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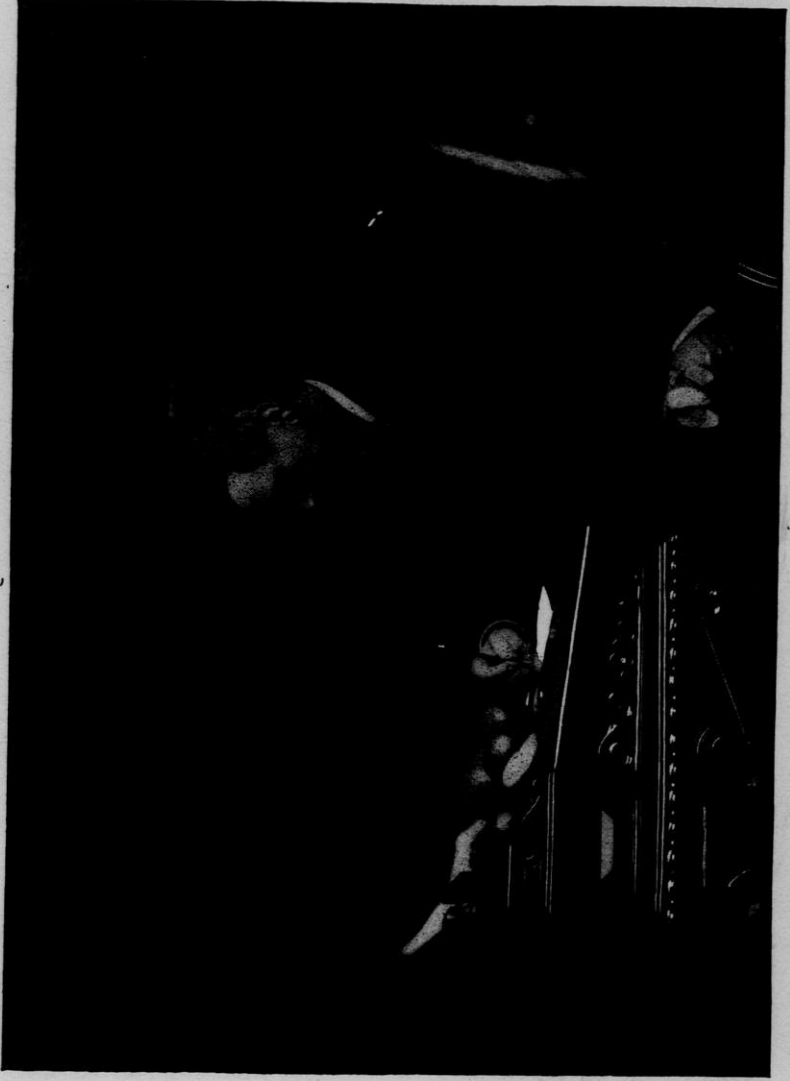
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PROF. H. E. VAN DEMAN—See page 26. [By courtesy of the Rural New-Yorker.]

The Wisconsin Horticulturist.

VOL. VI.

MARCH.

NO. 1

OFFICERS OF THE STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR 1901.

President, Dr. T. E. Loope, Eureka.

Vice-president, F. C. Edwards, Fort Atkinson.

Secretary, John L. Herbst, Sparta.

Treasurer, L. G. Kellogg, Ripon.

Corresponding Secretary, Samuel H. Marshall, Madison.

INSECTS ON ROSES.

Eben E. Rexford.

[For the Wisconsin Horticulturist.]

It isn't Rose-time yet, but it soon will be, and I want to furnish an item for your scrap-book, for reference in time of need. Last year I used on my rose-bushes an insecticide made of Ivory soap—the ordinary kind in household use—in the proportion of a quarter of a pound to a pailful of water. Melt it, add it to the water and apply to your plants with an ordinary garden sprayer, and if you do not find it vastly more effective than whale oil soap, hellebore, slug shot, or Paris green, your experience will be quite different from mine. I had splendid roses, while those of my neighbors were literally eaten up by insects. Begin to use it be-

fore the insects come and apply it at least twice a week until the insect season is past. Be sure to get it to all parts of the plant, especially the under side of the leaves.

Shiocton, Wis.

THE POINSETTIA.

Frederic Cranefield.

[For the Wisconsin Horticulturist.]

The crimson bracts of the Poinsettia, fairly glowing in bright sunlight, never fail to attract attention. A group of these plants in the Station greenhouse has attracted very general attention this winter. The plants have been grown mainly for instructional uses, to illustrate one modification of leaves, for the so-called flowers of the Poinsettia are merely brightly colored leaves, different from the other leaves of the plant in color only. The true flowers are small and inconspicuous.

The Poinsettia succeeds fairly well as a house plant if one or two important points are observed. The plants must never be permitted to suffer for want of water, and sudden and violent changes of temperature must be avoided. Commonly the plants drop all of their leaves when removed from the greenhouse to the dwelling and this is usually attributed to a lack of heat; in fact the average florist will say that the Poinsettia is a tropical plant and that it requires a high temperature. This is wrong, as it thrives in a moderate temperature, from 60 to 65 degrees, but will not endure a change from 80 to 70 degrees in a few hours, without injury. Watering is also of the highest importance. While it does not require as much water as many other plants, the soil must always be kept moist.

The Poinsettia may be grown readily from cuttings at any time of the year. Bottom heat, that is, the soil warmer than the air above it, is not essential. After the plants

have done "flowering," allow them to rest by withholding water gradually until the plants have become wholly dormant and shed all of their leaves, when the stems should be cut back severely, the dirt removed from the roots and the plants repotted into SMALLER pots. The parts cut off, if cut into sections 2 to 3 inches in length and placed in wet sand in a sunny window, will soon be well rooted. Green "slips" or cuttings, taken at any time during the growing season, root readily and, if started at any time previous to Sept. 1st, will usually form bracts. By rooting cuttings at intervals during the spring and summer we have succeeded in producing plants of various sizes, from the tiny one, in a 2-inch pot, with a 3-inch bract, to the towering plants 4 and 5 feet high, in 8-inch pots, each with several 12 and 14-inch bracts.

