

# FARM AND GARDEN



## INCREASING THE SIZE OF FRUIT.

Good sized and large fruit brings a better price and sells more readily in market than small sized fruit. In fact, small sized fruit is most always sold at far below its real value. There are three chief things, says Farmers' Review, that the orchardist can do to help his trees produce large fruit.

One of these things is to give good cultivation. The system of cultivation should be thorough and should be continued year after year and as often each season as it is necessary to keep the weeds down. It is surprising how quickly the weeds will take possession of a young orchard after the cultivator has stopped its work. In an old orchard the weeds do not bother so much, as the shade of the trees does not encourage their growth.

The best method is to plow the land in the spring, if the orchard is young. Then put in the cultivator and later the harrow, keeping up the cultivation till the middle of the summer at least. During this time the fruit is increasing in size and so are the buds for the fruit crop next year. The land being kept free from weeds will be in shape to receive the air and the moisture, and the roots will get the benefit of both. The fruit on the tree will therefore have supplied to it the plant food in the soil to the extent that the roots can take it up, with the assistance of the water. Later in the season cow peas or even field peas or soy beans should be planted. If vetches can be grown so much the better, but the seed of the vetch is expensive. In the spring this winter covering should be plowed under and the old regime recommended. Unless the land is very rich stable manure should be used, as this will help keep up the supply of plant food in the soil, which must go into the fruit.

The second good means of increasing the size of the fruit is pruning. This is a matter that is too much neglected. Nearly all orchardists prune, but a good deal of the work is done in a very unscientific manner. The work can be done in the winter or at any time when the tree is dormant. A mild day in the late fall is a very good time. Cold days in winter are hardly suitable in which to climb about among the limbs of trees. Our pruning is generally too mild. In the care of apple trees about one-half of the last year's growth should be removed and the terminal shoots should be cut back. In the case of peach trees the pruning will have to be even more severe. The tops of the trees should be thinned, so that the sun can get in to color each individual fruit and to add favor to it.

The third great means of improving the fruit is thinning. This is coming extensively into use with our tree fruits where it is desired to produce fruit of good size and appearance. The thinning of plums and apples has been practiced to some extent by the horticulturists at our agricultural colleges, and has given good results. The practice has not, however, become common with the people. It is otherwise with peaches. They have other fruit and with greater returns. The peach is largely water anyway and the taking away of half the crop on a tree results in the very pronounced development of the remaining part.

## SHEEP BETTER THAN CATTLE.

I think if we take a series of ten years together it will commonly be found that there is not much difference between the market price of fat sheep and fat cattle. If we compare all classes, wethers, fat ewes, yearlings and lambs, with steers, fat cows, heifers and calves. The fat cattle are now about \$1 per hundred less than a year ago, still choice fat steers are now considerably higher than fat wethers and yearlings, but fat cows are about the same as fat ewes.

It has been proved at our experiment stations that, as a general rule, it requires about the same amount and quality of feed to grow and fatten a given number of pounds of sheep or mutton as of cattle or beef. According to this rule, ten sheep at two or two and a half years old, weighing 120 pounds each, have eaten the same amount of feed as a steer or heifer of the same age and weight, 1,300 pounds.

While the general rule holds that it takes about the same amount of feed to produce a thousand pounds of beef as a thousand pounds of mutton, it often happens that sheep can be kept on cheaper feed. Sheep eat a larger variety of plants or weeds than cattle, and readily convert even noxious weeds into wool and mutton.

Sheep can be well fattened in less time than cattle. The one hundred-day fed steer is not finished; but sheep in a very moderate condition can be well fattened in one hundred days.

Another element of profit with sheep is the increased fertility which they give to the soil. No other stock equals them in this respect. Increased fertility means better crops.—A. J. Blakey in the Massachusetts Ploughman.

## POULTRY NOTES.

Are you meaning to dispose of the mixed chicks after a year? Now is the time to obtain the breeding stock, whether it be an entire flock, or only

cockerels. I would urge all to obtain pure bred males anyhow; the difference in another season's chicks will convince you of the good of it; provided, of course, the cockerel is a good specimen, as to whether it is of the large or small breeds depends upon individual choice.

