

60 degrees. The ice-chamber has capacity for about six tons of ice above, and 12 feet at the end of refrigerator chamber, the air of which is quite dry.

## GARDEN & ORCHARD.

### To Importers of Nursery Stock.

The attention of all persons who intend to import nursery stock into Canada is called to the regulations of "The Destructive Insect and Pest Act," which have already been published in these columns (issue June 9th, 1910). They can be obtained on application to the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

In particular, they should note the following regulations governing the conditions under which nursery stock may be admitted:

"5. All persons importing nursery stock into Canada shall give notice to the Minister of Agriculture within five days of despatching the order for the same, and they shall again notify the Minister on arrival of shipment in Canada."

"Notice shall also be given to the Minister by all transportation companies, customs-house brokers and other persons importing or bringing nursery stock into Canada, immediately such a consignment is received by him. Such notice shall include the name of the consignor and the consignee, the points or origin and destination, the name of the company carrying the nursery stock, as well as the nature, quantity and origin of the same."

"6. European nursery stock, and such other imported vegetation or vegetable matter as the Minister may determine, entering Canada, may be allowed to proceed, and shall be inspected at the point of destination, but must not be unpacked, except in the presence of an inspector."

C. GORDON HEWITT,  
Dominion Entomologist.

### Ashes as Fertilizer—Grafting Spy on Ben Davis.

Have leached ashes any virtue as a fertilizer? I have a large quantity of both leached and unleached ashes, and would ask how much of the latter should be scattered per acre on a sandy loam or clay soil to yield best results for usual crops. For how many years would unleached ashes benefit the soil, without a second application? Also, what quantity of unleached ashes would be about right to put around three or four-year-old apple trees?

2. Is the Ben Davis a good tree on which to graft Northern Spy? SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. Leached ashes certainly have a considerable value as fertilizer, though not worth nearly so much per bushel as the unleached, owing to the loss of potash. Thirty to fifty bushels of unleached ashes per acre make a safe and satisfactory application. The effect of ashes is remarkably lasting. The writer has in mind a field containing some rather light, loamy knolls, which were at one time said to be very poor. A great many years ago his grandfather hauled leached ashes from an ashery, and gave this part of the field "a heavy dressing," whatever that may have meant. Ever afterwards that was the best portion of the farm. We have not seen the field now for fifteen years, but have little doubt it is

still showing the effect of the application. The ashes supplied potash and phosphorus, which made clover grow, adding nitrogen. In fertilizing your orchard, do not apply the ashes exclusively under the trees. Scatter them evenly for a considerable distance beyond the present tops, and put on about one-third of a bushel per square rod covered.

2. With regard to the advisability of planting Ben Davis, with a view to top-grafting Northern Spy, Prof. H. L. Hutt, O. A. C., Guelph, expresses himself as follows: "I would not like to advise such a course, although there are a number of things to be said in favor of Ben Davis as a stock for Northern Spy. In the first place, the Ben Davis being a less-vigorous grower, and an early and heavy bearer, it would have a tendency to dwarf the Northern Spy and bring it into earlier fruiting than when grafted upon ordinary stock. On the other hand, what I have seen and learned from others, Ben Davis does not make a good strong union with Northern Spy, and there is a tendency for the tree to break off at the point of union when heavily loaded or during severe storms. I would much prefer Tolman Sweet to Ben Davis, as a stock for Northern Spy. If I had a number of Ben Davis trees, however, which I wanted to work over to Spies, I would have no hesitation in doing so, although it is a question whether the market is yet discriminating enough to make Spies a more profitable variety than Ben Davis. If I were living in a section where Ben Davis matures well, I would hesitate some time before changing the variety to anything else, unless I could secure a fancy market for a better class of fruit."

## POULTRY.

### Symptoms of Hen Fever.

A few months ago the editor of Farm Poultry promised to give readers of his paper some specimen extracts from the annual circulars of Orrocco poultry farm, which for over a quarter of a century were a feature in poultry advertising and instruction. Those he has selected show the proprietor in the humorous vein as well as when presenting plain hard sense. Following is a humorous extract:

"These (of hen fever) symptoms are similar to those of any other fever, and in most cases are much alike; while the remedies required by different patients in the various stages of the disease are almost identical in every instance. This direful malady is no respecter of persons, but attacks all classes, high and low, rich and poor, male and female, young and old, all sizes and shapes, without regard to race, color, or previous condition of servitude. Fortunately, however, it rarely proves fatal, nor can any person have it the second time. The simplest known remedy is a good sized dose from the debit side of 'profit and loss,' taken clear, which speedily allays the fever and recalls the scattered senses, after which recovery is amazingly rapid and thorough."

