

A PAGE FOR THE FARMER

What Government Experts and Other Prominent Writers Say on Agriculture and Allied Topics.

STARTING AN ORCHARD IN THE RIGHT WAY

Pruning and Cultivating Are Necessary to Secure the Best Results—By Prof. V. H. Davis, Ohio Agricultural College.

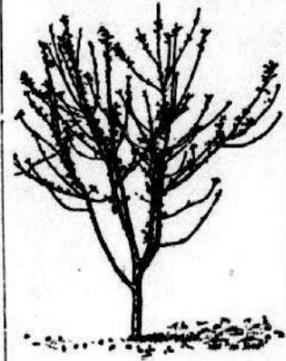
The first few years of the life of an orchard is the most critical period of its existence, because neglect is more likely to occur and the injuries done at this time can, in many cases, never be overcome by subsequent good care. In my orchard of some 8,000 apple trees are a few hundred each of pear, plum, cherry and peach, a plan somewhat as follows was pursued in selecting apple, pear, cherry and plum stock:

I took trees not more than two years old from bud or graft. In my judgment, trees of this age will stand transplanting better than older ones, and in the end will make better trees. Peach trees are large enough at one year and should never be older. Trees were ordered in the fall for spring shipment, at which season, in my case, they were set out. I bought from the large nurseries that grow their own stock and deliver direct from their own grounds. The small nursery in the locality of the orchard is usually preferable for small quantities of plants, but is not available for large orders. I never buy from agents, because I object to paying their commission. The nurseryman who is largely a dealer is also avoided, for every time trees are handled the chance of mixing varieties increases and it becomes more difficult to fix responsibility in case of misrepresentation.

Nurserymen are responding to the popular demand for low-headed trees, but they are not low enough yet. The first branches should be not more than 20 inches from the ground and less would usually be preferable. Shipments should be made as early in the spring as weather conditions will permit and upon arrival the trees should be unpacked and "heeled in" at once. Transplanting should be done just as early as the soil will work readily. The roots should never be exposed for any length of time to the sun and wind, and should always go into the soil wet. In the morning we take up

solid wood, in order to give the wounds a chance to heal readily. A root much longer than the others may be cut back for the sake of symmetry and ease of transplanting.

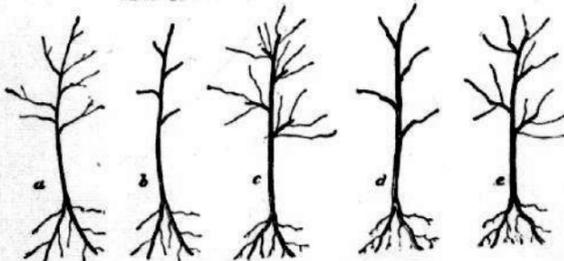
After transplanting, the top is cut back to correspond to the loss of roots. Otherwise the evaporation of moisture from the top may be more rapid than the broken roots can absorb it, and the trees suffer, if not die outright. With apple, pear, plum and cherry from three to five branches should be selected from those on the tree as it comes from the nursery, to



Four-Year-Old Tree After Pruning.

form the scaffold branches of the future top. These should be situated alternately along the trunk, but never opposite each other, and should be cut back to spurs five to ten inches in length. The others are removed entirely. Each of these spurs will throw out several branches the first season, but the ends of the spurs will usually dry out and begin to decay.

The second pruning is confined almost wholly to the removal of the



THE PROPER WAY OF PRUNING.

(a) Tree as received from nursery. (b) Same pruned after transplanting. (c) Same at end of first season. (d) Same as usually pruned the second spring. (e) Same properly pruned the second season.

planted the number of trees that can be planted before noon and prune the roots. These are placed on a sled or wagon and covered at once with straw, tarp or burlap and water thrown over the entire bundle until thoroughly wet. Immediately after transplanting, the trees should be well mulched with hay, straw, manure or any material not too coarse.

This mulching is essential, no matter whether the clean culture or the sod mulch system is to be followed. The mulch not only holds moisture around the roots, but keeps the soil loose and mellow. A good tree well planted and well mulched will make



Four-Year-Old Tree Before Pruning.

a surprising growth the first year. I have measured as much as five feet in our own orchard in soil considered poor.