Large size chickens pay the best, as a rule, where the surplus poultry is sold on the market. Many of the large size breeds are good layers at the time when eggs are at their best prices. Of course, they eat more, but the difference is not as much as the uninitiated would believe. The large breeds seem to withstand the cold winter better than the smaller breeds.

Gather quite an amount of forest leaves for scratching material, gather at least twice as much as you think will be used. When spring comes there will be few, if any, leaves left.—E. C. in Indiana Farmer.

## ROOT CROPS FOR PIGS.

It has been demonstrated that seven or eight pounds of mangels have as great feeding value as one pound of grain, when given to pigs or hogs, and that sugar beets have even greater value, so it is hard to understand why pig raisers are so careless about growing root crops for their animals. Not only have the root crops a high feeding value, but they do more for the good health of the hogs than one can estimate. In regard to their feeding value it has been demonstrated time and again that when mangel or sugar beets, or both, are fed in connection with light rations of grains, using middlings instead of bran, pork of high quality can be produced cheaper than in any other way, with the possible exception of the substitution of ensilage for the root crops. If root crops can be bought at reasonable prices, better have some for feeding this fall and winter, and next season grow your own supply.—Indianapolis News.

## HORSE "SLOBBERS."

The excessive secretions of saliva, or "slobbers," as it is frequently called, in horses, has a variety of causes. It may be a symptom of some other affection of the mouth, teeth, throat, or stomach, or due to direct irritants in the food, such as lobelia, pilocarpin, muscarin, tobacco, wild mustard, colchicum, garlic and ginger. Grown or second crop clover hay seems also to induce an excessive salivary secretion. The treatment consist in the removal of the cause. If further treatment seems to be necessary, simple astringent washes for the mouth may be used, such as vinegar and water, boric acid, sulphate or tincture of chloride of iron. Two drams of any of the above in a quart of water.—Dr. Farrington.

## DESTROYING THE WEEVIL.

Bisulphate of carbon is used for destroying weevil in wheat bins. Force a tube to the bottom of the bin, pour in about a pint of the liquid, and cover the bin. The gas is heavy and finds its way to every portion of the bin. It is a dangerous substance to use unless care is exercised, as a lighted pipe or cigar will cause it to explode, even when there is no flame. It is destructive of all insect life, but does not injure the grain.

## CLEAN THE MUD OFF.

Take time to clean the mud off the horse's legs after they are done with their day's work. You would not like to go to bed with your old muddy boots on. If you did, there would be a rumper before morning when your wife found it out. And that surely would not be comfortable.

## RAISE YOUR OWN STOCK.

The majority of farmers should depend upon raising their own dairy stock. This should be done more cheaply than cows could be bought, especially at the present time. And the advantage is that the heifers can be raised in a proper manner and adapted to the farm, which will not come from frequent changes in ownership.

## Going Bad.

No man living knows all about animals, or more than a very little about them. Some who are dead thought they knew. That is the reason they are dead. Only those who realize their ignorance and supplement it with untiring watchfulness last long at this queer business that I'm in.

Sooner or later most animals of the cat kind become utterly intractable and remain so. "Going bad" is the professional term for this. Rarely do they return to their old, amenable ways. Henceforth they are of no use as performers, and are relegated to the exhibition cages, for any man entering the cage of a lion or tiger that has gone bad is instantly attacked. This is one of the terrors of the trade. Symptoms of the change of heart are apparent enough sometimes, particularly in animals which are growing old. Occasionally, however, some young beast, formerly as obedient as you could wish, will turn murderous without cause or warning. If her trainer gets out alive he is lucky. If he ever enters her cage again he's a fool.—Christmas McClure's.

## PLOT TO KILL THE CZAR.

Russian Secret Service Men Claim to Have Discovered Such.

Russian secret service agents claim to have discovered a new and alarmingly formidable plot to assassinate the Czar. The discovery, coming at the same time with the frantic anti-war demonstration in front of the Governor's palace at Moscow, has caused great excitement.

