FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL, WINNIPEG

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of eggs from strong healthy birds. I had my It is now prevalent in many places in England would not be troubled with many weeds. The cents a pound over the previous year's price. to Newfoundland, but has not yet appeared in it about half as often.

A person must use a little judgment during other parts of North America. the cold nights of early spring. Before going to It is spread by using affected potatoes for seed, tion of plantations, and by means of several bed I generally let the heat rise a little, and as and, as this country imports considerable quanti- charts drew attention to several types. One the house gets cool the heat settles down to proper ties of potatoes every year, there is danger that was the familiar one of a shelter belt on the place. In this way by morning the temperature it may be introduced. down a little it keeps the temperature down. recently issued a circular (for free distribution) was seen principally in Manitoba, but in Alberta While the house is getting warmer, after the giving a brief account of this disease. eggs have been several days I place a small bowl of water in the bottom drawer to supply moisture to the eggs, as they become very dry and cause a great loss by the skin becoming tough.

to let them stay in the drawer until they get fallacies commonly met with among tree planters. ground soon became soddy. It should be at strong; then they will feel quite at home in the A fallacy is an erroneous belief, and it was curious least a rod wide, and consist of willow and brooder. By a little care and attention they to learn how many of these seemed still to exist maple, as these furnish the best shade to the are soon able to care for themselves. I am throughout the country. One very common one ground, choke out any weeds, and maintain quite sure an incubator and brooder is a profitable was that trees did not require the best possible themselves best without cultivation after a few and interesting investment on any farm. I might kind of preparation of the soil. It still seemed years. say I have sold and killed enough chickens this to be believed that with good after cultivation Another chart showed how to arrange a plantalast year to pay for two incubators and have one could make up for some of the deficiencies tion when the house is on a hill. This is often kept over one hundred pullets for myself. I of the preparation before planting. This was met with in the country, as it is quite natural have a small 120 egg machine.

Mrs. Wm. Gilbert. Alta.

Testing Age of Dressed Poultry

One of the commonest ways of testing the age of dressed poultry is to take the end of the hreastbone farthest from the head between thumb and finger and attempt to bend it to one side. In a very young bird, say a "broiler" chicken or a green goose, it will be easily bent, like the cartilage in the human ear; in a bird a year or so old it will be brittle, and in an old bird tough and hard to bend or break. Unfortunately tricky dealers sometimes break the end of the breastbone before exhibiting the bird, and thus render the test worthless. If the feet are left on the carcass they furnish a test of the age. In a young bird they are soft and smooth, becoming hard and rough as the bird grows older. The claws are short and sharp in a young bird, becoming longer and blunter with age and use. The spur above the foot is also to be observed; when the bird is very young like a "broiler" chicken, it is hardy apparent ; a few months later it is long but straight; in a mature bird it is larger still and crooked at the end. It is more developed in males than in females and capons.

HORTICULTURE

Demonstration Orchards for B. C.

W. E. Scott, deputy minister of agriculture for British Columbia, when speaking at Vernon before a gathering of farmers stated that arrangements had been made by the department

Tree Planting on the Farm

At the institutes meetings held in Alberta tions in the country without them. Where A. Mitchell, of the forestry branch, Indian Head, these were used, however, a single row was not When the chicks are hatched it is advisable took for the basis of his remarks some of the enough, as it usually was neglected and the

was more than half way to success.

in the soil since breaking time was lost.

thought that by cultivating and hoeing they of July, 1908, and after a very dry period. could destroy them. This was not so, and the Another chart showed how a man, after shelter-

first hatch out in March last year, and every- and there is great danger that it may spread to old proverb: "He who gives quickly gives thing was frozen solid in the house several nights; Ireland. It is also found in Germany and some twice" should in this case read: "He who still I got 70 per cent good chicks and made 5 other European countries. It has been carried cultivates at the proper time, only requires to do

Proceeding, Mr. Mitchell dealt with the locanorth and west of the farm buildings protected will not be far wrong; then by turning the lamp The U. S. department of agriculture has by a row of willow to act as a snow fence. This the speaker did not think it very necessary, as he had never seen great damage from snow-drift in any plantations. The trees usually soon recover and there were plenty of excellent planta-