Wisconsin Experiment Station.

THE DOGWOOD DOING DUTY AS EBONY.

A Chester (Ct.) correspondent of the Hartford Courant says that owing to the high price of ebony, manufacturers of piano keyboards have been searching for a substitute, but could not find one with a grain close enough for the necessary polish until our native dogwood was tried and found to equal ebony in appearance and utility. Dogwood is scattered through nearly every forest, and occasionally a number of trees are found in a group. It grows as a large bush or small tree, requiring 25 or 30 years to gain a diameter of 5 or 6 inches. Owing to the small amount of wood in a tree, it is rarely cut, unless to clear up a piece. When a contract was lately made with mills at Deep River and Ivoryton to saw up 800 cords of dogwood in strips an inch square and 8 to 20 inches long, it was necessary to ask farmers to get it out, offering \$4.50 to \$5 per cord. In a short time it came in so fast that nine mills were kept busy until May 1

sawing it up. The strips were piled cobhouse style, outdoors, to remain until thoroughly seasoned. They then will be sawed to right size, oiled, colored and polished. This section is about cleared of dogwood now, and several thousand dollars have been distributed among farmers and millmen for what was considered worthless property.

THE DUBUQUE NURSERY.

In The Fruitman we find the following tribute to a genial gentleman from Iowa who was a delegate to the annual meeting in Madison two years ago:

W. H. Guilford, known all over the northwest as a jovial, persistent horticulturist, is located in the western suburbs of Dubuque. He conducts a general retail nursery, catering largely to the city trade. With this he combines fruit growing.

Mr. Guilford is a born experimenter. He delights in testing and trying, and the lessons of his experience are invaluable for his section. On his grounds may be found an array of things new and old, that will delight the botanical expert. Russian Horse chestnut, Prunus Macki, Amur barberry and scarlet maple are noticeable. He has a plum orchard of 600 trees that will evidently make him good money. One of the most profitable varieties is his own seedling No. 1. It is a good July plum, dark red in color.

He finds Bokara the hardiest peach. His experience shows that Wyant plum on sand cherry stock is worthless, but Hawkeye on sand cherry is a perfect success. He finds the Redfield raspberry proved the hardiest this year of all the leading kinds. The Porter apple of New York is proving a success with him. But Mr. Guilford's pet, and what he is preparing to push on its merits, is the Old apple. This is the stock of an apple tree found growing here when the white man came in the early years of the century. It

was a tree forty years old when first discovered, and solely through Mr. Guilford's foresight, the stock has been preserved, though the original tree was destroyed by a cyclone. Tree is hardy as Wealthy and great bearer. Fruit medium to small in size, dark red and an all winter keeper.



RASPBERRY CULTURE—ONE GROWER'S METHOD.

[This paper was read at the recent meeting of the Sauk County Horticultural Society.]

A well kept raspberry field with the canes loaded with ripe fruit is an object that appeals somewhat to our sense of horticultural beauty. However, it is not to be expected that, in the contemplation of this feature, the grower will for one moment forget that the main object of such a plantation is to secure at least a fair crop of fruit with the least amount of labor.

Now the question arises, what is a fair crop of this fruit and what shall we do to obtain it? And, quite as important, what have we been doing in this connection that might just as well have been omitted?

I believe 2500 quarts to the acre of black raspberries, and 2000 of the red, to be a good fair crop and much above the average of this locality.

We will discuss if you please the black cap first. There is no soil too rich for this variety of fruit. The ground should be marked to plant the hills six feet apart each way. Good strong roots should have been secured the fall before planting by covering the tips of vigorous canes. This should be done by placing the tips perpendicularly in the earth, instead of laying them down horizontally and placing a spade full of earth upon them. This work is best done when the ground is quite moist and during the latter part of September.

A good way to prepare the ground for planting is to plow in the fall, thus the plants may be set as soon as the ground is fit to work in the spring, which is the only right time for this part of the work.

Constant cultivation will do as much for raspberries as it will for corn, and, the hills being six feet apart each way, they may be cultivated with the same facility as corn. It is not a good plan to plant any other crop among the fruit plants that by its growth will cut off late cultivation. There is no great need of a hoe in the care of a raspberry field thus planted and well cultivated, and while other crops languish under the disadvantages of drouth, the raspberries will thrive.

I do not think it pays to stake black caps. The first year the canes will be somewhat slender and may be pruned off about the first of July, at the height of 2 or 2½ feet. The next and succeeding years the canes will be thick and strong and should be trimmed, as before, by cutting the canes at three feet. This should not be done by cutting off the bud at the tip when it has gained a height of three feet; but the cane should be allowed to grow until it begins well to curve, then cut at the right height. If cut too early heavy laterals shoot out near the top and pull the cane to the ground; if too late, the natural growth will do the same thing, in many instances.

Having done the trimming at the right time there ensues the following advantages: 1st, no stakes to provide; 2d, your canes stand up instead of lying on the ground; 3d, the tedious labor of tying up is avoided; 4th, the young and tender cane tops and the laterals afterward trimmed back, wither up on the ground and there is comparatively a small quantity of brush to carry out in the fall or spring. Lastly, four or five stout canes to the hill, treated in this way, will be likely to produce a good crop of large and firm berries, having the quality of good handling.

The canes not being bunched, as when tied to a stake, the fruit is open to the life giving elements of air and sunshine. The canes will spread in the row sometimes a little more freely than one might wish for pleasant cultivation, but this can be partly provided for by using an A-shaped spring tooth cultivator or harrow of nine teeth and wide enough so the horse can walk nearly in the middle of the six-foot space.

