

6. Liberal annual manuring, broadcast, with commercial manures rich in potash and phosphoric acid and lacking in nitrogen.
7. Low heading and close annual pruning of the first five years.
8. Keep out most borers with some suitable wash, and dig out all others.
9. Search for traces of the yellows every week of the growing season, and at first sight pull up and burn every infected tree.
10. Thin the fruit so that there shall never be what is termed a full crop.

Low Headed Fruit Trees.

Fruit trees with low heads are much easier to take care of than trees with high heads. The latter require more than double the amount of work than the ones with low heads. The farmer that has a large orchard finds the problem of labor a hard one to solve. If the trees are low, the spraying can be done effectively and quickly, and the thinning of the fruit, if thinning is to be done, can be accomplished in a very short time. The gathering of the fruit is greatly facilitated by reducing the amount of climbing that has to be done at harvest time. The low headed trees are not affected by the high winds so much as the high headed trees are. Frequently in a high gale the high headed trees will lose about all of their fruit, while the low headed trees will lose very little.

Choose Good Land For Orchards.

In selecting land for an orchard choose good land. There is a wrong impression abroad to the effect that poor land is good enough for the growing of several kinds of fruits. But it should be remembered that land once put into an orchard cannot be improved like other land after the trees have become established, for the roots of the

tree interfere with the cultural processes.

If poor land must be used for anything it is better to use it for some crop that can be cultivated, as this will permit the gradual improvement of the soil. While it is true that the soil in an orchard can be improved some, it is also potent to all that the improvement cannot be so great as if the soil were not occupied with trees.

Therefore, choose good land for the planting of trees. As the orchard grows, all the goodness and fertility in the soil will be needed to supply the annual drains for the crops of fruits. Even the handling of a good soil will hardly give the plant food the orchard needs when it gets to bearing large crops of fruit year by year.

Stock on the Stumpy Farm.

The man that goes on to a new farm, covered principally with stumps, finds live stock his great stand-by. The grass grows around the stumps, and the soil soon begins to yield an income. Some men that begin work on such land neglect the great opportunity that could come to them in the possession of live stock. In the reducing of a stump farm to a civilized condition, the farmer's first efforts should include the fencing of the land and the bringing in of live stock. The plant food in the soil is then quickly changed into beef, mutton, pork and wool. Time will help eliminate the stumps, if they be hard wood ones, and the animals will be working on one part of the farm while the farmer is working on another.

Almost any kind of a soil can be made a good garden soil, for it can be enriched to any degree or treated with sand or clay dressings to bring it into proper physical condition.

Why the Goose is Gray.

(By Margaret Bannister, Winnipeg.)

Once upon a time, Nihka, the goose, was snowy white. That was many years ago. Would you like to know how she became gray, as she is now?

Many years ago, there was only one man upon the earth. His name was Wesakchack. He was the father of all the animals and they loved and served him. But there was one, The Evil Spirit, who did not love Wesakchack. He was very wicked and when he saw how much the animals loved Wesakchack, he made up his mind to do a wicked thing.

But the North Wind, when it was passing by his wigwam, heard him say what he was going to do. So the Wind passed by and when it came to the Birch Tree, it told her. She told it to her leaves and they rustled in the wind, as they listened to the terrible plan. "Oh, North Wind," said the Birch Tree, "will you carry my leaves to the wigwam of Wesakchack and they will tell him of his danger?" So the North Wind took the dried leaves of the Birch Tree and carried them many miles until they reached the wigwam of Wesakchack. There it dropped them at his door.

Wesakchack was sitting by the fire and he heard the rustling leaves. "Listen!" they said to him. "We have a message for you." Then they told him of the terrible plan the North Wind had overheard. It was in the Spring the Evil Spirit was going to carry out this plan.

So Wesakchack hunted all winter in the forest. When spring came he was near the edge of the woods one day and as he stepped out into the prairie, he heard a little rustle at his feet. He looked down and saw some leaves of the Birch Tree. They were lying on the ground. "Remember the message we

carried to you, Oh, Master," they said and Wesakchack answered "Yes, I remember. It is now spring and I shall go back to my wigwam for my bow and arrows. Then I shall go in search of the Evil Spirit, my enemy."

The next day he left his lodge and travelled on over the prairie. Towards nightfall he reached a low valley. He saw that the snow was melting and that some feet of water lay in the valley. But Wesakchack did not stop for this. He walked on through the water, never resting even when the dark descended. But, when the Sun rose next morning, he saw that the plan of the Evil Spirit was going to be carried out, for all around him lay water. The Evil Spirit had melted the snow during the night and now every little stream was swollen as big as a river and the valley was full of water to the brim.

Wesakchack had to swim and after he had gone some miles, he began to feel very tired. Then the Jackfish swam up to him and said "My Master, get on my back and I will take you safely to the land." Wesakchack at once did as he was told and the Jackfish who was strong and a swift swimmer, soon brought him safely to the dry land. Then Wesakchack started home to his lodge. It was not far away and he could see it rising out of the water like an island, for the land on which it was built was a tiny hill. He was very glad to get inside of his wigwam and sit down beside the fire, but as he looked out through the open door he saw the water rising steadily, and knew that by morning it would be in his lodge and that he would be drowned, if no help came.

Wesakchack was very tired and as he sat here thinking he fell asleep and he had a strange dream. He thought Nihka, the wild goose, flew into the wigwam and around and around near the top, flapping her wings and crying. She seemed to say, "Give me a message! Give me a message! And I will save you." Around and around she flew and at last lit in the ashes of the smouldering fire and disappeared.

Then Wesakchack, awakened and as he looked around the wigwam he knew that Nihka must have been there for everything had fallen on the floor as if struck by her wings and the floor of the lodge was covered with ashes. The fire was out and in the centre of it lay the quill of a goose. Wesakchack picked it up and saw that a little piece of birch bark was rolled inside. He pulled it out, and as he did so, he heard the honk-honk of a wild goose, and Nihka flew in at the door.

"Write on the Birch Bark" she said, and I will take it to your friend the Beaver."

Wesakchack did as she told him. He wrote a message on the birch bark and slipped it in the hollow end of the quill. As he gave it to Nihka, he saw that she was no longer white as she had been but was gray with the ashes of the fire, and marked with black specks where the cinders had touched her. Her breast was still white and a small patch under her wings.

Nihka took the quill and flew off at once. It was not long before Wesakchack saw the Beaver coming to him through the water. When he came close, Wesakchack saw that he carried mud in his paws and on his broad flat tail. When he reached the door of the lodge he put the mud down and patted it smooth and hard with his tail. Then he swam away and brought back more and this he did until he had made a path across the water. Wesakchack now left his lodge and walked safely to dry land.

In memory of this kindness Wesakchack told the Beaver that from that time he might always build a path across the water to remind his children of what he had done. Then turning to the goose, he told her that he wished her to always wear her dress of gray and black, so that the world might not forget her loving service.

Each spring, after that, the Evil Spirit, who is the Spring Flood, grows wild with rage, as he remembers how his plan was spoiled and he tries to waste the lands of Wesakchack and his children. But this is always in vain, for the Evil One can never win.

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