

fine himself to a few good varieties. The veteran gardener should try one or two new things each year. The garden seed situation is such that we must not only make every seed count this year, but it would be well to try to grow some seeds at home for next year's planting. Plant well selected roots of carrots, beets, etc., and also make careful selections of seed plants during the growing season of both annual and biennial plants.

**Grape Pruning**

THE average neglected grapevine is generally such a tangled mess that it is very difficult to describe how to prune it. The owner should determine what sort of a trellis he means to fasten his vine on. If there are a number of vines in a row the general practice is to grow it on two wires, these to be drawn tight on posts about 16 feet apart, first wire 3 feet and second wire 5 feet from the ground. If only one or two vines are in a place it can be grown on a trellis made of two narrow strips of board nailed to posts.

One thing never to be overlooked is all fruit is produced on last year's wood. Most neglected vines have too much old wood. Try to get one or two upright canes of two-year-old wood or older with four arms or younger canes equally distributed on the two wires. These arms should not be over 6 feet long, giving four arms of this length. This is sufficient bearing wood for any vine. Suppose the upright part is satisfactory and there are four arms on it, from these arms laterals or side shoots will grow, on which the fruit is produced. A vine should be pruned after it freezes before winter and before it thaws in the spring. Pruning in mild weather causes bleeding from the cuts. The laterals that bore fruit should be cut back, only leaving one bud to sprout the following season and the fruit will grow on that sprout. It is quite easy to occasionally renew one or more arms by training a young branch to take the older one's place. When that is done cut off the old branch. With a little cut practice pruning is easy, the common fault being to leave too much wood. If in doubt as to the above method of pruning, write for illustrated Bulletin 257, "The Grape in Ontario."

**Growing Good Melons**

YOU must raise good melons if you are going to make anything out of melon growing at all," says V. Robinet, a successful melon grower of Tecumseh. Mr. Robinet plants his melons in April, placing about four seeds in a place of not four inches square in the hot bed. After the plants get four leaves, the two weakest plants are pinched out. The plants will not be ready for setting out in the field until about three weeks after planting.

In preparing the field for the plants Mr. Robinet digs holes 12 inches deep at intervals of six or seven feet, arranging these in rows so that cultivation is possible. Weeds cannot be tolerated in the melon patch. They shade the melons and so prevent even ripening. In the bottom of these holes, he places some well rotted manure, then puts in the soil, packs this firmly around the piece of sod containing the plants and usually places a little commercial fertilizer around each hill to give the plants a quick start.

After the melons have reached the size of a hen's egg, the vines are cut off two joints out from the melon. Only four melons are left on a vine with the ordinary varieties, such as the Salmon colored Omsage, Defender and Togo. With the Togo and other small varieties you may leave up to a dozen to the hill. Two or three weeks before melons ripen Mr. Robinet begins to turn them, so that they will ripen evenly on all sides. When melons are well grown they make a good paying crop, selling at 25 to 50 cts. each or \$2 a bushel wholesale.

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**DAIRY CONFERENCE**

to be held in the Massey Hall, O. A. C. Guelph.

APRIL 4th AND 5th, 1918

The spring of the year is a good time to consider plans for greater efficiency in dairying for the coming season.

Speakers for this conference are: Hon. Mr. Czerac (conditional), Dr. Cressman, Dr. G. L. McKay, Chicago; Dr. C. J. Hastings, Toronto; Messrs. Stonehouse and Doherty, representing Milk Producers; J. Bingham, Ottawa; W. H. Forster, Hamilton (Milk Dealers and Ice Cream); G. A. Putnam, R. J. McLean, (Produce Dealers); F. Boyen, (Publishers); Mack Robertson, J. A. McPherson, (Creamery Assoc.); D. McMillan, S. H. Traiser.

The Presidents of the Eastern and Western Dairyman's Associations, Messrs. Leazer and Donaldson, will preside at two of the sessions, and Mr. S. Young, President of the Milk Producers' Association at the first session.

This meeting will represent every phase of Dairy Industry in Ontario. Every dairyman and dairywoman is invited. Music at evening sessions.

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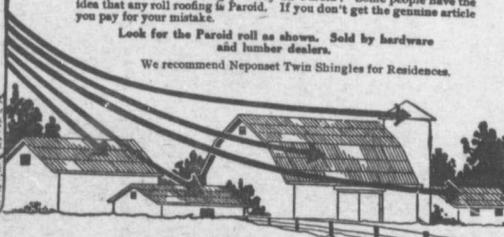
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