There will be 1210 hills six feet each way on an acre of ground. I do not think it unreasonable to expect black caps to yield two quarts to the hill in the course of the season. Two quarts to the hill will give a yield of 150 sixteen-quart cases to the acre. As far as variety is concerned I am best pleased with the Ohio black cap, a good producer and fairly hardy.

My experience goes to show that a young black raspberry hill is better able to withstand the rigors of our winter season than an old one, hence I believe in renewing after four or five years.

I believe it pays best, when shipping to large cities, to send in pint boxes, as they handle better and retail to better advantage.

THE RED RASPBERRY.—Red raspberries do not need so rich a soil as their black cousins. The rows should be eight feet apart and kept down to one foot in the row. These shade the ground thoroughly and are more easily kept free from weeds and grass when once well established. They should be trimmed to three feet or three and a half in height and kept well thinned out; too many canes are often allowed to grow. The ground should be plowed with a small steel plow in spring, to destroy shoots between the rows, for if allowed to grow they are ruinous to the crop.

The Turner is the red berry I believe in, and for the following reasons: The canes stand up well; they do not

winter kill; they produce well; the fruit does not turn dark if left a little too long on the canes; herein they have a great advantage of the Cuthberts, for we all know something of the difficulty of picking red raspberries so clean that there will be no dark berries to mar the appearance and quality of the next gathering. The Turner is not so large as the Cuthbert but the number of cases year after year is larger.

I have tried the Hansel; they are hardy and very early. I do not think it advantageous to have very early red raspberries, especially for the home market, as they come in competition with the strawberry.

In regard to marketing the fruit I am satisfied there are very numerous points, other than the large cities of the north and west, where this fruit is always in good demand at fair prices and the fruit growers of this section need an agent to place their products in those places to advantage. Next to those points in average price through the season is the home market.

We must certainly give the people of our own city credit for consuming a very large amount of fruit in proportion to their numbers, but with all their good will our business is often too big for them to absorb. Next, in order of net returns per case, come the big cities of the northwest where all growers ship when they don't know what else to do.

It is very easy to figure out a small fortune in small fruit, thus: cost of growing a case of raspberries 10c. What an alluring prospect this opens up! What an immense percentage of difference between this 10 cents and the \$1.25 or \$1.50 it sells for in Minneapolis! But wait a moment; there are 24c for picking, 16c for crate and boxes, 12c or more for freight. There are killing winters, untimely frosts and drouths and finally the commission man does what all the others have left undone and we find ourselves at last with the minimum supply of ready cash and the maximum sup-

ply of big and bulging hopes, ready to look forward to the results of the next year.

R. R. REMINGTON.

Baraboo, Wis.

THE ESSENTIALS OF BLACKCAP CULTURE.

Under the above caption the Rural New-Yorker gives the method of raising black raspberries practiced by F. H. Ballou of central Ohio. Mr. Ballou says ground that is naturally cold or wet should be avoided as fatal to success with black raspberries. He describes his way of planting as follows:

"Blackcaps should be planted only in the Spring, Autumn setting being quite unsatisfactory, even when each plant is well mulched. Transplanting should take place either very early in the season, while the young shoots are yet dormant, or be deferred until they have attained the height of several inches. At the intermediate stage they are so tender that a touch will break them, and it is practically impossible to proceed without much trouble and loss. Indeed, I have come to prefer setting the plants when they have attained an average height of twelve inches. Carefully lifting the plants with the soil adhering, they are crowded as closely together as possible upon the bottom of the sled or wagon-box, in an upright position. Before driving to the prospective plantation these youngsters are given so thorough a shower bath that the roots and adhering soil are thoroughly soaked. It is then perfectly safe to proceed at one's leisure, so far as the safety of the plants is concerned, as they will remain fresh and bright for hours. However, we waste no time in hustling them into the ample, freshly-made furrows. As each plant is set the tip is pinched out with the thumb and finger. The plants rarely wilt at all; but the first evidence of renewed growth will not appear for several days. This new growth will push out at the

axils of the leaves, along the main stock, and in a surprisingly short time the young plant will develop into a sturdy tree form."

"The distance apart at which the rows should, or may, be spaced depends in a great measure upon the method to be pursued in the culture of the plantation. If continual, clean cultivation is to be practiced the rows should not be closer than seven feet; the plants two and a half feet apart in the row. We have grown blackcaps, however, and very profitably, planted much closer." Mr. Ballou has a raspberry field on steep slopes where frequent cultivation is not advisable on account of causing the soil to wash badly. On these slopes he has raised profitable crops from Greggs set 3x3 feet, but he does not advise close setting under ordinary conditions.

"We always give our plants extra care and culture the first season, after which they take such complete possession that weeds cut no figure. Thus established upon our steep, loamy hillsides, we may safely calculate to harvest at least six heavy, profitable crops of extra fine fruit, and with no extra expense above an annual thorough pruning, which is never by any means neglected. At our place we are so situated that the steep ground must be devoted to those crops that especially thrive under the conditions that must be maintained to preserve the soil, its deep loamy character and its fertility. The limited area of lower and more nearly level ground is demanded by the products that from year to year bring the soil constantly under cultivation."

"PRUNING.—In pruning the plant we thin the fruit. In thinning the fruit we increase the size of that remaining to such an extent that the labor in harvesting is greatly diminished, while the product sells at an increased profit. For several years we practiced Spring "pinching" of the new canes—taking out the tips at the height of about 18 inches. This causes them to throw out laterals or branch-

es which continue growth through the season. The laterals, the following year, are pruned back to from 12 to 18 inches. This forms a broad, tree-like head. Fruit is borne only upon the laterals—the main cane or body of the plant remaining destitute of new shoots. We have discontinued this plan with the exception of pinching back the newly-set plant, as mentioned, the first season, which is merely to check evaporation and prevent wilting. The objection to Spring "pinching" is that it practically stops the growth of the new plant or cane for about two weeks. The laterals are a new development or production that did not enter into the calculation of the tender young shoot in the dawning of its career, and very often do not sufficiently mature to stand the rigors of a zero experience. We now prefer to allow the young cane to grow and develop in its natural form. If any part of it winterkills it will be but the extreme tip. In the annual Spring pruning these heavy single canes are pruned, with a single clip of the shears, back to the height of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet. We have found by experience that a hill of blackcaps will yield almost as abundantly, pruned in this way, as with a broad, branched head, inasmuch as the canes, from the ground up, will send out strong fruiting shoots, while the branched plant bears only upon the laterals. The labor and expense of pruning is, by this method, reduced fully one-half."



