

will find a home market taking every day quarts upon quarts at high prices. Every dollar expended will save two in meat and medicine bills. At home and at school fruit is better for children than cake and pie, and the table the year round should be supplied with fruit, either fresh or canned. In the latter form raspberries retain their flavor best of all. Farmers say they can buy better than to raise, but they never buy enough. In my own family—not large—we use six to ten quarts of small fruits daily from June to August. A friend with a half-acre city lot had it plowed and fertilized, and planted \$26 worth of plants, kept account of expenses for five years, with credit at market rates for fruit consumed; the profit was \$160 annually. Every farm and home should have such a half acre, and then will be found health and happiness, as well as money, in small fruit.—J. H. HALE.

Planting Tree Seed.

My way has always been a success. Ten days before planting I put the seed in a vessel large enough to allow it to swell. I cover it with water that is daily renewed for five to eight days, or till the seed is well swelled. I next saturate a cloth large enough to cover the seed and turn the seed out and mix it well at least once a day. Be sure to keep the cloth wet. Keep the vessel in a warm place if possible, unless it be quite warm weather, and in two or

three days the seed will be well sprouted and fit to plant.

Walnuts of all deciduous seed need the most pains, or rather the plan is different. The best way is to put them in the ground when picked from the tree, but always observe the following rules: Place them under four or five inches of soil all together in a bunch, and they should be in a very damp place. Then keep them well soaked with water for three weeks, and occasionally through the winter throw on water. By May 1st some of them will be sprouted. All that are not sprouted put into a barrel in the sun and turn the barrel daily for two or three days, then look at them. Most of them will be sprouted. If any are not water them, and put these through the same process and nearly every one will grow. Cover them two inches deep when planting in heavy soil, and deeper in light soil. I have made it a business.—G. C. HULEE, *Merrick County, Neb.*

THE relative hardness of woods is calculated by the hickory, which is the toughest. Estimating this at 100, we get for pignut hickory, 96; white oak, 84; white ash, 77; dogwood, 75; scrub oak, 73; white hazel, 72; apple tree, 70; red oak, 69; white beech, 65; black walnut, 65; black birch, 62; yellow and black oak, 60; hard maple, 56; white elm, 58; red cedar, 56; cherry, 55; yellow pine, 54; chestnut, 52; yellow poplar, 51; butternut and white birch, 43; and white pine, 35.