

HORTICULTURE



HORTICULTURAL NOTES.

A good place for the strawberry bed is on one side of the vegetable garden.

The plum curculio cannot be controlled without some trouble and outlay of money.

The setting of scions is only the first step in top-working a fruit tree.

Early spraying alone will not prevent scab.

Cyclamen plants should be rested during the summer months—not allowed to dry off entirely, but watered sparingly and kept as dormant as possible.

Keep the chrysanthemums in a shady place during the summer, water regularly, pinch into shape, prune and train. Keep the plant free from insect pests.

In planning for the planting of the trees, the aim should be to so plant that when they grow annoying winds will be kept at bay to the greatest possible extent.

To root an ivy geranium make a hole under the leaves of the large plant, set the slip about three inches deep, allowing three joints to be under the soil, and they are almost sure to root.

In time of drought, if water enough to soak the ground is not to be had regularly, it is better to give none to most plants, as in that case plants will adjust themselves to prevailing conditions.

Give liquid manure only when the ground is moist; the roots cannot absorb the fertilizer when in want of water; hence, the giving of fertilizers during drought often results in the death of the plant.

HOW TO REMOVE LARGE LIMB

Illustration Shows How Large Branch, Hanging Over Roof, Was Easily Taken Down.

I recently had occasion to remove one of the main branches of a large elm tree, writes C. O. Ormsbee of Washington county, Vermont, in Farm and Home. The branch in question was 12 inches in diameter, 35 feet long and attached to the tree at a height of 30 feet. It hung over a slate-roofed barn, which made it necessary to keep it off the roof and it was not practicable to remove it in sections. The illustration shows the plan that was adopted.

First, a ladder was placed against the tree, then a pair of self-locking pulleys, a, were suspended from the limb, b, and attached to the branch about four feet from the tree. Next, a rope, c, was attached to one of the larger limbs of the main branch, and another rope, d, attached to another limb. The object of these ropes was to prevent the end of the branch from falling upon the roof, and it was necessary to use two ropes to prevent it from tipping and turning sidewise.

One end of the rope, b, g, was thrown over the limb at b and down to the ground, where it was snubbed



Hitching Ropes and Pulleys.

around a post. Another rope, e, was attached to the limb at d and extended to the ground. Then the limb was sawed off at f, when it hung in the ropes as in a sling. By pulling on the rope, e, the limb was turned around and swung clear of the barn. By slackening the pulley rope and the snubbing rope alternately the limb, which weighed about 1,000 pounds, was lowered to the ground without any damage.

Fertilizer for the Berries.

A well-known gardener recommends the following in the culture of strawberries:

Tankage or Peruvian guano, 600 pounds per acre; fine ground bone, 1,000 pounds; low grade sulphate of potash, 600 pounds; nitrate of soda, 100 pounds.

All these materials may be mixed, applied after plowing and before setting plants and thoroughly incorporated in soil by harrowing.

Watering Plants.

Do not water plants during a severely cold spell of weather, nor at night in order to keep from chilling them. If freezing is feared wrap well in newspapers and draw from the window.

Evergreen Seedlings.

The ordinary farmer should not waste time setting out seedling evergreens. Pay a little more and get transplanted trees ten to 18 inches high and then set out lots of them.

HISTORY OF TREE CRICKETS

Common Insects of Light Greenish Color and Do Serious Injury to Berry Plants.