She measured out the butter with a very solemn air;
The milk and sugar also; and she took the greatest care
To count the eggs correctly, and to add a little bit
Of baking powder, which you know beginners oft omit.
Then she stirred it all together and she baked it full an hour;
But she never quite forgave herself for leaving out the flour.

Judge.

TIN CANS IN EARLY GARDENING.

Early gardening by means of starting plants in a hotbed and transplanting is not always attended with the greatest success on account of the growth of the plants being checked when replanted. This is caused by disturbing the roots and change of soil. This difficulty can be eliminated by the following plan. Melt the top and bottom from old tin cans. Also remove the solder from the seam, tying a cord or wire about it to keep it in shape. Fill with rich soil and plant seeds which have been soaked in warm water for a day or so to insure rapid germination, and place in a warm, sunny place or hotbed.

There will be ample depth of soil for the plant to make a good growth before re-setting. As soon as it is warm enough the plant can be set out in the garden. To do this make a hole in the bed large enough to set the can in. Remove the cord or wire holding the can together, spread it open and let the contents slip out into the hole. Pack the earth closely about this and your plant is replanted without changing the soil or injuring the roots in any way. The cans can be laid away for use next spring. Plants started in this way will have two or three weeks the start of others.—Minnesota Horticulturist.

FIVE BEST VARIETIES OF APPLES TO GROW IN MY LOCALITY.

W. N. Bible, Richland County, Wis.

First, I name the DUCHESS, because it is one of our early summer varieties and we could hardly get along without it, as it is free from blight, hardy as an oak, an annual bearer; apples large and showy, comparatively free from worms, a good cooker from the time they are half grown, a good seller in city markets and generally a favorite with all, while it takes but little pruning to keep the tree in good shape.

I name WEALTHY as second choice for a commercial orchard, for the reason it is almost as hardy as the Duchess, tree is easily kept in good shape and is a good bearer; the apple is a fair cooker, good for dessert and, being a red apple, does not show bruises like a light coloured one. Its color and quality make it a ready seller. When I sell a man a bushel once he always wants two bushels next time.

Third, McMAHON'S WHITE. Its size and quality as a cooker make it a ready seller if well handled. Although it has a few objections it is a money earner. Being a white apple, it will show bruises unless carefully handled. It is a bad blighter, but is a heavy bearer and its size makes it easy to gather and so makes it a profitable apple to grow.

Fourth, ORANGE WINTER, or Newel,—my first choice for a commercial orchard. Although the tree is somewhat hard to keep in shape it is a good bearing tree and bears annually. The fruit is large and comparatively even in size; it cooks well and is one of the best dessert apples and a good keeper. It has earned me more than double what any other variety has that I grow. The tree is almost as hardy as the Duchess and has blighted but little with me. Its size, its good quality and good keeping qualities, make it one of the best market apples.

Fifth, NORTHWESTERN GREENING. The tree is hardy, easily kept in shape, one of the showiest orchard trees and a good bearer. Fruit even in size, showy in package, a good keeper, of fair quality, and in general a good market apple.

There are other varieties that I think worthy of growing and are good money makers. The Fameuse and Utter's Red have both done well with me. The Plumb's Cider, St. Lawrence and Wolf River have all done well in my locality, but I have had but little experience with them myself; my Wolf River trees have just come into bearing.

The Ben Davis and Walbridge have also done well for

me. The Walbridge is inclined to be rather small, but with heavy pruning and good culture has attained a fair size. The Ben Davis with its worms and poor quality, but with good keeping qualities, has been profitable with me.

The Longfield has been a failure in my orchard. It is a sickly, poor tree, makes a poor growth and bears itself to death in two or three years after coming into bearing. Not more than one-third, or at the most one-half, of the fruit is marketable, on account of its small size. When I hear a man booming the Longfield I think he has trees to sell. The Tetofsky, although bad to blight, has also been profitable.

Cazenovia, Wis.

[The above excellent paper was read at a recent meeting of the Sauk County Horticultural Society. Some of us who do not raise trees to sell have had a different experience with the Longfield. On our farm we consider it one of our most valuable trees, but the fruit needs thinning.—M. C. C. J.]

SAUK COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society has recently held a two days' convention at the Court House in Baraboo, with an evening session at the Congregational church. The program was so excellent that more than one remarked "It's good enough for a State Society," yet the attendance was small. No premiums were offered, and not much was expected in the way of exhibits, but there were a few apples on display and Mr. Toole brought an array of primroses. Among the apples we noticed some fine specimens of Repka Malenka and McIntosh Red and some one gave "ye editor" a taste (delicious!) of one of Dr. Loope's Sweet Fameuse.

As there are two canning factories in the county, the first half day was largely devoted to topics along that line.

C. L. Pearson told how to raise tomatoes for the factory. Wm. Toole and Franklin Minnich spoke on the cultivation of sweet corn. Dr. Gorst, a member of the canning company, read a paper on "The Mutual Interests of Factory and Patrons." Two years' experience has taught him that some people raise much better corn and tomatoes than others, and he infers that they understand better how to produce and care for the crops.

Another interesting paper was "The Value of the Telephone to Rural Communities," by the manager of the Baraboo telephone system.