Pruning is the one operation of the orchard most neglected or improperly done. As to the roots, they require little pruning, because 50 per cent. or more of the root system is left in the soil, even with the most careful digging. All broken or mangled roots should be cut off smoothly back to

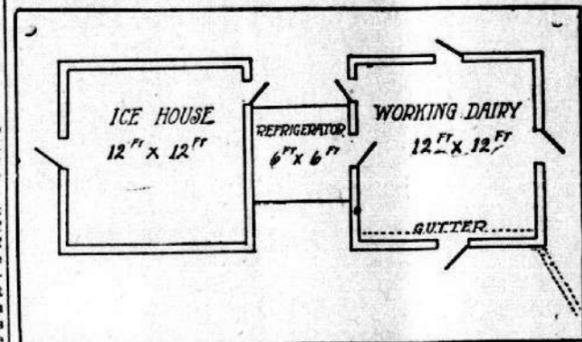
dead tips of these branches or spurs. These are cut back to the base of the first new branches, and if the wood shows no decay the wound is left to heal. If, however, there are signs of decaying wood, the cut is made at the base of the next branch and so on until solid wood is found. Otherwise the decay will run back into the main branches, or even to the trunk of the tree, and eventually cause its death. Every branch that does not mar the general form of the top is left on the little tree during the second season to bear leaves and manufacture plant food. Root growth depends upon the leaves just as much as branch and leaf growth depends upon the roots, and the root system, weakened by transplanting, needs the stimulus of all the plant food possible in order to renew the parts destroyed. This renewed vigor immediately manifests itself in growth of top, and the less the equilibrium between root and top is disturbed the greater will be the tendency to bear fruit so far as the pruning factor alone is concerned. Subsequent pruning should consist largely in thinning out the superfluous branches and wayward growths sufficient to admit proper amounts of air and sunshine. Many branches marked for removal the second or third season may have borne fruit for several years.

Mice injuries are prevented by cleaning up all rubbish in which they might breed and congregate, keeping the soil around the tree for two or three feet perfectly bare. Frequently a little mound of earth six or eight inches high is piled and tramped solidly around the base of the tree. So far as rabbit injuries are concerned, the removal of all brush, briars, weeds, etc. in which they are most likely to congregate, together with a liberal use of the gun and ferret, have prevented an serious trouble with me so far.

With all its possessions considered there are six colored persons to every white in the British empire.

IDEAL ARRANGEMENT FOR FARM CREAMERY

Plans for Buildings Which Would Cost About Six Hundred Dollars—By Prof. H. H. Dean, Ontario Agricultural College.



The working dairy has a ten-foot ceiling and the concrete floor slopes two inches to the gutter. Cold air circulates from the ice-house through the refrigerator. Openings being provided between the two parts. There should also be suitable flues for the warm air to pass from the refrigerator to the ice. Perfect circulation of air is essential to a dry refrigerator.

A building 12 by 12 feet will not be too large for a small creamery, especially if room for a refrigerator is taken out. If a balloon frame of two by four-inch scantlings is made, there ought to be a boarding of inch lumber, then one or two ply of building paper, then matched lumber inside and planed boards with battens on the outside, and the air space at the top and bottom between the studs should be made as tight as possible in order to make a "dead" or "still" air space in the wall which is the best non-conductor of heat and cold. It is better still to fill this space with planer shavings or asbestos, though this will add to the cost. The ceiling should be finished with two ply of lumber, and one or two ply of paper between.

If the farmer can afford to do so, we should advise having the air circulate from the ice to the refrigerator, which is most conveniently placed between the ice house and the creamery

or working room. By this plan the ice does not need to be moved for cooling the refrigerator, thus saving labor. The walls of both ice-house and refrigerator need to be well insulated for good results on this plan.

Where a small refrigerator only is required and where the supply of ice is kept in a house and covered with sawdust, as is the custom on most farms, we believe it would be most satisfactory to purchase an ordinary house refrigerator of the desired size and keep this in one corner of the small creamery. This refrigerator can be filled from the ice-house as may be required, and for such a dairy as seems to be needed by subscriber, it will probably be the most satisfactory form of refrigerator. An ice box might be made in one corner of the work room, or be built under the ice, where the ice-house adjoins the creamery, but such an arrangement is likely to produce dampness in the cool chamber, which means moldy butter.

The plan shown herewith for a combined dairy, refrigerator and ice-house, would probably cost \$500 to \$600. If this is too expensive, then we should favor a well-built balloon frame with four-inch air space, and the use of an ordinary house refrigerator for cooling, and holding the butter until it is ready for market.

