

HORTICULTURE

Have Care when Signing Contracts

In a recent issue of The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World, mention was made of the evils of fraudulent nursery concerns of the United States doing business in Canada. We have since received information of a more or less similar nature, that necessitates a further word of caution. Certain nursery firms in the United States ask their customers in Canada to sign extraordinary contracts. The following is one, signed by the customer, used by the Northwestern Nursery Co., of Fife Lake, Mich.:

"Please furnish me the following: 'bill of nursery stock for the purpose of improving my property. Notice to be sent me of the date of delivery, and if not called for on that day, and a personal delivery made, I agree to pay expenses of same.'"

"I hereby waive all set off or exemption law rights. I also agree not to contend this contract; any article furnished to be deducted from the bill. All nursery stock dying within five years will be replaced at half original price." The bill calls for four trees of the commonest kind, one Concord grape vine, and a dozen raspberries, for which the customer is charged \$5.00. There would be excellent profit in it if the charge were \$2.00.

The agent who sold the stock was not known in the neighborhood where he was doing business, had no property in the country, so far as known, and, therefore, was wholly irresponsible. By signing the contract presented, the customer waived all and every right that he had, and put himself out of court by so doing. Thus, it will be seen, that he has no chance of redress, either from the agent or the nursery firm. It is evident, therefore, that our farmers and fruit growers should refuse to sign agreements, without knowing exactly what they are signing. They should be careful, also, when doing business with unknown agents and particularly those of unknown firms.

Fruit Growing

Dwight Kennedy, Peterboro County, Ont.

No branch of the farming industry is so fascinating, and none more profitable, than the systematic planting and careful cultivation of our domestic fruits. Nothing better illustrates the advance in civilization, and the fact that the people are learning to live better, than the increasing demand for nursery stock, both fruit and ornamental.

This privilege is within the reach of all ranks and every station in life, from the humble cottage with its little patch of garden and his few feet of lawn adorned with sweet old fashioned flowers, the kind that Grandma used to like, to the stately home where wealth and skill are in evidence. Nothing adds more to the comforts of home in both city and country, than a constant supply of different fruits, besides the gratifying sense of the beautiful and the refining influence derived from the cultivation of choice fruit and flowers.

Any one with ordinary intelligence can easily add to the beauty of their

surroundings, by the judicious planting of a succession of fruits, aside from the profits to be derived by having an abundant supply always on hand for the home. The continual outlay to provide the family with these necessities is more than the average wage-earner can stand, for they are by no means cheap; therefore, every person with sufficient space, should endeavor to have their own.

With careful selection of the various desirable varieties, suitable good cultivation, mellow ground well manured, and perhaps the most important of all, timely spraying and pruning, any one can have a plantation which will be a constant source of pleasure. Care must also be exercised in buying the collection. Be sure and buy from reliable people. Avoid so-called "jobber," for in many cases the stock is inferior. It often proves worthless and untrue to name. Sometimes this stock is offered at low rates, but in the end it is often expensive enough. I would not tempt the inexperienced with a promise of a large fortune in a few years, without labor or trouble; but I will say that the business of fruit growing conducted with energy, perseverance, and intelligence, will bring an ample and sure reward.

New Brunswick Fruit Crops

St. Andrews.—Small fruits did not winter well but those that survived show abundance of fruit. Wild fruit promises a great crop.

There is only a medium show of apples, about half the trees bearing fruit. The trees are making vigorous growth and have been free from pests.—J. R. Oastler.

Lupines and Dandelions

Is there any way of destroying blue lupines and dandelions in timothy stock?—W. H. B. Carleton, Ont.

You do not state whether your timothy sod constitutes a lawn or a hay field. Both the yellow and blue lupines are not harmful in hay fields, in fact they are valuable as fodders, either fed green or as hay. The blue lupine (*Lupinus hirsutus*) is an annual. For this reason it should not be troublesome in lawns, prevented from seeding by constant clipping of the grass. There are many other species of lupines, both annual and perennials. Many of them have blue flowers. Should you have reference to one of the perennial type, the problem of eradication in lawns is more difficult. Constant mowing, however, will aid in keeping them down. Old roots should be spudded.