L. G. Kellogg of Ripon gave an instructive talk on cherries. The subject of apples was earnestly discussed as there were many orchardists present. J. J. Menn of Norwalk has a large orchard but expects this spring to set out 500 more trees of winter varieties, Repka, Newell, Scott's Winter, Willow Twig and Northwestern Greening. For an early apple all endorsed Lowland Raspberry for beauty and quality. Plumb's Cider was a favorite for cooking and market.

The paper by W. N. Bible of Cazenovia we print in full on another page and also the excellent paper on raspberries by R. R. Remington.

Strawberries were discussed by J. L. Herbst of Sparta, Secretary of the State Horticultural Society, Wm. Rounds of Baraboo, and others. Warfield, Bederwood, Crescent, Lovett and Enhance were pretty generally endorsed as a reliable list. Some would add Haverland and Splendid, and Mr. Herbst likes Michel's Early as a pollenizer for Warfield.

The most amusing paper was Mr. Foley's "Experience of a Tree Agent." There is talk of having that repeated at some meeting of the State Society.

Dr. De Wolfe gave a beautiful talk on "Life in the

Country," considering it from the standpoint of both physician and poet.

Mr. Toole's valuable essay on Primroses is promised for the April Horticulturist.

The evening treat was an eloquent lecture by State Superintendent Harvey, preceded by two songs given charmingly by twenty school children.

Wm. Toole, the president of the society, and C. L. Pearson, the secretary, deserve our gratitude for bringing to our doors so instructive and interesting a convention.

Following is a paper read by N. Darrow of Reedsburg, on "The Culture of Apples and Five Best Varieties." Mr. Darrow introduced his paper by a humorous thrust at the nurserymen: "I understand it is customary for each nurseryman to recommend the particular varieties of which he has the most trees to sell. For instance, if a man has all Russians and the rest of the nurserymen have but few he claims the Russians are the only ones worth raising, while all the other nurserymen argue the Russians are worthless.

I am going to tell you on the start I don't know a Jersey apple from a Poland China apple. Now if I recommend the Shropshires or the Clyde, and any one here who has all Shropshires or all Clydes and sells them all on the recommend can give me what he likes for the help I gave him. Now I will proceed with the paper.

LOCATION.—We notice on the south and east side of a large body of water an orchard will thrive. There must be a reason for this. Our cold waves come from the west or northwest. When this cold wave passes over the large body of water its temperature is made much warmer by the water or vapor freezing in its passage.

In summer the vapor rising from this body of water tends to make the climate cooler. By the winter being made warmer and the summer cooler, we have a more even

temperature, as on the western coasts of America and Europe where there is no body of water near we must look to some other object to bring about this result.

Nature has done this for us in piling up hills. It is known that on our high lands the temperature is higher in winter and lower in summer. These two conditions are what we have to look for in an orchard. Then if the land is lacking in fertility it must be supplied.

CULTURE.—An orchard should be cultivated and taken care of in its first few years of growth as well as any young plant, or we might say animal. Without the proper care and food no plant, animal or child can ever come to its full point of usefulness. We must protect the young tree from weeds and other crops, as these things take the plant life out of the soil which the tree needs. We should protect the young tree from animals, most particularly mice and rabbits. We should protect it from drouth by some mulch or litter. Some use chip manure or sawdust. This will also keep the weeds from growing.

VARIETIES.—Of all the varieties of trees I have tried only about five are what they should be. Most of the millions of money Sauk county has paid out for trees and culture has been as good as thrown away, as after all our trouble, we get nothing in return. It is safe to say that the cost and care of orchards would buy twice as many apples as we have raised. Not many years ago one foreign firm sold \$6000 worth of trees in our midst and I have yet to learn that an apple grew on them; but few of the trees were alive in one year after they were set.

Sometimes we think we have a good tree; it bears nice apples and plenty of them but soon its energies are spent and it has to be cut down. I had a friend once who was faithful in every place and always did his duty, yet, sitting in his chair in his office, death took him. Other men were left, some of whom the world would be better off without;

yet we would say give us more of those useful men even if they do die.

I have seen some men who did the world more good in one year than others would in a whole life. I have seen apple trees bear more good apples in one year than others would in a whole lifetime. I have picked 30 bushels or more of apples from a tree in one year and sold them at a dollar per bushel, while other trees never bore a good apple.

The tree named bore several years, grew 30 feet high and 16 inches in diameter. I have some of them grafted and they are just coming to bearing and think each tree worth \$100.

A man in our town asked a friend of his to name the varieties for an orchard of 100 trees. Here is the list: 20 Plumb's Cider, then 20 more Plumb's Cider—then 10 more Plumb's Cider. "But," says he, "I have 40 now on the list." The friend says, "You better take the 50." "All right," he says, "what next?" The friend says, "Take the rest Plumb's Cider."

I would not advise setting all Plumb's Cider but would say a large number, as I have picked 30 bushels from a tree. I told a friend of mine who helped me pick apples last fall I wished I had 10 acres of them. He said that was a foolish wish, as I never could get them picked nor hauled off. It took half a day to pick a tree and he got about 8 barrels. There would be 75 trees to an acre and 750 to 10 acres would take 375 days to pick and as many more to haul. There would be 6000 barrels of apples worth \$9000.

We should include Duchess in our list. As most varieties bear only every other year we want Longfield so as to have some fruit the odd years. But not too many of these as they are of tender skin and bruise easily; they are also light colored and show bruises readily and fall badly.

There is another apple does well with me. I have three or four trees and when I sold them the barrels were

marked Fall Orange, but think it is not the right name.

In conclusion I will say, let those who can raise apples at a profit keep at the business, but to those who have had continual failures, "Buy your apples," as a tenth of an acre of potatoes will buy all the apples you need. You can raise the potatoes for much less and you will save money, cuss words and angry feelings.

THINNING APPLES.

At the recent meeting of our State Horticultural Society the opinion was advanced that an apple-tree is apt to be short-lived if allowed to overbear. Thinning the fruit tends to lengthen the life of a tree which is prone to bear itself to death.

