest perfection in France and the methods of pruning and training in use, to adapt tree fruits to small areas, are abundantly illustrated at the Exposition. Apple and pear trees are shown trained to many ideal forms in which they are grown upon walls and trellises so as to occupy no more room than the grapevine occupies with us. Specimens are also trained to a perfect system of branching, when not grown upon walls or trellises. It is quite safe to say that more labor is often expended in pruning and training a single fruit tree in France than the average American expends upon his whole orchard. These methods of pruning and training are not new and they have been described and illustrated in many French and English books. To an American it seems strange that trees tortured into such fantastic shapes should ever consent to bear fruits, but they do and in the European climate they doubtless bear more and better fruit than they would do if permitted to grow, as with us, "in their own sweet will."

The only exhibition of cold-stored fruits from last year, of any magnitude, at the Exposition, is from our own country. Several tables in the foreign horticultural building are cov-

ered with fine specimens of winter apples, mainly from New York, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Maine and Virginia. California is not yet on hand except with some gigantic specimens of fruit in glass jars. It is yet too early for the new crop of strawberries. Our Department of Agriculture has two large cases filled with wax models of varieties of apples and some other fruits that are grown commercially in the United States. Among these, I was pleased to notice several varieties from our own state.

Prof. Bailey told us at his recent visit to our winter meeting that he had found nothing in Europe that corresponds with our idea of an orchard. I have, thus far, found little at the Exposition that can help us in the great problems of commercial fruit growing in America. The European methods are too pottering and too expensive to be thought of with us. The problem of supplying the commercial world with choice fruit is likely to be developed in America, if at all, and I am more and more coming to the conviction that in the great Northwest we must give more attention to developing our native fruits and less to acclimatizing fruits from more favored regions.

Paris, France, June 12, 1900.

LILACS.

By W. J. Moyle, Landscape Gardener.

The lilac is certainly deserving of more notice and should be more largely planted in our gardens. This is particularly true in the Northwest, where on account of the severity of the climate our list of flowering shrubs is small—shrubs that will dare to stand up above the snow line and face the winter weather.

While many of the improved lilacs are not quite as robust as the old standbys, *syringa vulgaris* and *syringa alba*,

still they will stand a good deal of abuse when once they become established. If I were to plant a dozen lilacs next spring in the back border of the lawn, these are the varieties I would choose. Singles, in my estimation, are far more beautiful than the doubles, so I give them first place. When you walk into a large field of many varieties the first one to catch your eye is LUDWIG SPAETH, color dark purplish red, individual flowers very large, beautifully arranged in panicles that often measure a foot or more in length. This one you select at once without discussion and while your eye is looking for dark colors CHARLES THE TENTH is the next one picked, a little lighter in color, with flowers not quite as large, but my! what clusters of bloom! The panicles stand up stiff and stalky, elegantly well shouldered and often 15 to 18 inches in circumference at the base. ALBERT THE GOOD and LAMARCK are quickly added on account of individual merit.

For the double varieties, PRESIDENT GREVY, LOUIS HENRY and SOUVENIR DE L. THIBAUT, with Madame Lemoine as best white. The Persian and Siberian varieties must not be left out, as they are very graceful in growth and delightfully sweet-scented.

As to SYRINGA JAPONICA I confess I would not give it room. It is a tall-growing thing, very brittle in wood, the flowers are small, white, with scarcely any perfume and come so late that they seem out of place.

SYRINGA JOSIKAEA is valuable as a novelty only, in the writer's estimation.

Little Silver, N. J.

Mrs. Good—"What are you doing, Tommy?" Tommy—"Takin' the windows out of gran'ma's specs so she can see better."—The Jewelers' Weekly.

PLANNING AND PLANTING HOME GROUNDS.

By Mr. Chas. H. Ramsdell, of the Stout Manual Training School.

[Read at the Meeting of the State Horticultural Society in Wausau.]

There are few objects in a country landscape that give such an idea of permanence, beauty, and well-to-do comfort as a thrifty, well kept orchard. It not only does much for the pocketbook of the farmer, but adds to the appearance of the farm. A man who has a fruitful orchard does not move every six months, or go to the Klondike or Cripple Creek, whenever the fever strikes him. The beauty of an orchard at all times of the year is appreciated, more or less, by every one and its neat and trim order gives the owner as good a name as a well kept house and lawn. And of course, we all say it is more essential to the farmer's success. But "The beautiful is as useful as the useful," as the poet has it, and no one can tell how useful a beautiful lawn and home grounds are to the owner.

It is in the reach of almost every property owner to make his place a pleasant spot and add to its homelike appearance in some way or another. Just how this can be accomplished is a problem to be worked out separately. No fixed and rigid rules can be given for its doing. What would make one place would spoil another. But every one can do something toward improving the looks of the home by the use of growing plants. If one cannot afford to buy the more expensive nursery stock, there are the native plants of the woods to fall back upon. The utility of collected natives in landscape work is little appreciated. Many shrubs are classed as brush by the average person, and accordingly grubbed out as weeds, but if notice were taken of them at various seasons and their peculiarities studied, there would be very few not desirable, if used rightly.

To improve home surroundings, it is necessary at the beginning to have a definite aim and purpose. Utility and convenience ought to have first place, then desirability. To shut out objectionable views, to give shade and seclusion to the home, to soften the straight lines of the house, and make it a thing of beauty, these are some of the objects to be sought for. But the greatest difficulty to the average owner is to know what to do and how to do it. This requires much thought and use of good judgment on his part.

