


the outside and inside boarding must be filled with tanbark, sawdust or rough chaff of any kind. Upon the walls place a common pitch roof, boarded and battened or shingled. It must be rain tight, but must not be air-tight. There should be an opening at the ends, or a hood or ventilator, to permit a free circulation of air through the upper part of the house. The door should have double walls filled with sawdust. These, in brief, are the conditions: Perfect drainage, double walls filled with sawdust, no entrance for air below and free ventilation above.

The ice should be laid on a foot of sawdust

or chaff and a space of 12 in. all around between the ice and the wall should be filled with sawdust, as well as all the cracks between the blocks. When it is all in the house, sawdust is spread 2 feet deep on top of the ice. The cost of an ice-house must vary with the price of labor and materials. A house 12 ft. square and 10 ft. high will hold enough ice for one family and certainly will not cost much money to build. An icehouse should always be painted white, and if convenient it should be covered with vines, which will partly neutralize the heat of the sun's rays."

THE ANJOU PEAR.

NE of the most satisfactory export pears thus far tried is the Anjou. Its large size, attractive yellow color when ripe, its fine juicy texture and excellent quality make it a valuable late fall pear in any market, while its shipping qualities make it most valuable for distant markets. As a standard it is not very productive, and the fruit is much smaller than when grown as a dwarf. Whitcomb in "Country Gentleman" gives his experience on this point as follows:

"Among a number of hundred which we have in bearing, and which were set in the '70s, there are a few which correspond to the views of the leading orchardists at the present time; and that is, that better results follow if planted on quince stock. We have taken particular notice of the fact, even before and since the ravages of the pear psylla, that these trees have proved more prolific, and as a rule are much more certain of being annual bearers.

These trees, if planted on quince, must be planted very deep in order that the young stock, after becoming well rooted, will soon begin to take on a new set of fibrous roots, from above the union, which will be of the pear stock, and not of the quince. When this is done, the tree is much more self-supporting by the growth of the stronger roots which come from the pear stock, thus preventing it from being tipped over

by the prevailing winds. Also, this tree will practically be headed without any height of trunk whatever, and at the same time with nearly if not quite as large a top. And in this instance the strongest reason for not growing the Anjou pear is overcome, namely, that of being so easily blown off. The trees are put five or six feet nearer the ground and thus escape the swaying produced by heavy winds. In fact, this has become so well established that one of the leading nurserymen of the state has top-worked over an old Duchess orchard in the manner described to an Anjou orchard.

The advantages in spraying are also such as commend this practice to common use, as the trees are much lower and much more conveniently covered with spraying materials. A good wind-break is also considered by reliable authorities to be of great use in keeping this kind of fruit on trees until proper time of picking. This fruit well grown is universally a good seller, which makes it attractive from a commercial standpoint."

THE REINE CLAUDE is undoubtedly the finest of all plums for pies and preserves. Its flavor is most agreeable and its color an attractive yellow. In France this plum is grown in immense quantities for the Paris market.