

Efficient Farming

SUMMER VERSUS WINTER PRUNING.

The subject of summer pruning has long been a moot one among fruit growers. Some men have claimed that summer pruning produced fruit and winter pruning produced wood. Some have claimed that if the trees were pruned in summer they would bear fruit at an earlier age than those pruned in winter.

In the writer's own orchard a block of ten acres was summer pruned in order to get a comparison with the rest of the place that received only winter pruning. After a period of several years no difference could be seen in this ten-acre block.

It did not come into bearing noticeably earlier than the rest of the place nor has it produced any more fruit. To look at it to-day no one could tell where the ten-acre block ended and the rest of the orchard began.

This one experiment does not prove that there is no value in summer pruning. One experiment seldom proves anything. It is only by taking the results of many experiments that we finally arrive at a little of the truth in horticulture. Even then we may occasionally go wrong.

Other growers have felt that summer pruning increased the fruitfulness of their trees. In some cases there has been a distinct increase in the number of fruit buds produced after a year of summer pruning. In such cases emphasis is laid on the fact that the work was done early in the summer before the trees had finished their annual growth.

In most of the apple-growing sections this would be before the first of July. The fruit buds for the next year are developed early in the season and the tree must be pruned before these buds form if any results are to be secured. If the pruning is done after the buds are established no more would be accomplished than by winter pruning.

PLENTY TO DO IN THE ORCHARD.

From this time on the cultivation in the small fruit plantations should be made especially thorough.

We are getting into the period in sections where there is likely to be dry weather. We have also approaching the period, or have reached it, when the bush fruits are ripening their crops. And the combination of dry weather and a heavy draft of water by the plant to mature its fruit is likely to result in a shortage of soil moisture.

Moreover, as the picking season comes on, one is very likely to let down a little on cultivation, partly because of the extra work involved and partly because cultivation makes the conditions not quite so comfortable for the pickers.

Don't do it! Keep the cultivators going. It will pay in the extra size and attractiveness as well as the extra yield of the fruit.

THE BEST STRAWBERRY MULCH.

The questions as to what materials to use for a mulch on the strawberry bed is often a serious one, and if one must grow some crop especially for that purpose it ought to be decided upon at once.

Of course, if wheat, oats or rye is grown largely in a section, that settles the question very satisfactorily. Or if one is in a section where pine needles or straw can be had, they make a very good mulch.

But in sections where none of these stand-bys can be had, one is often at a loss how to supply the need.

To begin with, if there is any low, swampy land on the farm which grows grass in abundance, this ought to be cut and the hay used for mulch, since one is almost certain that such material will contain seeds of no plants that are likely to come up as weeds in the strawberry bed.

There may also be available some hay fields on which the grass is so poor as not to have much feeding value, and which may therefore be added to the mulch supply. But under the best of conditions the man who grows a half acre or more of strawberries is often obliged to grow some special crop for the mulch. Various crops are grown for this purpose, the choice depending on one's locality and to some extent on the soil available. Two of the best are Japanese millet and sorghum, the latter sown thick enough so that the stalks do not become too heavy. An advantage of sorghum is that it is heavy enough so that it is not easily blown about.

The one solution which ought to be avoided at all costs in this strawberry mulch problem is to mow all the odd corners about the farm and use the hay thus secured for the purpose. Such material is certain to contain all sorts of weed seeds.

LATE-HATCHED BROILERS.

Almost every year, on the average Canadian farm where fowls have free range, some hens will steal away in the late summer months to appear again a few weeks later with broods of baby chicks. What to do with these youngsters is often a serious problem.

It had been my practice to give away such late broods, hens and all, to avoid the trouble of raising them;

but a few years ago when I offered some to a farmer acquaintance he advised me to force-feed them for the broiler market.

"Fix them up," he said, "and begin feeding for quick development. This is September and by Christmas you should have a fine shipment of broilers weighing from one to two pounds each."

Chiefly out of curiosity I agreed to experiment, and the sixty-five baby chicks, all White Wyandottes, with their respective mothers were confined in an unused shed, with a small yard for range.