First of all comes the selection of the house site. It should not be close to the street, to avoid dust and noise. If the grounds are of large extent, a central location is desirable. On small lots, however, the general building line on the street governs its distance from it. The barn and outbuildings are usually convenient to the entrance at the back or side of the house in a position not conspicuous to the passerby. The buildings should be set according to the street grade, just a little above to obtain good drainage and still not too high, to avoid expensive grading and steep entrances.

When the house site is located and the buildings erected, then arrangement needs attention. A ground plan or sketch of the place is oftentimes a help, as many details are overlooked without it and then a record may be kept.

On most home places the simplest is best. That means as large a lawn as possible gently sloping away from the house in all directions, especially towards the street. The soil should be as good as possible and if standing water is present, drains are necessary. Of course, in finishing, a level, even surface is desirable. But if the grounds are more extensive or more varied in character, different treatment is necessary. Any natural features should be taken advantage of. A natural ledge, a tree covered knoll, a little valley filled with wood and plants, a small brook or pond, would add much to looks and interest. Then too, it is more

economical, as grading is expensive. In fact, there are few natural features that cannot be utilized in some way or other. Of course, this does not mean leaving a wet bog or a ragged pile of boulders, but simply using the materials at hand. Many times expensive construction work is thus avoided. The mistake is often made in obtaining the monotonous even surface of a park, where an interesting variety in lawn and meadow, hill and dale, is possible.

The entrances, both walks and drives, should be on as easy grades as possible throughout their length. Flat roads do not drain well, while steep ones mean hard hauling, so both extremes should be avoided. A road dropping five feet in a hundred of its length is usually as steep as practicable. Walks can be made steeper than this if needful. They should be arranged so as not to cross the lawn, if possible, at least if the lawn is large; therefore they should be at its side or back. Generally, on small places, a straight walk direct to the door is best. But on more extensive grounds a curved drive or walk is often desirable to avoid a large tree, a ledge, or natural obstruction, or to obtain a more level entrance. Usually a curving drive round a hill is better than a straight one over it, but aimless curves are to be avoided. If there are teams kept on the place, a turn or loop is necessary near the barn. This would be included in the back or working portion of the grounds.

The next thing to decide is the subdivision of the grounds. The extent and place required for the lawn, for both the flower and vegetable gardens, and for the working portion of the grounds, that is the storage and laundry yards, all these need due amount of thought and judgment. The lawn, as a rule, is around the front and sides of the house toward the street. If it is the custom in the neighborhood to remove the front fences, then this lawn will be continuous along the street fronts. It should be as free from walks, drives, single shrubs and showy flower beds

as possible, for a broad expanse of turf, to give an idea of size and breadth. While the lawn ought to be as large as possible, still its size ought not to make its care a burden. On the farm, division fences or hedges are often desirable to keep animals off.

If the lawn in front is of good size, a small lawn at the side, usually between the houses, may be screened off by a hedge or shrubbery for a family lawn, a sort of outdoor parlor, if you choose. This is divided from the front or public lawn by shrubs or lattices to give seclusion from the passerby on the street. Here one may be as much in the privacy of home as in the house and still be out of doors. This is only necessary in thickly settled communities. It should also be separate from the back yard.

Both flower and vegetable gardens should be convenient to the house, in a place free from shade and still not exposed to the cold wind or burning sun. Oftentimes they may be included in the family lawn. Here should be the showy flowering plants. It is best to confine foliage beds or highly colored flowers to this garden, to avoid patches of color on the lawn, which attract attention from the lawn itself, the trees, or general appearance of the home. In the flower garden one expects these showy plants and here they are not out of place. Both gardens should be somewhat shut off from the public way to exclude animals and the small boy looking for fruit. Of necessity the working portion or back yard should be in the rear. This includes the laundry yard near the kitchen or laundry and the storage yard near the cellar, or if for tools, near the garden. Usually a hedge or some shrubbery is needed to divide the back yard from the front or lawn portions.

While this applies mostly to small grounds in the village or city much of it is applicable to the home grounds on the farm. Here, of course, no seclusion is necessary. In fact, most people in the country wish to see all there is

going on, and rightly too, for their life is at best an isolated one. Therefore no family lawn nor outdoor parlor, if you so choose to call it, is needed. A level lawn or meadow in front of the house with barn and outbuildings at the back or side, as much out of sight as possible, is the simplest arrangement. The planting should be low around the house so as not to obstruct the view, and trees on the lawn and road for shade. Then the barn and sheds may be screened from view by belts of trees or shrubs. These will also serve for windbreaks and shelter from storms. One advantage the farmer has over his city cousin is the short distance to places where desirable plants are plenty.

When the grounds have been subdivided properly, then the details of planting may be worked out. Please understand that while it is cheaper to carry it out all at once, oftentimes it may be done from year to year as means will allow. Interest in the work is thus kept up and one is stimulated to further efforts. The same general scheme should be followed from year to year in its accomplishment. In locating plantations each one should have its special use. To shut out objectionable views, to divide the front and back yards, to soften the harsh, stiff lines of the house, to give seclusion to the home, these are some of their uses. Place no trees, shrubs or vines without an object in view. A lawn dotted with plants, aimlessly placed, loses half its value and its broad expanse of green turf. Planting at the base and sides of the house is usually all that is necessary on the lawn. The importance of planting against the base of buildings, or along blank walls to relieve the bare effect is often overlooked.

