

## GROWING SMALL FRUITS

Practical Hints for Both Farmers and Townsfolk.

Currents and Raspberries Worth While Raising — Strawberries Yield Generously Where Properly Cared For — Systems of Planting Described.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

As the small fruits are to remain in the garden for a longer period of time than the vegetable crops it is better, as a matter of convenience, to place them on one side of the garden where they will be least interfered with and where they will not hinder the ploughing for the other crops.

The best time to set out nearly all kinds of fruit, in this province, is early in May, the date depending upon the soil and weather conditions. Currants and gooseberries are exceptions to this rule, it being generally best to plant them in September, as they begin growth very early in spring.

### Currants.

Red and black currants are native and grow over a wide range of territory in Canada. They are planted four to six feet apart, as the bushes take up considerable space after three or four years. Plant in the autumn. The currant roots are near the surface, hence if the soil is hot and dry the crop will suffer. A rich, well-drained clay loam is best, although they do well in most soils. A good dressing of manure before planting, well worked into the soil, will make conditions better. There is little danger of giving the currant too much fertilizer. Keep from six to eight main branches each season and a few others coming on to take their places. A good rule is not to have any branches more than three years of age, as younger wood gives stronger growth and better fruit. In good soil the bushes should bear from six to ten crops before removal and before new ones take their place. In a favorable season, when in full bearing, they should yield from four to ten pounds per bush.

### Raspberries.

Red raspberries are generally planted in rows six feet apart and two feet in the row. The numerous shoots or suckers which spring up from the roots soon make the space between the rows narrow, so with rows a few feet apart a considerable number of canes must be cut out to permit of cultivation. These suckers may be dug and set out in new rows. A cool, loamy soil, well drained, yet capable of holding much moisture, is best. As moisture is a very important factor in producing a good crop, and is often lacking during the fruiting period, frequent shallow cultivations should be given to keep the soil in moist condition and also keep down the weeds. After a cane bears fruit it is of no more use, and so may be cut out immediately. Of the other canes, take out the weak ones and leave about six good canes to bear the fruit for the next season. Cut them back late in the fall after growth ceases, or early in the spring, to two or two and a half feet in height. The best varieties are Cuthbert and Herbert.

### Strawberries.

The strawberry is a very hardy plant and will grow on a variety of soils. A sandy loam produces the earliest crop, while a clay loam produces the largest crop and a better quality berry. Probably the best system of planting in the garden is to set the plants 18 inches apart in the rows, which should be from 3-4 feet apart, and allow the runners to extend in all directions to form a matted row. This method will give the greatest quantity of berries, while, if they were planted closer and all the runners cut off, a larger plant and larger berries could be produced, but would take considerable time and care. Spring planting in May gives the best results. Strawberries will not thrive where water stands on the surface in either summer or winter. It may be possible to obtain plants from a plantation near-by; if not, order early from a reliable nurseryman. When digging take the healthiest runner plants and see that all large leaves and flower buds are removed before planting. More than one variety should be planted, because many varieties are imperfect, that is, contain the pistil parts only, while some, when the pistil and stamens are in one flower, are perfect. The imperfect varieties must have pollen from the perfect flower in order to set fruit. Generally the best results are obtained where just one crop is taken; that is, at the end of the second season from planting, plough them under, and reset a new lot each year. Most plantations are allowed to run longer — three or four seasons. In the fall, after the plants have frozen, they should be covered with straw, hay, or what is still better, spruce or fir boughs. This prevents alternate freezing and thawing. In the spring, after the danger from frost is past, the hay or straw is drawn off the plants and placed between the rows to serve as a mulch to conserve moisture, keep the berries clean and make picking easier. In small gardens plants may be set twelve inches apart in the row. No runners are allowed to form on the plants. This is what is called the "Hill" system and gives very fine quality berries. Only varieties with perfect flowers should be used. The only objection to this method of strawberry growing is the amount of labor required to pull off the runners. —A. H. MacLennan, Vegetable Specialist, Toronto.

Carefully store sieves and cutters. As the weather becomes warmer, variety and succulency is important to the ration of the cattle, as their appetite is not so keen.

## Is 'Honest and Upright'

### BUT HIS REMOVAL DEMANDED.

Mr. Raney's Commissioner Who Investigated Charges Against Magistrate Hastings Recommends That the Dunnville Official be Asked for His Resignation.

The charges against Police Magistrate Hastings, of Dunnville, have been substantiated only to a limited degree, yet, according to the report made to Hon. W. E. Raney by his commissioner, John A. Paterson, who conducted the investigation, the magistrate should be asked to resign.