The secret service has discovered that the plot to assassinate the Czar and other Russian leaders was laid in England, and hurried requests were sent to the police of London, Manchester and Liverpool to seize the plotters. It is now known that many, perhaps all, of the plotters fled England before the warning reached the secret police there, and they are believed to have reached Russia on their errand of murder.

The wild unrest, following the students' riots and anti-war riots in Moscow, St. Petersburg and other Russian cities will, it is feared, serve to hide the plotters until they can make their attempt on the life of the Czar and his ministers.

The plot, it is declared, was discovered through the seizure of incriminating correspondence between plotters in Moscow and in Manchester, England, and the two men wanted at Manchester had fled before they could be apprehended.

Four persons were killed and sixty wounded during the battles between the troops and the 3,000 students assembled in front of the Governor's palace in Moscow. Three hundred have been arrested. More than 3,000 students participated in the riots and they were not dispersed until after the police had made savage attacks with drawn sabers and had fired several volleys into the crowd.

The authorities knew in advance that trouble was impending, and several squadrons of mounted gendarmes were concealed in the court yards of houses, ready for an emergency.

## RELIGIOUS SECTS GROWING.

Episcopal Church Leads, but Nearly All Show Gains.

Nearly all religious sects, as their figures of growth for last year are announced, show a larger percentage of increase than in previous years, says the New York Herald. In several denominations the ratio of growth exceeds the usual ratio of increase in the population. This is notably the case in the Episcopal church, which last year gained 3 per cent on its membership of the previous year, while the population growth is estimated at about 2 per cent. The Episcopal church has added 25,915 to its 807,351.

In the Presbyterian church the increase in membership last year was at the rate of 2 1/2 per cent, the gain in members being 27,431 and the total number 1,004,908. Last year's gain was 2-1/5 per cent. The Southern Presbyterian church, a smaller body than the Northern, having but 239,888 members, gained 2 per cent last year.

The ratio of gain by the Methodist membership is not so large as in the other bodies named, but was 1-1/5 per cent, or almost as much as the estimated ratio of population growth. For the previous year the Methodist ratio was only 1 per cent. The body has now 3,064,735 members, of whom about 200,000 are connected with foreign conferences and missions.

It is stated in the Presbyterian handbook for 1905 that the religions of the world have 1,430,000,000 adherents, divided as follows: Christianity, 477,080,158; Confucianism, 256,000,000; Hinduism, 190,000,000; Mohammedanism, 176,834,372; Buddhism, 147,900,000; Taoism and Shintoism, 57,000,000; Judaism, 7,050,000; and various heathen faiths, 118,120,479.

## DR. ABBOTT DISCARDS BIBLE.

His Religion Founded on Science and Needs of Human Heart.

Dr. Lyman Abbott, in a sermon to Harvard students, has announced his belief in a religion founded not on the Bible but on science and the outcroppings of the human heart, says a World dispatch from Cambridge, Mass.

"I wonder," he said, "if you will understand me when I say that I no longer believe in a great first cause. My God is a great and ever-present force, which is manifest in all the activities of man and all the workings of nature.

"I believe in a God who is in and through and of everything—not an absentee God, whom we have to reach through a Bible or some other outside aid, but a God who is closer to us than hands or feet. Science, literature and history tell us that there is one eternal energy, that the Bible no longer can be accepted as ultimate, that many of its laws were copied from other religions, that the ten commandments did not spring spontaneously from Moses, but were, like all laws, a gradual growth, and that man is an evolution, not a creation.

"No thinking man will say there are many energies. The days of polytheism are past. There is only one energy. That energy has always been working. It is an intelligent energy. No scientist can deny it. It was working before Christ's time, even as it is now."



James W. A. MacDonald, New York's aged sculptor, has been an artist more than sixty years.

Stovan Zikitsch, 117 years old, living at Nish, Servia, was well acquainted with Lord Byron.