In making plantations the ground should be thoroughly prepared as for a garden or orchard. When spaded up, well pulverized and enriched by fertilizer, it is ready for the plants. Shrubs do not grow well in sod. The plants should be placed in masses, so that, at their full size and

maturity, the tops will just touch. Weeds are thus shaded out and cultivation is unnecessary. The beds are usually irregular in outline; as some kinds are more broad spreading than others, the edge next to the lawn must of necessity be irregular. The effect obtained from a mass of planting is more apparent than of single specimens. In the natural landscape, the foliage is in broad masses, and the plants in generous numbers to give this effect. This is what the landscape gardener strives to obtain. Nature never makes a straight, formal hedgerow. But a straight, regular hedge has its uses as well. When used, the more regular and even it is the better it looks. The proper distance apart depends on the kind used and size at maturity. A continuous line of foliage is desirable. When an immediate effect is wanted, the shrubs may be planted closer and then thinned out as necessary.

The care of these beds after planting is simple. The weeds kept down until shaded out, the surface mulched with leaves or light covering, the edges cut to keep the grass from spreading, this is all necessary. When a shrub outgrows its place do not cut it back but remove it and substitute a smaller kind. Even if no care is taken after planting, hardy shrubs will care for themselves more or less, but it should be remembered that the results will be slower. The same holds true in regard to the soil. The conditions should be as nearly like those of their natural location as possible.

The kinds used depends on conditions, desirability and reason for use. It is better to use a large number of a good kind, rather than a few of many kinds, in order to obtain wholesale rates. At first few varieties should be used, then other kinds put in from year to year for variety. A study of the descriptive catalogues of the standard nurseries will tell what is desirable. Then if the means of the owner will permit the use of nursery stock is advisable, but if one

cannot afford the more expensive nursery stock, then the hardier natives can be used, and oftentimes they are more desirable than the ornamentals obtainable. In using wild plants their natural conditions should be studied and followed as closely as possible. The plants of the wood are often improved by cultivation as the fruits and berries of the garden have been.

When a place is to be improved by planting the vegetation growing on it should be noted and left untouched for a time. After careful observation the undesirable ones can be taken out and others added. Many beautiful trees and shrubs are removed by the grader in obtaining a level surface. I heard of a case once where the owner "brushed," as he called it, a beautiful little valley full of native plants, then called in a landscape gardener for advice to improve it and was much surprised to find that he advised the use of the very same kinds that the owner had so industriously grubbed out. By all means have your beautiful and rare plants from other lands, but don't overlook those near at home and thereby destroy the natural beauties of your place. There's a happy medium between a wild tangle of brush and weeds and a nursery collection of rare and often tender plants.

In collecting natives a good sized rootball should be dug with as many roots as possible. Care ought to be taken to prevent drying. Planting is done as soon as possible or the roots covered with soil until convenient. They should be moved when not in growth. Those standing in the open give the best results. Unless conditions are unusually favorable full grown specimens should not be moved. Oftentimes annuals can be used to give variety where the beds are broader and more open. Even then the ones able to stand shade should be used. These may be grown year by year from seed in hotbeds or frames and transplanted.

While most of this paper treats of planting new grounds

it will apply as well to those already established. Plants already on the ground may be used. Transplanting, dividing and separating will often increase the stock in hand. The lawn is leveled and seed thrown in, or the old sod renewed by fertilizer and cutting. Many people do not realize how much cutting will do to grass. A case of this kind once came to my notice where a summer cottage was built on an old, rough, run out pasture and by nothing but cutting the owner obtained as fine and even a lawn as there was in the vicinity. The shrubs should be taken off the lawn, grouped and other plantations put in, where needed. Unless the trees are too thick or crooked, they should be left alone. It is best to go slowly about cutting down a tree and then only with the best of reasons. Oftentimes the work of forty years is undone in half an hour.

In regard to the cost of plants the standard horticultural papers should be consulted. Collected plants can be obtained for about five dollars a hundred from those who do collecting as a business. Nursery plants cost about twelve dollars a hundred, that is the ordinary nursery stock. Nursery agents usually charge more than the company, for their prices include commission. However, plants from a nursery are usually better rooted, more symmetrical and hardier. If large quantities are used then better rates may be obtained. Of course, if the owner does his own collecting then the cost of teaming and labor is all. At the same time the plants collected by him will be much larger than those bought of plant collectors who are in this business. One has the pleasure then of seeing the results of his own work.

If one sees his neighbor improving his place then one is, or ought to be, ashamed of his own cluttered back yard, and straightway cleans it. If the neighbor succeeds with his plants and improvements then he himself feels more inclined to do something about his own place. Thus whole

neighborhoods may be improved and values thereby much increased. "In union there is strength," in numbers at least. So while one place improved means much, a neighborhood improved means more. We are all glad to see that the ladies of Wausau have organized a village improvement society and we all sincerely trust that it succeeds as it deserves. As order is nature's first law keeping everything neat and clean is the first step ahead. They have already taken that step and let us hope that they will include the beautifying of each and every home place and thereby every neighborhood. As the ladies see more of the home, it is only fair that they should have it beautiful to look upon, therefore if they are interested in making it beautiful, it will be. Their influence in the making of the home is far-reaching. So in the next ten years we expect to see Wausau one of the most beautiful cities in Wisconsin.

