

oting Will be Legal This ear From September 15overnment Replies to Vic-

willow grouse, and quait will on the 15th of September as or-lly set. This announcement is uned in a letter from the provin-government to Mr. C. E. Todd, man of the Vancouver Island and Game club, which body re-ed the authorities to postpone hooting a fortnight, making all legal prey from the 1st of Octo-

is understood that, after giving is understood that, after giving matter careful consideration, the nment came to the conclusion date. To take such a step, the stration argued according to clair report, would have resulted instant. Some would have resulted for game from the 15th and would have held back to the ate. To prosecute the former e of their lack of knowledge, n fair and it would have been of the to those who knew and ed to allow others to shoot munity. Under the circum-to allow the season to remain t advertised.

Iway Commission In B. C. AWA, Aug. 25.—Chairman Ma-da Dr. Mills are the two mem-f the railway commission who old a series of sittings of the at points in the west, including wer, Victoria, Lethbridge, Win-ind Fort William. The remain-the board under the presidency cy Scott will hold autumn sit-ere, beginning September 12th.



Over Larger Properties ortland Canal Campe Good Showings

t the members of the party t north on the Prince George Wilfrid Laurier and the ominient politicians who ac-him on his present tour, lowingly of Stewart. There activity in the district over activity in the district over ims having been located in land Canal and Big Salmon to date.

to date. is great possibilities in the e said. "Development has d on three of the principal s, the Portland Canal, the and the Stewart. On the Canal there are three tun-in good ore, and an im-dy has been demonstrated The aerial tram is in it is expected that the con-will be in operation in a Wo.

Red Cliff three shifts are ked, and the big tunnel is er 730 feet. It is

WORK IN HORTICULTURE The chronology of the Burbank creations and ameliorations has never been published. In presenting this, the reader should be in-

oria Club's Petition

open season for pheasants, blue

he gives them in his catalogue more high sounding and generally more assuming titles for which the originator is mistakenly held responsible by the public. For instance, that latest-appearing culture-now in controversythe cross of the African stubble-berry (Solamun guineuse with the Pacific coast (S. villosum) was called the "Sunberry," when it was graduated from the experiment grounds. It came advertised to the public as the "Wonderberry The registry begins in 1873, when Mr. Bur-

bank, then 24, answered the demand for a potato which should yield 200 bushels to the acre, with the famous seedling from 'the "Early Rose" (itself from seed of a garnet Chili plant) which at once gave a yield of 435 bushels, and has since produced 525 bushels. With its pro-ceeds, \$125, Mr. Burbank arrived in Santa Rosa, California, in October, 1875. Five years of severe ordeal, poverty, starvation, discouragement well-nigh fatal, awaited him. At last he was able to buy four acres of the soil for which he had crossed the continent. His own

words are:

rigid exactions have received during their his-

tory two and sometimes three names. At

RURAL

"In 1880 I began paying especial attention to the Rubus family. I had in my collection of blackberries and raspberries nearly all the popular varieties. In 1883, I began crossing. n 1884, I had about 60 hybrids, the first ever produced. The next season more extensive trials were made with many new subjects. (He now possessed 10 acres, home land.) "From hybrid seeds of the third generation, obtained black, red and yellow raspberries, white, black, red and pink blackberries, in every possible combination of sizes, colors, qualities and flavors. Many were totally barren, some with long, trailing vines; some stiff and upright as a currant bush; some thorny, others as free from thorns as currants; still others producing leaves, flowers and fruit perpetually. Then there were others growing into canes 3 to 4 inches in circumference, others 20 feet long on the ground or straight 10 feet

high. But from all these were presented more radical improvements in blackberries and raspberries than had been obtained for eighteen centuries."

