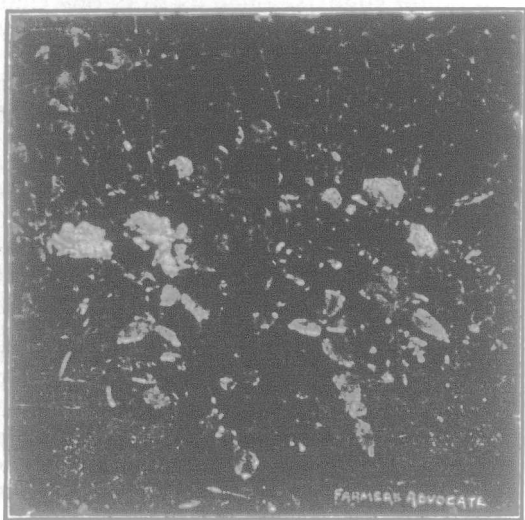


Horticulture and Forestry

Visit To a Manitoba Nursery.

The planting season will soon come around again, and therefore it is in order even now to talk about trees and shrubs, flowers and fruits, though at the moment frost and snow are still with us. During last summer a representative of the Farmer's Advocate visited the premises of the Buchanan Nursery Co., taking his camera along, with the object of securing a few views. What the camera revealed we now propose to show. We have still some people with us who refuse to believe that fruits and flowers can be grown to advantage in Manitoba. An unfortunate experience years ago with some tender, imported nursery stock, has left an impression that it is difficult to eradicate. The splendid results which



CLIO ROSE IN BLOOM.

have been achieved of late years, since it has been possible to secure home-grown, acclimated stock, in growing fruits, shrubs and flowers, have not yet fully overcome the old beliefs that these things could not be made a success here. Statements may be declared unreliable, but photographs from nature can hardly be gainsayed. The photos show two very vigorous roses in bloom. Of these there were many fine specimens about the grounds, and we were informed that there were 52 varieties of roses. The rose is one of the plants which it has been largely believed could never be grown here successfully. It is therefore particularly gratifying to note the large number of roses found growing at the nurseries. Of course all of these are not recommended for general planting, but the list is widening all the time, and even with roses we are gradually coming to the front. One reason for failure with roses is the fact that nearly all those offered are budded stock. That is, the named varieties are budded on roots of some other variety. Another reason is, that a great many of the roses offered for sale are grown in greenhouses. Budded and greenhouse grown stock are not at all suitable for our severe climate, at least for outdoor planting. The Buchanan Nursery Co. have entirely dis-

carded this class of stock. All the roses are grown on their own roots, and are propagated in the open.

Among the shrubs noticed were several varieties of honeysuckle, including the Tartarian, Alberti and Flava. The upright bush honeysuckles are among the most valuable and beautiful shrubs for this country and they are perfectly hardy. Of Caraganas, there were fully ten varieties, all of which are quite hardy. They are useful for hedging and also make very pretty lawn specimens. Lilacs were in considerable variety, including the common purple and white sorts, the Japan lilac, the Persian lilac, Josieka lilac, Charles X, Charles Lemoine, Villosa lilac, etc.

The barberries were in evidence, of the many varieties the purple leaf being the most attractive. Spireas were represented by about a dozen varieties, in pink and white, and a few of the later blooming sorts were still in bloom. The spirea is a very desirable small shrub, and it is pleasing to note that so many of them have succeeded here. The buffalo berry and Russian olive are two related shrubs, with silvery foliage, both useful for lawns or hedging. The former bears an edible fruit, resembling the red currant. The delightfully fragrant philadelphus or mock orange and the hydrangea paniculata, one of the most beautiful of all shrubs, were apparently thriving nicely, although they are not as hardy as those previously named. The golden leaved elder was also very attractive, with its rich yellow foliage, as was also the golden ninebark. Snowballs of several varieties were seen, and also three varieties of thorn. One block of 6,000 three-year-old pyrus baccata was pointed out. This is a very hardy Russian crab, which is used as an ornamental tree as well as for other purposes. It is perfectly hardy here, and is very pretty when in blossom. The fruit of many of the trees, though small, is of good flavor.

Among the larger ornamentals were three varieties of mountain ash—the American, the European and the oak leaved weeping birch. Another pretty tree is the large leaved laurel willow, the leaves of which are as delicate as wax work. The Ontario soft maple (*Acer dasycarpum*) appeared to be perfectly at home and showed a strong annual growth. The celtis occidentalis, or hackberry is a tree which resembles our native elm. Several Lombardy poplars, though not regarded as hardy here, were seen. Among the conifers were four varieties of spruce, half-a-dozen pine and cedar, larch, juniper, arborvitae, etc.