From the very first the feeding methods prescribed by my friend for this flock were almost identical with those I had practiced with other young stock, the only exception being that the percentage of flesh-building elements, such as beef scraps, ground bone and chopped green clover or alfalfa, were increased gradually until they constituted almost a half by weight of the entire ration.

At this time the chicks were weaned and the hens removed so that self-feeding hoppers could be installed for the entire flock. Wheat was fed in clean litter every morning to induce exercise, and charcoal, grit and fresh water were kept before the birds at all times. The hopper feed was cracked corn and oatmeal, and, as the chicks became more developed, some cracked corn was soaked in sour milk and fed in the evening.

Fifty-seven chicks were raised to broiler size and by the last of December were ready for market. When dressed the total number weighed ninety-four pounds net.

Before shipping I wrote a reliable commission merchant for prices and advice on shipping. The shipment netted me forty-three cents a pound after express and commission charges were deducted—forty dollars and forty-two cents in all.

Since that time I have raised several broods of late summer chicks for broilers with slightly varying success and, although I could not advise any poultryman to take up this branch of work as a specialty, I do affirm that it offers a profitable means of disposing of late chicks.

The American, or general purpose varieties, such as the Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds and Plymouth Rocks, rank as the best broiler breeds. A first-class broiler when ready for market should be plump and full feathered. Comb and wattles should be small here the rose-comb variety takes precedence—and if skin and legs are yellow these points will add to appearance and value.

The poultryman specializing in White Leghorns is not in a position to raise the large or medium broilers, but his late-hatched chicks are especially fine for squab broilers when force-fed in a similar manner. They can be made to average one pound or better in eight or nine weeks.

In dressing broilers for winter market dry picking is better than scalding, but all other work is conducted in the same manner as for adult fowls.

Progeny of Six-Year-Old Sow Already Number Over 140.

For productiveness Arthur Clow, R.R. No. 4, Rockwood, is the possessor of a sow that has broken all breeding records for Western Ontario. Although only six years old, this hog has given birth to no fewer than ten litters of pigs, "two litters a year," numbering, all told, one hundred and forty, of which one hundred and forty were raised. On May 16 she brought into the world a litter of nineteen, sixteen of which are living and thriving. Of this number the mother is raising thirteen, the other three being bottle-fed by their proud owner.

Picking Gooseberries.

Gooseberries are probably the most honest fruit to pick that we have. The branches are so armed with stickers that one is tempted to let the berries go to the birds rather than gather them. The irritation of harvesting by the use of heavy gloves, buckskins being the best.

Bad luck is the man who stands with his hands in his pockets waiting to see how it all turns out.

The Sunday School Lesson

JULY 13

The Boyhood of Jesus, Luke 2: 40-52. Golden Text—Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.—Luke 2: 52.

INTRODUCTION.—Nothing is told us to give narratives of the holy childhood, but the good sense of the church refused to accept these fantastic legends. How much more reverent and impressive is the silence of our canonical gospels! But while we cannot remove the veil of mystery from the early years of Jesus, certain things are clear. (1) The mind of the boy Jesus was in these years ripening to that perfect sense of sonship to the Father in heaven which afterwards forms the deep foundation of all his work and teaching. (2) Jesus grew up in simple and unquestioning acceptance of the duties which the home-life at Nazareth imposed. (3) He was in close contact with the life of nature, and saw, in field and flower, and bird and tree, the constant signs of the heavenly Father's wisdom, and of his care for all his creatures. (4) He went to school and synagogue at Nazareth, and there his mind would be constantly occupied with the revelation of the holy will of God in Old Testament scripture, and in the hopes of the Jewish people. All these instruments of education cooperated with his own spirit in the perfecting of that communion with God which is the divine secret of his life.

One other thing we may be sure of. There came no shadow of sin between the child and the Father in heaven. In the lives of men around him, Jesus saw alienation from God, disaffection, enmity, brokenness, guilt, failure. In his own perfect experience there was no cloud of this kind, but only and always an uninterrupted and unbroken fellowship, a joyous sense of oneness with the holy will and loving purpose of God. Here was a fact which must have imprinted itself indelibly on the consciousness of Jesus, and the meaning of which he must have deeply and wonderingly pondered. The evangelist tells us that as he grew he was filled with wisdom, which here means spiritual wisdom, and that every sign of God's gracious favor could be seen in him. I. PASSOVER, 41-45.