MAKE YOUR OWN DRAINAGE IMPLEMENT

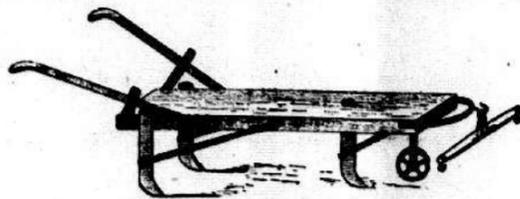
By H. E. Cook.

Many a farmer is delayed in his work by so-called spring holes, or spots where water comes to the surface, and having no chance to get away, soaks into the soil until an acre, perhaps more, is influenced. We all understand that the water should be taken out, but have been educated to believe that drainage is to be advised only when we can systematically lay out a field four to six rods apart and put the tile down four feet deep.

Our subsoils in the east are generally hard, and must be picked up before they can be handled with a shovel. It is not very encouraging to ask a man upon soils worth \$30 an acre to spend \$25 or, perhaps, \$40 an

laterals connecting this main with the surrounding land.

The frame for this machine should be a three-inch hard wood plank five feet long and ten inches wide. Have three coupler-shaped irons turned up and pointed so they will dig 18 inches long, three inches wide and five-eighths inch thick. Put an old plow wheel under the front end to balance the machine, arrange a draw iron in front and handles which can be raised and lowered to accommodate the holder as he walks behind astride the ditch. The horses are hitched to an even six feet long, one each side of the ditch. The driver sits upon the machine, which will usually be all the



Effective Drainage Implement.

acre in tile and labor, and this is particularly true when we ask him to dig four feet deep into this hard soil. But here is a cheap way out of this trouble. It will help the back and conscience, as well as the pocket-book. Let me suggest the use of a soil loosener or digger, which can be made at any country blacksmith repair shop at a small expense, I should say not to exceed \$15.

There may be such a tool manufactured, but I do not know where. If there is, perhaps this article will bring it out. Let us take a plow, first throwing out a furrow, then go in with the digger and continue until we are down two feet leading from the center of this spring hole to some favorable outlet. It is never difficult to find an outlet, because these conditions are nearly always found upon hilly or rolling land where grades are easy. After we have found the advantage of these special leaders, if we have put in a good-sized tile three or four inches, we can afterward put in

extra weight needed. The number of times necessary to open up the soil will depend upon the subsoil. Go through until the soil has loosened to give a shoveful in a place. The shovel will not then have to push his shovel beyond its own length.—Orange Judd Farmer.

Cows That Make Profit.—Prof. C. H. Eckles of the Missouri college of agriculture, says the milk produced by the average Missouri cow will sell for about \$30 at the creamery, or when made into first-class butter. A good cow of the dairy breeds will make at least \$50 cash income every year. I have a list of about fifty Missouri farmers who report a cash income of from \$50 to \$100 per cow every year, and these figures do not include the income from the calves and pigs fed on the skim-milk. But, says one, milking is a tremendous task. As a matter of fact, it takes only 60 hours' time, worth about six dollars, to milk a cow six months.

Getting His Own Back.
"Thank goodness, sisters," shouted the suffragette leader, "our sex doesn't have to use razors."
"My wife uses my razor," spoke up to mock little men in the third row.
"Use a razor? What for?"
"Why, to sharpen her pen with."

Hot Altruism.
"This man combines the more startling qualities of Beaconsfield and Pitt, lacking the faults of both!"
"Who is he?" inquired the visitor in Plunkville.
"Sam Pills, stranger; our candidate for bag reeve."



PURELY FEMININE

HOW TO ENTERTAIN

POINTS FOR THE WISE HOSTESS TO REMEMBER.

Secret of Success is by No Means in Mere Display, But Rather in Offering Novelties to One's Guests.

Do not limit your entertaining to when you can cut a splurge. The clever hostess is she who has her friends often in a small way.

A table or two of bridge, a small dinner or an afternoon tea occasionally will cost no more than one elaborate function and furthers one's reputation for hospitality.

The secret of success in modest entertaining is to seek novelty in menu or service. This does not mean that money must be lavished; thought and ingenuity often gain more artistic effects than dollars.

To achieve a reputation for delicious cooking is not difficult if one personally supervises the courses served. Soon original touches can be added to old recipes and quite commonplace food can masquerade as masterpieces of a chef.

