

enumerated above. However, such disadvantages, together with others just as harmful, may be overcome by the judicious planting of wind-breaks.

The importance of wind-breaks, in their relation to horticulture, is being recognized more and more as the art of fruit-growing advances. The leading horticultural authors are almost unanimous in their approval of the planting of wind-breaks as shelters. Some growers claim that the protection of orchards from the prevailing winds is of more importance than the selection of the aspect. On the other hand, there are a few who directly oppose them but, it is safe to say, that the greatest difference of opinion exists in connection with minor details rather than with the main question of their importance as a whole.

The subject of wind-breaks is one that requires a more lengthened discussion than my limited space will permit. For this reason, I shall simply state briefly a few of the thoughts advanced by various writers regarding the effects of wind-breaks upon the fruit plantation.

Wind-breaks protect against severe prevailing winds, thereby exercising a marked influence over the temperature of the region. They lessen evaporation, decrease wind-falls, reduce breaking of trees, facilitate labor, allow trees to grow more erect, hasten the ripening of certain fruits, furnish food and shelter for birds which destroy insects and weed seeds, and they improve greatly the appearance of the landscape.

The injurious effects may be summarized as follows: Exposes orchard to cold, at certain times, by interfering with the free movement of warm winds; harbors insects and fungus diseases; increases damage incurred, in some sections, by late

spring frosts; encroaches upon those trees immediately adjoining it.

To give the subject of wind-breaks its full due, we should consider the best methods of averting and abating their disadvantages. We should inquire into the correct number of rows of trees for the belt and the denseness of each row. We should also study the habits and adaptability of the trees most suitable for shelter-breaks, but space will not allow us to undertake these phases of the question.

In an article on "The Location of Orchards," which appeared in the October Review, we strove to outline a few thoughts which might aid us in locating an orchard. We referred to the location as regards market and exemption from frosts. We saw that air drainage was a matter worthy of our consideration, and that large bodies of water exerted an influence over the surrounding shores. In this article we have considered some of the factors that decide the proper exposure and we have remarked upon the effects of wind-breaks. But, if we were to attempt to apply our conclusions, we would see rising before us many difficulties.

Differences in climate and soil as well as innumerable local conditions, unthought of and consequently unprepared for, would tend to increase the difficulties which are always met with in selecting a suitable site. Therefore, we must study closely local environments, we must profit by the experience of others and we must use sound firm judgment to ascertain, with any degree of success, the proper location and exposure for an orchard.

A. B. C.

"Is that cement any good?" asked a prospective purchaser of a peddler.

"Any good!" was the reply. "Why, you could mend the break of day with that cement."