One of the worst nuisances in many old lawns, is the dandelion. They are difficult to get rid of. Use the spade, and immediately afterwards use the pounder to fill up the holes that otherwise would afford lodgment for seed that is blowing about freely. The lawn should be mowed often early in the season to prevent seeding. If the plants are not too numerous, and the lawn is small, a few drops of sulphuric acid applied to the crowns of the plants will kill them. Where dandelions have the upper hand on large areas, practically the only remedy is to plow and re-seed.

Strawberry Leaf Spot

Kindly give formula for spraying strawberry rust, the time to spray, and how often.—W. E. D., York Co., Ont.

The disease usually referred to as "rust" on strawberry plants is in reality the strawberry leaf spot, (*Sphaerella fragariae*). Even though it may appear bad, it is scarcely worth noticing on beds that are fruited only once and plowed down immediately after. Plantations that are to be fruited for two years or more may be treated with Bordeaux mixture. Spraying should commence when the leaves unfold in the spring and be repeated

at intervals until the flowers appear. Badly infected beds should be mowed soon after the fruit is gathered. A light coating of straw should be spread over the dry tops, and the whole burned over. This may seem harsh treatment, but new leaves will soon unfold and the plantation will receive a renewed vigor.

A Rose Bush Trouble

Kindly tell me how to keep worms away from the roots of rose trees. I have tried so hard to grow them. I find there is a

lot of worms in the ground and around the roots.—Mrs. J. H. York Co., Ont.

I presume it is the common garden worm mentioned, although these seldom injure rose bushes materially. The best remedy is an application or two of lime water. The lime water is made by slaking and mixing about one pound of fresh lime in two gallons of water. When the solution is mixed allow it to stand and settle. Two applications are usually sufficient, at a week's interval between each application, to have the desired effect.

Colorado Crops

Where Cheap Land and "Scientific Agriculture" are Making Farmers Rich



Look at the baskets and alfalfa stacks! No exaggeration. We were mighty careful when we made these figures. They are fair, average results gained by scientific farming in Elbert County, and around the Great Bison Ranch which is now being sold at bargain figures—\$10 to \$15 per acre. Within two years values will increase 50 percent. Soil Culture is doing wonders. It is the essence of practical agriculture. It's up to you to

"Hurry to Colorado" Now

Don't wait and wonder and wonder and hesitate till this exceptional opportunity is gone. Hurry up and get out into this new country. Breathe the life-giving ozone from the Great Rockies. Own one of these wealth-producing farms. Sell your crops in Denver or Omaha or St. Louis. Two railroads are within miles, new ones have just been surveyed through the ranch.

Rainfall is over 20 inches annually, water is near surface for wells. Air is invigorating. Lung disease is a practically unknown. Schools and churches easily reached; soil is deep, sandy loam, moist and easily handled. You don't need much money to buy. We take part in cash and trust you for the rest. If you have enough cash for a small comfortable house and a few out buildings, a team of horses, ten acres and five head of cows you can clear \$100 a year on one of our 80-acre tracts. How can you decide quickly? This way—Send for Booklet Free from greens

"The New Colorado"

It answers questions like the following and scores of others: How much cash you'll need, how to divide it, where to get building materials, coal and wood. It shows map of ranch and distance to the nearest towns, big city markets and shipping points. It explains all about rainfall, attractiveness of climate; why you'll be glad after you come how long you'll need to wait for profits, social advantages with schools, churches, etc. It's a book just brimming over with accurate, beautiful and reasonable facts for the settler's guidance. It's yours for a postal list of it to us and we will write it. Address quick, Dept. 12.

THE FARMERS LAND AND LOAN COMPANY.

145 La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.

Explanation of Photo below—On farm of Henry G. Tripp of Kansas City, Mo. He bought 80 acres. From right to left: alfalfa, sugar, burrow and seed drill all working at once finishing 12 acres a day.



ALFALFA 15 TONS PER ACRE

POTATOES 200 BU. PER ACRE

SUGAR BEETS 10 TONS PER ACRE

RYE 30 BU. PER ACRE

OATS 60 BU. PER ACRE

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