

HORTICULTURE

An Opinion on Cultivation

Edward Lane, Waterloo Co., Ont.

I have read a great deal of controversy about cultivating an orchard and the writers vary so much that they go from one extreme to the other. As a farmer would not think of putting a thoroughbred animal, which he intends to feed for show purposes, into a stall and also put in a pig or a sheep to feed out of the same manger, so he should not think of putting a tree into a certain piece of ground and then want to grow some other things on it at the same time.

Give the tree as much land as its roots require and that will be as much as its branches cover and a little more. The rest can be plowed six inches deep and six feet, which event suits his purpose the best, but nothing but a hoe should be used around the tree and that not more than two inches deep and it should be used as often as any surfer appears or crust forms on the surface. It matters not what is done to the ground between the trees but it matters a good deal what crops are put into the soil, as nothing but dwarf growing crops should be grown and those that can be hoed.

Fruit Growers' Programme

An interesting programme has been arranged for the convention of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association to be held in Toronto, Nov. 20 and 21. Some of the subjects that will be dealt with are as follows:

SMALL FRUITS

"Small Fruit Culture in Ontario During the Past 50 Years," A. W. Peart, Freeman.

"Overplanting of Strawberries and the Western Markets," Robert Thompson, St. Catharines.

"Small Fruits in the Young Apple Orchard," J. E. Johnson, Simcoe.

CHERRIES AND GRAPES

"Sweet Cherries for Southwestern Ontario," F. J. Stewart, Homer.

"Cherries for the Commercial Orchards of Ontario," A. E. Sherrington, Walkerton.

"La Grape Profitable at Present Prices," Murray Pettit, Winona.

"New York Grape Growing Methods," D. K. Falvey, Westfield, N.Y.

PEACHES

"Commercial Peach Orcharding in Southwestern Ontario," J. L. Hilborn, Leamington.

"50 Years of Peach Culture in Ontario," A. M. Smith, Port Dalhousie.

"Pruning of the Peach," J. W. Smith, Winona and Wm. Armstrong, Queenston.

"Peach Crops and Prices," W. H. Bunting, St. Catharines.

"Peach Culture in Michigan," C. Bassett, Fennville, Michigan.

PEARS AND PLUMS

"Results of 50 Years Experience in Growing Pears," E. C. Beman, Newcastle.

"Profits in Pear Orchards," W. F. W. Fisher, Burlington.

APPLES

"Lime Sulphur vs. Bordeaux for Summer Spraying of Apples," L. Casar, O.A.C., Guelph.

"The Apple Orchards of the Lake Huron Shore," S. E. Todd, O.A.C., Guelph.

"Spraying 10 acres of Apples—Cost and Equipment," Max Smith, Burlington.

"Marketing of Apples," R. J. Graham, Belleville.

"Low Cost Cold Storage Plants for Cooperative Associations," J. A. Ruedel, Ottawa.

"Export Apple Trade," by Dealers (English).

"Getting Together," C. Bassett, Michigan.

"Apple Growing on the Pacific Slope," (illustrated by lantern slides) Prof. John Craig, Ithaca, N.Y.

The Value of Co-operation

"I purpose to give you one example to show what has actually happened and to prove what can be done by having a large number of fruit-growers united and acting co-operatively, in not only preventing being imposed upon by large combines or a number of manufacturers uniting to raise the price of the supplies used by the fruit-grower, but in actually lowering the cost to themselves and also to the general public," said Mr. Robt. Thompson, of St. Catharines, before the American Pomological Society last September.

"In the fall of 1906, owing to a large fruit crop, there was a shortage in the basket supply. A number had to be imported from the United States. These baskets not being the same size as our own, we had trouble in loading cars properly, and the manufacturers would not comply with the law in regard to standard sizes that went into effect January 1st, 1907.

"The basket manufacturers held a meeting early in December, 1906, and agreed to fix standard prices, and raised the standard six-quart grape basket to \$38 per thousand, and eleven-quart baskets to \$42 per thousand. The growers accepted this

closed previously, no action was necessary for that season.