"The first occasion for alarm at approaching symptoms is, among other things, restlessness, uneasiness, wandering thoughts, brain difficulty, and intense thirst; a restlessness under existing conditions of life; an uneasiness with present surroundings; wanderings of the mind, or inability to concentrate thought upon everyday duties; slight brain disturbance, or partial insanity, as evinced

by a strong desire to abandon long pursued avocation, and adopt the untried uncertainties of poultry culture, and an unquenchable thirst for poultry literature. Having secured some publication specially devoted to this industry, it is eagerly read, advertisements included, and the most prominent breeders are then requested to forward circulars and pay their own postage."

## THE FARM BULLETIN.

### Nearly Half a Billion Bushels of Grain.

The Bulletin of the Dominion Census and Statistics Office, issued September 13th, says that the reports on field crops at the end of August are more certain than at the end of July, and that the situation during the month has improved. In the older Provinces the grains have matured well, and have been harvested and saved in fine condition. The estimate for wheat, oats and barley is 445,420,000 bushels, which is 129,188,000 bushels less than the final estimate for last year. Spring wheat is less by 45,608,000 bushels, oats by 70,219,000 bushels, and barley by 16,010,000 bushels; but fall wheat shows an increase of 1,649,000 bushels. The Eastern Provinces show gains in each one of these crops. The increase of wheat there is 3,633,000 bushels; of oats, 23,219,000 bushels, and of barley, 625,000 bushels. The loss in the Western Provinces, exclusive of British Columbia, is a result of the great drouth of July, which reduced the area harvested by 22 per cent. for wheat, by 24 per cent. for oats, and by 31.5 per cent. for barley. The estimated production of wheat for the whole of Canada is 122,785,000 bushels; of oats, 283,247,000 bushels, and of barley, 39,388,000 bushels; as compared with 166,744,000 bushels wheat, 353,466,000 bushels oats, and 55,398,000 bushels barley in the final estimate for last year. The estimate for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta is 99,890,000 bushels wheat, 92,201,000 bushels oats, and 14,723,000 bushels barley; being an average of 11.89 bushels for wheat, of 20.96 bushels for oats, and of 14.49 bushels for barley on the area sown; but of 15.24 bushels wheat, 27.91 bushels oats, and 21.22 bushels barley on the area reaped. Compared with the same period last year for the Dominion, the average condition of spring wheat on August 31st was 79.05 to 84.30; of oats, 80.03 to 84.89, and of barley, 80.51 to 83.54; but compared with the condition at the end of July it was 79.05 to 77.05 for spring wheat, 80.03 to 79.57 for oats, and 80.51 to 79.62 for barley. Peas, beans, buckwheat, mixed grains, flax, corn for fodder, potatoes and alfalfa have declined in condition; but peas, mixed grains and flax only appreciably; whilst corn for husking, turnips, mangolds, carrots, sugar beets and pasture have improved.

### Large Tile for Sink Drain.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

If "Farmer" puts in a five-inch tile and flushes out the drain occasionally with a few pails of water, I do not think that he will have any trouble with grease accumulating. The first drain that I put in for my bathroom and sink was only 3 inches, and frequently I had to dig down to it in places and stir it up with a long wire to remove the block. I became rather tired of this, and dug the whole thing up and put in a five-inch tile, and since then have had no trouble with it. In the summer-time, when the ground is dry, the water soaks away before it gets to the end of the drain, leaving all the greasy material and dirt to accumulate in the tile, with the result that in a short while the drain is stopped up.

If "Farmer" has a spare down-pipe from an eavestrough that he can connect with his drain it will save him some labor. The main point to be observed, whatever sized tile is put in, is to look at the outlet once in a while and see that water is running out. If all the water from wash-day is put down, it will help considerably to keep things clear.

J. B. T.  
Huron Co., Ont.



Quadruplets.

Shropshire yearlings, all of show type. The ram won first, and one of the ewes, second, at Toronto, 1910. Bred and owned by J. & P. J. Campbell, Woodville, Ont.

That the fruit lands of Eastern Canada are coming into their own, notwithstanding the allurements, exploited by Pacific Coast real-estate agents, is indicated by the fact that quite a number of ranchers from Alberta, who are being crowded out of business by the grain-growers, are looking towards Ontario fruit farms. We heard lately of one rancher in particular, from near Calgary, who, having looked over British Columbia, finally came to settle in Ontario to go into apple-growing. He had always been very much impressed with the quality of Ontario fruit, but had repeatedly been pained to observe that in the western markets fruit of much poorer quality from Oregon and Washington crowded it out of the market, mainly owing to superiority in packing and appearance.