

ing of Manure

1909 is an article
rnyard Manures,"
exist in barnyard
ance when freshly
on then adaptable
eneral soil of this
t good does it do
when the land is
from the surface,
now, in some cases
The raw manure
surface is exposed
which evaporates
from the manure,
l thaw sets in, the
hly washed down
ppelle rivers and it
ring.

they do, will not
ne straw from the
the stable and at
the land where this
as about the most
imagine on the
people burn this
of material that
re along with the
ashes, before one
em, go—who can
only way to get
ke it up with the
ws it in, it absorbs
the soil and holds
the land useless
d seed; the next
up as dry as ever.
hat I have seen of
out the country
of manure which
not more than 9%
neral attempt to
ms to recuperate
a of bad manage-
eral wealth which
There are many
ion at issue.

ure, but it can be
Most of the dry
nder, or close to,
ut it on the bar-
be better if the
be taken to the
te should be se-
a manure yard.
n top of the pile
ole space so that
not exceed 3 feet
nd sloping to all
stock to get on it.
r be mixed with
hes the pile and
n part of the pile
up on to the pile
nd straw that has
ould be made
dition from the
before it sets or
rown on this pile
e and play on it
barrels of water
, it would help,
ed in it. A pile
ver heats or fer-
t and partially
a. If there are
l require to be
too much heat-

manure out on the
d crop of wheat
ow going in har-
spread as light
re most needed,
ne other imple-
e with the top
ble to obtain it,
on a farm, to do
ght time. If it
the end pay any
eience and ob-
best solution to
there are ex-
as the enquiry
ring seeding, to
ed complaining
working satis-
e that if we do

the work that we can do properly, viz.—look after the stock well, get seed, feed and imple-ments ready—with wood and everything up to date; and use the spreader at a time when it will work to perfection, we will be doing as much as can be expected. And if we take good care of what we can make, it is all we will need to do. I would like to have Professor Bedford's opinion on this comment as I have the conceit that I know something about it.

Sask.

J. D. G.

Our correspondent is certainly correct in his statement that much of the manure made on the average western farm is unwisely distributed and, in the main, his plan for rotting it is a good one, but it may be necessary to modify it somewhat to suit the condition of each farmer.

S. A. BEDFORD.

(Considering that one has to keep up a continual fight against weeds, the plan followed by E. B. C. in our January 27th number is more rational than the above. E. B. C. allows his manure to rot in the pile until before seeding, then gets it out. Manure rots evenly and not too rapidly if piled loosely, kept level and not trampled upon too heavily by the stock. Ed.)

HORTICULTURE

Profitable Strawberry Growing

That strawberry growing is extremely profitable when scientific methods of cultivation are pursued, is amply proved by a statement made by Mr. R. A. Bevan of Creston, in Nelson a few days ago. He stated that he had already contracted for next year's crop at \$3.10 per crate, F. O. B., Creston.

Mr. Bevan has twenty acres of land, but it is not his intention to utilize more than fifteen acres for fruit culture. He has three acres of strawberries and has already met with singular success in strawberry culture. He has shipped them as far east as Sault Ste. Marie, over two thousand miles, landing them there in excellent condition.

The varieties which he shipped that distance were the Wilson and the Senator Dunlop, which are recognized as good hardy berries. He has also shipped berries of the Dornan variety, the softest grown in the Kootenay, to Whitewater and Deloraine, Man., and had them arrive in first class condition.

Mr. Bevan attributes his success in shipping to his system of packing and cooling. In the first place, he insists on a stem one inch long being left on each berry and in the second place he cools the berries in the carriers as they are brought in by the pickers. Special provision has to be made for handling berries in this way, and last year Mr. Bevan experimented with a system of his own and met with so much success that he felt justified in building a cooling house on the lines of his experiments.