"Under the power given me under and by virtue of my said Commission," the commissioner says, "I would recommend, having regard to what has been proved before me by good and sufficient verbal and documentary evidence, and having regard upon the impressions produced upon the minds of a considerable number of the leading citizens of Dunnville by the administration of justice in the Police Court under Mr. Hastings, to which I have particularly referred above and notwithstanding the admitted fact that Mr. Hastings is personally honest and upright:—

"That Mr. Hastings be asked to tender to the honorable the Attorney-General, his resignation as magistrate, and that the same be accepted."

The basis for this demand for the removal of an "honest and upright" official is set out in the findings on the charges. Summarized somewhat they are:

1.—That the administration of justice under Mr. Hastings had ceased to command public respect, and that Mr. Hastings was largely responsible; finding: that No. 1 was "to a certain extent" proved.

2.—That Mr. Hastings was influenced in his administration of the law largely by F. R. Lalor, M.P., and a group of other men associated with him in the control and domination of the affairs of the community; finding: "that it has not been proved to the extent therein set forth."

3.—That all these men, including Mr. Hastings, are opposed to the Ontario Temperance Act and its enforcement; finding: "that Mr. Hastings is not in sympathy with all the provisions of the Act and that he has publicly taken that position."

4.—That Mr. Hastings had not enforced the Act either according to "the spirit of the letter" of the law and in his administration of the law favored the ring in control of the affairs of the town; finding: that Commissioner thinks Mr. Hastings was not strong enough in his administration and tempered justice with too excessive leniency. "But I do not find," says Mr. Paterson, "that he intentionally or consciously favored any particular 'ring' or group."

5.—Charges of grave irregularity in connection with bail, with refusal to take informations for serious infractions of the law, the arranging of cases out of court privately; finding: "evidence was certainly given in support of these charges, but I do not regard what has been shown as to these as vitally important except as I have set forth above."

8.—That Mr. Hastings was an active politician and the editor and publisher of a partisan newspaper, largely dependent upon F. R. Lalor, from whose company he derives a great part of his business as a job printer; finding: "I do not think that politics affected Mr. Hastings in his administration of justice, although he was editor and publisher of a partisan newspaper." The Commissioner records the fact that Mr. Hastings' plant gets more than half of its job printing from the Monarch Knitting Company.

Thus of eight charges those that formed the serious part of the indictment—that the magistrate was opposed to the enforcement of the law and was influenced by a "ring" opposed to the law and its enforcement that was in control of the affairs of the town—a "ring" headed by F. R. Lalor, M.P., have not been proved. Mr. Hastings if an "honest and upright," but a lenient magistrate, therefore he must be forced out.

The main part of the report accompanying the recommendations deals with cases in which the leniency shown by the magistrate tended to destroy public confidence in the administration of the law. These cases, which were fully reported during the investigation, are cited in considerable detail in the report all of them, convincing the commissioner that Mr. Hastings by reason of his handling of these cases was not a good magistrate. The commissioner, however, pays a tribute to the magistrate's standing in the community that contrasts strangely with the impression given by the list of serious "charges" that Hon. W. E. Raney had typed and handed out to the newspapers.

"I desire to report that I found from the testimony of all the witnesses and by general reports that David Hastings whose efficiency as a magistrate is called in question, stands high in the community as an upright and honorable man, a lead-

er in the Methodist Church and one whose integrity is unimpeachable."

The report brings out the fact that Mr. Hastings is a total abstainer, but that he was not in entire sympathy with the O.T.A. because it was difficult to make effective and tended to provoke antagonism to law enforcement.—Mail and Empire.

### The Lower is Higher Than the Upper

"Let me have sleeping accommodations on the train to Ottawa," I said to the man at the window, who didn't seem at all concerned whether I took the trip or stayed at home.

"For a single passenger?" he finally said.

"No," I replied, "I'm married but I'm not taking anybody with me. A single shelf will answer."

"Upper or lower?" he asked.

"What's the difference?" I inquired.

"A difference of fifty cents," came the answer.

"Our prices to Ottawa are \$2.50 and \$3.00."

"You understand of course," explained the agent, "the lower is higher than the upper. The higher price is for the lower berth. If you want it lower you'll have to go higher. We'll the upper lower than the lower. It didn't used to be so, but we found everybody wanted the lower. In other words the higher the fewer."

"Why do they all prefer the lower?" I broke in.

"On account of its convenience," he replied, "most persons don't like the upper, although it's lower, on account of it being higher, and because when you occupy an upper you have to get up to go to bed, and then get down when you get up. I would advise you to take the lower, although it's higher than the upper, for the reason I have stated, that the upper is lower than the lower because it is higher. You can have the lower if you pay higher; but if you are willing to go higher it will be lower."—Set Square, Toronto.

### Tough On The Pig

"You are safe in accepting an invitation to a 'moonshine' party at Bibbles' house."

"Why so?"