The National Cash Register Co. of Dayton, O., has been very successful in a movement of this kind. They have reformed the entire side of the city, where their factory is located, from a city tenement district to a neighborhood of pretty little homes, and needless to say, a liberal use of plants has contributed a great deal to it. A similar movement has been started in the city of Menomonie of this state by Senator Stout of the Knapp, Stout Lumber Co. Advice is given each property owner as to improvements in any way possible. Then materials can be procured in wholesale quantities, so lower prices are obtained. The citizens have shown a commendable interest and many have taken advantage of the offer in one way or another. Here it is hoped that example will do much and another season many more will co-operate. But where the citizens themselves start a movement of this kind it means much more. For this reason, I look for great results in this city of Wausau, already so beautiful.

The value of improving home grounds reaches in many

directions. It inspires a love for the beautiful in nature. Neatness and order are taught the children. It leads one to be more out of doors and to do more outdoor work. It makes a knowledge of horticulture and gardening more popular and widespread. Pride in the appearance of the home is more noticeable. And one may be sure if the home and its grounds are neatly kept, there one will find a love for it, a pride in it, and its influence on its inmates of value not to be estimated. As home means so much to every one, then a beautiful home makes life easier and more worth living.



PLOW UNDER YOUR OLD STRAWBERRY BED.

One of the greatest blunders a strawberry grower ever makes is to let the old exhausted fungi-laden, insect-infested strawberry bed he contemplates plowing under stand unmolested all the fall, to spread its spores to new plantations. End the whole business by first burning over, if possible, and plow it under as soon as the last berry is picked.

R. M. KELLOGG in Western Fruit-Grower.



PLANT A COVER CROP.

After plowing the bed, put on a heavy roller and press it down hard so capillarity will bring the water to the surface and on the same day harrow the surface so as to conserve this moisture to germinate the seed quickly and force the cover crop, which should occupy the ground until next spring.

The berry grower must wake up to the fact that above all things else he must lose no opportunity to keep his ground shaded and add vegetable matter to the soil. Bear in mind many of our unproductive soils possess an abund-

ance of plant food, but it is not available for the use of the plants because of the mechanical condition of the soil. Humus is the remedy in all such cases.—Western Fruit-Grower.

BURNING OVER THE OLD STRAWBERRY BED FOR A SECOND YEAR'S FRUITING.

[R. M. Kellogg in Western Fruit-Grower.]

Occasionally there are complaints of injuring the plants by the burning, but we have burned them for sixteen years and always with gratifying results. When the mulch is heavy we need not put any on the plants, as the flames will do the work perfectly, but a light covering directly on the plants will not injure them in the least, unless a long and severe drouth intervenes. As soon as the burning is done put on all the fine rotted manure you can and cultivate it in. Nothing holds the water in the lower soil so much as a large amount of vegetable matter mixed with the immediate surface soil. It lessens the frequency of cultivation and mechanically stimulates growth because a hard crust cannot form and the air can readily pass to the roots where the living organisms are busily preparing the plants' foods.

You will bear in mind that next year's crop depends on generous treatment of the plants during the coming months. If they are protected from fungi and insects they will in a measure recover from the exhaustive effort of perfecting their fruit and make every preparation for heavy work next season.

Fee simple, and a simple fee,
And all the fees in tale
Are nothing when compared to thee,
Thou best of fees—female.—Home Journal.

NOTES ON BLACKBERRIES.

We have an acre of blackberries in a young apple orchard and believe it to be of mutual benefit. The light shade furnished by the orchard is just what the blackberries like, and in turn the blackberry bushes protect the trunks of the apple trees from sun scald.

Let your blackberries stay on the bushes until they are ripe. Blackberries are not ripe when they first turn black but need to remain on the bushes until they swell up and become glossy and sweet.

The acreage in blackberries in Wisconsin is much smaller than in former years, but those who have blackberry fields report the prospect of a heavy crop.

There is also a large crop of wild berries.



CONTROLLING BLACKBERRY RUST.

One serious drawback in growing blackberries is the rust. All varieties are subject to it, and there is no remedy that can be depended upon to exterminate it after once securing a foothold. The best treatment is to watch and dig out by the roots as soon as possible all cases, new and old, that show, certainly, that they have been attacked by the rust. This can easily be told by the leaf, those being attacked having a crumpled or crinkly appearance, while the healthy ones remain smooth, and later on, by the red color on the under side of the leaves. Plants attacked by this disease should never be allowed, under any circumstances, to remain in the patch until the rust spores or seeds are fully developed or ripened. If so, they will spread the disease to other plants. Care should be exercised to dig all diseased canes in time and to burn as soon as possible. Af-

ter a patch has been in bearing a few years and begins to show considerable rust, it should be promptly destroyed and a new one, previously started, take its place.—Orange Judd Farmer.

BLACKBERRY PLANTS FROM ROOT CUTTINGS.

These may be produced by plowing up a row in the fall, after the leaves have fallen, and making all roots, the size of a pipe stem and over, into cuttings about four inches long. These should be tied into small bundles with wire and packed away in damp sand in the cellar, or may be buried in a dry place in the ground out of doors. In the spring they should be planted two inches deep in good, rich, mellow soil, wide enough apart to admit of cultivation with a horse. They should receive thorough, clean, shallow cultivation throughout the growing season. Late in the fall, after the leaves have fallen or very early in the spring following, they should be transferred to their permanent quarters.—Orange Judd Farmer.