The list of the main species incorporated to establish these hybrids is too long to print. The photographs of the leaves of different individuals show remarkable variations and eccentricity, a few offering but a single leaf, or leaves, as reticulate as ferns; many profuse and palmate. The results in their entirety made the scientific botanists' barriers between species and varieties, to use the audacious horticulturists' word "wobble "

Eighteen hundred and eighty-four witnessed the announcement of the the "Japanese

LUTHER BURBANK'S WONDERFUL other varieties under numbers as received from his collectors. The last four of these were named by P. J. Berckmans of Augusta, Ga., president of the American 'Pomological So-ciety. Prof. L. H. Bailey named the "Berck-man," "Humi," "Blood," "Willard." Eighteen hundred and ninety-one also saw the delivery to fruitgrowers of the "Phenomenal" berry, ormed that these survivors of their producer's which has since made half-acres more profit-

first, they were merely numbered, separated able than farms. from their companions by an epithet, or nick-In the exhibition of the California Floral named for field reference. Then, when proven, they were given in the bulletins less domestic Society, 1892, the prominent feature was Bur-bank's new Gladiolus, the "California," a large and unscientific designations; as, at christen-ing in the Roman Catholic communion a saint's double flower with a solid cone of blossom, 51/2 inches expanse of petals clustered on stiff, name is given to the child. Finally, when compact, low-growing stems, flowering so pro-fusely as to hide the stem on all sides. Comturned over to the nurseryman for distribution, pared with the thinly scattered blossoms on but one side of the weak-stemmed ordinary flower, it looked like a new race. It came from the common Gardanensis type as a basis with bulbs from South Africa; and is so vital that even in the scorching sun and wind of inland California, the last flower to bloom on the stalk finds the first unwithered. The same year "Hale," and "Abundance," the latter so named from its ropes of fruit and afterwards renamed

"Alhambra," and the first perfect freestone of Japanese blood, were added to the list of plums. In June, 1903, was published the now historic "New Creations." The stir this pamphlet made was immediate and far reaching. Its bold claim that the new fruits and flowers it described would inevitably displace present standards, the extensive biological knowledge it displayed, its high scientific character and the grace and dignity of its style, ushered it into an appreciation quite outside of the attention usualyl accorded to the presentations of plant growers. It was sought by students of plant science; received the indorsement of the authorities; was adopted as a class book in universities of this country and abroad. Its singular illustrations from actual photographs were convincing of its statement that "the life forces of plants may be combined and guided to produce results not hitherto imagined," and that "we are now standing at the gateway of scientific horticulture." Among the new fruits it presented, now prominent, were the "Perfection" (the present popular "Wickson"), "Dela-ware," "Shipper," "Gold," with as many more hybrid and cross-bred plums; the "Eureka," "Dictator," "Paradox," "October Giant," "Autumn ing," with other berries and crosses; the peach + almond, + Japan plum, + Chickasaw, + apricot; the almond + Japan plum; apricot + the same, pyrus japonica + quince; quince + crabapple; Chinese quince + apple and others. Then there were shown seedlings of the new "Seckel Pear"; five new quinces, including the famous "Childs" and Van Deman; new potatoes, one of them the peculiar "Aerial"; the begonia-leaved squash and the cross-bred tomatoes. The flower lists include half a dozen new roses and as many more callas and lilies: the "Silver-Lining" poppy, a new myrtle; hy-brid clematis; hybrid nicotianas, and a new

family which the author names "Nicotunia," a union of large flowering nicotianas with petunias; new ampelopsis veitchi; wax myrtle; seedling tigridias; new cannas, arums, amaryllis, brodias, aquilegias, asters, etc. 1894, second edition of "New Creations."