Vs. 41, 42. When Jesus was twelve years old, Joseph and Mary took him up with them to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. The law required every pious Israelite to make a triple pilgrimage to Jerusalem every year, but in practice only one was possible for Israelites residing at a distance from the capital, and this would usually be made at the Passover season. Passover was the supreme festival of the Jewish people, commemorating as it did the deliverance from Egypt, and the birth of the Jewish nationality and religion. At this time Jesus was in his thirteenth year, the period of life about which every Jewish boy was expected to take upon himself the duties of the law and to become, as it was called, a *bar-mitsvah* or "son of the commandment." We read in Josephus that at the age of fourteen his knowledge of the law was so full and exact that even prominent men of Jerusalem came to him for information. In the case of the boy Jesus, the solemn duties of this period would naturally be present to his mind, and would give the visit to Jerusalem a wistful significance. II. JESUS AND THE DOCTORS, 46-50.

Vs. 46-48. Jesus, searched for by his parents, is found at length in the temple, sitting among the teachers of the Law, an eager listener and questioner. The familiar idea that he was consciously instructing the doctors, is founded on a misconception, for the sacred text says only that he was "hearing them, and asking them questions." What these questions were are not told, but they must have had their origin in Jesus' own wonderful thoughts of God, and they were sufficiently instructing to the trained scholars who heard them. But imagine the astonishment of his parents when, though in their case astonishment is mingled with reproach, "Child," said his mother, "how could you thus deal with us? Look at the anxiety your father and I have had in searching for you!" V. 49. The answer of Jesus is the earliest of his recorded words. "Did you not know that I had to be in my Father's house?" (or "at my Father's business")? The words are remarkable (1) as the expression, thus early in the life of Jesus, of a necessity to which he surrendered himself, the necessity of always obeying the guidance of God as it revealed itself in

Camera Supported This Family.

My camera has been to me, not only a source of pleasure to myself and friends, but I have made it of commercial value.

When my husband died, leaving me with three children to care for, he also left me a camera and some knowledge of how to use it.

I not only did view work, but portrait work as well, learned to finish them myself, and supported myself and children mostly with it for several years.—Mrs. E. D.

Farming is a game of put and take. You have to put before you can take.

Many have got into the habit of being dissatisfied.

He's true to God who's true to man.—Lowell.

RED ROSE TEA 'is good tea'

Folks who want the very best use RED ROSE ORANGE PEKOE

A MESSAGE FROM A MOTHER.

With so many different little dispositions and so many shades of seriousness in the acts of mischief perpetrated by the owners of these dispositions, it is not always wise to apply the same set of rules to every child.

Generally the mischievous trait is brought forth from two causes: either the child is over-tired or else is of a very energetic nature. In case of the first, a warm bath and a nap will usually bring him back to his own sweet self. But if the very active child is your problem, supply him with something to do. Get him interested in his work. Make play of it and have him play with you. Sprung a new game occasionally, even old ones with new names are played with more enthusiasm.

Sometimes I give the cause of some wrong-doing the wrong diagnosis. For instance, my little girl had been sent to bed for some naughtiness. After some minutes of extreme quiet, I went in to see if she was asleep, only to find her busily snagging holes in the quilt with her teeth. I then brought her out in the room with me and gave her some scissors and pretty pictures to cut out, and before twenty minutes had passed she was asleep on the floor.

Sometimes, if the case warrants, to deprive a child of a well-liked pleasure is punishment enough. Do not make many rules and then stick to those made. Above all, set the children the example of a calm, unruffled temper yourself—for children are such imitators. I have been surprised by hearing my five-year-old daughter reprimanding her younger sister with the very words I had previously spoken to her, even to the same tone of voice, and

I suppose, the same gestures, although I do not remember having made them in quite so forceful a manner.—Mrs. H. M.

British Treasury Coins for Soviets.