HERBST'S BULLETIN FOR JULY.

Strawberry beds that have fruited this year should be cleaned out and put into condition for next year's fruiting. There are different methods of doing this and each grower has his own way of doing it.

About the quickest and least expensive way is to mow the bed as soon as through fruiting. Rake off clean with hay rake and either burn or draw away the refuse. Mow the bed immediately after picking is finished for by so doing you prevent many weeds from going to seed.

After the bed has been well raked narrow the rows by

using an eight inch plow, plowing a back furrow between the rows. Narrow the rows to about six or eight inches. After plowing run the cultivator over the back furrow to level it off and then drag the bed cross ways of the plowing to fill up any shallow places made by the plow and also to drag out any old runners and small weeds that may be in the rows between the plants. After the plants have started fresh give hoeing and continue cultivation as it may require. Any gaps that may be left in the rows may be filled by setting of new plants taken from new settings.

New beds set this year should be gone over frequently with hoe and cultivator. A bed kept clean this year will be free from weeds next year in fruiting time. If any plants set this year have failed to come and vacant places are left in the rows fill in with new plants which will be set from runners this month. If one is desirous of obtaining new plants early from this year's setting, throw a little dirt over the tip end of the runners and they will root much faster.

The young and growing suckers of the red raspberries and blackberries can be transplanted successfully during the season if dirt is left about the roots. This is best done immediately after a rain as the soil will adhere to the roots much better. A light mulch of manure placed about them will do much to retain the moisture about the roots.

In picking raspberries and blackberries do not pull from the vines directly. The berries should be picked with thumb and first two fingers and instead of pulling directly, gradually roll the berry from the stem. They will not break so easily this way. Broken raspberries have a tendency to become soft, making the balance of them in the same condition and giving a bad appearance to the package when opened.

Boxes should be well filled, especially the corners of the boxes, as raspberries being smaller have a tendency to set-

tle more. Ship to the closest market possible and by the most direct route. Raspberries will not stand too much handling and care should be taken that they are not picked too long before shipping. Place in pint boxes and covers should fit tightly that the air will not strike them.

J. L. HERBST.

Sparta, Wis.

HOW TO PLANT A FRUIT TREE.

By A. L. Hatch, Sturgeon Bay, Wis.

[Read at Summer Meeting in Wausau.]

If fruit trees have become dried or shrivelled before planting they should be immersed in water for a few hours or buried all over in moist earth for a day or two, to restore the moisture in the wood. Moisture is absolutely essential and the most important part of the conditions of transplanting. The absolutely necessary thing to do is to so place the tree that it can supply itself with all the moisture it needs. To do this we first prepare the tree so that as little will answer the purpose as may be and that the tree may draw as much moisture from the soil as it can. To lessen the requirements of the tree we always shorten in the tops very much, leaving only one third or less of each branch. At this time defects are corrected and the shape improved as much as may be.

Our next consideration is to put the roots into the best possible condition to absorb moisture. This we do by cutting off the bruised ends of all roots of any size, as the fresh cut ends will much more readily absorb moisture than the bruised, broken and dead root ends can as they are left in the process of digging and handling. Of course all broken

and badly bruised roots that will be of no use should be removed, and long straggling roots that would be difficult to plant should be shortened in. It is not the aggregate amount of root on the tree that is the most valuable in planting, but rather the greatest amount of ends of roots. It is at the ends of the roots where nearly all the new growth takes place and where rootlets must be formed to nourish the tree. Hence it is perfectly proper to cut off long roots and bring them into reasonable proportion and excellent results follow even very severe shortening in, when care is taken to preserve as many root ends as possible.

I have assumed that the site has been selected, the ground prepared and the holes made ready. Every tree should have its roots well puddled in thin mud just before being put into the holes. In ordinary clay or common soil make a small hole a foot deep, into which pour a pail or two of water and mix with some fine earth until about the consistency of thick cream. Into this plunge the roots of every tree prepared, and it is best to limit the number to what can be placed in the holes where they are to stand before the mud can dry on the roots. It is very important to get the roots into the ground while still muddy as the aim should be to stick the earth onto the roots—or in other words to bring the soil into the most intimate possible connection with the roots themselves.

Not only will this puddle secure close contact with the soil but will of itself attract more moisture to the exact place where it is most needed. If we have many trees to plant one man is set to distributing the trees and he puts only as much earth over each tree root, as he puts it in the hole, as will prevent drying. In this way the trees go into the ground with the least possible exposure. Another man follows at once to fill in around the trees and is required to tramp the earth in hard around the roots and leave loose earth over the surface. Of course the earth is placed among

the roots when there is a mass of fine ones. This is necessary to prevent the roots being pressed upon one another. The idea is to get the roots in contact with as much soil as possible and in such condition that they can draw moisture promptly and continuously from the soil. To this end nothing can substitute puddling the roots, as I have described, and pounding the soil hard upon them. Nine-tenths of failures result from neglect of these two items.

In firming the soil, after a reasonable amount is placed about the roots, the tree should be first brought into position—slightly slanting toward the southwest, or the prevailing winds—as it is not easy to change the position of the tree after the earth is firm about the roots. Ordinarily the transplanting is considered done right here, but there are two or three more considerations that bear so intimately upon the success of the tree the first season that they should be attended to. A very common cause of failure after planting is to leave the trees in growing grain and give no culture. This usually proves fatal to fully one-half the trees, and seriously cripples the other half. Fruit trees should always be cultivated several times after planting until July, when some cover crop can be grown upon the ground, or a good mulch be given in October, as a protection to the roots during winter.

