W. McConnell as Colberne, in each of the past three years. The number of barrels, the percentage of No. 1 apples and the receipts are also given for the three years previous to our taking charge. This will be a basis of comparison between the orchard when in a neglected condition and after being properly cared for

NORTAUMBERLAND AND DURHAM DEMONSTRATION ORCHARDS

F. W. McConnell's Orchard, Colborne. 117 trees-proximately 2½ acros. Soil—Light sandy to Orchard 32 years old.

RESUL/Te			
	Af	After cared for	
EXPENSES-	1911	1912	1913
Scraping	\$11 25		
Pruning	34 00	822 00	\$39 00
Painting wounds	10 28	7 05	
Gathering brush	6 75	4 00	4 50
SPRAYING-			
First	25 90	21 90	20 55
Second	15 75	15 70	13 13 15 60
Third			
Cementing holes in trees		1 26	
Bracing trees with wire		1 37	
Removing dead wood and thin-			2 44
ning suckers		90	1 80
Manure	25 00	20 00	30 00
500 lbs. Muriate of Potash		11.70	12 60
1.000 lbs. Acid Phosphate			16 00
Applying		1 00	1 00
Freight			2.75
Cultivation	7 50	18 00	5 70
Total expenses			174 63
Expenses per acre		71 29	69 85
Yield in barrels		3331/4	234
Receipts from sale of apples		8449 80	8493 58
Per cent, No. 1's	87 6	80 5	82 5
Per cent, No. 18		271 58	
Net profit		108 63	127 58
Net profit per acre		lected st	
	1908	1909	1910
Acres a second		250	73
Yield in barrels	AT00 00		8100 00
Receipts from sale of apples	\$300 00	30 60	\$100 00 30 60
Per cent, No. 1's	40 60	a0 60	a0 60



Favored by Growers in Eastern Canada, -The Open Centre Type of Tree

Figures from the other orchards could be given, but the foregoing will be sufficient to show in detail the expenses and returns.

The results obtained were in striking contrast to the small and indifferent crops vielded in unsprayed and uncared for orchards of the same locality. The quality of the fruit in each of the three years was exceptionally high-the percentage of number one's being raised from 30 to 60 in 1908, 1909, and 1910, prior to our having charge, to 75 to 87.6 per cent.while under our care. Further, from 95 to 98 per cent. of all the apples grown in these orchards was absolutely free from any insect pest or fungus disease. Scarcely an apple could be found with a worm in it, and it was only an odd apple here and there that showed a spot of scab.

> In conclusion, let me say that as a result of these demonstrations the old

orchards are being cared for in a manner as never before. Carloads of spray material and a great number of spray machines, both hand and power outfits, have been sold to fruit growers in the counties. The demonstration orchard method has proved its effectiveness as a means of stimulating interest in up-to-date methods, and inspiring a new respect for abandoned orchards.

Benefits of Winter and Summer Pruning Compared Conn. Agricultural College (Formerly of the Guelph Agricultural College)

PRUNING is a natural process. It may be observed on both fruit and forest trees. In the struggle to exist the weaker branches, or those unfavorably located, die and drop off. An attempt, often successful, to heal the wound takes place. The modern practice of pruning is an attempt to assist nature and to improve upon her

crude methods. In the pruning of the apple tree there are two distinct styles or ideals, the central leader type and the open centre type, each with its crops of *Extracts from an address desivered before the assachusetts Fruit Growers' Association.

adherents. There are many supporters of the central leader type among the western growers, and they claim that a tree pruned in this form makes a stronger structure and is not so likely to be broken down by wind and heavy crops of fruit. This is a strong argument and cannot be ignored. A tree of this type, however, is inclined to grow too high and completely shuts out the light from the centre of the tree.

The open-centre type of tree is the one most commonly found in the commercial orchards of the east. For New England, where the maximum amount of sunshine

is necessary to develop fruit of high color, this seems to be the most desirable type. If carefully grown and properly trained, and if the trees are not allowed to overbear, there is not likely to be much trouble from the breaking of the branches.

In order to develop a strong open-centre habit, we must have a good nursery tree to start with. We hear a great deal nowadays about the desirability of growing low-headed trees, and I am a strong advocate of such practice, but I do not believe in heading them so low that there is no room for the proper distribution of the main or scaffold limbs of the tree.

Many nurserymen are making a mistake in "rubbing" their trees too high; by this I mean that all the buds and shoots are rubbed off from the yearling tree to a point six or eight inches below the point where the tree is headed in. If the practice is to head a tree 30 inches from the ground, the "rubbing" should not extend more than 12 inches from the ground, leaving a space of 18 inches for the proper distribution of the scaffold limbs of which there should be from three to five. These should be fairly evenly spaced along the central axis and no more than one should be allowed to develop at the same

An apple tree is a wonderfully tractable object when handled properly. The man who follows the ordinary practice of severely pruning in the dormant season only, is going to have trouble, for the more we prune at this season of the year the more persistent the tree becomes. To encourage the development of the weaker growing branches and to check the persistence of the stronger ones, it is necessary to do some pruning during the growing season.

I believe that in the past we have grown our trees too fast and have pruned them a great deal too much. To develop a strong fruit-bearing structure, a tree should not be unduly forced. It may be observed that with trees that have made a normal growth the branches are more tapering and more rigid than those on rapidly grown trees. The excessive growth is frequently due to liberal fertilization and cultivation, but is just as often due to severe winter pruning.

During the past six years I have had under observation a young orchard that has been developed under various systems of pruning, and I am forced to state that the best shaped trees in the orchard to-day are those that have not been pruned since they were planted. Now, we should not deduce from this that under all conditions a young tree should not be pruned. These trees were Baldwin and McIntosh, and were

(Continued on page 34)



In pruning their apple trees growers work for one of two distinct types. The type bere illustrated, known as the Central Leader type, is much favored by Western fruit growers on the ground that it is a stronger structure than the open centre type illustrated above, and not so likely to be broken down by wind and heavy crops of fruit.

March

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