Announcement of the cross-bred Japan plum "Prolific," finest of the first crosses. Appear, also, the cross-bred white blackberry "Iceberg," the blackberry-raspberry hybrids, "Humboldt" in the summer. and "Paradox," a new race of clematis; new callas; "Snowdrift" and "Fragrance," Ostrich Plume, Waverly, Double Jackmaurie and Sanguinosa types, seedlings of Pyrus, Japonica, and the new rose, "Peachblow. 1895, a group of hybrid lilies and the "Burbank" and "Tarrytown" cannas are an-nounced; also the "Apple," "America," "Chaleo," "Bartlett," "Shiro" and "October Purplums, the latter a cross of Satsuma and a Japanese seedling, the "Giant" prune and three new chestnut seedlings, "Coe," "McFarland," and "Hale," offspring of the Japan Mammoth.

1905 was a year of flower novelties em-bracing the "Australian Star" Flower, "Lace" Flower, new strains of mimulus Luteus, cardinalis; erysimum grandiflorum, erizonum umbellatum; Hencheria cust Ala, the new foli-

AND

1月97X年高月 THE VICTORIA COLONIST

age plant, and many others. 1906, 1907, appear the "Santa Rosa," "For-mosa," "Vesuvius," and "Gaviota" plums and the "Plumcot," a union of the plum and the apricot.

The latest cultures attaining maturity comprise the Spineless Cactus and other redemptions of the Opuntias, the Sunberry Plant, Stoneless Prune, Loquat started 1889), semidouble Shasta Daisy, Gigantic Platystemon, new Chives, Flowering Allicum, Feijoa Sel-lowiana or Naechae and Native California Golden-leaved chestnut.

Four years ago Mr. Burbank received from North Africa a poppy plant of strange species. He crossed it with the "Shirley" poppy and the tulip. The last result is a new variety of the Papiver family, longer, brighter, and possessing greater contrasts of color. He has also just matured an evening primrose, pure white and five inches in width, nearly double the di-

ameter of any known species. These are the horticulturist's latest productions.-Charles J. Woodbury in Scientific American.

SEEDLING PINKS

These beautiful flowers are rarely seen in our gardens. We have masses of them in a mixed border, and they are, at the time of writing, a sea of soft misty coloring; a warm fragrance is poured from them, a fragrance that scents the summer wind as no other flower does at this season. We hear much of the ordinary kinds, of the Mrs. Sinkins, Her Majesty and others, all worthy garden flowers; but they have not the same charm, at any rate to the writer, as the seedlings, which give a wonderful variety of form. We have just picked a flower of each, the prevailing colors, white, rose and crimson. Some are double, and, it must be confessed, burst their calyces in a most unhappy way; but one seems to forget all this in contemplation of the billowy cloud of color which comes from the neat tufted glaucous colored growth. One variety is rich rose pink, with a dark crimson ring in the cen-tre and fringed petals, another almost white, with deeply-cut edges, and we might thus describe twenty variations, all beautiful in their growth is, neither frost, heat, drought, nor excessive rain checking the appearing of these pretty flowesr. We went over the border last autumn and found a crowd of seedlings, little neat tufts, which we transferred to other positions in the garden. These are in bloom, but are not so strong, of course, as the older plants. One may strike cuttings with the greatest ease at this season. Choose the growths which have not flowered, if it is possible to find them, cut each just beneath a joint, remove the lower leaves to give a clear stem for insertion in the soil, and place in some part of the garden where they will not be forgotten. There they will soon root, and may go to the place they are to adorn in autumn. Seeds come forth abundantly. We have never seen plants seed so freely; they sow themselves; as already stated, and in this way the variety in form and coloring is increased. They are joy for weeks

Propagating the Pink

it will be long before the last flush has died from the vigorous, healthy tufts which have imparted to the border's glow of rose and pink. Then there is a group called Sutton's Scarlet, which is more remarkable still than Pink Beauty. There is no doubt about the merits of this striking selection; the flower is pure scarlet and varies little in color, a large group such as we saw recently giving the impression at a distance of a scarlet cloud, as if a bit of summer sunset had fallen from above. We recommend these two forms of Sweet William for bold grouping in the border or even by themselves; they are among the most striking of summer flowers. Of the dark crimson variety all we can say is, "Plant it more." It is better known than the pink Sweet Williams, but seldom seen in masses, the only way of planting to gain a rich picture of color.—Country Life.

