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HORTICULTURE

The Secret of Getting a Good Garden

Mrs. L. C. McKinnon, Cumberland Co., N.S.

I first had my eyes opened to the marvellous opportunity that we women folks have of adding to the variety and healthfulness of our diet by having a good kitchen garden when attending a lecture at the Amherst Winter Fair some years ago. Professor Sears, then of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, remarked that there were over a dozen varieties of vegetables that farmers might grow in their gardens. I had my doubts about it, and a famer sitting directly in front of me was even more doubtful, for he turned to his wife and said, "He'll have to show me." And Professor Sears did show us. I did not count the number of vegetables that he named over, but he named his down all right. He advised us to send away early and get a seed catalogue. I did. And by the next spring I had my mind clearly made up as to where the garden was going to be, just exactly what I wanted in it, and the seeds ordered.

Our garden had always been more or less of a failure before that. That spring putting in several times as much as ever before, it went in without delay. The secret was that I had made all my plans beforehand, and when the men did not have to plan

but simply go ahead and put the seeds in, there were not the objections usually raised and no time was lost talking about where to put this, that, and the other thing. I believe that almost every one of us farm women could get a garden if we tried. The



Helping "Father" with the Apples

main thing is to have our plans ready when the snow melts. Once we have had a garden with a good variety of vegetables we can always depend upon the future cooperation of the men folks in getting our plans carried into effect.

Strawberries in Saskatchewan

Brenda E. Neville, Asso. Dist., Sask.

Strawberry culture is in its infancy in Saskatchewan. In July, 1909, mine was the only exhibit of strawberries shown at Regina. I stood near the small fruit exhibits and listened to the comments. Many people passing the strawberries remarked: "Of course such fruit cannot be grown here; they are imported." Such is the opinion of the majority. Only a few people know that every farm garden might have its strawberries as well as cabbage.

As soon as the ground freezes well, so that it does not soften through the day, a light, loose covering of clean wheat straw should be applied to the strawberry plantation. Do not make the covering very deep at first. Wait for a good fall of snow. When that has settled and become a little hard with a few "40 below" nights, then put on a covering fully 10 inches deep of more wheat straw. If it is hard to keep the straw from blowing away, spread a little brush over it.

CAUSE OF WINTER KILLING

It is not the cold in winter that kills strawberries, it is the alternate freezing and thawing in spring that does the harm. Therefore, do not remove the strawberry covering too early in spring. It will be late in the spring, perhaps on in May, before the ice is melted underneath the straw. Feel under the straw once in a while, and as long as ice remains, or the ground is frozen, leave the straw alone. When the ground finally thaws out, remove the straw very gradually. Separate it over the plants first to let in the air. Quite a lot of straw may be left between the rows until after the fruit ripens. It keeps the fruit clean and shelters the plants from the winds.

As spring frosts are prevalent here, rather late varieties of strawberries should be chosen, so that they will not bloom before the damage of frost is over. Senator Dunlop and Bode-wood are two of the best varieties for our climate.

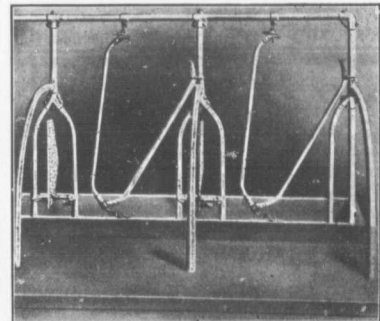
To Get Large Berries

Mrs. Albert Marshall, Renfrew Co., Ont.

When large strawberries are desired rather than quantity most of the runners must be cut off. Two to five runners may be left to each plant. These should be carefully trained by hand so that the young plants may have plenty of room to grow and produce large fruit.

This system requires a large amount of time and labor and is used mostly in small gardens where a few berries of extra quality are desired for table use.

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There never was a time in the history of Canada when the dairymen were paying so much attention to ventilation, sanitation and equipment of their dairy stables. This is an age for cement and steel. When you are laying your stable floors it is an easy matter to install steel stalls and stanchions.

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POULTRY

Woman Man

Berrie M. Ma

I have chickens which are div birds to a pe past I have 300 of which means—brought out have but two being White V Books.

In getting it to look after them well. H ruled with from clean. One m the poultry, e satisfactory.

Our chickens their third year when slightly or order to make



Poultry

This illustration McKee's dairy, who contributes a white Wyandottes

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After these p tended to I cons about successful to keep everyth about the poultry the poultry free. The pens in wh are housed are in long continuo inches high. The hens and straw ute in two barro

POULTRY

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