EXPERIMENTS IN PLANTING FRUIT TREES

A Fine Example of Correct Cultivation and Spraying—A Young Bartlett Pear Tree With a Good Yield of Fruit.

An account of a series of experiments in tree planting several years ago, in which I participated, may be of interest.

I may premise by stating the extraordinary fact, that apple trees planted badly, according to current rules as to good planting, grew better than those planted in the orthodox way.

Trees with injured roots not trimmed were huddled into small holes, the soil over them being stamped violently and yet they made more growth than trees planted in the usual way with the roots carefully trimmed to cut off broken or bruised portions.

In the following experiments two sets of trees, 560 in all, consisting of apples, pears, plums and cherries, were used and the result of the first year of the trials were as astounding as those mentioned above and even still more emphatic.

Two sets of trees, as nearly as possible equal in size and vigor, were tried against each other in each experiment, one set being planted in what is usually regarded as the correct manner, while the trees of the other set were stuck into the holes gate-post fashion and the soil placed over the roots was rammed heavily while it was thoroughly puddled.

Out of ten trials with apple trees those which had been put in roughly and rammed gave greater wood growth in the first season than the others in eight instances, the excess ranging from 8 to 89 per cent and one of the exceptions was carried out in such a light and sandy soil that the effect of ramming was slight and of short duration.

The roots of the rammed trees were necessarily more or less injured by the ramming; there was a time when these trees seemed to be suffering from this treatment, but it was of short duration.

It was concluded that the effect of injury to the roots leads to the formation of a fresh set of roots, while the ramming puts the soil in close contact with the roots and probably increases its capillarity.

As it may be presumed that trees of all kinds and not fruit trees alone would be similarly affected by the methods of planting, the subject is of great importance.

For, my part, I cannot believe that the ramming did much damage to the roots, for it is inconceivable that badly mashed roots was the result, for experience shows that roots so injured rot off.

In speaking of putting the trees in small holes, this is somewhat after the Stringfellow method where the roots of the trees are trimmed off to mere stumps and the tops much the same and the trees are thrust into the holes and rammed. The chief object of this system is to make the trees send roots deeply into the soil, as a security against drought.

Great success has attended the system of packing the under soil compactly while keeping the top soil in a fine state of looseness by means of frequent cultivation, followed by mulching.

The capillary of the lower soil is increased by its close packing so that water from below is induced to rise abundantly to the roots of the trees and plants while its evaporation is checked by the fine and loose condition of the surface soil.

I believe that these experiments went far to prove that a heavier stamping of the soil over the roots of trees than is commonly practiced, or even ramming is beneficial and that cutting the roots back, say within three inches of the stems, causes the development of a more healthy and vigorous root system than is produced by only tipping the bruised ends.

The compression of the soil in a wide hole is desirable to an extent when it is not too wet, but planting in a narrow hole where the roots are cramped and curled must be condemned in the light of general experience which proves beyond all question that a wide spread of fibrous roots is conducive to rapid and healthy growth.

What do we find on digging up a dwarfed, dying or otherwise unhealthy bush. Almost, if not invariably, we see roots cramped and twisted and almost devoid of fibers. And why does transplanting young trees and bushes in a nursery induce the production of a mass of fibrous roots, except as a consequence of transference from a state and compact place, to soil in condition of friable mold?

Almost any practicable degree of pressure over the roots in planting may be advantageous, but it does not follow that solidity to check sideways root growth is also beneficial. If it were so the annual digging, or, rather, forking of fruit plantations would call for condemnation.

Experienced growers of fruit mostly agree that they always find that trees planted well in accordance with what is generally considered the proper methods flourish better than those less carefuly planted and this, there is every reason to believe, is the common experience.

I am sure that experiments serve a useful purpose but should strongly recommend growers of fruit not to act on a large scale upon the results of any experiment, and although firmer planting than is usual may be tried, prudence directs that any further testing of the methods described should be limited, for some time to come, at least, to small operations.

WORK ON THE LAWN AND HOME GROUNDS

If Patchy and Bare in Spots Keep on Seeding it the Whole Summer Through.

How are the lawn and home grounds in general? Are they all that should be to make summer home life enjoyable and a pleasing sight to the passer by?

If the lawn is patchy and bare in spots, keep on seeding it the whole summer through; the seed will finally catch and fill up the bare places.

White clover is a fine lawn plant but many find that it dies out after a few years. White clover, as all the clovers, is a biennial, completely dying after the second year. If the lawn is kept closely clipped, white clover seed should be sown each fall or spring to insure a permanent stand.

The same result may be secured by not mowing in the fall, allowing the plants to blossom and seed.

Clean Dropping Boards.

Unless a dropping board is cleaned regularly and treated for vermin, better not have one in the summer time. They furnish an excellent place for flies to multiply if neglected.

Power From Windmills.

A Texas farmer has succeeded in so mounting a windmill on a chassis that it will drive a plow or carry its designer along good roads at a fair speed.

HERE'S AN OPEN-AIR BAKERY

Breton Housewives Have Apparently a Keen Eye for Labor Saving Methods.