By cultivation is meant stirring the soil just as it is stirred in corn culture or potato growing. Should there be drouth apprehended after planting and it is desired to be sure of success, then, after thorough cultivation of the soil, apply a thorough mulching of half rotten straw. Animal manure should not be applied to young fruit trees where there is any danger of fire blight, or where the soil is reasonably fertile. Another thing that helps very much, especially where hot winds prevail and the sun's heat is intense, is to wrap the trees about with straw or hay. For this purpose straight rye straw is best. Set it on end

around the tree trunks and tie in several places with common wool twine. If enough is used to fairly cover the trunks and is allowed to go up among the branches along the center of the tree it will give protection where most needed and may remain until it decays. This will last usually for three years or more and will be a better protection against winter sun-scald than the much talked of and bragged about lath protector.

To summarize: 1st, prepare the tree itself by shortening in both tops and roots; 2d, thoroughly puddle the roots in mud mortar; 3d, thorough firming the soil about the roots; 4th, cultivation, mulching and winter protection to the roots by cover crop or mulch; 5th, trunk protection to prevent injury from winds and sun heat summer and winter. This latter item should include a bank of earth close about the trunk eight or ten inches high, each fall, as long as there is danger of injury from mice during winter.

If trees are planted as herein recommended success will follow and they will become well established the first season, which is the most critical period in the life of a fruit tree.

SQUASH BUGS.

They come down in a cloud and do their work so promptly that in an hour your splendid vines are ruined. Box your hills when planted, and if the bugs assail them, dust with white hellebore. Kerosene water may be used if special care is taken not to put into a pail of water over one teaspoonful of kerosene. This remedy is excellent for the big stink-bug that comes a little later. Saltpeter and other remedies are not of the least avail.

E. P. POWELL in Independent.

SACKING GRAPES.

Remember this is the time to commence sacking your grapes. The berries are now formed, and the sooner they are sacked the better. I am in love with this plan, as the past two seasons have satisfied me that it does pay to have your grapes protected in this way, preventing injury from storms, insects and fungi. You can have nice grapes for your table weeks after they would have been gone if left unsacked—in fact, even after the frosts of autumn. Secure two-pound sacks such as your grocer uses. Slit down the sides one inch, insert the bunch, fold over neatly and pin with ordinary pin. By folding, water cannot enter the sack and insects will not.

MAJOR HOLSINGER in Western Fruit-Grower.

AN EXTENSIVE TREE-PLANTING.

Dr. W. Steward Webb lately completed one of the largest jobs of tree-planting ever undertaken in this country by one man. He set out 155,000 white and Scotch pine on his Shelburne farms in Vermont, and it took 400 men a whole month to do the work. The trees are two to three feet high, laid out in 24 groves. Drives have been laid through them in two places, the rest being accessible only on foot. About 12,000 of the trees form a covering especially for pheasants. About 50,000 smaller trees have since been planted. The trees came from Illinois and cost, with the planting, \$50,000.—The Country Gentleman.

It is by the goodness of God that in our country we have those three unspeakably precious things—freedom of speech, freedom of conscience, and the prudence never to practice either of them.—Mark Twain.

THE MISSOURI SOCIETY'S SUMMER MEETING.

This was held in Chillicothe, June 5 to 7. The members were entertained at the buildings of the Chillicothe Normal School. The address of welcome was given by the President of the Normal School. Among the speakers were Prof. J. C. Whitten of the Missouri Experiment Station, Mr. McNallie of Sarcoxie, Major Holsinger, Secretary Goodman and Prof. Smith.

Prof. Smith, who is a teacher in the Chillicothe Normal school, is also an enthusiastic fruit-grower. The Western Fruit-Grower, in its report of the meeting, says: "Prof. Smith has tried the wood veneer wrappers for his trees, and mice had got in and barked the trunks; now uses cornstalks,"

"Borers have been numerous and nothing seems to be effectual in getting rid of them save digging them from the trees."

" 'We go after the borers three times a year,' said Professor Smith. 'In the spring we remove the soil from around the base of the tree and examine the trees; then we make a hill or mound about the tree, which compels the laying of eggs higher up on the trunk. The washing away of the soil will reduce the height of the hill and this will leave the young exposed. In August we examine the trees carefully again, and still later, say about October. A good man can examine 1,000 trees a day, and when trees are treated in this way 80 per cent of the borers will be above ground.' "

Strawberries came in for a large share in the discussions. The matted row system was recommended as best for commercial growers; put the rows $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart and keep them narrow, with a good path between. The favorite varieties seem to be about the same as we plant in Wisconsin—Haverland, Warfield, Crescent, Lovett, Brandywine, Bubach, Michel's Early, etc.

The Ridgeway strawberry has been well tested by several growers and was highly commended, especially by Mr. McNallie who said it had made a great record with him this year.

Prof. Whitten said that at the Experiment Station, Michel, Crescent, Bubach, Haverland and Warfield had done as well as any this year.

Major Holsinger regards the second year's crop from a strawberry bed better than the first.

Secretary Goodman reported that the Missouri fruit at Paris had taken a first premium and urged the Society to send a carload of fruit to the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo next year.