During the fruit season of 1908 the association was approached by several of the leading basket manufacturers and solicited for their contract for 1909. The reply of the association was that if the Canadian companies would supply them with baskets at a price not to exceed one dollar of an advance per thousand over the cost of the American ones, a contract could be closed. As a result contracts were closed with three leading basket manufacturers in Ontario to supply the association with over a million



Fourteen Pumpkins that Weighed Six Hundred and Eighty Pounds

The product of one hill or three vines. Grown by Mr. E. A. Sanderson, Dauphin, Man.

raise grudgingly and without much open protest. In December, 1907, the basket manufacturers again met and agreed to a further raise in prices, fixing prices at \$40 for six-quart baskets, and \$42 for eleven-quart baskets.

"The St. Catharines association which is probably the largest and strongest body of fruit-growers in Canada, at once began to make arrangements and enquiries to have their supply of grape baskets manufactured in the United States and shipped in, paying a duty of 30 per cent. They found that a very large order would have to be placed to warrant the American manufacturer to change his forms and make up the Canadian size. Owing to the large number of growers in the association this was done and a contract closed for several hundred thousand grape baskets of Canadian size, at a very much lower price. The Ontario manufacturers, on learning of this, held another meeting and at once lowered the price of six-quart baskets to \$38 per thousand, and raised the prices of eleven-quart baskets to \$45. As the contract for eleven-quart baskets for the use of this association had been

baskets for the season of 1909. The price fixed for baskets to the public by the manufacturers for the season of 1909 was \$36 per thousand.

"This is only one example out of that where a large number of growers are loyal to their association they can, not only prevent prices being unduly advanced to themselves, but the general public also derive almost the same benefit, as they also usually share in the reduced prices. On the one contract made in 1908 with the American firm the association saved directly \$2,000, and indirectly the saving to the public and themselves would amount to many thousands of dollars."

Renewal of Old Orchards*

J. C. Chapiro, St. Denis, Que.

Fruit-growing has taken a great extension in our province. New orchards are planted in sections where 25 years ago, it was thought that fruit trees and specially grafted apple tree growing was impossible. Old orchards

*Extracts from a paper read at a meeting of the Quebec Pomological Society at La Trappe, Que.

SIXTH ANNUAL

Ontario Horticultural Exhibition

TORONTO

November 9-10-11-12-13, 1909

The largest exhibition of horticultural products ever held in Canada.

FRUIT—FLOWERS—HONEY—VEGETABLES

Special Excursion Rates from all points in Ontario. Ask your local Railway Agent for particulars.

W. H. BUNTING, President

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F. W. BODGETT, Secretary

Parliament Bldg., Toronto

most composed of French Cherry trees of old Damson and Reine Claude of Montmorency plum trees, with a few wild apple tree seedlings, have seen their place taken by young orchards, some full of promise are some already in full bearing. But, notwithstanding all this progress, we meet with a practice coming from twigs, waste of knowledge and negligence on the part of our farmers.

This practice is that of leaving the old orchard uncultivated or even of destroying it as soon as it is decided that a new orchard is to be planted, or in fact has been planted. I wish to protest against that practice and by show that we can easily lengthen the life of the old orchard trees for many years, while the new one recently planted grows and gets ready to give an abundance of fruit. I will tell what I did to preserve an old orchard many years ago, my work having been repaid by excellent results.

METHODS OF RENOVATING

After having pulled away all dead trees from the orchard and having pruned all decayed wood and unsound limbs, broken or otherwise defective of the trees I wished to preserve, I made of these a thorough inspection in order to take away all the parasites infesting them. These were of three sorts: black knot, cankers and gum. I cut away from the branches all the knots protruding over the trunks, took away all cankers to the live wood all traces of exuding gum from plum and cherry trees.

(To be continued next week.)

Farm and Dairy is a splendid paper for the money and we have no fault to find with it. We cannot recommend it too highly.—H. G. Wilson, Elgin Co., Ont.



Mr. Hackett and his son were discussing their new barn.

"Well, Dad, how about the roof?"

"We'll shingle it."

"Poor economy, Dad, shingles not and are sure to leak."

"What's better than shingles?"

"Rex Flintkote Roofing. It's water-proof; won't catch fire from sparks; is easy to lay, and it lasts. I've seen it tested."

"It's cheap?"

"No, it's economical."

"All right, Bob, Rex Flintkote it is. Where can I get it?"

"Write to the makers, J. A. & W. Bird & Co., 9

India Street, Boston, for their interesting booklet and anything you want to know about it."

Canadian Office: 21 Corn. 100 Street, Montreal.



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