MR. TARRANT has practiced thinning to some extent. He found it a great deal of work, but believes the orchardist can afford to do it on some of those varieties that overbear. He thins as soon as the apples are set. Of course a great many will drop off, but you can tell by looking at them whether they are going to stay on or not, and, if there are too many, take some off. Taking off three-fourths would be a good thing for some apple trees.

MR. GEORGE J. KELLOGG thinks the thinning process is best done in March, by thinning out limbs that are going to bear; then after the fruit is set look out that no two apples touch each other. The great fault of the Northwestern Greening is that where two apples touch one another they invariably decay or fall from the tree.

A. D. BARNES said you will often find three, four, or five Duchess apples in a cluster. By taking off part of these you will be surprised to find how fast the one or two remaining in the cluster will grow. It is not hard to thin the Duchess apple. You will get as good results in thinning after the fruit is set, as before. Thin about the first of June.

EX-SECRETARY HOXIE suggested that the best time to thin was to wait until you could know which apples were going to develop the best, then take off the poor ones.

A year or two ago an orchardist from Oregon or Washington told the writer that it was his custom to thin his fruit by picking off a part of the fruit spurs in the winter or early spring.

PEAS FOR THE CANNING FACTORY.

Mr. Geo. Ferber, president of the Sauk City Canning Co., gave the following at the meeting of the Sauk County Horticultural Society:

"Our growers consider pea culture to be profitable. Three varieties are used, the Alaska, Admiral and Horsford. Sow the seed with a grain drill (not a broadcast seeder), as early in the spring as possible; they should be about three inches deep on sandy soils and two inches on clay. The ground should be thoroughly prepared before sowing. The vines are pulled up and picked clean. The picking may be done under a movable shade. Pickers are paid 15 cts. per bushel; a bushel weighs 35 lbs. Two bushels of seed are required for an acre. An average yield is 135 bushels an acre."

"The Anecdotal Side of Theodore Roosevelt" gives sharp, clear views of the strenuous life of our many-sided Vice President-Elect in the March Ladies' Home Journal. These anecdotes reveal the characteristics of his remarkable personality and are freshly told by his closest friends. By the Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia. One dollar a year, ten cents a copy.

TOMATOES FOR THE CANNING FACTORY.

C. L. Pearson.

I do not claim to be an expert at growing Tomatoes. Perhaps I was asked to write on the subject because I am a living demonstration of the fact that any greenhorn can grow Tomatoes!

Canning factory prices for the fruit seemed rather discouraging at the start, being twenty cents a bushel, but when we consider the possibilities in yield it must be admitted that there is a chance for profit to the grower. Mr. Rumpf of this city reports a yield last season of 320 bushels from 125 rods of ground.

Any soil that will grow a good crop of potatoes will grow tomatoes. If it is good enough to grow 200 bushels of potatoes to the acre we may look for about 300 bushels of tomatoes—if they don't blight. We should aim to secure a heavy vine growth early in the season or the early autumn frosts will catch too large a share.

If the soil is full of humus and rich in nitrogen, ashes may be applied, otherwise do not use them. The varieties tested here are Livingston's Perfection, Early Michigan, Stone and Atlantic Prize. The last named is nearly worthless, the others being valuable in the order named.

Seed should be sown in hot bed or green house about March 20, and a month later transplanted into the cold frame where they should be set about two inches apart. Sandy soil is best for hot bed and cold frame. After the plants get larger they do well in heavier soils.

The tomato field should be plowed early in the spring and harrowed every few days until June 1st when the plants should be set 4x5 feet apart. Cultivate often while the plants are small. "The man with the hoe" will also be useful.

Leaf blight and fruit rot do more damage on low ground

than on airy well drained locations. Spraying with Bordeaux mixture is recommended to prevent the ravages of the fungous diseases above mentioned.

Brookside Berry Farm, Baraboo.

PROF. HENRY E. VAN DEMAN.

All who were present at the Wisconsin Horticultural Meeting in Oshkosh feel a personal friendship for Prof. Van Deman and will be glad to have "for keeps" the picture on our first page.

We are indebted to the kindness of the RURAL NEW-YORKER for the cut. Prof. Van Deman is the Pomological Editor of that paper, and while he was 3000 miles away on the Pacific coast his fellow-workers seized the opportunity to print his picture and say some pleasant things about him. Following is a part of the Rural New-Yorker's sketch:

"Many of our readers have seen, at institutes and horticultural conventions, a short, sturdily-built man with a kindly, pleasant face, who seemed a perfect walking encyclopedia of fruit lore. We may briefly say that Mr. Van Deman came honestly by his fruit knowledge. He was born in Ross Co., Ohio—almost in an apple orchard—as he expresses it. He was a farmer's boy, knowing the hopes, ambitions and disappointments that fall to the lot of the average boy and young man on the farm. He received a good foundation in solid education, but like many other boys of his time, was unable to finish a college course. He studied botany by himself, and after his removal to Kansas, held the chair of botany at the Kansas Agricultural College. All through his busy and active life he had been identified with fruit growing. He set commercial orchards of his own, and traveled near and far studying the habits and merits of varieties, and the results of different methods of culture. When the Division of Pomology, in the National

Department of Agriculture was to be organized the authorities found in Mr. Van Deman a man well qualified to do practical work for American fruit growers. He organized the Division on a broad, solid foundation.

"Our friend has lived an active, useful life—of far greater service to his countrymen than hundreds of so-called statesmen who for years manage to occupy the eye of the public. He has worked faithfully to improve the quality of our fruits and to teach growers the necessity of higher culture and nicer discrimination as to varieties. We think he is at his best in answering questions—asked in all sincerity by men who, brought face to face with a hard problem, need honest advice. We do not believe that there is a man in the country better qualified to do this work. Van Deman is himself a plain, every-day working man. He understands what the common people want, and he knows how to reach them.