SUBURBAN~

RANDOM NOTES

The Loosestrifes .- The common Loosestrife (Lythrum Salicaria) is a familiar riverside flower, and gives to many an otherwise colorless spot a suffusion of soft rosy purple, very pleasant to see at all times, but especially so when in company with the yellow Jacoby. It is not of the type or species we wish to write, but of the varieties named respectively roseum and superbum, which are good garden plants. The flowers are remarkably bright in color, as freely produced as in the type, and the growth attains about the same height. When planting a pond or lake-side, the variety superbum in particular should be grown in abundance, the great point being to keep the growth from overshadowing more weakly subjects. The Loosestrifes possess great vigor, and soon assert themselves in a way that other plants do not enjoy.

Geranium armenum.-The true geraniums must not be confused with the plants known in ordinary gardens as "Geraniums" These are hybrids, and not hardy; but the true geraniums, of which geranium armenium is one of the most beautiful, are border plants of the highest importance in creating rich masses of color. We were in a garden of old-fashioned flowers recently and the, plant that attracted our attention most was this geranium, every leaf almost hidden beneath the big purple petals. It grows quickly, and when the growth becomes at all matted it should be divided in late September. Such tufts soon develop, and rival the parent plant in size and vigor.

Delphinium consolida .- We referred last year to the fresh blue coloring of this annual larkspur, and a number of self-sown seedlings in bloom at the present time again recall itscharm. It is flowering between the posts of a . rose-covered pergola, and the soft shades of the roses are in delightful harmony with the clear blue of the larkspur. The plants are quite two feet in height, and the feathery clear green foliage is attractive even without the flowers. Seed may be sown in spring, but, as mentioned it sows itself; such seedlings seem stronger than those sown in the ordinary way.

A Giant Seakale .- We wish plants of the character of the giant seakale (Crambe cordifolia) were more planted in English gardens; but they must have ample space to develop their leaves and flower spikes. An immense plant we noticed recently in bloom; it was . fully 18 ins. across and almost hidden by the in fact, they do a little better to shift for themcloud of flowers, which spread out and then fall over, a veil of the purest white. It is a plant for the wild garden or fringe of woodland, and is a success in shade. Any soil seems to suit it, and if an increase of stock is desired this is best accomplished by dividing the roots when growth begins in spring .- Country Life.

the garden of the writer for several weeks, and spraying, although there can be no question as to the profitableness of this operation. Labor scarcity may be pleaded by some, but high wages are paid, not by large crops of inferior fruit in glut season, but by regular crops of choice quality year after year. We are convinced that a careful trial of judicious thinning will convert almost any grower to the practice, and we are pleased to see that no. less an authority than E. D. Smith, of Winona, is a strong advocate of the practice.

COPPER CARBONATE

The ammoniacal copper-carbonate solution equally as good as Bordeaux, but does not stick so well. The advantage of it is that it leaves no stain. Copper-carbonate is not always procurable, but may be made at home, the only ingredients necessary being blue vitriol (copper sulphate) and sal soda. The following recipe will make one pound of coppercarbonate so that the delay of drying and weighing it out will be unnecessary. To make: Dissolve two pounds of copper sulphate (blue stone, blue vitriol) in two gallons of hot water pu, into a keg or small barrel and add six gallons of cold water. In a separate vessel, dissolve two and one-half pounds of sal soda (washing soda) in two gallons of hot water. When this is cold, pour it slowly into the copper sulphate solution, stirring the latter vigorously at the same time. A precipitate of cop-per-carbonate, which is a fine, blue green powder, insoluble in water, will result. This precipitate must be allowed to settle over night and the clear liquid siphoned off the following day. Then fill the barrel again and stir well, allow the copper-carbonate to settle over night and again siphon off the clear liquid; this removes most of the undesirable sodium sulphate Filter the precipitate on a heavy muslin strainer to drain off the excess moisture and dry it in the air when it is ready for use If the operation has been carefully done and no precipitate washed or siphoned away, there will be very nearly one pound of dry copper carbonate, the selling price of which is about forty cents. Buying the ingredients at retail, the cost, exclusive of labor, is about twentyeight cents per pound. By buying in larger quantities, this may be reduced to as little as eighteen cents.