The population of Russia will no longer be handicapped in the matter of coins with which to carry on democratic commerce, provided they can overcome the difficulty of gaining possession of these monetary conveniences. The British treasury has already started on an order to mint 40,000,000 coins for the Soviet Government.

The contract for these coins is the first that has been received from the Soviet Government since the two countries patched up their diplomatic difficulties. These coins will also be the first soviet coins ever minted.

The coins are mostly one, two and five ruble pieces. The design for the money is the work of an Englishman, although suggested by the Soviets. It is exceedingly plain, one side of the coin carrying the Soviet coat-of-arms and the other the value of the coin and the date.

Less Sugar in Goat's Milk. Goat's milk is richer in fat than cow's milk, but contains less sugar.

Better a busy man's health than a rich man's idle wealth.

There is a joy in real work well done.

That some are rich shows that others may become rich.

Worldly pleasures do not afford lasting contentment.

Goodness and Purity

Refresh yourself!

Uncap this airtight package—

As the sparkling bubbles rise to refresh your thirsty lips, you are assured of goodness and purity.

Drink

Coca-Cola

Delicious and Refreshing

The Coca-Cola Company of Canada, Ltd. Head Office: Toronto



Sold everywhere in bottles and at soda fountains.

Opportunities in the Veterinary Profession

If you desire to enter into a profession you should consider what the new field of Veterinary Science has to offer. Graduates have splendid opportunities for a successful career.

You should inquire.

Session Begins October 1st, 1924

Write for bulletin and calendar to

C. D. McGilvray, M.D.V., Principal

Ontario Veterinary College

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The above photograph shows Dr. H. Warren, dairy expert of Washington, who, with the aid of the x-ray, can examine the hoofs in Swiss cheese and determine whether it is fit to eat.

EUGENE T

Stomach Trouble and Montreal 14 Lbs. On Four

"Since I began taking full Tanlac I seem to be getting every day. I have gained on four bottles, and even about how well I look."

The above statement, sent by Eugene Leprieux, Prince of Wales Hotel, Montreal, Canada, one of our exclusive tansorial parlors. Mr. Leprieux further said: "Stomach trouble had completely wrecked my business, shadow of my former self. I was nervous and would have to give up my Tanlac soon had you not been here. I am now sleeping like a log, feeling as fine as one could. My only regret is that I don't have about Tanlac long before Tanlac is for sale by druggists. Accept no substitute, million bottles sold."

HEAL

BY On Middleton will be seen through the treatment, Toronto

What do you want a public health? Is that your phase of the work you? These are questions only answer if you wish. Sometimes I get very tired from correspondence to know something of communicable disease of pure water, child and many other topics of the public. A few days of the following interest. "What is the difference between scarlet fever and scarlet fever cases? Is it the law scarlet fever cases for there any after-effects? There is no difference let fever and scarlet fever name is only used by denote a mild attack, but it should be kept mild attack is just as more severe one. The more throat, headache, ature, nausea, vomiting, "angue," swollen neck, redness, or pin-point. It is the law to qua

A SPLENDID LAX FOR

Mothers should be on guard to keep baby's bowels and his stomach free of the ailments. The ones suffer are cause many of the stomach baby's Own Tablets laxative for the baby, but thoroughly contain no narcotics, and are intended to be safe either the newborn baby or child. By their bowels and stomach constipation and indigestion and simple feeble the devalued teaching Tablets are sold by mail or by mail at 25 cents a Dr. Williams' Medicine, ville, Ont.

Pastoral Pic

A field of ripe wheat. A flock of fat sheep. Doing under the tree. An orchard with fruit. Bending low to the ground. The corn in the shock. And the pumpkins at

Pictures of plenty. Wealth that is sure. Not sudden riches. But real, safe, secure.

But that which to me is the best on the farm. Are the fields of alfalfa. That stretch from the

West to the road-side. Where the grove on the hill. Where the white and white are waiting the feast.

Knee deep in clover. Yes, waist deep, we bright green in August. No matter how dry. The season may be. The meadowlark sings. The gay bobolink. Rejoices as it wings.

Picture of plenty. Wealth to endure. Product of Nature. And real, safe, and

He that is not gall strong at thirty, rich experienced at fifty, to be patient or strong.