"Our picture shows Mr. Van Deman at his favorite occupation of examining or naming varieties of fruit. An apple or pear means much to him. He sees in it things which the ordinary observer would hardly dream were there. He can probably name more varieties off hand and give their prominent characteristics without hunting up the printed references, than any man in America. This knowledge will be of great value to him in his present work of organizing a great fruit exhibit at the Pan-American Exhibition at Buffalo. Yes, it is a good—a natural picture of Mr. Van Deman as he sits with his fruits spread out before him. It is a picture of a good and useful man, whose pen and tongue have brought him close to the lives of thousands of his countrymen. May he be spared for many years to come!"

The smallest bird's egg is that of the tiny Mexican humming bird, which is scarcely larger than a pin's head.

THE FRUIT OUTLOOK.

[For the Horticulturist.]

Editor Wisconsin Horticulturist:

March is again ushered in and I am glad to note that our nursery and fruit trees are as yet in a most excellent and satisfactory condition, notwithstanding the late growth they put on last fall. Owing to the excellent and wet condition of the earth when it froze up and no excessively cold weather, we may reasonably expect a fair crop of all kinds of fruits, apples not excepted, this coming season, unless trees were overburdened and neglected last year. Many new, and some extensive, plantings will be made this spring. Much interest and enthusiasm is shown along the line of ornamenting school grounds and public parks. In my opinion more attention will be paid to Horticulture in Wisconsin in the next few years than has been bestowed on this vocation in the past twenty years. Fruits are becoming a necessity instead of a luxury as of yore. Many people now buy largely, who a few years ago scarcely used fruit even as a luxury. The demand for good fresh fruit is increasing very fast, much faster than the propagation of trees and plants has. Good orchards and good gardens must and will be the rule.

Many city people are becoming fascinated with the country and country life and many are securing country homes for the purpose of bringing up their children in pure air and amid practical horticultural pursuits. We have one family (millionaires) from Chicago, who are engaged in growing fruits here extensively and live seven or eight months on the farm and the whole family, the lady and daughters not excepted, work in the orchard, garden and shrubbery. They are delighted with the work and will make a success of it, too, and their example will be followed.

The nursery business is good and your correspondent

has just completed grafting 35,000 apple grafts on crab apple roots. We all hope for a fine display of apples for the Buffalo exhibit this fall. We want more experienced horticultural help in this section this spring.

A. D. BARNES.

Waupaca, Wis., Mar. 4, 1901.

PROF. VAN DEMAN ON OLD ORCHARDS.

Remarks made at the Wisconsin Horticultural Meeting.

The fundamental trouble with old orchards is NEGLECT. A farmer usually plants out an orchard and as soon as he can seed it down to grass he will have a meadow and an orchard all in one, and that is a great mistake. If you are in the fruit business, attend to that and if you are in the hay business, why, have a meadow, but do not try to run the two together.

If you are in the fruit business, give your attention to fruit culture and cultivate the trees for the fruit crop and do not undertake to get something out of the orchard besides the fruit crop.

As to manure, I think there is nothing better than stable manures to put into an orchard. It puts in humus and the three elements that are essential in all manure, nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. There is danger of getting on too much nitrogen. An orchard, or any fruit plantation that is highly fertilized with nitrogenous matter will ripen its fruit later than one which is rather scant in nitrogen.

One of the very best ways to prune an old orchard is to take an axe and clean out a row of trees straight through the orchard, then grub out a row running across this one; take out half the trees and give the others a chance. There is a great deal in giving the trees plenty of room. The roots, while we do not see them, are under there having a

big fight, long before we think they are having fights with each other.

In western New York the good, successful fruit-growers who have orchard trees that are beginning to touch, or even getting somewhere near each other, are going right through and deliberately cutting out rows each way, leaving half the trees and giving them good tillage. Then they will develop and produce fruit that will be worth something.



MORE ABOUT THE WINTER MEETING OF THE STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The program Wednesday evening, under the auspices of the Algoma Horticultural Society, was a rare musical and elocutionary treat. The delegates to the convention expressed their appreciation by a special vote of thanks to the Algoma Society and to those participating in the entertainment.

At this session Miss Jewett of Sparta gave an object lesson in the care of houseplants, illustrating the proper manner of starting the slips or cuttings and re-potting the plants. Her paper, though too long to be given in full in the Horticulturist, was exceptionally valuable and practical. Miss Jewett is a graduate of the classical course in our State University and was a High School teacher for awhile. But her liking for plants and her success with them, led her to relinquish the vocation of teaching and establish a greenhouse. She loves her plants and studies their individual needs as a faithful teacher studies her pupils.

Mr. Hoxie's paper on "Gardens" was another exceedingly interesting production, prepared with great care. You will want to read that among the first things when you get your next Annual Report.

The papers by Prof. Taft of Michigan, Prof. Green of

Illinois and our own Prof. Goff treated their respective subjects from the standpoint of the scientist. The thoughtful questions which followed their reading evinced the interest they awakened. We shall give you a taste of these papers in a future issue of the magazine. A synopsis of the reports of delegates from local societies will be given next month, and we hope to have the names of the Committee of Observation by that time.

