

price of the article so treated. But the fact is now becoming generally known that sulphured fruit loses much of its flavor, and is, therefore, inferior in quality.

The doctor shows that while sulphuric acid is a preservative and disinfectant, still, its use with food is objectionable. It has further been noticed by retail grocers that the public does not use dried fruit as freely of late years as it did before the days of bleaching with sulphur. In the near future the probability is that fruit, which has been evaporated without the use of sulphur, will be more appreciated and more in demand than that which is bleached.

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BEE MEN AND FRUIT GROWERS.—We are informed that our friends, the aparists, are alarmed at the wide-spread practice of spraying fruit trees and are seeking legislation to prevent it, on the ground that it is the means of destroying many bees. Such extreme measures would bring fruit growers into contact with them, and we would be inclined to ask for legislation against the keeping of bees, on the ground that these insects injure our grapes and carry the yellows from tree to tree. It is stated in *Mechans' Monthly*, that in a small garden in the suburbs of Philadelphia, where the owner has a dozen or so of grape vines, the whole crop is annually destroyed by neighboring bees.

Bee men tell us that a hole must be first made by birds or wasps, or else by cracking, before the bees will harm the fruit; but even granting this, the small holes and cracks referred to would not interfere with the ripening of the grape, and would only injure its value to a limited extent, were it not for the work of the bees. The only basis of agreement between us will be that we do not spray our trees when in blossom, and to this, no doubt, all fruit growers will consent.

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TREE WASH.—The recipe for tree wash given on page 369 for destroying bark lice, keeping out borers, etc., probably contains a printer's error. The usual amount of carbolic acid to two gallons of water is one pint; and an excellent wash may be made as follows: One pint crude carbolic acid, one quart soft soap, and two gallons hot water. Mix thoroughly. Apply with old broom.

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THE WINDOW GARDEN.—Be *sure* that every plant is free from scale aphids, or other insects, before placing in window, and if any plant becomes infected afterwards, remove it from the window until once more clean, as one lousy plant will infect a windowful. Shower the plants often to keep down the red spider, and also to keep the pores of the leaves open. The leaves of a plant are its lungs, and should be kept clean. See that every pot has an inch of charcoal or broken crocks in the bottom for drainage. Water only when the soil is really dry, and then water thoroughly. Add a fifth or sixth part of *sifted* manure, or a small quantity of the fertilizer florists keep, to the potting soil, or else water growing and blooming plants once a fortnight with liquid manure diluted to the color of weak tea. A pot plant must have food to blossom long and well. Turn plants frequently, pick off all dead leaves, and you will be rewarded by an abundance of flowers.—*Good Housekeeping*.