A CHAT ABOUT GEESE

There is no kind of poultry so easy for the farmer's wife to raise as geese, for they require so little care after they are hatched.

But it is generally understood that men do not like geese because they talk so muchgeese are like women, they will have the last word, and when you call dinner they are sure to answer. But I do not feel annoyed by them, because I like to raise them, and will tell you my method for raising and caring for the young goslins.' For good results you must have good breeding stock. The gander should be two years old, mated with two geese not younger than two years old. They can be six years old and have good results, for the older the geese are better breeders they make; but the ganders are not profitable to keep when they are over five years old. Care should be taken and not let them get too fat during the winter, for, if they are, the eggs will not be fert, in height, and the wavy leaves were tile. They do not require a very warm placeselves a greater part of the time. I turn mine out in the yard with the stock, and they are better condition for use in the spring, and I have better luck with my goslins. They should begin to lay in the middle of March. If I wish the geese to keep on laying I set the eggs under hens, but set the goose at the same time if I wish, but if not, I raise them nicely with the hen; then they can be made to lay two or three litters of eggs. I know of forty goslins being raised from two geese last year. They were pastured like cattle and were very little trouble to the owner after starting them to growing. When the goslin hatch leave them the nest until strong. If the hen is kind and not restless they do much getter than to take them out of the nest and wrap them up in flannel, but I have taken them out of the nest and had good success with them. I once owned a goose that when she was hatching would sit down on her eggs until the goslins were taken out of her nest, then she sat quietly until more hatched. When the goslins were all out and are strong, if it is warm and dry, I take them to a grassy spot, where I have built a yard as runway, and put them in a coop, if put them with a hen; if with the goose I put her down in the yard, and feed the old goose, but I do not feed the goslins until thirty-six hours, as the yolk of the egg supplies all the nourishment that is needed. For the first feed I give them a little oatmeal sprinkled on their backs. By sprinkling it on their backs I can easily teach them to eat. They are very little trouble after that. I keep them in the yard three or four days and then turn them out to go where they wish, giving them plenty of fresh water to drink, and turning them into a sheltered place at night, and always getting them under cover when it rains, for a hard rain will kill a goslin. They are not subject to any disease of any kind, and one can just see them grow every day.

I that the main ore vein uck at 1,200 feet, and if it mean a great deal for the

Stewart three tunnels are a fine showing. On what is green ledge the ore runs All these properties are Depositions

All these properties are propositions. hinent visitor to the camp was Mr. Hoffman, of irbeck, Hoffman & Jewett, Melbourne and Kalgoorlie. Mr. A. G. Larsen, formerly Rol, have been looking over and were very much im-lt is not known what pur-have in mind, and by some ght that the purchase of er of the best propositions t. Mr. Hoffman himself no information on the no information on the stating that since the new one he wished to a new one he wished to it personally: he big deals of the district mding of a group on the h for \$35,000, the owners frs. Daly, Sullivan and e prospectors Mountain Boy camps are in and the preliminaries eady for extensive opera-is is one of Mr. D. D. perties and in Stewart he with having stated that to make more of his min-in Portland Canal these railways. This gives an more than anything else Mann thinks of the camp. there are the sand it is ex-the rails will be laid by September. The stade of 150 feet in twenty-four at there is no difficulty t.

townsites are about to he market, that of the insite company and the on, both adjoining the



