

thus threatening to crowd out the more valuable evergreens or rob other neighboring plants of food and moisture.

Planting on Pacific Coast

W. J. L. Hamilton, South Salt Spring, B.C.

Whilst apple trees will grow well under almost any conditions in British Columbia, it pays to plant them in properly prepared soil. Land cannot be plowed or subsoiled too deeply for the apple. The best conditions are probably

Preparing Land for Planting

In the November CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST Mr. W. E. Corman of Stoney Creek, Ont., contributed a few notes on this subject. Mr. Corman gives further information in the following: "Subsoiling fifteen inches deep allows the roots to spread out at a depth that the frost will not penetrate to injure the trees and it allows the feed, that goes down, to be more evenly distributed to the roots and the

in fact, I have heard, though I cannot quite vouch for the truth of it, that roses are so much hardier the deeper their roots go. The hose will keep off all kinds of bugs better than insecticides, and keep the bushes at the same time, fresh, green and healthy. Some kinds of h. p. roses do better than others in different soils and situations but these the grower will have to find out for himself.

Plants are like children. They are very responsive to proper treatment; if you love them, love them practically and naturally, not in a sickly, sentimental sort of way, and you will have your expectations more closely realized.

Wall Flowers

I have had some wall flowers since the summer of 1908 but they do not bloom. I put them out last summer. They were healthy but produced no flowers. Please give some information about wall flowers.—S.P., Stayner, Ont.

It is very difficult to keep wall flowers over for a winter and flower them successfully the following season. If the plants were healthy and vigorous last spring when you planted them out, they should have flowered towards the end of summer. I have succeeded best with wall flowers by sowing the seed indoors early in February or March, growing the plants on inside in small pots or boxes and planting them out about the middle of May. If the plants were not in flower in the fall before frost, they could be dug then, put into pots or boxes where they will flower during early winter in the window. I have wintered old plants over in a cold frame by covering them with leaves and putting some boards over the leaves, and planting them out the following spring. Much depends upon how they come through the winter.—Wm. Hunt.

Treatment of Phlox

I have several clumps of phlox which come up nicely in the spring but when the buds come the plants seem to dry up and the flowers never open. The soil is rather sandy but we always dig in plenty of well rotted manure and we keep the plants watered. How should these plants be grown?—Mrs. L.G.K., Owen Sound, Ont.

It is quite possible that the soil the phlox is in is too sandy. A clay loam suits phlox best. If the clumps spoken of have not been divided recently, I should recommend dividing them early next spring and planting them in a fresh place. A clump or division having ten or twelve shoots of growth would do well for transplanting. The end of April or early in May is the best time for this. If the leaves turn yellow in the summer it is likely caused by an attack of red spider, a small insect which attacks the under side of the leaves. A good spraying with cold water every day in very hot weather will prevent attacks of red spider and materially help the plants.—Wm. Hunt.



One of British Columbia's Displays at the National Apple Show, Spokane, Washington, in November

obtained by deeply plowing, breaking up, and thoroughly cultivating a good thrifty two year's red clover sod.

Thus prepared in the fall, the trees, always yearlings for choice, can be set out about November on the Pacific coast, and will be well established by next spring, when the slowly decaying clover will supply the nitrogen needed to start thrifty growth.

Grafting Fruit Trees

Please give some information about top grafting fruit trees. Tell how to select and when to get the scions, and how to keep them. I understand the fitting fairly well. Give also formula for a good grafting wax.—J. S., Egmondville, Ont.

Take the scions from one year's growth on trees of the variety that is to be propagated. It is best to take them before real cold weather sets in, but they may be taken at any time. Keep them in the cellar buried in the sand. Select scions from trees of known worth. The ingredients for a good grafting wax are: Resin, four parts; beeswax, two parts; tallow, one part; by weight. Watch THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST for an article on this subject that will appear soon.

From six to eight tons of straw are required to mulch an acre of strawberries properly.

drought does not have the same effect on the fruit in a dry season. Plant the trees twenty feet apart each way, which allows the roots to spread and not run into the roots of other trees.

"Sow buckwheat about the first of June and disc it down about the first of August and let it go until the following spring and repeat the same. This buckwheat forms a blanket for the roots and keeps the ground from freezing to any great depth and it holds the buds back in the spring until all danger of frost is over."

Protection of Roses

A. H. Ewing, Woodstock, Ont.

There is a great deal of common sense in what "Amateur" says on this subject in the November CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST. I have never done more than put branches in amongst the roses (hybrid perpetuals) in order to gather the snow over them and, though the growth always gets frozen back more or less according to the severity of the winter or the amount of snow that falls, they have never been frozen back lower down than was necessary to trim them in the spring.

I can't quite agree with "Amateur" with regard to soil. Roses will do very much better and produce much finer bloom in a clayey soil than in a sandy soil and the deeper the soil is the better;