The premiums for vegetables at Oshkosh were given by the local society and we have received no list of awards. The awards for apples were as follows: First premium on Gano, McAfee, Scott's Winter, Duchess, Pewaukee, Yellow Transparent, McIntosh, N. W. Greening, Blue Pearmain, Sweet Fameuse, Salome, Minnesota, Mann, Wealthy, best winter seedling, and best display of seedlings, Parsons & Loope of Eureka; 1st on Bailey Sweet, Price's Sweet, Hibernial and largest apple, A. D. Barnes of Waupaca; 1st on Banana, Perry Russet and Hyslop, G. W. Snyder of Oshkosh; 1st on Ben Davis, Minkler, Rome Beauty, Spitzenberg and Murphy's Greening, Henry Tarrant of Janesville; 1st on Repka Malenka, A. Clark Tuttle of Baraboo; 1st on Whitney, Newell, Utter, Windsor Chief, McMahan, Dominion Winter and Wolf River, F. H. Chappell of Oregon; 1st on Malinda, Haas, Stark, Buthlimite, Willow Twig, Paradise Sweet, J. W. Roe of Oshkosh; Golden Russet, M. V. Sperbeck of Oshkosh; Grimes' Golden, Mrs. E. W. Kemeys-Fynte of Lake Mills; Yellow Bellflower and Tallman Sweet, Edwin Nye of Appleton; 1st on Fameuse, Walbridge, Bethel and Black Detroit, Fred Rodgers of Zion; Rawle's Janet, Plumb's Cider and Dominie, M. J. Morris of Omro; 1st on Golden Russet, Geo. J. Kellogg of Lake Mills; Zuzoff, O. W. Babcock of Omro; Roman Stem, H. Ellis of Waupun; Gen. Grant crab, R. Buckstaff of Oshkosh; St. James, Aiken, Sweet Pear, Black Twig, H. Floyd of Eureka.

Second premiums were awarded as follows: McMahan,

Whitney, A. D. Barnes; Roman Stem, Malinda, Henry Tarrant; Plumb's Cider, N. S. Christianson of Oshkosh; Rawle's Janet, Wealthy, Repka Malenka, Mr. Chappell; Wolf River, John Nelson of Oshkosh; Willow Twig, Newell, largest apple, Parsons & Loope; Utter, Golden Russet, N. W. Greening, Blue Pearmain, Walbridge and display of seedlings, J. W. Roe of Oshkosh; Fameuse, M. V. Sperbeck of Oshkosh; Ben Davis, Geo. J. Kellogg; Mann, Scott's Winter, Edwin Nye; Pewaukee, Fred Rodgers; Haas, O. W. Babcock; Perry Russet, H. Floyd.

FOR THE HOUSEHOLD.

With the advent of spring weather appetites begin to fail. Try one of the following as a substitute for meat, now and then.

ESCALLOPED CORN.

1 can of corn, 1 pint of milk, 3 cups of crackers; turn corn from the can and thin it with a little of the milk, roll the crackers, butter a granite-ware baking dish; then put a thin layer of cracker in the bottom of the dish and scatter over it bits of butter, follow with a layer of corn and season with salt, pepper and bits of butter; alternate until all is used, using the cracker last with bits of butter on top. Pour over it the remainder of the milk. Bake covered until done in the center (from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour), then remove cover and brown quickly.

BAKED OMELET.

Beat 6 eggs, yolks and whites separately, taking care to have the whites very stiff. To the yolks add a cup of sweet milk, a dash of pepper and a scant saltspoon of salt, stir lightly into the whites, pour into a buttered baking dish, set into a moderately hot oven and bake until firm in the middle, but not too hard. Serve at once.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR 1901.

Dr. T. E. Loope, Eureka; J. L. Herbst, Sparta; L. G. Kellogg, Ripon; Henry Tarrant, Janesville; Prof. E. S. Goff, Madison; Wm. Toole, Baraboo; J. H. Cooper, North Greenfield; Geo. J. Jeffrey, Milwaukee; Herman Christianson, Oshkosh; J. J. Menn, Norwalk; C. A. Abbott, Appleton; Senator A. L. Kreutzer, Wausau; Senator D. E. Rior-dan, Eagle River.

EDITOR'S NOTES.

Charles Abbott, a member of our Executive Committee, has been elected vice president of the Outagamie County Pioneer Association.

William Toole, the pansy specialist, who was badly hurt in a runaway accident several weeks ago, is now able to get about quite comfortably with the aid of a cane.

L. G. Kellogg, treasurer, and J. L. Herbst, secretary, of the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society, were in attendance at the Sauk County Horticultural convention in Baraboo.

M. F. Foley of the Great Northern Nursery Company has recently been to Iowa to prosecute men who have been selling nursery stock which they falsely claimed came from the Great Northern Company. Mr. Foley has received letters from prominent Iowa horticulturists, among them the president of the Iowa State Society, congratulating him upon bringing these men to justice.

J. J. Menn of Norwalk, who is a member of the executive committee of our State Society, was in attendance at the Sauk County convention. W. N. Bible of Cazenovia and N. Darrow of Reedsburg were also present.

We notice that Geo. J. Kellogg of Lake Mills is the agent for the "Missing Link Apple Co." of Clayton, Ill.

The Lowland Raspberry apple seems to be a favorite with people who have grown it. Mrs. Wm. Fox of Baraboo says they cannot sell anything else while the Lowland Raspberry apples last. A. G. Tuttle says it is the best early apple grown, East or West. We overheard Mr. Chappell bestow similar praise upon it while en route for Oshkosh last winter.

In the early days of March Wm. Rounds sent us a N. W. Greening apple. It had been kept in his cellar and was sound and unshriveled—and as large as an Emerald Gem muskmelon.

We visited the College of Agriculture a few weeks ago, that college whose achievements along lines of discovery and invention have made Wisconsin famous and will add millions of dollars to her wealth. We admired the barns and the dairy building and the Horticulture-Physics building, but when we came to the lecture room we were speechless. We should feel humiliated if asked to teach an ordinary district school in such an incommodious, ill-ventilated room. It is impossible for all the students to crowd into the room at one time so they have to listen to the lectures on the installment plan. This great state of Wisconsin ought to provide those faithful professors with a suitable instruction room, even if it has to retrench in some other directions.

In ordering trees and plants this spring try those dealers whose advertisements you will find in this magazine. Most of them we know personally and know them to be reliable men.

OUR PREMIUMS—12 FINE STRAWBERRY PLANTS or 6 GLADIOLUS BULBS to every subscriber, new or old, who sends 50 cents for *The Horticulturist* for 1901. Address, *The Wisconsin Horticulturist*, Baraboo, Wis.

