

of sap. *It pays to take care of your trees!* As the foregoing hints are applicable to standard trees, I will say a few words about

#### SMALL FRUITS

before closing this paper. Small fruits may be profitably grown in northern localities, where the larger varieties will fail. Hence the argument for setting forth their treatment, and commending them especially to the novice in the work of fruit growing. You may with impunity venture on small fruits, when you might be timid about apples, pears, plums, cherries, etc. Besides an acre of ground will afford ample scope for your efforts in growing small fruits, while the risk in outlay for stock is not so great by far as for large varieties, raspberries, blackberries, currants, gooseberries and strawberries may be grown with success, with but little previous experience. Obtain a nurseryman's catalogue and look over the varieties, and if he has reputation for reliability, you can depend upon his descriptions of sorts and make your selections therefrom. Stock purchased, to be delivered by mail or express, can be had cheaper than from travelling agents, and as a rule is fully as safe a plan as the other. Choose your ground with reference to drainage and protection if possible, and lay out your fruit garden regularly, both for convenience and beauty. Plant your raspberries, blackberries, currants and gooseberries in rows six feet apart and four feet apart in the row. This will leave a privilege for cultivating and hoeing, a work that well pays in growing small fruits. If you do not care for laying out too much money at first, you can get a dozen or two of several best varieties and take time to propagate from them, thereby gaining by experience of your own, and risking less at first. I would advise this plan as a rule, unless you have plenty of money to risk. If you make a wise choice of older grown varieties, you will be surprised how fair a start you can get with an outlay of fifty or seventy-five dollars. Raspberries and blackberries propagate very fast, and cuttings from currants and gooseberries, if cut in the fall and kept in a damp place without freezing, will be ready to set in the spring. In setting cuttings, put at least two buds under ground with one or two above, and if your location is inclined to moisture you may expect a fair share of success. Strawberries do best set early in the spring as they get well rooted and winter through with greater degree of success. Some fall planted froze out with me the past winter in spite my efforts to save them by careful covering. But as this paper is growing tedious I will defer until next time further hints.

*Nepaan, Ont.*

L. FOOTE.