AWARD OF PREMIUMS AT SUMMER MEETING.

Strawberries, best display—G. J. Kellogg & Sons of Janesville, 1; A. H. Carpenter & Sons of Fond du Lac, 2.

Best new seedling—O. G. Secor, Waupaca.

Best kind for general cultivation—G. J. Kellogg, 1; J. M. Smith's Sons, 2.

Best quart early berries—same.

Best quart late berries—A. H. Carpenter & Sons, 1; G. J. Kellogg, 2.

Best 3 for the farmer—G. J. Kellogg, 1; J. M. Smith's Sons, 2.

Best quart Warfield—F. Ulrich of Dorchester, 1; A. H. Carpenter & Sons, 2.

Best Haverland—Kellogg, 1; Carpenter, 2.

Best Bubach—C. Phillipson of Oshkosh, 1; H. Christensen of Oshkosh, 2.

Best Enhance—Franklin Johnson, 1; F. Ulrich, 2.

Best Crescent—F. Ulrich, 1; A. H. Carpenter, 2.

Best Bederwood—Mr. Kellogg, 1; A. H. Carpenter, 2.

Best Glen Mary—same.

Best Gandy—W. H. Hanchett.

Best Parker Earle—A. H. Carpenter & Sons.

Best Clyde—H. Christensen, 1; C. Phillipson, 2.

The following special premiums were awarded: Quart Nick Ohmer—C. Phillipson. Bismark—Wm. Rounds of Baraboo, 1; G. J. Kellogg, 2. Sample—G. J. Kellogg. Klondyke—G. J. Kellogg.

Best collection of roses—Mrs. Barnes of Waupaca, 1; M. V. Sperbeck of Oshkosh, 2.

Best show moss roses—same.

Best table bouquet of roses—Mrs. Barnes.

Best bouquet roses—Mrs. Barnes, 1; C. Phillipson, 2.

Best bouquet white roses—C. Phillipson.

Best floral design—Mrs. Barnes.

Best show cut flowers—same.

Best bouquet wild flowers—Ray Barnes, 1; Roy Barnes, 2.

J. M. Smith's Sons of Green Bay took all the premiums on garden vegetables.



THE SUMMER MEETING OF THE WISCONSIN STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, JUNE 20-21, 1900.

“What! up there in the pine woods!” exclaimed one when told that the summer meeting would be in Wausau. Apparently the speaker had a vague impression that we were going to a sort of logging camp in the forest.

“We” were wiser than that, for we had learned that Wausau, with a population of fourteen or fifteen thousand, was classed among the leading cities of the commonwealth. But even we were not prepared to find a city so beautiful

and substantial and progressive. Our visit was a series of happy surprises, from the fine hotel with its spacious well-furnished rooms, to our society's pet protegee, the Trial Orchard.

The Court House in which our meetings were held is a magnificent structure of which Marathon County may well feel proud. We were told that its cost was \$110,000.

Contrary to our preconceived ideas the land about Wausau is not flat but rolling. In fact the highest point of land in the State is just outside the city. It is termed a "hill," but is properly a mountain, being more than a thousand feet above sea level. Within the city limits are bluffs and hills on which many of the handsome residences are built. That Wausau is a place of culture as well as wealth is evidenced by the large number of elegant, tasteful homes.

We were welcomed to the city by its business men—lawyers, legislators, editors. Their hospitality was royal. We had a good time and a good meeting.

The address of welcome by Hon. Neal Brown was eloquent and cordial and full of witty hits. The president of the Society, Franklin Johnson, in his response said, "For several years our former secretary, Mr. Philips, has been wooing Wausau. Ever since the Trial Orchard was located here he has unceasingly sounded Wausau's praises. Now that we meet you face to face we acknowledge his discriminating judgment."

The paper "Small Fruits for the Home Garden," by W. H. Hanchett of Sparta, elicited considerable discussion. Mr. Hanchett's list of strawberries, selected with the view of prolonging the season as much as possible, was, Michel's Early, Warfield and Gandy, to which one might add Brandywine and Haverland. 150 Michel, 300 Warfield, 200 Gandy and 100 each of Haverland and Brandywine would furnish a bountiful supply for a large family. The villager

whose garden is limited might cut this in half and still have a fair supply.

For raspberries he recommended a dozen each of Ohio, Gregg, Marlboro, Loudon, Cuthbert and a few Columbian for variety.

For blackberries—Taylor's Prolific will stand most neglect and hard usage. If good culture can be given plant 25 each of Eldorado and Ancient Briton.

G. J. Kellogg moved that Michel be stricken from the list. Mr. Hanchett defended it because of its earliness. Mr. Kellogg also objected to Gandy. Attention was called to the fact that the Gandy is quoted higher than other varieties in the Chicago market.

"Flowers for the Home Garden," by Irving C. Smith of Green Bay, was an interesting, well considered production, as Mr. Smith's papers always are. He addressed the gentlemen especially, because on them depends the possibility of a flower garden. Flowers are not necessary to your existence, neither are collars and cuffs and ties. The care of a flower garden will give you a more refined taste and an appreciation for the beautiful. He recommended a good supply of hardy flowering shrubs, lilacs, roses, syringas, honeysuckles, spireas, etc.; also hardy perennials, such as phlox, peonies and the iris. Then there should be a plot each year for annuals, ten or fifteen varieties, each in a little bed by itself.