At a tea, instead of serving ordinary lettuce or bacon sandwiches, evolve new fillings. Tiny circles of brown bread, thinly buttered and spread with a layer of orange marmalade and grated cream cheese are not costly, but they are both novel and delicious.

Another delicious sandwich can be made from oblong pieces of rye bread buttered and spread with a mixture of olives, red peppers and endive chopped finely and mixed with sauce tartare.

Tea can be varied by passing with it ginger preserves or currant jelly, which gives a delightful flavor to any uncreamed tea.

If a little sherry is stirred in the whipped cream a cup of chocolate will

have quite a different and very delicious taste. A few drops of vanilla added to the chocolate when boiling also improves the flavor.

If one cannot afford to send to caterers for special dishes when they entertain, there is more reason to bring the mind to bear on home cooking. Take a little trouble, experiment, until new dishes are concocted, and the ambitious though poor hostess need not fear comparison with professional cooks.

BODICE TO CLOTH-DRESS.



In cloth to match the skirt, this bodice would look well. A plastron is taken down the center of front and continued round the waist, graduating off to nothing at sides. Buttons trim the front of it. A piece of embroidery is taken over each shoulder and caught down under the plastron; a piece of it is also used for the collar.

WILL PLEASE THE BABY.

Home-Made Toy for the Small Ruler of the Household.

It often happens that some little simple home-made toy will please a child quite as much, or even more, than some expensive toy that has been



bought in a shop. The rattle shown in our illustration can be made in a few moments from odds and ends that certainly will be found at home. The head of the rattle from which this sketch was made, consisted of an ordinary empty wooden match box, through the tray of which a stick of wood (an old pen holder will answer the purpose) had been inserted to form a handle. In the wood that protrudes above the box and again just a little below the box, a small hole had been made and string passed through and tied tightly round the box, thus keeping it firmly in position on the handle. It had been covered with a piece of brightly-colored material, fastened above and below with smart little ribbon bows, and with a few dried peas inside it, it made an excellent and attractive rattle for its little owner.

Baby has a habit of putting his toys in his mouth, so that a piece of silk or cotton of fast dye that has previously been washed should be chosen for the cover.

Attractive Coiffure Band.
A pretty home-made coiffure band seen at a recent dance was fashioned of gold gauze, twisted around two bands of milliner's wire and finished on the left side with two small gold roses just coming into bloom, and half a dozen very fine trailing leaves. The heavy gold roses are very trying in the hair. Another ornament was finished with gauze and white tulle rosettes and a third glittering effect was secured by wearing a half-wreath of artificial wheat, such as you see mixed with poppies and corn flowers on summer hats. Then the wreath was gilded.

WHITE YOKES IN STYLE.

Well-Dressed Women Are Showing a Distinct Preference for Them.

There is a distinct return on the part of well-dressed women to small yokes of white lace in colored gowns rather than those of flax net.

When there are sleeves as well as a yoke of the transparent material it may be as well to retain them, but if only a yoke is used white lace should be chosen.

There is no return to the wide yoke of any kind that reaches across shoulders. The cloth must come up from the waist in a straight line to within two inches at most of the base of the neck.

The shallow square, or round yoke, is the kind used, and it is made of point applique, Brussels, baby Irish or German valenciennes.

In dressy frocks lace is used for the tight sleeves as well as for the yoke, and in frocks of soft cloth or heavy stuffs the sleeves are of the material quite long and plain.

HIGH WAISTLINE WITH A SASH.

Fashion That Has Sprung Into High Favor in Paris.

There is a very pretty phase of the high waistline dress that has caught on remarkably quickly in Paris. The back and side gores of the skirt are cut off at the Empire waistline, but the front gore and the entire front of the bodice are cut in one. I saw the dress in white broadcloth, with a chemise of silver craquele net. The neck of the waist was cut out in large scallops, and embroidered in a tremendously heavy design done in silver and lapis-lazuli blue. Aside from the trimming, the waist was very simple—an inch-wide tuck on each shoulder at the arm-hole and a few narrower tucks in the sleeves. The high waist-line was defined by a sash of silver, ending in heavy silver fringe. Worn under artificial light, the dress was really very beautiful.—The Delineator.

Vivid Colors.

As this is a season of vivid colors, even room robes and dressing accoues have taken on brilliancy. One sees less of the pale blues and pinks always used for these garments.

One of the new ideas is to use the immense cotton handkerchief called bandana, or rather several of them, to make up a short kimono for wear. Five of these are apt to make a good looking garment. One should get them yellow and red, with a wide selvage, which does not need a hem or trimming. The edges are put together by ribbon run through button-holes and tied in little flat bows on top.