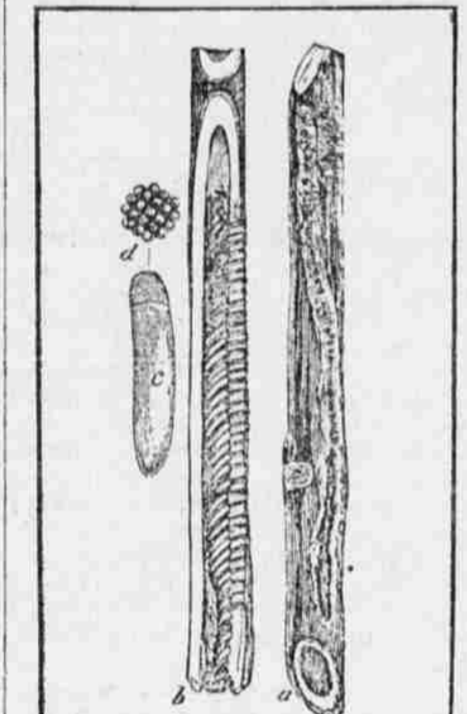
The tree crickets are rather common insects, though rarely seen on account of their shy and retiring habits. They are slender, usually light-greenish, sometimes greenish-brown, insects, about three-quarters of an inch to an inch long, and with the long, slender antennae and prominent ovipositors



Side View of Cricket.

so characteristic of our better-known field crickets. Heretofore it has been supposed that the white flower cricket, *Oecanthus niveus*, was the most common species and the one responsible in large measure for the numerous oviposition scars in raspberry canes and similar relatively soft-stemmed plants, writes Prof. Felt, New York state entomologist, in Country Gentleman. Recent investigations by Prof. Parrott of the New York state experiment station and Mr. Jensen of the entomological department of Cornell university, however, show that the white flower cricket usually deposits its eggs in the hard wood of trees, like apple, cherry, peach and plum, only one egg being placed in a puncture, and the latter never in the familiar series so frequently seen in raspberry and blackberry canes. The studies of Prof. Parrott show that injury to apple trees by the snowy tree cricket is likely to be followed by blight infection.

The long series of egg punctures so common in raspberry and blackberry canes are produced, according to the observations of Prof. Parrott, by the



Oviposition of Tree Cricket.

A. Longitudinal scar on cane; B. cane cut open to show eggs in position; C. egg, very much enlarged.

black-horned tree cricket, *Oecanthus nigricornis*, while Mr. Jensen at Ithaca found the four-spotted tree cricket, *Oecanthus quadripunctatus*, depositing eggs in a similar manner. These egg punctures are in regular series, some two or three inches long, and when abundant are very likely to be followed by the canes splitting or even breaking during the winter. In some instances three-fourths of the canes in a berry patch have been seriously injured in this manner.

The life history of these various tree crickets, so far as known, is very similar. The eggs are deposited in the fall in herbaceous or woody stems, the young tree crickets hatching in the spring and feeding on small insects such as plant-lice. Maturity is attained by midsummer or early fall, and is followed by the deposition of eggs as described above. The tree crickets, aside from mechanical injuries inflicted, must be regarded as beneficial, since they subsist on other insects, though unfortunately the injuries resulting from oviposition are frequently extensive, and the presence of the tree crickets is, therefore, not an unmitigated blessing. These insects are most abundant among coarse weeds and shrubby growths. Consequently the adoption of clean cultural methods, so far as possible, will be of considerable service in reducing their numbers and preventing possible injury.

Tools for Grafting.

The tools required for grafting are a saw with fine teeth for cutting off the stocks, a large sharp knife for paring the top smooth, a thin-bladed, sharp knife for cutting the scion, a grafting chisel with which to split the stock and hold open the cleft for the insertion of the scion, and grafting wax for covering, to keep out air and water from all cuts made.

Remove Fruit "Mummies."

Much old dried up fruit will be found hanging on the trees at this season of the year. This is especially true of peach trees. In nearly all orchards nearly every tree contains from a dozen to a hundred or more of these fruit "mummies." They are full of the spores of fruit disease germs and will spoil next year's fruit if not removed.

When to Plant Vegetables.

When the trees are in full leaf, plant tender vegetables—corn, beans, and the melon family. Begin cultivation between the rows almost as soon as the seeds are planted, and try to cultivate before the weeds appear.