The subject of "Hardy Perennials" was treated in a paper by Mrs. J. J. Ihrig of Oshkosh, to be printed in a future number of the Horticulturist.

Hon. Chas. Hirschinger and ex-secretary Philips were not present.

A. L. Hatch was absent also, but his paper, "How to Plant a Fruit Tree," was read by D. E. Bingham. The paper appears in full on a preceding page of this magazine. A lively discussion followed it. Mr. Barnes said trees would

not live and grow if puddled in clay then planted in sandy soil. Mr. Bingham advised puddling in sand when the soil was sandy.

Mr. Coe would not cut off any of the top of the tree. It was generally agreed that trees should be dug in the fall and planted early in the spring. Nurserymen in sending out trees in the spring should be sure that they have been properly managed during the fall and winter.

Mr. L. G. Kellogg of Ripon treated the question "Is the Wausau Orchard a Safe Guide for Northern Wisconsin Planters," with thoughtfulness and candor. A person may visit the Trial Orchard, may note what trees do well and study the manner of planting and cultivating, yet fail of success because a wily agent or dishonest nurseryman substituted some less hardy variety for the kind he ordered. Mr. Kellogg firmly believes that the Wausau orchard will prove a safe guide if people buy their trees of reliable and careful dealers.

Wednesday evening's session was enlivened by fine music furnished by the Wausau Orchestra Band. Mr. Hoxie's "Horticultural Incidents from Old Settlers" contained an outline of the work of the historical committee and abounded in entertaining reminiscences.

Mrs. Barnes, in her paper on "Home Adornment" treated chiefly of the lawn and grounds, an excellent, practical paper.

Mr. Ramsdell's paper we have printed in full because of the growing interest in that subject in the northern part of the State.

Although the outside attendance was larger than is usual at the summer meeting, there was not the usual number of exhibits. This was chiefly because there was not a single entry from Wausau or vicinity. J. M. Smith's Sons were the only exhibitors of vegetables, but their exhibit was almost beyond competition. Such mammoth stalks of

pieplant, such huge heads of lettuce, such peas and radishes and onions it would be hard to beat.

The strawberry exhibit was fine, though there were not as many plates as usual. The Thayer Fruit Farms sent none, but Geo. J. Kellogg & Sons had a good exhibit. The Algoma Horticultural Society had a fine show of Burbach and Clyde, raised by irrigation. The new seedling exhibited by Mr. Secor of Waupaca was named "Wausau." Mr. Kellogg showed three new varieties which he regards as promising, Sample, Klondyke and Bismark. Wm. Rounds of Baraboo sent a box of Bismark which were larger than Mr. Kellogg's and were awarded a special first premium, Mr. Kellogg's receiving a second. Mr. Kellogg received specials on his Sample and Klondyke.

We noticed no fruit on exhibition excepting strawberries.

Mrs. A. D. Barnes had, as usual, a fine display of roses and cut flowers. Mr. Phillipson and Mr. Christensen of Oshkosh also exhibited roses.

At the close of the afternoon session on Wednesday the members of the Society were invited to visit the beautiful grounds of Hon. Neal Brown. "Wonderful! wonderful! wonderful!" and other expressions of delight were heard in voices of every key. Mr. Brown began the ornamentation of his grounds only seven years ago and they are already marvelously beautiful. Several thousand trees and shrubs are growing there, a large proportion of which Mr. Brown and his wife (an enthusiastic botanist) have collected from neighboring fields and forests. The grouping of these and the general arrangement of house and grounds formed a picture so pleasing we were loth to leave it. Mr. Brown insisted upon serving light refreshments to the company while we rested upon the veranda.

The account of the visit to the Trial Orchard must be deferred until next month.

EDITOR'S NOTES.

Two weeks before the summer meeting Secretary Herbst forsook the Bachelors and joined the Benedicts. The formal announcement reads, "Married at Winona, Minn., June 6, 1900, Mae Marie Mathews to John L. Herbst, both of Sparta, Wis." The Horticulturist in behalf of the State Society extends congratulations and a cordial greeting to Mr. and Mrs. Herbst.

L. H. Read, once of Grand Rapids, Wis., was married June 7, to Mrs. Cordie B. Winkler formerly of Cuba, Ill. They reside at Fruitdale, Alabama. Congratulations, Mr. Read!

It gives us pleasure to announce that Prof. Goff has returned in safety from his European trip. Welcome home!

Our thanks are due Mrs. F. W. Loudon of Janesville for a sample of a new seedling raspberry originated by the late Mr. Loudon. It possesses in a marked degree the true raspberry aroma, the delicious fragrance and flavor of the old wild red raspberry of New England. This is the one thing lacking in the Cuthbert. The new raspberry in size and color resembles the Loudon, and is firm, bearing transportation well.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Tuttle have just returned from a visit to their sons in Mather and Valley Junction.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. J. Kellogg spent a recent Sunday with friends in Baraboo. The Horticulturist acknowledges a pleasant call from Mr. Kellogg.

Mr. Jonathan Periam came to the meeting in Wausau, but was soon called away by a telegram, much to the regret of all.

R. J. Coe, D. C. Converse, A. J. Edwards, F. C. Edwards and son Merle were in attendance at the meetings of the National Nursery Association in Chicago.

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Note—Frontispiece of June issue of this Journal illustrates
our "NEW PROCESS" plates.