> a real fallacy, and it could not be emphasized too for a man to place his buildings on a dry site, and strongly that the thorough previous preparation one from which he often commands a good view of his whole farm as well as the surrounding Another fallacy was that any old time for district. In such a case there is often not room breaking was good enough, when it should be for a shelter belt on the hill top, and to plant it well known by this time that the best time was down at the foot would be to wait for perhaps 20 the flush of the growing season when the grass or 30 years before the trees would be big enough was green and the sod moist. The sod then to afford any shelter. The best way to do would rotted thoroughly, but it had to be all turned be to plant a broad belt at the foot of the hill, over and laid flat, and if necessary rolled to make or even at the other side of the garden, and also it so. Otherwise it would not rot thoroughly. a close hedge of willow on the crest of the hill Another fallacy, and one that could not be too close to the house. The willow should be no strongly guarded against, was that a plantation wider than three feet apart and two rows are would succeed without backsetting. This was better than one, and it should be kept trimmed a fallacy of fallacies, and not only was backsetting up square, at least the side next the house, and necessary, but doing it at the right time was in a very short time would furnish abundance of equally so, and many a man to-day would have shelter. The plantations at the foot of the hill saved himself days of hard labor had he back- would catch the snow-drift, and there would be set his land six or eight weeks after it was broken. no trouble from this source close to the buildings. At about that time, the little spears of Blue- Another chart showed a good arrangement of Joint grass could generally be seen along the a man's plantations. It enclosed a space about edges of the sods, and if backsetting was delayep 217 yards long by 130 wide, and allowed plenty the grass roots got a chance to develop, and next of room inside for garden, lawn, orchard, shrubyear when the trees were planted patches of bery and buildings. The belts were 22 yards Blue-Joint soon came up all over the plantation. wide, and well able to shelter themselves after Backsetting at the right time was important, and a few years, and therefore the minimum of it should be followed by disking and harrowing cultivation would be required. The arrangethe same day, otherwise the sods were just hung ment might be criticized as being a trifle narrow, up to dry and much of the moisture retained but on the whole it was a pretty good one. Need-

less to say the man who had foresight enough to Another fallacy was that men who had these lay out this place, had the land in perfect consmall patches of Blue-Joint among their trees, dition; moist and mellow when visited in the end

only cure for such cases was to take a fork and ing his house lawn and garden, had branched out dig the grass right up. Prevention was far and enclosed a small field of about three acres better than cure, and if a man took a fork with for root ground, and two others of about five each him as he was cultivating the first season after for sheltering his calves and raising seed for his planting, and dug up these small beginnings farm. He had done this gradually, and was

claimed, had determined to spare no effort to The take long. able sum will be spent in promoting the interests of fruit growing in British Columbia.

New Potato Disease

of potatoes on the land for several years.

The fungus which causes this disease was dis- important, and should always be attended to, on visiting a planter a hint were thrown out that covered in 1896 in potatoes grown in Hungary. if the moisture was made the main issue, they another turn or two with the cultivator would

it would save him many a day's labor planning to carry his woods right round the farm.

for the inauguration of demonstration farms of trouble, it would save init many a day's fabor plaining to carry ins woods right round the farm. Introughout the province. The government, he not take long require little or no work require little or no work.

The trees should be cultivated at the right In laying out plantations for shelter the first foster and develop in every possible way the agricultural and horticultural resources of the province, and this year he had succeeded in getting the large grant of \$117,250 for his de-getting the large grant of \$117,250 for his de-work by running his cultivator through the trees and the best way to attain this was to plant partment. As the fruit industry is one of the work by running his cultivator through the trees and the best way to attain this was to plant staple ones in the agricultural realm, a consider-early in the season, before the moisture had broad belts with the trees close together, not escaped from the soil. The speaker himself wider than four feet apart. These did not allow had on several occasions run the drag harrows the drying winds to pass through them, and the across the trees immediately after they were branches soon met and shaded the ground, planted. This loosened the surface soil after rendering further work with the cultivator unplanting and saved time as well as moisture. necessary. And they should be left bushy. The wart disease is a new enemy of the potato The damage done to the bark of the trees was Pruning the trees meant exposing the soil to crop which is attracting great attention in Europe, not worth mentioning. Some men still seemed drying winds and sunshine again, and unless and which is liable to be introduced into America to have the idea that cultivation was for killing cultivation was continued indefinitely, the plantaat any time. It effects the tubers, forming large weeds, and left their trees alone until the weeds tion would soon be overgrown with grass and the rough unsightly warts, and, in severe attacks, came. These men invariably had poorer trees trees gradually die out. All the pruning necescompletely destroys the crop. Once the fungus than their neighbors, and at the cost of a great sary was put to cut back any branch of a willow, gets into the soil, it is impossible to grow a crop deal more labor. Cultivation was for conserving cottonwood or maple that interfered unduly moisture, and while the destruction of weeds was with more valuable trees such as ash or elm. If