This cooling house consists of a frame building over which is erected another tent-like building of canvas. On this canvas he has arranged a spray of water to play, keeping it damp and cool all the time. From the space between the canvas and the cooling house proper, pipes lead into the latter, in which are rows of shelves on which are placed the carriers as they come from the berry patch. After the berries are thoroughly cooled in this way, they are made ready for shipment and they go to their destination safely.

In order to supply water for sprinkling, Mr. Bevan has placed a small dam in a creek close by, and from this source a constant stream of water can be kept playing on the cooler.

Mr. Bevan shipped berries to different parts of the prairie provinces last year, but particularly, to Calgary. As a result of the splendid condition in which the fruit arrived last year, he has just closed a contract with a Calgary firm to supply them with one thousand crates at \$3.10 a crate, net, at Creston.

The growers at Creston have organized a fruit growers' association, but on a little different basis from most associations. Each member is at liberty to make individual contracts and in each case looks after his own collections. All shipments are made on the basis of fifteen days drafts. Each member bills the man to whom the fruit is sent and looks after the sending of

the drafts. In this way there is no trouble over collections through the association.

It is expected that about fifty thousand trees will be planted in the Preston district this spring. It will be remembered that it was at this point that the B. C. government held such a successful auction sale of land some months ago.

C. W. D.

Commercial Aspect of Tree-Planting

It sometimes takes a live sport to bring out a point that otherwise might remain hidden indefinitely. Some five years ago, two festive American citizens, in the vicinity of Walhalla, entertained different opinions as to how much wood could be cut from a certain acre of natural timber. The timber in question consisted of the much abused and despised White Poplar, only that and nothing more. It had been encumbering the land for a period of eighteen years, that is to say, on a certain dry autumn day, eighteen years before, a fire had swept over the land cleaning up every vestige of living vegetation. From the roots of the poplar trees that had been consumed by fire, new trees sprang up as thick as the proverbial hair on the traditional dog. At the end of eighteen years, they had waxed and grown fat to the extent that one of these aforesaid sportive citizens ventured to guess that there would be 75 cords of 4 foot wood cut from a single acre. His opponent offered to give substantial backing to his own opinion that there would be somewhat less. The wager was accordingly laid, the stakes being deposited with the village deacon, who was put under bonds not to go over to the Canadian side until after the wood was cut. The acre was then measured off, and with the aid of a bunch of half breeds who saw in rapt vision sufficient smoking tobacco to last them for the balance of the winter, was quickly reduced to 4 foot cord-wood. After being piled, it was measured by a reliable committee who reported the product of the cut to be exactly 90 cords. The money was accordingly paid over and the deacon duly released from his bonds. The half breeds had been paid 50 cents per cord for cutting and putting the wood in pile and piling the brush. The wood was sold on the ground for \$3.50 per cord, making the total net income of the one acre tract \$270.00.

The moral of this story is that this acre produced an annual net income during the eighteen years of \$15.00 per acre. The writer of this true tale was upon the land when the wood was being drawn off. He was also there three years after and made the rash attempt to drive across the tract with a heavy farm team and a pair of bobsleighs. The three-year-old trees which had grown up since the wood was cut were so large and thick that the team was unable to make its way across. It is fair to presume that at the end of another eighteen-year period, a like amount will be cut, only in that day the wood will bring \$500.00 net instead of \$270.00. The white poplar can be grown anywhere in North Dakota. Young trees should be set four feet apart each way. Some benighted farmers are grubbing out these white poplars to prepare the land for wheat on which the annual net profit is less than \$5.00 per acre. And still we send missionaries to China!

