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Sir Lyons Hengerveld Regis, the sire of most of the choice young stuff in the West. H. McKinnis and Balis Bros dispersion sales on March 5 and March 24, respectively, come of a line of blood that most breeders would like to introduce into their herds. His sire, King Sigs, has seven daughters with official records averaging over 30 lbs. His dam, Blanche Lyons De Kol, and her full sister, each have records of over 35 lbs. butter for seven days. The dam has also a 30-lb. daughter, and the grand-dam, Blanche Lyons, two daughters over 35 lbs. and two grand-daughters over 34 lbs. Offspring from this grand sire will make good the great herd foundation.

Benefits of Winter and Summer Pruning

(Continued from page 4)

grown under the grass mulch system.

I was fortunate enough to find another young orchard that appeared to be about twelve years of age and

composed of Baldwins and Spies. These trees had not been pruned since they were planted. They had been under cultivation part of the time and in grass part of the time. The Baldwins were in bearing, but the Spies had evidently not started to bear. The Baldwin trees were fine shaped specimens, but could have been improved by a moderate pruning. The Spies trees were uncultivated specimens, and their tops presented a broom-like appearance.

It is safe to say that some varieties would be better left unpruned until they reach the bearing age, and that others should have a moderate amount of pruning, and that a large part of this pruning should be done during the growing season. The character of the soil, of course, will exert a considerable influence upon the behaviour of a growing tree. Trees grown on light soil require less pruning than those grown on heavy soil. Drainage, also, exerts considerable influence upon the behavior of a tree, and the training of a tree on a well-drained soil is an easier proposition than that of training one on land that remains wet late in the spring.

I believe that with young trees we should do very little winter pruning, and that we should direct the growth largely by summer pruning. The work to be most effective should be done a little each year and at just about the time the tree completes its annual growth, which in this section is about the first week in July. If done too early it will defeat its aim and produce a strong growth of shoots. If done too late, it forces out soft growth which is likely to be winter-killed. The object of the work at first should be to direct the growth and later to induce fruitfulness. Only strong growing trees should be pruned during the growing season, remembering that it is a de-vitalizing operation and may easily be overdone.

With regard to bearing apple trees the necessity for summer pruning is less pronounced if not entirely eliminated. Since our mature trees tend to overbear there is no necessity for inducing fruitfulness, and winter pruning would therefore be the most logical practice. The problem is an intricate one, and since there is so much difference in the character of soils and the behavior of varieties, it is going to be difficult, if not impossible, to formulate any set of rules that any fruit grower may safely follow. The physiologist in time may be able to reveal the underlying principles in connection with the work of pruning.

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