Aug. 25.—Owing to the s leaving shortly for the R. F. Foulkes, Canadian Ion, will not compete at on, will not complemente n tennis championships Mr. R. S. Raby, an-k, has also declined an ck, has also declined an ake part. presented Ottawa in the g the recent Toronto ad if was more through playing both matches on than superiority that hey did not like the way lubs handled the tour-te Canadian singles and plonships, being settled

Golden Mayberry," and the "Primus," The distinction of the former was that it led far in advance the berry season, the earliest raspberry known, ripe while yet the standards were well-nigh dormant. It was a blend of the Cuthbert with a diminutive variety of Rubus palmatus, characterized by Mr. Burbank as one of the most worthless, tasteless, dingy, vellow berries I have ever seen." The new fruit is large, sweet, glossy, semi-translucent, growing on bushes resembling trees, six to eight feet high. The Primus is now grown extensively in semi-tropical climates, thriving especially in the Philippines. It ripens a month before either of its parents, the wild dewberry (Rubus ursinus) and the Siberian (X Rubus cratoegifolius). It produces a large and perfectly black fruit in abundance, a dis-

tinct new race of the garden berry. The seedlings of this pioneer have taken their places as standards in various localities. In 1886 the experiments had become more extensive. He was crossing the Satsuma and other Japanese plums with the Eastern, European and California, Nevada and Oregon natives, many of which in size and clustering growth are grapes rather than plums. "Some of them are of very little value," remarked Mr. Burbank, "having an unpleasantly bitter taste, reminding one of the Eastern cranberry." The

famous walnut hybrids are now under culture. But, important as these successes were, they were only in a way by-products. Mr. Bur-bank's main business had been to entrench and establish himself. To this end, he had built up the largest and best-stocked nursery west of the Mississippi. For years he had resumed the habit begun as a boy on his fragrant soil at his home in Lunenberg, Mass., of taking the premiums at the state and county fairs and his reputation for integrity and liberality in deal-ing was fully substantiated. In 1888 he sold one-half of his nursery (which was yielding a clear profit of \$10,000 per annum) for \$13,000, and focused on his life work the far less promising venture of plant-breeding. He purchased the large experiment grounds at Sebastopol.

The ennobling of the plum stands perhaps foremost in Mr. Burbank's work; and the following year (1890-1891) saw the first twelve of the new varieties which were to distinguish it. They were the "Burbank," so named by Prof. H: E. Vandeman of the United States Department of Agriculture; "Satsuma," "Bo-tan," "Chabot," "Long Fruit," "Maru," and six

No more introductions were made until 1898-1899, when appeared the "Climax" and Sultan" (cross of Wickson and Satsuma) lums, the pineapple quince and the third and the fourth editions of "New Creations."

1900, Mr. Burbank's substitute for the French prune, the "Sugar" prune as given to the market. Since known as "Splendor," the original name is derived from the proportion of sugar in the fruit, 24 per cent; the French variety carrying 181/2. It has displaced the French variety which had been the only reiance of fruit growers. Appear also this year the new winter apple Gravenstein type; other hybrid plums; the "Oriental" poppy, hybrid igridias and clematis and a new canna of the Crazy type.

1901, fifth edition of "New Creations" and oplement are issued. Announcements are made of the "First" and "Combination" plums (this is a cross of 8 varieties); the improved beach-plum, the stoneless plum, the Himalaya blackberry, the cross-bred peach, "Opulent"; the apple, "Winterstein"; the new asparagus "Quality"; a new rose, "Coquito"; the "Ele-gance" verbena; brilliant hybrids of the Mexican shell-flower, the "California" and "Shirley' poppies; a new strain of perennial peas and that permanent floral wonder, the Shasta daisy.

1902, publication of "Fundamental Principles of Plant Breeding," introductions of the "Maynard" plum (Ptriflore + U Scinoni); the new cherry, "Early Burbank," now known as the Vacaville cherry, that town's main fruitexport, and a variant of Brodiaea with bloom six times that of the ordinary flower. 1004, introductions of "Doris" and "Giant"

ums, the Crimson Winter Rhubarb and three new strains of the Shasta daisy, "Alaska," "California," "Westralia."