Silk Irish Lace.

Paris is now using the shamrock and Shamrock laces crocheted in coarse silk. They are quite good looking and are dyed to match the blouse, as most all laces have been this season.

TWO YEARS OF FREEDOM.

No Kidney Trouble at All Since Using Doan's Kidney Pills.

Mrs. J. B. Johnson, 719 Wee St., Columbia, Mo., says: "I was in misery with kidney trouble, and finally had to undergo an operation. I did not rally well, and began to suffer smothering spells and dropsy. My left side was badly swollen and the action of the kidneys much disordered. My doctors said I would have to be tapped, but I began using Doan's Kidney Pills instead, and the swelling subsided and the kidneys began to act properly. Now my health is fine." (Statement made Aug. 1, 1906, and confirmed by Mrs. Johnson Nov. 16, 1908.) Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Then the Joke Was on John.

An Englishman and a colonel of the United States army were present at a Fourth of July celebration. The band began playing "Yankee Doodle," and the Englishman, not being in the spirit of the occasion testily asked: "Is that the tune the old cow died of?" "Oh, no, not at all," retorted the colonel. "That is the tune the old bull died of."

HUMOR BURNED AND ITCHED.

Eczema on Hand, Arms, Legs and Face—It Was Something Terrible.

Complete Cure by Cuticura.

"About fifteen or eighteen years ago eczema developed on top of my hand. It burned and itched so much that I was compelled to show it to a doctor. He pronounced it ringworm. After trying his different remedies the disease increased and went up my arms and to my legs and finally on my face. The burning was something terrible. I went to another doctor who had the reputation of being the best in town. He told me it was eczema. His medicine checked the advance of the disease, but no further. I finally concluded to try the Cuticura Remedies and found relief in the first trial. I continued until I was completely cured from the disease, and I have not been troubled since. C. Burkhardt, 236 W. Market St., Chambersburg, Pa., Sept. 19, 1908." Foster Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

Don't Blame the Man.

She—They've just been married, you know, and he kisses her every morning at the door when he is leaving.

He—Of course.

She—I suppose he'll stop that as soon as the honeymoon's over.

He—He'll have to. She won't go to the door with him after the honeymoon's over.

PATENTS.

List of Patents Issued Last Week to Northwestern Inventors.

Reported by Lthrop & Johnson, patent lawyers, 910 Pioneer Press building, St. Paul, Minn.: J. Day, Duluth, Minn., spirit level; S. T. Ferguson, Minneapolis, Minn., culvert pipe; R. E. Flyberg, Halstad, Minn., automatic pistol; J. H. McCord, Pierre, S. D., match box; N. C. Sprague, Minneapolis, Minn., envelope; P. E. Sundquist, Albany, Minn., cutter bar; G. I. Willett, Ree Heights, S. D., post hole auger.

Trapping.

Lady—I've been expecting a packet of medicine by post for a week and I haven't received it yet.

Postoffice Clerk—Yes, ma'am. Kindly fill in this form and state the nature of your complaint.

Lady—Well, if you must know, it's biliousness.

In Self-defense.

"Great soul you have around here."

"You bet."

"Your corn must be twenty feet high."

"And we have to plant a dwarf variety to hold it down to that."

Red, Weak, Weary, Watery Eyes Relieved by Murine Eye Remedy. Compounded by Experienced Physicians. Conforms to Pure Food and Drug Laws. Murine Doesn't Smart; Soothes Eye Pain. Try Murine in Your Eyes. At Druggists.

Practical.

Knicker—I am greatly interested in the preservation of the forests.

Mrs. Knicker—Suppose you begin by watering the rubber plant.

No Doubt.

"There's going to be a linen trust."

"Well?"

"I s'pose we'll have to wear its collar."

Pettit's Eye Salve First Sold in 1807 100 years ago, sales increase yearly, wonderful remedy; cured millions weak eyes. All druggists or Howard Bros., Buffalo, N. Y.

That He Did.

"That man has done some mighty good things."

"Yes; I was one of them."

Your working power depends upon your health! Garfield Tea corrects disorders of liver, kidneys, stomach and bowels; overcomes constipation, purifies the blood—brings good health.

A woman refuses to acknowledge her inability to accomplish anything she wants to.

People who blame Providence for their crops are usually reticent as to their sowing.