

are all overloaded with fruit this season. The Yellow Egg would be a favorite were it not so much inclined to rot. The Washington is another fine plum, but it is a little tender for shipment."

"I would not place Bradshaw at the head of the list for profit," said Mr. Ira VanDuzer, an experienced Winona fruit grower. "I find it too early for canning purposes—people are not quite ready for putting up plums by the middle of August. The variety which I find most in demand and which I would plant with the most confidence, is the Reine Claude. It is the favorite plum for canning, and indeed no plum equals it in quality for this purpose. It is in great favor and yearly gaining ground; it commands a good price, and is equal to Bradshaw in productiveness, if it does not excel that excellent variety.

SAND VS. CLAY SOIL FOR FRUIT

AN erroneous notion prevails that clay soil is not suitable for fruit culture, whereas the experience of many is quite in favor of clay soil, if not too stiff for cultivation. At "Maplehurst" we have tried both soils for apples, and have taken the largest and finest fruit off clay loam where well cultivated. This latter condition is of course perfectly essential, with such soil, otherwise the very worst results will follow. The lazy farmer had better plant on sand, which may endure neglect, but the industrious cultivator will value his heavier soil for many fruits. Our vineyard at "Maplehurst" is on a deep, rich sandy loam, and produces good crops of Concord grapes, but Mr. F. G. H. Pattison has his vineyard on clay soil, and always surprises us by marketing his Concordes a week or so in advance of us, and declares his are sweeter in flavor as well as earlier in season.

Writers on horticulture have always advised planting the cherry on sandy soil, but as stated on page 312, Mr. W. M. Orr, of

Winona, finds his cherry trees on clay loam longer lived and more productive than those planted on sandy loam.

"My Washington trees on sandy soil," said Mr. Albert Smith, "are all dropping all their fruit this year, but those on the clay, are holding it very well. We always thought our farm too heavy for fruit growing, but recently we have found that we can produce as good fruit as any one by giving good cultivation. The soil of that plum orchard has received the best of tillage, and yet it has not been plowed for three years; the work is done with the disc and cultivator.

CHERRIES ON CLAY SOIL

THE objection to a rich, deep sandy loam for the cherry lies in its encouraging too great wood growth, which robs the fruit buds of their vigor. We have the Windsor cherry planted on such soil, and our experience has been unfavorable. The trees grow most vigorously, but the fruitage is only moderate, and the cherries seem almost as much inclined to rot as the Napoleon. We harvested our crop before it was fully ripe to save it from rotting, and a week later, about July 25th, Mr. Albert Smith was only beginning to harvest his Elkhorn and Windsor. His orchard was on clay soil; the trees were not half as vigorous in wood growth as ours, but the yield per foot of bearing wood was fully double. Indeed, the productiveness of his trees was enormous, and still more noticeable was the freedom from rot. What else could it be but the difference in soil? Not only were his cherries a heavier crop, but by hanging a week longer they were very much larger and better colored, which gave him a great advantage in selling price for his fruit.

WET SOIL WILL NOT DO

One caution must, however, be observed, whether sandy or clay soil be chosen, and