London.—In these days of machine bakeries and steam-heated ovens, it is refreshing to find the simplicity which prevails in certain parts of Brittany regarding the baking of bread.

The Breton housewives have apparently a keen eye for labor-saving methods, and realized that it would save both time and trouble if the bread for the entire village were all baked in one oven. Accordingly, a number of villagers clubbed together and built an oven in the open fields,

Bread-Baking in Brittany, Where the Villagers Have a Common Oven in the Fields.

and the families take turns in providing the baker. Judging by the picture the work is delegated to the men of the household, who make loaves of brown bread for all the families who have a share in the oven.

BEGGARS WITH FORTUNES

Miserly Hermits Who Lived Only to Hoard Gold—Report Famous Cases.

London.—The announcement in one day of the deaths of two hermits is an unusual event. One, a Scotsman, named John Kirkpatrick, of Dumbartonshire, had become known as the "hairy man of the Vale of Leven."

He lived near Jamestown, in a hut which was at one time used as a beehouse. His hair was never cut, and grew to a very great length, and he subsisted chiefly on crusts picked up in the streets. He died on Sunday last from lack of food, and it was discovered on searching his hut that he had a large sum of money invested in banks and companies, the shares in some of which were paying him ten per cent. interest.

The second case is reported from Paris, where, also on Sunday, a maiden lady of seventy-three years of age, was discovered dead in a small cheaply rented house at Longueville, close to Dieppe, where she lived by herself. On searching her house the police discovered no less than £10,000 in golden coins and over £6,000 in securities.

"One of the famous hermits of bygone times lived in France, on the outskirts of Paris. M. Vandille had been a judge in Boulogne, and after at Paris, and was always known for his miserly ways."

KAISER'S FATAL NUMERAL 40

German Statisticians Think William II. Will Die in 1940—Will Then Be Eighty-One.

Berlin.—"The number 25 plays no part in my destiny; 40 is my numeral." So spoke the kaiser cryptically at his recent jubilee. What could he mean?

Statisticians throughout the empire set to work to discover why his majesty had plumped for 40. Their zeal has had a remarkable result. The kaiser expects to die in 1940!

Why? Because the dates 88 and 40 have played an extraordinary part in the death history of the Hohenzollerns. Friederich I. died in 1440, Albrecht in 1488, George Wilhelm in 1640, his successor in 1688. A century later the latter dates appear again in an extraordinary coincidence. Friedrich Wilhelm I. died 1740, while "Alte Fritz," son of Emperor Friedrich, both died in 1840, while William I. and his son, Emperor Frederich, both died in 1888—truly a remarkable tale of events. And so the cycle comes round again in 1940. William II. will then be eighty-one.

Go 7,000 Miles to Wed.

Milwaukee, Wis.—Moy Bock Quong and Moy Beck Tong, sons of Charlie Toy, one of the richest Chinese in America, will leave on a seven thousand mile journey to Hongkong to marry girls they will see for the first time on their wedding day.

Boy Drowned in Vinegar.

Paris, Ill.—Falling head foremost into an eight-gallon jar of vinegar, Lester David, aged two years, son of George David, a farmer, was drowned before his mother could rescue him.

Largest Fire Chief Dead.

Paducah, Ky.—James Wood, president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, is dead here. He was the largest fire chief in the world and weighed 325 pounds.

It's Illuminating.

"Did you see where in some city they have put luminous paint on the park benches to prevent spooning?"

"Luminous paint? That's a bright idea."

Water in bluing is adulteration. Glass and water makes liquid blue costly. Buy Red Cross Ball Blue, makes clothes whiter than snow. Adv.

Thoroughly Enjoyable.

"How was the picnic?"

"A great success. More people came near getting drowned than on any other similar occasion I ever heard of."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle. Adv.

Plant That Catches Its Food.

The common bladderwort, an aquatic plant, not only defends itself against insects and animals, but catches worms and fish for its food. As it floats underneath the surface of the water its leafy branches spread out in all directions. Its leaves are covered with little oval bladders filled with air, and at one end of each bladder is a cavity which leads into the mouth below. Inside the bladder is a small trap door, which opens when pressure is put on it. A small worm or a small fish can enter this door, but they can never come out.

Same Thing.

In the early days of Arizona, an elderly and pompous chief justice was presiding at the trial of a murder case. An aged negro had been ruthlessly killed, and the only eye witness to the murder was a very small negro boy. When he was called to give his testimony, the lawyer for the defense objected on the ground that he was too young to know the nature of an oath, and in examining him asked:

"What would happen to you if you told a lie?"

"De debbil 'ud git me!" the boy replied.

"Yes, and I'd get you," sternly said the chief justice.

"Dat's jus' what I said!" answered the boy.—National Monthly.

Egged Off.

De Wolf Hopper, at a luncheon in New York, said of a bad actor:

"He's had hints enough to quit the stage, dear knows. He's had more hints than Phatt.

"Phatt, after a brief experience on the road as 'Hamlet,' returned to his job in Canal street.

"'How did you come to leave the stage?' I asked him one night.