Although 85 years old, Mrs. Sarah McLaughlin of Lynn, Mass., does a good day's work binding shoes.

Pierre Barlow Cornwall, the last surviving member of the first Legislature of California, is dead.

Capt. J. R. Eggleston, sole surviving officer of the Merrimac, is a cotton planter near Jackson, Miss.

Mr. Gully, speaker of the English House of Commons, probably will retire before his next birthday. He is now 70.

Charles Taylor of Waterbury, Vt., is 99 years old and yet he drove a horse in a trotting race recently. He did not win.

P. H. Leslie of Helena, Mont., has entered the sixty-fourth year of the practice of law. He once was Governor of Kentucky, and later President Cleveland appointed him territorial Governor of Montana.

## THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



## One Hundred Years Ago.

A Paris paper published a statement of the expenses of the coronation of Napoleon, making them \$930,000.

The British consul at Honduras declared that mahogany should not be exported in any American or foreign vessel.

A new quarantine order in Holland required all American vessels to enter the port of Helvoetsluis.

Thomas Jefferson and George Clinton were unanimously chosen President and Vice President of the United States.

Congress appointed a committee of five to consider the project of erecting a permanent bridge across the Potomac river at Washington.

## Seventy-five Years Ago.

A treaty of peace and alliance was ratified between Buenos Ayres and Santa Fe.

Gold and silver were discovered near Devonshire, England.

France, Russia and England could not come to an agreement as to what title the new ruler of Greece was to assume.

Prince Frederick of the Netherlands was appointed by the King admiral of the navy and colonel general of the land forces.

## Fifty Years Ago.

Kamehameha III, King of the Sandwich Islands, died, and was succeeded by Prince Alexander Liholiho.

The St. Lawrence river was opened to American vessels.

Rufus Choate joined the political party called the "Know Nothings" and became a candidate for the Senate.

The steamboat Westmoreland was sunk in Lake Michigan and seventeen lives were lost.

Kansas was being settled by New England emigrants, who were resolved to fight against slavery in the new territory.

## Forty Years Ago.

Communication south of Cairo, Ill., was shut off by the freezing of the river.

Several steamboats were sunk and many others injured at St. Louis by the breaking up of the ice in the river.

Major Gen. Thomas attacked and routed Hood and his Confederate forces before Nashville, Tenn.

A Union expedition along the Roanoke river was reported to have destroyed \$1,000,000 worth of Confederate commissary stores.

President Lincoln ordered a draft of 200,000 men to make up credit deficiencies in the previous call for troops.

Hood's Confederate army, routed at Nashville, retreated beyond Franklin, with Thomas in pursuit.

Several Chicago policemen were arrested by federal authorities on charges of assisting enlisted men to desert.

## Thirty Years Ago.

Persistent rumors were afloat in Germany that Bismarck was about to resign through pique at the Reichstag.

Boston was visited by a series of fires, causing a loss of \$1,000,000 worth of property.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies at Rome voted an annuity to Garibaldi.

Efforts to introduce the mixed school system at New Orleans resulted in a strike of the white children at the schools.

King Kalakaua of the Sandwich Islands was presented to Congress. He was welcomed by Speaker James G. Blaine in the House.

## Twenty Years Ago.

England was stirred up over a reported plot to dynamite Windsor Castle and kill the Queen.

Stories of trouble between the Grand Duke Servius of Russia and his wife, Elizabeth of Hesse, were sent out from London.

The text of the Nicaraguan canal and the San Dominican treaties was made public by Congress.

Thirteen bodies were recovered from a burned orphan asylum in Brooklyn and over 100 children had not been accounted for.

The world's fair at New Orleans opened.

## Ten Years Ago.

Capt. Schmittberger described to the Lexow committee the system of police and official graft in New York.

Word reached America of the death in Samoa of Robert Louis Stevenson, the novelist.

Dispatches from Tokio announced that the war between China and Japan was practically at an end.

In the United States Circuit Court at Boston the Berliner telephone patent was declared void.

## EIGHT ARE KILLED IN BEDS.

Wall in Fire Ruins at Minneapolis Falls on Hotel.