Fires in National Forests



BRUSH PILES IN FOREST

FIRE played less havoc in the woodlands of the national forest states last year than it did in 1908, although the number of fires was 410 greater. The department of agriculture has just completed the statistics. The protective value of the work of the department is shown in that (1) almost eighty per cent. of the fires were extinguished before as much as five acres had been damaged; (2) less than one and one-half acres to the square mile of national forest land was burned over; (3) and the amount of damage done to the burned-over area averaged but \$1.26 per acre.

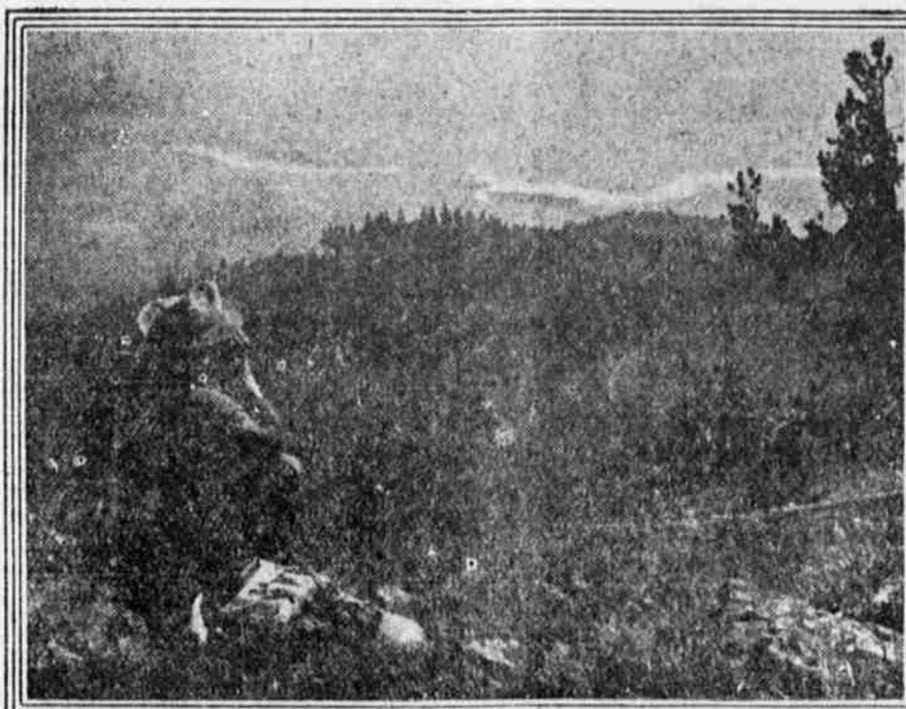
For the twelve months ended December 31 last, there were 3,138 fires on the forests, 1,186 caused by locomotives, 431 by campers, 294 by lightning, 181 by brush burning, 97 by incendiaries, 38 by sawmills and donkey engines, 153 by miscellaneous and 758 by unknown agencies. The area burned over was, in round figures, 360,000 acres, of which about 62,000 were private lands in national forests, as against some 400,000 acres in 1908. Some 170,000,000 board feet of timber was consumed, of which 33,000,000 feet was privately owned, as against 230,000,000 in the previous

est boundaries carried on by the forest officers last summer and fall has resulted in new information, which will make it possible to restore to the unreserved public domain much land along the edges of and within forests that is not best suited to forest purposes.

This is to be done under a plan approved by President Taft. The plan was formulated by Secretary Wilson and Secretary Ballinger jointly, and recommends:

1. Lands wholly or in part covered with brush or other undergrowth which protects steamflow or checks erosion on the watershed of any stream important to irrigation or to the water supply of any city, town, or community, or open lands on which trees may be grown, should be retained within the national forests, unless their permanent value under cultivation is greater than their value as a protective forest.

2. Lands wholly or in part covered with timber or undergrowth, or cut-over lands which are more valuable for the production of trees than for agricultural crops, and lands densely stocked with young trees having a prospective value greater than the value of the land for agricultural pur-



RANGER ON FIRE PATROL DUTY

poses, should be retained within the national forests.

