

## THE INTERVIEWER.

**Fruit Growing on the Snake River—Varieties and Management—Irrigation for Orchards—Distance Apart for Trees—Piece-Root Grafting—Best Three Varieties, Etc.—A Chat With C. Q. Martin.**

C. Q. Martin is a new arrival in the Yakima country, though a resident of the state for many years, the last seven of which have been spent near Wawawai, on the Snake river. Previous to that he wasted a great deal of time trying to get rich by wheat growing in eastern Washington. Mr. Martin is an experienced fruit grower and an enthusiastic horticulturist. In a brief interview last week he gave his experience on the river of the tortuous name. His conversation was jotted down in THE INTERVIEWER'S rough way, and translated reads as follows. It contains useful hints for RANCH readers here and elsewhere:

Were you in a locality requiring irrigation? I had twenty acres in orchard, ten of which were irrigated.

What did you plant? Apples, pears, plums, prunes, nectarines, apricots, peaches, quinces, grapes, blackberries, raspberries and strawberries.

On which land did your fruit give the best satisfaction? On the irrigated. I tell you Irrigation is King. On the non-irrigated land a few varieties of grapes and some of pears yielded about half a crop; among the pears Bartlett and Vicar of Wakefield. They are very hardy. Peach trees nearly all failed. Cherry trees will bear a year or two without irrigation, but they are very short lived.

Would you irrigate close to the trees? No; watering close to cherry trees will injure them. We watered eight to ten feet from them. Apple trees bear well there if irrigated; some varieties, such as White Winter Pearmain, do well without irrigation, in clay soil.

How many varieties of apples would you have in a commercial orchard? If I found one variety that surpassed all others in quantity, quality and color, I would stick to that alone. I have found in that region that the Winesap is such an apple. The Red-cheeked Pippin comes next, perhaps.

What do you think of the Esopus Spitzenburg? In the Snake river country it is a rather shy bearer, but I have been inquiring about it here and find that it is doing well. It is a magnificent apple, and if it succeeds here is one of the best to tie to. The Blue Pearmain with us is excellent—a fine, upright, vigorous tree that heads well. The fruit is large and showy. It is not so late a keeper as the Yellow Newtown Pippin. I would not think of recommending a list for this locality. My advice to an intending

planter is to examine closely into the success of orchardists near to him. Go to the man who has an orchard and get thoroughly posted before fixing upon your varieties to plant.

Now I want to ask you for the three varieties that you would plant here providing that you found they would all do well? Winesap, Yellow Newtown Pippin and Red-cheeked Pippin.

How far apart would you plant the trees? Over in our country all make the mistake of planting too closely—16½ to 18 feet. I believe now that 22 to 30 feet is better. Some varieties will do a little closer than others.

What age would you select? If I wanted an orchard quick I would get, if I could, large, healthy, well-rooted 2 to 4-year-old trees. But they need more nursing and care than yearling trees. Proper irrigation, and shading the trunks of the trees up to the branches, will give fruit on the older trees more quickly than on the yearlings.

What do you use for shading the trunks of the trees? Clapboards cut to right lengths. Stick one end in the ground on the side of the sun from 11 to 4 o'clock. Do this until cool weather in the fall.

Do you irrigate late in the fall? No, not in that country. We get late fall rains. Here I do not know about that. If rains do not come here it may be desirable to irrigate until about freezing up time. The main trunk root feeds the trunk of the tree; the surface roots make the leaves and the fruit. If the ground freezes too deeply I think the surface roots may be injury. Wet ground prevents early budding.

What is your opinion regarding piece-root grafting? For apples and pears it is all right; but for other fruits I prefer the whole-root system.

Do you think in piece-root grafting the roots of the tree have a tendency to grow to one side? I have not found it so. The roots will extend toward

the moisture. If a ditch is made along only one side of the row of trees you will find most of the roots extending on that side.

What is the best variety of pear? With us the Bartlett stands at the head, and I believe it is the same here, though I have not inquired into that matter.

The Hood River strawberry was one of the best sent from the Snake river country last year.

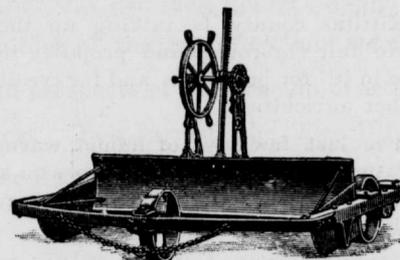
## Hop Ranch

FOR SALE. 40 acres. First-class improvements. Two kilns, storehouse, dwelling, and barn. Will net as an investment more than 20 per cent. Address, J. H. B., care of THE RANCH, North Yakima, Wash.

THE

## Shuart Steel Improved

LAND GRADER.



A peerless machine for grading land for irrigation and especially adapted also to the needs of Contractors and Graders of earth in general. No one having earth to move in quantity or land to grade can afford to do without it. For descriptive circular and terms address JOHN SAWBRIDGE, North Yakima or A. H. DAWSON, Mabton, agts., or B. F. SHUART, Patentee and Manufacturer, Oberlin, Ohio.

**A. H. DAWSON,**  
**REAL ESTATE AND**  
**INSURANCE BROKER**

MABTON, . . . WASHINGTON

Sunnyside Valley  
Farms and Yak-  
ima IRRIGABLE  
ands a specialty.

A Few Choice  
Desert Claims &  
Relinquishments  
for sale.

**FRANK H. HAGERTY,**  
**SUNNYSIDE VALLEY**  
**IRRIGATED FARMS AND LANDS,**  
Sunnyside, Yakima County, Wash.

## GOOD BARGAINS IN SUNNYSIDE.

**No. 1.**—20 acres one mile and a half south of the town of Sunnyside; all cleared, plowed and fenced and 3 acres in alfalfa; at \$70 per acre. Only \$200 cash. Balance on easy terms at 7 per cent.

**No. 2.**—60 acres cleared, plowed and fenced; 1,700 peach, prune, apple and pear trees; 5 acres alfalfa; small house. This beautiful ranch is only one mile and a half east of Sunnyside. Price \$75 per acre, \$1,000 cash; balance 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 years; at 7 per cent.

**No. 3.**—60 acres adjoining the above, all in under cultivation; 5 acres alfalfa; 1,000 to 1,200 fruit trees; small house and stable. Price and terms same as the above. These two ranches are the finest in the lower end of Sunnyside valley.