

Happy is the "hen man" who finds no trace of this pest.  
WALTER SCOTT.  
Central Experimental Farm.

## GARDEN & ORCHARD.

### Disposing of the Apple Crop.

A reader with a good apple crop to dispose of has been worrying about the sale of his fruit. Buyers operating in his vicinity have been offering neighbors a dollar a barrel, but haven't deigned to look at the much superior crop on his trees. The explanation probably is that since he has entered the up-to-date fruit-growers' class they take it for granted he will know better than to sacrifice his crop to them at their own figures, and, not caring to establish too high a scale of values by paying him what his crop is worth, they forego for a time, at least, the privilege of handling his fruit, operating instead among his less progressive neighbors. It is a game of the buyers when they come across a wide-awake man of this class to let him alone till he gets into a sweat to sell and then drive a bargain somewhat according to their own ideas. Unless he is unusually forehanded and resourceful they count on his coming to time as picking approaches and he doesn't know what to do with the fruit. It is worth a lot to the producer in such a case to have a co-operative shipping association to sell through or to be in touch with some good reliable man to consign to, or to have cold storage facilities within reach so that he can rush his packed fruit in every day or at least every other day as picked, for immediate warehousing is one great secret of success in the cold storage of fruit. But even failing these facilities, much may be gained by good, steady nerve or stiff upper lip. The buyers want good fruit, especially if of superior selling varieties, such as Spies. They will often pay as much for this variety, particularly for the No. 1 grade, as they expect to net on it in England or the West, because a proportion in a carload is the means of working off their less saleable kinds, such as Greenings. The Greening, by the way, is a winter apple whose merits for cooking, and particularly for pie-making, are not fully appreciated by the consuming public.

Offering a leaf from experience, we do not mind confessing that our experience in our rented orchards has been much the same as our enquirer's. The buyers left us alone till the last minute. In 1909, we did not sell the crop—did not have an offer even—till we had commenced to pick. Then we made a bargain wholesale at \$1.00 per bushel box for No. 1's and \$2.25 per barrel for No. 2's, taking all winter varieties. Last year it was much the same. No buyer turning up, we put the Kings and Greenings into cold storage at a cost of ten cents per barrel per month. Then the same buyer to whom we had sold before came along and paid \$3.25 and \$2.50 per barrel for Nos. 1 and 2 Spies and Baldwins. He wanted the Spies to sell a large quantity of Greenings he had on hand. We subsequently sold our Kings at prices which netted us almost as much as the Spies, and the Greenings for half a dollar or so less.

We do not anticipate any thanks from the buyers for publishing this information, but we hate to see good fruit sold for the price of poor. In justice to the buyers we must say they pay enough for much of the stuff they get from unsprayed neglected orchards, especially considering the risks they take and the expense to which they are put in getting it picked, packed and shipped. But the thrifty grower who will follow good methods in production with proper care and honesty in marketing deserves a great deal more than the buyers are generally willing to pay; and this year, at all events, what with increasing home demand and reports of a short crop in England, he should count on fairly good prices, even though he may not realize quite so much as we did on Spies and Baldwins last year. We might add that from the only rented orchard which we are operating this year we have already contracted to a local fruit stand dealer all the No. 2 Snows at \$2.50 per barrel delivered in town.

Let it be understood, however, that the prices we got were paid for extra good fruit put up according to the spirit of the Inspection and Sale Act, and even better than the inspectors would demand. This will be evident from the fact that though our orchards were pruned, cultivated and carefully sprayed, yielding an uncommonly nice lot of fruit, we graded it only about sixty per cent. No. 1. In grading we try to keep on the

safe side, preferring to stamp No. 1 apples as No. 2 rather than to brand No. 2 as No. 1. Strict uniform grading means much to a buyer. To open one barrel and be sure it is not only legally packed, but also a fair sample of every barrel is a great satisfaction and safety to the operator. That he may count on this he must be sure the seller is experienced, careful and honorable. Until a producer has won a reputation for good reliable packing, he is not justified in expecting full value for his pack. Honesty is the only policy, and the buyers appreciate it when they find it whether they always live up to it themselves or not.