3. Lands not either wholly or in part covered with timber or undergrowth, which are located above timber line within the forest boundary or in small bodies scattered through the forest, making elimination impracticable, or limited areas which are necessarily included for a proper administrative boundary line, should be retained within the national forests.

4. Lands not either wholly or in part covered with timber or undergrowth, except as provided for in the preceding paragraphs, upon which it is not expected to grow trees, should be eliminated from the national forests.

On the whole the changes which are found to be called for are of relatively minor importance, but in their aggregate they open to settlement of 4,000,000 acres, or more of national forest land.

Some of the land is suitable for dry land agriculture, though the greater part is grazing land. In Idaho, which has a large national forest area, about 470,000 acres will be eliminated, of which 34 per cent. is tillable. Eliminations in similar proportion will be made in a number of the other western states which have large amounts of land in national forests.

The Philosopher of Folly.

"The man who didn't know it was loaded, and the man who lets the water get low in the boiler," says the Philosopher of Folly, "are blood brothers to the rich guy who writes spoozy letters to his manicurist."

REACH THE SUMMIT

MT. M'KINLEY EXPEDITION REWARDED BY VICTORY.

NO TRACE OF RECORDS FOUND

Unable to Locate the Camps of Dr. Cook and Route Which He Described Was Found To Be Impassable.

Fairbanks, Alaska.—The Fairbanks expedition that reached the summit of Mount McKinley started to follow the route Dr. Cook said he took, and was obliged to abandon it as impassable. Thomas Lloyd, leader, declared Wednesday that no traces of Cook's camps were found.

Lloyd placed his crude notes of the journey in the hands of a committee of the Order of Pioneers of Alaska, who will arrange for publication of the story. The party took photographs of the summit and of points along the trail. They also established the trail so well that it can be followed by other parties next summer.

On one stretch of trail eight miles long, the explorers worked two weeks. On one of the peaks a flagstaff fourteen feet tall was erected, firmly buttressed by rocks. The work done by the Fairbanks men can be easily verified.

An aneroid measurement taken by the men places the height of the mountain at 29,500 feet.

Ten men were in the party that left Fairbanks with dog trains in December. It is the theory of the leaders that the ascent would be less dangerous in early spring than later when the snow begins to melt. This theory was confirmed by the experience of the expedition.

The party did not set out to disprove Dr. Cook's story, but to climb the mountain. It found the summits utterly unlike those pictured in the Cook book. On the rock peak, it left an American flag, six by twelve feet attached to the fourteen-foot staff. The flag was visible for a long distance on the north side of the mountain.

The view from the summit was obscured by clouds at the low lower levels. The building of the monument or buttress about the flagstaff was difficult because of the rarified atmosphere.

The snow was generally firm and the crevasses filled with snow and easy to cross except in a few instances. Later in the season avalanches and treacherous crevasses must be guarded against.

The explorers discovered a magnificent unnamed peak 16,000 feet high, and also a new pass through the mountain range which shortens the distance to the coast seventy-five miles. The pass is flanked by majestic perpendicular walls.

Daniel Patterson, W. R. Taylor and Charles McGonnigle remained at Katsina and only Lloyd came in. The pioneers' committee took steps to verify Lloyd's story before stamping it genuine, and even now are disinclined to surrender his notes, although satisfied that they amply prove the story. The return of Lloyd from the mountain in nine days was due to the excellent trail made by the party.

Is Granted Pardon.

Nashville, Tenn.—Col. Duncan B. Cooper, convicted of killing former Senator E. W. Carmack, and sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment, was granted a full pardon Wednesday by Governor Patterson just after the Tennessee supreme court had reaffirmed the sentence.