In Minneapolis, eight persons were killed about 1 o'clock Tuesday morning when the wall of the O. H. Peck building on Fifth street south, which was left standing by the fire of last week, toppled over in a high gale and struck the Crocker hotel, a three-story structure on Fifth street. Tons of brick and mortar crashed down through the flimsily constructed building, throwing the floors into a mass of debris in the basement. There was no warning of the disaster, and the fourteen persons who were sleeping in the hotel were caught and eight killed. A passer-by who heard the crash turned in a fire alarm and the department arrived in time to check flames in the wreck.

Responsibility for the accident will be the subject of a thorough investigation. J. G. Houghton, the building inspector, had made an inspection of the standing walls, but had given no orders concerning them. He had ordered the demolition of other walls that seemed to threaten to fall. Guests at the hotels had been afraid because of the proximity of the wall and had moved elsewhere, but as nearly a week had passed and the wall stood apparently firm they had come back. The terrific northwest gale was the cause of the fall and it exerted a greater pressure than the building inspector expected.

C. L. Smith, a hack driver, one of the roomers, had a curious premonition that saved his life. He was nervous and could not sleep. Twice he arose, dressed and went outside to see what the wind was doing. The second time he told a policeman he thought the wall was unsafe. The officer laughed at the idea and the words had scarcely left his lips when the wall fell.

## POTATO CROP TOO BIG.

Colorado Farmers Struggling with Great Yield of Tubers.

Colorado's potato crop this year is enormous and the problem of marketing it presents so complicated a situation that some of the trans-continental railroads may be tangled up in a rate war before it is over. All the railroads in Denver have received an appeal from the United Produce Company, which is the Potato Growers' Association in northern Colorado, asking that a proportional rate of 25 cents a hundred be made on potatoes from Denver to the Mississippi river.

The present rate on potatoes from Colorado common points to the Mississippi is 40 cents a hundred. This the growers do not want changed on potatoes routed within their present territory; what they want is a reduction of 15 cents between Denver and the Mississippi river on freight destined to go beyond, so that Colorado can extend her territory on potato sales in Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, Pennsylvania and even New York.

Unless some solution of the matter is soon found it is predicted that more than one-third of the crop in the northern part of the State will rot in the field. Farmers are now selling them at 35 cents per 100 pounds, sacked, and there is threatened a further drop of 10 cents in the price, which barely covers cost of production at the present rate.

## MANY IMPURE DRUGS SOLD.

Chicago Association Approves War on Adulterated Products.

Adulterated drugs for five years have been sold to retail druggists in unlimited quantities, according to a report by Chas. H. Avery, president of the Chicago Retail Druggists' Association, and Thomas V. Wooten, secretary of the national association, to United States Commissioner Mason. Of 40,000 druggists in the United States, it is said 8,000 are known to have bought and sold impure drugs.

Disclosures were made following an investigation of charges that a combine of wholesale dealers was trying to "put the mail-order drug houses out of business."

The report asserts: "We came away burdened with humiliation that such a condition of affairs could be possible in a city where so many competent pharmacists are employed in dispensing medicine, because the fraudulent character of the article dispensed could have been proved by the simplest test.

"It is our desire publicly to commend the investigation that is being made of the frauds to which druggists have fallen victims, because these investigations cannot result otherwise than advantageously to honest pharmacists."



The official returns in Vermont show a Republican plurality of 30,882.

The official canvass in South Dakota shows: Roosevelt, 72,083; Parker, 22,002; Debs, 3,138; Watson, 1,248; Swallow, 2,965.

The total vote for President in Texas gives Parker 167,220 and Roosevelt 50,308; Watson, 8,002; Swallow, 4,244; Debs, 2,287.

The Colorado Supreme Court took under consideration a motion made by Republican attorneys to throw out the vote of four Denver precincts in which fraud had been shown. This would give the Republican three additional Senators and make the vote in the State Senate a tie, with the Republican Lieutenant Governor holding the deciding vote.