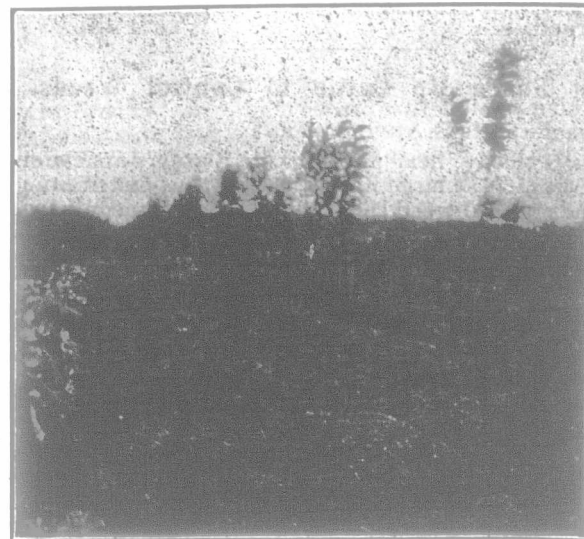
In the herbaceous plot were 10, or 12 varieties each of pæonies, phlox, German and Siberia iris, dahlias, etc. One row of dahlias, 400 feet long, was a magnificent sight. Among other notable perennials were golden glow, diletria or bleeding heart, several varieties of day lilies, tiger lilies, lemon lily, funkia, pemeocallis, oriental and Icelandic poppy, columbine, perennial larkspur in variety, gaillardia, perennial pea, gladiolia, hesperis, campanula, armeria, pyrethrum, gypsophila, saxatile, etc. Perennial flowers are evidently the flower for the farmer. Once planted many of them will bloom for year after year, with little care. It is pleasing to note that so many of the finest perennials are hardy here. The pæony and phlox, which are perfectly hardy, are perhaps the two finest of all hardy perennials.

Small fruits are perhaps the strongest feature of the Buchanan Nursery Co. Mr. Buchanan carried on experimental work in fruits for many years before embarking in the nursery business, and he has made fruit growing a success. He claims that there is no crop that can be grown in Manitoba that is more certain than the strawberry, if only the proper system is used in growing them. There are so many good varieties of strawberries that it is hard to select the best. Several varieties should be tried as the strawberry is very sensitive to varying soil conditions. The soil that suits one is not adapted to another variety.

Of raspberries, about thirty varieties were

under cultivation in the experiment grounds, and the hardiest and best of these only are propagated for sale. Turner is still one of the best, in point of hardiness and quality. Loudon is a fine berry and very hardy. Dr. Reider is much like Turner and quite hardy but not as good flavor. King is a promising new berry. Some other good varieties grown are Kenyon, Sarah, Premier, Marlboro, Miller, Ironclad, Shippers' Pride, Cuthbert, Golden Queen, Caroline, and in blacks, Ohio, Older, Hilborn and Gregg, and Shaffer and Columbia purple.

The gooseberry plots include about 20 varieties, but only a few are propagated for general planting. Houton is the hardiest and most prolific and is also the best berry for canning or preserving, the flavor being very fine. Smith's Improved and Downing come second. Gooseberries, Mr. Buchanan says, have been a great success with them and the most profitable crop of all, as they produce abundantly every year, and are always in demand. This refers to the hardiest varieties.



THREE YEAR OLD APPLE TREES AT BUCHANAN NURSERIES

In currants about thirty varieties are grown, nearly all of which are hardy, but it has been found that the smaller to medium fruiting kinds are more productive than those varieties which produce very large fruit.

A great deal of experimental work is being done at these nurseries with tree fruits, including apples, crabs, plums and cherries. Many thousands of seedling trees are being grown of all these species of fruits, in the hope of finding hardier and better varieties that will succeed here. Some very good sand cherries have been produced and the new fruit known as the Compass cherry has fruited. It has been found that many of the hardy plums do not ripen here before frost. The Atkin and Cheney are almost certain to ripen and are two of the very hardiest. These two varieties ripened last fall, though the season was an unfavorable one, but were one to two weeks later than the previous year in ripening.

A great deal of experimental work is being done with apples and crabs. Every apple or crab that has been recommended for hardiness, has been tried, and some of the hardier varieties have been extensively planted. Some thousands



THIRTEEN FEET HIGH IN THREE YEARS.



AMONGST THE BERRY BUSHES.