Robin, son of Col. Cooper, convicted with his father of killing Carmack has his case remanded to the lower court for a new trial by the supreme court. In the younger man's case, the supreme court was divided, Chief Justice Beard reading a dissenting opinion. Governor Patterson's pardon for Colonel Cooper declares:

"In my opinion neither of the defendants is guilty and they have not had a fair and impartial trial, but were convicted contrary to the law and evidence."

The reversal in the case of Robin is based upon assignments of error in the trial judge's failing to charge separately as to Robin Cooper's theory of self-defense, linking the defense of the two defendants together; excluding testimony of Governor Patterson as to talks with defendant, Robin Cooper, and advice given him as to Colonel Cooper before the tragedy, and the admission of cross-examination of Robin Cooper, as to intent of certain states' witnesses in testifying to certain incidents.

Washington.—The personal estate of the late Thomas F. Walsh, the mining king, is valued at \$3,600,000, according to the petition which the American Security & Trust Co., his executor, filed for the probate of his will.

Is Released on Bond.

Leavenworth, Kas.—William Powell, a member of the Maybray gang, was released from the federal penitentiary Wednesday on \$10,000 bond approved by Judge Smith McPherson, before whom Maybray and his associates were convicted. Powell is out on bond, pending an appeal of his case to the United States court of appeals. Edward Leach, also convicted in connection with the Maybray frauds, will probably be released on bond.

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HAD A PRIVATE MENAGERIE

No Other Explanation for Colonel's Extraordinary Outbreak Seems Possible.

"Hit's a wonder to me," said the old family servant, "dat de ol' kunnel don't go into de circus business, out an' out—he see so many amimals 'long 'bout de Chris'mus time, an' dey does sich funny tricks! Leastways, dat what he say. Only yistiddy de preacher come ter see him, ridin' of his ol' bilin' hoss—I mean de hoss what bilin' in one eye—an' w'en de kunnel spied him he holler out: 'Git off dem two elephants, an' tu'n dat tiger loose, for' he bite de life outen you! An' shoo dem two monkeys off yo' shoulder, an' don't let dat giraffe poke his long neck in my winder!' Well, sub, de preacher wuz c'lar kerflummuxed, he wuz, seehn' ez dar warn't nuttin' 't all dar but him an' his ol' bilin' hoss; but w'en he seen de kunnel grab his ol' war musket an' holler dat he'd shoot dem monkeys off his shoulder, de preacher say: 'Laud he'p him!' an' de time dat ol' bilin' hoss made git-tin' back ter whar he come fum wuz too quick ter be set down in de racin' rickords!"—Atlanta Constitution.

A Small Loaf.

A half-finished fellow in the southern states tells of a baker (whose loaves had been growing "small by degrees and beautifully less") who, when going his rounds to serve his customers, stopped at the door of one and knocked, when the lady within exclaimed: "Who's there?" and was answered: "The baker." "What do you want?" "To leave your bread." "Well, you needn't make such a fuss about it; put it through the keyhole."

Stern Justice in Russia.

In five years 6,233 death sentences have been pronounced by Russian judges and 2,855 of these were carried into execution. This is an average of 104 death sentences and 43 executions for every month. But there were some months in which the number ran up to 220. January, 1908, was the richest in executions, there having been as many as 19 in one day.

Getting in Deep.

"Father," said little Rollo, "what is the fourth dimension?" "Why—er—my son, that is hard to explain to the inept intelligence. It is something that may exist, only you can't locate it."

"I know. It's like the piece of pie I'm to get when there is company to dinner."

Critics and Managers Clash.

Between the whole press of Copenhagen and all the theatrical managers a curious contest has started because the managers want to compel the critics to write only favorable notices. The contest began when the board of theatrical managers forbade the admission of one critic representing a special theatrical paper.

Melody is the golden thread running through the maze of tones by which the ear is guided and the heart reached.—Christiani.

A man's idea of a generous act is having a chance to take all another fellow's money and leaving him some loose change.

Blessed Are They That Want Little. Those who want fewest things are nearest to the gods.—Diogenes.

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