A correspondent writes: "One of the most prized of garden flowers is the double-flowered pink, and it is one which almost every amateur delights to have in quantity, whether for edgings or for beds. Too frequently the plants are permitted to grow into a large tuft or bordering, and only when they become ragged is any attempt made to produce a neater or more vigorous group. Those who would increase their quantity of plants and improve their vigor also should make a start at once by putting in a batch of cuttings. The florists usually rely upon what are termed "pipings," i.e., the points of the shoots about three inches long and pulled out by a sharp upward movement. These make excellent plants. Quite as good a way, or pos-sibly a better one for the amateur. is to take some cuttings by the "heel," selecting the young shoots of the present year and stripping them from the main stem with the "heel" attached. Plenty of cuttings of this character are available as soon as the flowering is over, and those four inches will do well. By inserting these cuttings in a cold frame in sandy soil they form roots in about a month, and make compact little plants for going to their permanent quarters in early autumn. These freshly-rooted plants are superior in every way to those divided up; it is surprising the "cutting" method of propagation has not been adopted before."-Country Life.

SWEET WILLIAM

The old-world Sweet William, which we loved to see with the white pinks and moss roses in the garden of boyhood days, has unlergone a change, and we seldom find the speckled flowers and those of a color more uaint than beautiful in the borders of today. We must confess that the remarkable selections made possible now through the untiring efforts of amateurs and others are more to be commended than those of the days gone by. Three forms selected by Messrs. Sutton & Sons of Reading are garden flowers of the greatest importance for effect. One is Pink Beauty, which we have described on a former occasion, and grows in popularity as its be-witching colors become better known; it is a true pink, not, perhaps, constant, but growing in interest through the gradations of shade from the softest pink, almost white, to a depththat approaches crimson. A characteristic of this class, too, is the length of time the plants remain in blood. They have been flowering in

THINNING FRUIT

It pays to go through the orchard and thin out overloaded trees, more especially young ones. To allow a fruit tree to bear excessively one year is almost certain to result in little or no yield from it the next. The second year after, having recovered its vigor, it will, in all probability, again bear to excess. Thus, the habit of alternate bearing, to which many varieties are predisposed, becomes established, or confirmed in young trees. One year it bears so heavily that the specimens are inferior. The next it bears scarcely anything. The most vexatious feature about it is that the "off year" s liable to be one of scarcity and high prices. Even if this were not the case, it would still pay to take precautions to prevent the alternate bearing habit.

But there are good and sufficient reasons for thinning a heavy setting on mature trees. It taxes a tree far more to produce seed than fruit flesh. Thus, the attempt to mature an excessive number of fruits wastes the vigor of the tree, without producing as much edible fruit as would be grown if the fruit were thinned, while the small size defective form (due to insect and fungus attack), and gener-ally inferior quality, render the fruit far less valuable, whether intended for domestic use or for market.

In thinning, cull first the imperfect specimens, particularly those which are diseased or affected by insects. After this, thin out the branches or clusters to about one-half what seems a proper set. By the time the fruit is matured, it will be found quite thick enough. Thinning apple trees will destroy large

numbers of the codling moth. When plums and cherries are thinned, large numbers of curculio are destroyed; and, in the case of any fruit, thinning out thick cliusters is one of the best means of insurance against rot.

It must be acknowledged that comparatively few fruit-growers practice thinning, but, otherwise they will make it muddy, to their then, many are likewise indifferent about

QUACKS

Keep the litter in the duck house dry by fre-quent changing. The ducks are great mussers. For early spring mating, use one drake to five or six ducks. Later the number of ducks can be nearly doubled.

The duck yard should slope towards the east of south, and be naturally well drained, delight and your disgust.