Flowers for the Farmer

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Some may smile at the idea of the farmer growing flowers, but why should not the farmer cultivate a taste for the beautiful as well as other people? Almost all residents of towns and cities, many of them not as well off as the average farmer, and most of them living in a hand-to-mouth way, try to do something to beautify their surroundings. It is regrettably true that many farmers seem to give very little thought to improving the home surroundings. More's the pity. Going through the country, we find many farms without a tree or plant of any kind about the house, sometimes wheat sown right up to the unused front door. The entrance to the house is often through the barnyard, and often a very dirty barn yard at that. Nothing about the premises to show any refinement, taste or cultivated intellect. Just as though the house were inhabited by a family belonging to some order of the lower animals, who were quite incapable of appreciating the beauties of nature. If you should ask the owner of such a place why he did not try to improve his home surroundings a bit,

he would answer that he had no time for such work. In nine cases out of ten such an answer is false. It only needs a moment's thought to show that this statement is true:—We find that the men who have taken time to plant trees and improve the home surroundings, are in almost every case the most prosperous, and certainly the most highly respected farmers of the country. This proves that it is not a matter of lack of time. What a place to bring up a family on some of these dreary, treeless, prairie farms! No wonder that the young people long to get away to the city.

The farmer who takes the time to improve his home surroundings is not losing anything. He is providing for the comfort and happiness of his family, and cultivating a good taste and a love for the beautiful in himself and his family. Even in the matter of dollars and cents, he will not be the loser, for there is no way by which a place can be increased in value at less expense than by planting trees and flowers, and improving the home surroundings in this way. If he ever wants to sell, he can repay himself for this work in the increased value of his property. In the meantime, he will have the respect of his neighbors, and will have his own self respect considerably increased—a matter of no small importance.

Talking about flowers for the farmer, the best flowers are undoubtedly the hardy perennials. There are many species and varieties of these flowers that are perfectly hardy in the prairie country. These flowers die down on the approach of winter and grow up again in the spring from the roots, so that it is not necessary to plant each year, as it is with annuals grown from seed. These plants, which are usually propagated by division of the roots, can be bought from the nurseries and planted out in the spring, and they are mostly of the easiest culture. By selecting varieties that bloom at different seasons, it is possible to have bloom for almost six months. Some of the early species are in bloom almost as soon as the snow is off the ground in the spring, and others will bloom long after the fall frosts set in. The following will show the date of blooming of a number of varieties of these hardy perennial plants, from a record of plants growing in the grounds of the Buchanan Nursery Company, for the season of 1908. This record will serve as a guide to those who may wish to set out beds of these beautiful perennial flowers.

Name of Variety.	First observed in bloom.
Scilla siberica	April 30
Pansies	April 24
Tulips	May 5
Iceland Poppies	May 15
Bleeding Heart	May 28
Alysum saxatile	May 23
Myosotis (Forget-me-not)	May 23
Lily of the Valley	May 22
Sweet Rocket	June 3
Aquilegia (Columbine) various kinds	June 4 to 10
Iris, Siberian White	June 6
Phlox subulata (Moss Pink)	June 1
Dielytra exima (Dwarf Bleeding Heart)	May 29
Ranunculus acris (Bachelor Button)	June 1
Iris, German, various varieties	June 8 to 20
Pyrethrum (Painted Daisies)	June 10
Armeria maritima	June 10
Lemon Lily	June 14
Geranium sanguinea	June 15
Oriental Poppy	June 19
Delphinium formosum (Larkspur)	June 19
Sweet William	June 20
Fraxinella (Gas Plant)	June 20
Pinks, various varieties	June 15 to 22
Peonies, various varieties	June 17 to July 10
Lychnis (Scarlet Likeness)	June 24
Tradescantia	June 25
Achillea ptarmica	June 26
Spiræa Philapendula	June 25
Iris, Siberian, blue	June 27
Gaillardia	June 28
Scabiosa	June 27
Coreopsis	July 4
Larkspur dwarf (Delphinium)	July 3
Spiræa ulmaria	July 8
Shasta Daisy	July 17
Golden Glow	July 20
Clematis recta	July 14
Clematis agusticifolia	July 16
Phlox decussata, various varieties	July 20 to Aug. 10
Tiger Lilies	Aug. 6
Boltonia asteroides	Sept. 1
Pyrethrum uliginosum (Autumn daisy)	Sept. 1