"'I had hints that I wasn't suited to it,' he replied.

"Thinking he meant the critics, I said:

"'Aha, the little birds told you, eh?'

"'Well,' said he, 'they'd have become birds, I suppose, if they'd been allowed to hatch.'"

Aluminum is to be turned out at the rate of 25,000 tons annually at a new hydro-electric manufactory now under construction in North Carolina.

WINCHESTER

"Leader" and "Repeater"

SMOKELESS POWDER SHELLS

Carefully inspected shells, the best combinations of powder, shot and wadding, loaded by machines which give invariable results are responsible for the superiority of Winchester "Leader" and "Repeater" Factory Loaded Smokeless Powder Shells. There is no guesswork in loading them. Reliability, velocity, pattern and penetration are determined by scientific apparatus and practical experiments. Do you shoot them? If not, better try the W brand. They are the FIRST CHOICE OF THE BEST SHOTS.

Hearth-Hunger.

"Beyond the need for bread, a woman's needs are two; deeper than all cravings save the mother's passion, firm-rooted in our endless past, is the hearth-hunger. The trees that sweep my chimney have their roots at the world's core! The flowers in my door yard have grown there for a thousand years! What millenniums have done, shall decades undo? We are not so shallow, so plastic as that! We will go into the mills, the shops, the offices, if we must, but we know we are off the track of life. Neither our desire nor our power is there."—Cornelia A. P. Comer, in Atlantic.

Hang the Expense.

"Is your new beau good to you, Mame?"

"Good to me? I should say he is. He picks out the ten-cent movies to take me to."

As to the Manner Born.

There was a change in curates in the parish, and shortly afterwards one of the prominent men of the congregation asked his chauffeur:

"How do you like the new curate, Barney?"

"Middlin'," replied Barney; "but he can't come up to the old one. 'Twas himself could tell ye all about hell. Shure, to hear him describin' it, you'd think he was bred, born and reared there."—Harper's.

Lo, the Poor American!

Hagop Barasyjian of Fitchburg and Menad Estabobrakamasian of Lowell went fishing yesterday in Lake Chargoggagoggmanchaunagoggchaubunagungamaug, near Worcester, with their cousin, Haijjoman Saralancroparanian, whom they are visiting for the week-end, but you would never have learned it from us if we hadn't been able to paste it.—Boston Globe.

In an endeavor to cure deep-seated diseases French physicians are experimenting with injecting solution of radium into the human body.

Even the silent man is unable to keep his ignorance under cover.

OLD ADAM STRONG IN HIM

Sad Time for Mother When She Realized Her Pet Had Passed Beyond the Angelic Period.

Mother's darling, age four, was not to be like other boys and learn to use naughty and slangy words. He was not allowed to play with the older boys in the neighborhood for fear his sensitive nature might be shocked at the language they used. One day, while mother was busy, he slipped over into the next street and played for half an hour with a crowd of older boys. In that half hour he took a complete course in modern language.

An his return mother said:

"Where has my precious been?"

"You should worry and get a wrinkle," he cheerfully replied.

"Dearest, tell mother where you learned such horrible language!" mother exclaimed.

"Aw, good night, shirt," came sweetly from the Cupid bow mouth.

Then mother commenced to weep, for she realized that her angel child was just a boy after all.

Conjugated.

Inquisitive Friend—Don't you find that your wife is very subject to moods?

Enpeck—No; she has only one mood, the imperative, and I'm the one that's subject to that!—Judge.

Expert Opinion.

"What do you have to say to all this gossip about Miss Maude's heavy intellectual eyebrows?"

"I don't believe they are as black as they are painted."

Secured.

Patience—How in the world did she ever secure a husband?

Patrice—To her apron-string.

In the Bungalo.

"How do you like our kitchenette?"

"Rather small, isn't it?"

"Oh, no; it's plenty large enough. We take our meals out."

Keep Your Blood Cool

by Right Kind of Food and Enjoy Hot Weather

It's largely a matter of selecting the hot weather diet with reason.

Summer is Nature's season of activity—seed-time, growing-time, harvest-time—a time of expansion, energy—and Man is influenced to do his part—to put forth greater effort because activity is in the very air.

BUT—caution is necessary to avoid excessive heat from combustion (digestion) of heavy, greasy food (Nature's way of generating body-heat in winter), in addition to the heat of the summer atmosphere.

Grape-Nuts

is the Ideal Food for hot weather because, being largely predigested (and concentrated) in the making at the factory, it is quickly absorbed, a small quantity affording great endurance with little effort in digesting it.

Grape-Nuts, made of Whole Wheat and Barley, contains all the natural elements of these cereals, including the phosphate of potash grown in the grain for rebuilding waste tissue cells, especially of brain and nerves.

Try for breakfast, lunch or supper:—

A Little Fruit; Saucer of Grape-Nuts and Cream; A Soft Boiled Egg; Slice of Crisp Toast, and a Cup of Postum, hot—or iced with sugar and lemon.—

Surprising how cool, yet full of healthy energy and "go" one feels on such a meal no matter what the weather.

"There's a Reason"