### White Grubs Troublesome.

The May beetle grubs are reported in several localities to be causing serious damage to the potato crop by eating holes in the newly formed tubers, and also in the corn fields. Sickly-looking, reddish stalks and some entirely wilted down, are evidence of grubs feeding below, as discovered by turning up the ground. Two and three grubs are found below the hill, and quite large-sized roots eaten right through. In strawberry patches, too, they have been playing havoc particularly with those a couple of seasons old. Where practicable, turning in hogs to root them out is resorted to with good effect, and old sod plots to be used for a crop next season should be fall plowed as late as practicable, and left exposed to the frosts of winter. Nothing seems to agree better with these greasy-looking pests than to be left alone. Moral:—stir them up. As a hint for next season, Angus McInnis, an old and successful market gardener of London, says he has found that vast numbers of the beetles in May and June can be captured and destroyed by setting large pans filled with water, on the surface of which a half cupful of oil is poured. Then in the evening a lighted lantern is suspended over the pan, which attracts the beetles, and falling into the water they are soon drowned.

### \$1105.00 Per Acre from Cherries.

A marked copy of the Welland Tribune came to hand the other day telling about a crop of 34,000 pounds of fruit produced from a crop of 300 cherry trees, called Cherry Row, at Brown Bros.' Nurseries this year. The running price was 64c. per pound, making a total of \$2,210. The variety is the large Montmorency. These trees are planted on waste land, but would require two acres of ground, thus producing a revenue of \$1,105 per acre. Many farmers might take a tip from this and utilize their waste space along lanes and roadways.

We have received from Mr. Ruddick, Dairy and Cold Storage Commissioner, a chart showing how the Dominion Fruit-Inspection staff has been organized for the present season. Twelve or thirteen additional inspectors have been put on this year, bringing the total number up to thirty-nine, exclusive of the five new chief inspectors appointed for five districts as follows: Maritime Provinces, G. H. Vroom; Quebec and Eastern Ontario, W. W. Brown; Western Ontario, P. J. Carey; Prairie Provinces, Chas. W. Baxter; British Columbia, R. G. Clarke.

### Potato Canker.

There has been issued, by direction of the Minister of Agriculture, at Ottawa, a conspicuous poster calling the attention of potato-growers to the importance of examining their crop to ascertain whether or not it is infested with "potato canker." The hanger shows in natural colors a potato plant, the whole yield of which is affected by the disease. It also shows the appearance of individual tubers in which the canker has started to work. Growers who discover suspicious symptoms of the disease in their crop are requested to send affected specimens to the Dominion Botanist, Experimental Farm, Ottawa. The poster is issued as Farmers' Circular No. 3, of the Division of Botany, and is being distributed by the Publications Branch of the Department of Agriculture.

## THE FARM BULLETIN.

### Wet Weather Topics.

By Peter McArthur.

Weather is King. For the past few weeks it has taken control of everything. We have had heat, cold, wind, rain, hail, thunder and lightning, and possibly a few other quirks that we have been too blue to notice. That I should have ten acres of oats in the shocks is only to be expected, but a lot of real farmers, good farmers, are in the same fix. Some even have fields that are still uncut. How the harvest is ever to be completed is a grievous problem. It is raining as I write and there are no signs of clearing. City people say that farmers do an absurd amount of grumbling about the weather, but if they do not get a chance to make a profit on our crops I think they may do a little grumbling too. To add to the general discomfort many people are becoming convinced that the corn will not have a chance to ripen properly, and there are stories about the potatoes rotting. The apples appear to be thriving wonderfully and I was surprised to find that so few were shaken down by the high winds. But I had a little while of worry about them when the hail began to rattle on the roof. Fortunately it did not last for more than half a minute and the hailstones were small. Still the papers said next day that they were "as big as hen's eggs." Somehow they always are. I sometimes wonder why they do not compare hailstones with something else besides hen's eggs. I never yet saw one that looked like a hen's egg. The ones that fell on Sunday night were only about the size of a canary's egg, but wherever they hit an apple they made a bruise and that will mean culls at packing time. I was relieved to find that only a small percentage had been hit in spite of the racket the hail made when coming down. Still it is great weather for the ducks.

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Miss Marjory MacMurchy has placed the parents and daughters of Canada under deep obligation to her by the careful study she has made of "The Case of the Working Girl." In a series of articles published by the Canadian Courier, she has brought out a number of facts that should be carefully considered in every home where there are daughters who are feeling the lure of the city.



The Coming of the New Bug Destroyer.  
Potato Grower—"You're welcome to the job."