

tude of Kittitass valley is the cause of the berries ripening so late.

"Usually," said Mr. McDowell, "a berry patch must be replanted every 3 or 4 years. My patch yields just as heavily as ever. You ask why that is? I don't know, but I think it is owing to the fact that I apply manure heavily every year.

"I plant my rows 4 feet apart, letting the plants mat together in the rows. The first thing in the spring, as soon as the ground can be worked, I run through with a five-tooth cultivator twice. Then I loosen up the soil around the plants with a garden hoe. It is slow work, but I find that it pays. I aim to keep up the cultivation until the berries begin to blossom. I then open up the ditches with shovel plow and turn the water in. Irrigation is given as often as I think necessary.

"As soon as the crop is harvested I run a mowing machine through the patch, cutting the leaves off close to the ground. When the

leaves dry I set fire to them, thus burning them up and killing all insects, etc., that may be present. Prices are usually satisfactory, and I have little trouble in disposing of the berries. I have not kept a memorandum of the exact yield of the last two years. Three years ago I had 2,200 gallons. I expect to get this year from \$1@\$.25 per crate.

"The Wilson and the Timbrell are the varieties I raise. Both are good berries. The Wilson is the most attractive in the market. The Timbrell is the best shipper. I ship to Spokane and Montana. This fall I will increase to 3 acres, planting the Wilson."

SPOKANE'S FRUIT FAIR.

On Monday night the business men of Spokane held a meeting and appointed a committee to take charge of the fruit fair consisting of John A. Finch, J. M. Comstock, O. Rankin, J. Goldstein, J. W. Wentworth, W. H. Cowles and H. W.

Peel. H. Bolster was chosen chairman of the committee and F. W. Smith, secretary.

No definite plan or organization for the work was agreed upon at the meeting, those present evidently thinking it better not to hamper the committee, but to give them full authority to adopt plans and put them into execution.

An exchange tells about a Michigan fruit grower who stored some apples in barrels lined with newspapers and some in the usual way. After a long storage it was found that the apples in the paper-lined barrels were in fine, sound condition, while those in the unlined packages were more or less decayed.

The secretary of the Oregon board of horticulture estimates the 1895 fruit crop of that state at 12,000,000 pounds of dried product, most of which were prunes. The 1897 fruit crop is estimated at about 50,000,000 pounds, of which four-fifths are prunes.

Coffin Bros.' Department Store

..The 4th of July..

On the above date, we will have our first prize distribution day. There will be five in all between July 4th and December 31st. **Ten Valuable Gifts Each Time**, so be sure and get what tickets are due you. Every number on your tickets will stand an equal show clear through all the drawings except those that have actually won prizes.

On July 5th at 10 o'clock a. m.

These Ten Gifts will be Distributed. Read the List:

- 1st-One Elegant Bicycle. Lady's or Gentleman's.
- 2d-One Plow, Good Make.
- 3d-One Ice Cream Freezer.
- 4th-One 5-Gallon Stone Churn.
- 5th-One Elegant Silver Sugar Bowl and Six Spoons.
- 6th-One Silver Cake Dish.
- 7th-One 5-lb Can Price Bak. Powder
- 8th-One Pair Fine Shoes. Lady's or Gentleman's.
- 9th-1 All Wool Suit of Clothes.
- 10th-1 Elegant 65 Piece Decorated Dinner Set.