The official canvass of the returns in Colorado shows the following vote: Republican, 134,687; Democratic, 100,105; Prohibition, 3,438; Socialist, 4,304; Populist, 824.

The official vote of Massachusetts gives William L. Douglas (Democrat) for Governor 35,989 plurality. The vote for President was: Roosevelt, 257,822; Parker, 165,746.

The official canvass of the Pennsylvania vote gives: Roosevelt, 840,949; Parker, 335,430; Swallow (Prohibition), 33,717; Debs (Social-Democrat), 21,863; Corregan (Socialist), 2,211.



How badly off the navy is for officers and how seriously this condition may affect the navy and the nation is plainly told in the annual report of Rear Admiral George A. Converse, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, approved by Secretary Norton. Experience, especially in gunnery, he says, has shown that it is necessary to increase the number of officers assigned to ships so that the estimate made in 1902 of the number of officers needed for ships in commission is inadequate. It provided for only about one-half as many officers as ships of the same class carry in the British, French and German navies. Admiral Converse recommends that the number of lieutenants be increased from 350 to 600, and that the number of lieutenant commanders be increased from 200 to 300.

Twenty American colleges are affected by a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the famous Fayerweather will case, which has been the subject of litigation for fourteen years. The question immediately involved was the legality of the act of the executors of the will of Daniel B. Fayerweather, of New York, in dividing among the twenty colleges designated in the will the residue of his estate. This action was contested by the heirs at law, but was sustained by the New York Court of Appeals. The United States Circuit Court upheld the contention of the heirs, but its action was reversed by the Circuit Court of Appeals. The heirs appealed to the United States Supreme Court, but that tribunal has decided against them.

What would the builders of the great temples and palaces of the ancient and medieval world have thought of the proposal now seriously considered, to execute in staff, at full size and with exact coloring, the projected enlargement of the Capitol at Washington, so that the country may see whether the change is wholly desirable, before striking hammer into the present east front of that noble edifice? World's fair buildings have shown how beautiful temporary structures in that soft material may be made. There need be no further mistakes in the great undertakings of architecture so long as any important plan can in this way be tested, at a cost which is trifling in proportion to that of chiseling the actual marble.

As a result of the revelations in the Chadwick case, the Treasury Department will start an inquiry to ascertain if possible why it is that national bank examiners do not detect such frauds as were perpetrated on the bank at Oberlin. The Comptroller of the Currency declines to discuss the subject, but there is every reason to believe that by direction of the President he is preparing to make it plain to the examiners in the field that they must use greater caution. Within the last year a large number of national banks have gone to the wall, and in nearly every instance, it is asserted, the examiners ought to have had some knowledge of the condition of the banks long before they closed their doors.

Influx of immigration and not drastic legislation by Congress will solve the negro question in the South. This is substantially the decision of the House committee having charge of the bills proposing reduction of the South's representation in Congress. While a resolution may be adopted directing an investigation, no bill will be passed to punish the Southern States for disfranchising the negroes, as leaders in Congress believe that not only the development of the South, but the welfare of the negro, would be injured by a legislative attempt to correct the evil.

Because of their activity during the recent political campaign, Warren F. Tumber, a rural mail carrier at Lockport, N. Y., and H. W. Aldrich, a rural carrier of Concord, N. H., were removed from the government service by Postmaster General Wynne. Tumber is secretary of the National Association of the carriers, and he and Aldrich are members of its executive board. They were charged with sending out circulars seeking to influence the result in Congressional districts in the interest of legislation for carriers.

Now let Congress pass the pure food bill. Opinions may differ as to the amount of protection which should prevail at the custom houses, or how much internal revenue should be collected, but there can be no question of the desirability of "adequate protection" at the portals of life, the need of a wholesome income, the "inner man."

The final agreement between the United States and Panama gives the latter control of the imports, leaving those for the canal free to come in by the canal ports only. Panama is to reduce her tariff, and the United States controls the sanitation and quarantine in the ports of Colon and Panama. Panama controls postal affairs.

Three things to govern—temper, tongue and conduct.