"He keeps a supply of guinea pigs on the premises. When a new consignment of 'moonshine' is received a spoonful is given to a guinea pig. If the patient shows signs of merriment and then lies down for a nap the festivities are started. If he drops dead the party's off."—Birmingham Age Herald.

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### MUST RETURN DOCUMENTS.

Stolen French Papers Were Valued by Bismarck.

There is one clause in the Peace Treaty to which no person will object. It is a curious tag-end to Article 245, and its execution will solve the mystery of the secret document of Cercay, which used to worry historians 40 years ago.

"The German Government shall restore to the French Government the archives, historic souvenirs and works of art taken from France by the German authorities in the war of 1870-71," reads Article 245, "and also all the political papers taken by the German authorities October 10, 1870, from the Chateau of Cercay, then belonging to M. Rouher."

One German history professor, Herr von Ruville, of the University of Halle, called those documents "the key to the foundation of the German Empire." But they have never been published; Bismarck and his successors saw to that.

Rouher was President of the Senate, and by that title Vice-Emperor of France under the regime which crumbled when the German armies made their steam-roller invasion in 1870. The Republicans who succeeded the Empire in France took more pains than have the Republicans of present-day Germany to publish all the interesting secret imperial documents which they could find, and they would have been delighted to publish the papers which M. Rouher had tucked away in a secret closet in his chateau at Cercay, southeast of Paris. They did seize the documents with which the Emperor's family tried to flee from France, but their publication proved a disappointment. The really important documents on French foreign policy in the years before the war were in the hands of Rouher. The Republicans searched his Paris house, but in vain.

It was a regiment of Mecklenburg troops which strayed into the Chateau Cercay on October 10, 1870, that found the much-sought papers. After a fashion which German troops seemed to have acquired even then, they poked about the desks and cubbyholes of the chateau, and, among other things, they discovered something which, in latter days, might have been called a "news-nose" caught them just in time to save the documents and make Article 245 of the 1871 Peace Treaty a possibility. They were carefully boxed and sent to No. 1 Rue de Provence, at Versailles, where Bismarck was then installed.

Bismarck never told all of their contents. Once, in 1871, he published some extracts regarding the question of Belgian neutrality and Napoleon III's demands for compensation in 1866. Years later, when Prince Hohenzollern retired as German Chancellor, an extract from one of the letters of the French Charge at Munich was published, revealing that as early as 1867 Hohenzollern had been a partisan of the union of Prussia and Bavaria. But all the other documents dealing with the separatist ambitions of the South German States have been kept strictly secret. Even Treitschke and Sybel, most patriotic Prussian historians, were not allowed to see them. A British correspondent at Versailles in 1870 sent a mystifying letter to the London Times declaring that among the documents were "a mass of things capable of exciting envy, hatred and malignity, revealing the most secret thoughts of princes and diplomats." But he evidently had not seen the documents.

One German correspondent saw the documents in November, 1870. His name was Wachenhausen, and he wrote to the Volkszeitung a preliminary despatch mentioning secret correspondence about the Mexican campaigns and a secret letter saying that the French, if they came would be received with open arms. But a few days later he wrote another letter to his paper explaining the necessity of remaining mute upon what he had seen. He had evidently received orders to shut up.

Bavaria came very near to not joining Prussia in the founding of the German Empire in 1871; and Joseph Reinach among French historians, as well as von Ruville in Germany, believed that the possession of the secret documents of Cercay gave Bismarck the final whip which forced Bavaria to do his bidding. The Ministers of Bavarian and Wurtemberg and other South German States were not in love with Prussia in the years before the war of 1870, and there is no doubt that their impudent expressions of hate for Prussia were all too compromisingly revealed in the secret document which came into the Iron Chancellor's hands just at the critical moment when he was forging the German kingdoms into a single empire. They gave him the power to discredit, in the heat of victory, Ministers who still had political ambitions.

The secret documents of Cercay will return to France fifty years after their theft, and at a time when that German unity which they were instrumental in forging is once more in the air.

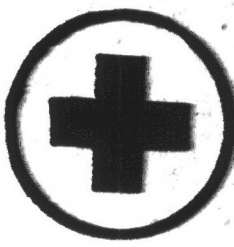
**Safety First.**  
As the Londoner sat in the village inn, drinking a modest pint and chatting with the local residents, he got on the subject of married life. He advanced the opinion that true happiness was more often to be found in the peaceful country than amid the turmoil of a town.

"Well, I ain't so sure about that," said one old chap. "But I do know woman's hands for two hours by the clock."

"There!" said the visitor, in triumph. "That upholds my argument, and shows how much you love her!"

"Love her!" gasped the old chap. "Why, if I'd 'a' let go she'd 'ave scratched my bloomin' eyes out!"

## The Red Cross Carries On—Why?



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### ONTARIO ENROLLMENT, MAY 22-28

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