

porting. The stalk and principal limbs have now become so strong that they support the smaller branches in a most graceful manner. In consequence of the size of my conservatory, the main limbs have not been permitted to increase in length for several years. Every December the small branches have been pruned back severely.

For over twenty years this plant has stood in the conservatory, taking its chances with other kinds. It has never been put away to rest. About the first of December, it suddenly stops growing and blooming and until the first of February no amount of stimulating will induce it to send out a new leaf or flower. Most of the old foliage remains on the plant until replaced by new. Every flower wants to go to seed, and if they were permitted to do so, the plant, within a short time, would look like a small tree filled with red cherries.

As this plant increases in age, it increases in vigor and acts as though it were just commencing life in earnest. I do not know to what age fuchsias will live, but have been told that there is one near London, England, that is said to be about a century old.

Note—If any readers of THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST know of a fuchsia that is larger and older than the one here il-



The Largest Fuchsia in Ontario

Photograph was taken about three years ago and when the plant had about finished blooming for the season.

lustrated, will they kindly send information regarding same and a photograph for publication.—Editor.

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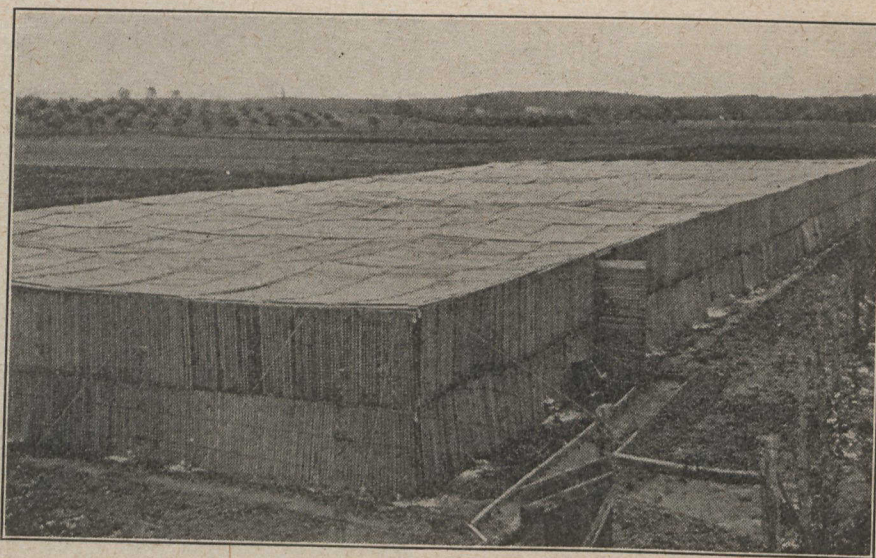
## The Culture of Ginseng

J. E. Janelle, Caughnawaga, Quebec

THE soil for ginseng must be rich, cool, sandy, well-drained, and the surroundings shady. Ginseng thrives best where oak, hickory, beech, maple and basswood used to thrive, but

ly come up in May and June. When the young plants have grown two summers they are transplanted to other beds, and planted eight inches apart each way.

The plant begins to bear fruit when



Lattice Shade over a Ginseng Garden

Establishment of J. E. Janelle. Caughnawaga, Que.

will not grow in low, wet, marshy soil, nor will it stand an overflow during its growing period. However, any soil can easily and cheaply be made suitable for growing ginseng. Any soil that grows fruit trees or vegetables, especially the common carrot, will produce ginseng equally as well.

If "woods dirt," or leaf mould, is not handy to use as fertilizers, the rich soil around the base of an old straw-stack, or well-rotted horse manure, with a little wood ashes mixed with it, will be a good substitute. If the soil is already very rich, it needs no, or very little fertilizers. No green manure or any other kinds of fertilizers than those mentioned above, should be used on beds of a ginseng garden.

Ginseng must be grown in shade. The natural shade of trees will regulate itself. The artificial shade made with boards, laths or brush must be erected when the leaves of trees begin to grow in the spring, and must be removed in the fall, about October first. The idea is to imitate nature in forests, where ginseng grows in its wild state. In all cases shade must exclude about three-fourths or four-fifths of the sun's rays.

Ginseng seeds germinate eighteen months after they are gathered. They are planted in beds, either as soon as harvested or twelve months after, in rows three inches apart, with the seeds two inches apart in the rows. Seeds usual-

two or three years old and gives ten to seventy seeds, according to the quality of the soil, and the age of the plant. The berries turn red about the first of September, and a few days later begin to fall off; it is then time to gather them. When the seeds are not planted as soon as harvested growers keep them alive by the process of stratification, in order to preserve their germinating powers. They must not be allowed to dry out, or they will not grow. Such seeds are called "stratified seeds," and may be planted at any time until eighteen months old. When planted at twelve months, that is in September or October, they come up the next spring.

On the other hand, plants or roots are transplanted only in the fall, when the stem dies, and the root is dormant, that is, after the 15th of September, until the ground is frozen hard. The operation can also be done early in the spring, but the season is very short, and risks are great for a beginner to do it in the spring.

Cultivated roots are generally dug at seven years old, that is, five years after the plants were transplanted to regular beds. They then average ten or twelve dry roots to a pound, and their commercial value is from \$6 to \$8 a pound, according to size and quality. An acre of ginseng, if well managed, and with reasonable success, will produce at least 6,000 pounds of dry ginseng roots in seven years.