

FOR FARMERS, STOCK BREEDERS AND GARDENERS

Winter Gardens

Indian summer may have been arranged originally to provide the natives of this continent with one more opportunity to harvest their corn but in modern times this marvellous period of fall weather is used by the gardener to get in his tulips, daffodils and other bulbs which help to bridge that long blank period from the time of the first killing frost in the autumn until the earliest perennials start to bloom next season.

INDOOR BULBS

Daffodils, narcissus, Chinese lilies, hyacinths, early tulips and many of the smaller bulbs may all be grown indoors, and should be planted any time from now until the first of the year. For a succession of bloom it is advisable to plant a few pots each week or ten days. Pots are filled with special fibre, soil or pebbles. With the first named no drainage will be necessary and the material may be used over and over again.

PLANTING OUTSIDE

Planted outside bulbs will remain in the same position for years, multiplying each season. The crocus, snow drop and other little chaps will bloom before the last snow is gone and are quickly followed by hyacinths, daffodils and early tulips. All except the tulips should be planted to a depth equal to twice their diameter.

MULCHING

There is no particular hurry about protecting herbaceous perennials, shrubby, rose bushes, strawberries and similar things against winter weather. As a matter of fact most injury takes place after January and usually in early spring and if protection is applied too soon it is liable to smother the plants or encourage house-keeping by lazy mice, which feed on the very things that are being protected.

Petsia has ruled that to eliminate favoritism, employees in the Department of Commerce must be examined in arithmetic, history and geography.

Garden Items

SPRING BLOOMS POSSIBLE IN MID-WINTER

Fool the bulbs and have blooms for Christmas. A prominent authority on garden matters suggests spring blooms for the Yuletide, and tells how this may be accomplished. He says to place the bulbs of daffodils, tulips and hyacinths in a cool place—such as a garage—and cover them with a sack, or anything similar, and let them get a good chilling or freezing. Then bring them inside and plant and the bulbs will respond as in the spring.

PLANT TREES IN FALL

Fresh strawberries for shortcake your favorite preserves made of luscious cherries—apples and pears to store away for winter—gather these fresh fruits right from your own garden! Yes, it can easily be accomplished, for most every home place has an opportunity to grow a few fruits. On the rear lawn and in the borders fruit trees may be used for shade and ornament, as well as for their fruit.

Fall is an ideal time to plant many of the fruits, for they have a chance to become established in the soil and are ready to start growth early in spring. This puts them weeks ahead of those trees set out in spring. After all, no fruit you could buy could taste half so delicious as that which you grow on your own grounds, so why not take advantage of this extra season—plant this fall and let Nature work for you all winter. Then, too, there is none of the rush in fall that there is in spring, for the planting season is almost twice as long.

Just a little patch of strawberries will provide quite a supply of this delicious fruit. A hedge of blackberries or raspberries across the back of the lot takes up little room, and you will be surprised with the amount of berries you can harvest if a little care is given to the plants. Grapes are useful both for training over an ornamental lattice or arbor, or when planted as a screen.

By giving a little thought to the seasons you can, in a very little space, provide a complete sequence of fruit from the first of the cherries through the apple and pear season in the fall. Plan now to plant whatever varieties are adapted to fall planting in your locality.

PREPARATION FOR ROSE BEDS IMPORTANT

Spring and fall are both considered proper planting times for roses, but the spring season is so short that more and more gardeners are coming to plant their roses in fall. From the standpoint of weather conditions, too, fall is an ideal time to set out roses, for in most cases the weather is fine for outdoor work. The selection of varieties is also more complete in fall than in spring, and disappoinments are thus avoided.

Select a place for roses where water does not stand after rains and one that is exposed to full sunshine part of the day. Trees or hedges are valuable on the north and west sides, but keep the roses away from the hungry root systems of these larger plants. The best soil is a rich clay loam, but roses do well in almost any soil if it is well fertilized, drained and cultivated.

Have the rose-beds prepared some weeks in advance of planting so that the soil will be firmly settled. Dig the ground at least 18 inches deep, replacing about one-third its bulk with well-rotted cow manure, or a lesser quantity of other manures. If commercial fertilizers are used in place of the manures, follow directions on the packages.

Should the rose-beds be located in a place that is damp or soggy all the time, drainage will be necessary. Tastes differ so very much and

conditions vary from garden to garden so radically that it is difficult to recommend special varieties. Not all do equally well. Some are very shy bloomers; some are naturally small, weak plants; but all of them have some virtue which has made them admired and desirable. Roses are so inexpensive that even the poorest plant more than pays for itself by the blooms it produces the first season. And, besides, the interested gardener always wants to try new and different things each year.

WINTER PROTECTION REQUIRES CARE

Of the roses that are almost certain to do well, there are: Gruss and Teplitz, Lady Alice Stanley, Mrs. Wakefield Christie-Miller, Madame Butterfly, Ophelia, Mrs. Aaron Ward, Radiance, and Willomere. These are not the best roses by any means; they are merely the easiest "doers" and, in general, succeed where others may fail. Those admired most for their extreme beauty or fragrance are: Jonkheer J. L. Mock, Kaiserin Auguste Viktoria, Lady Alice Stanley, Los Angeles, Mme. Butterfly, Mme. Edouard Herriot, Souv. de Georges Pernet, Willomere, and William F. Dreer.

Before the Hybrid Teas were created, the most popular roses were known as Hybrid Perpetuals. They are extremely beautiful, with very large flowers on quite large bushes, but most of them bloom in July only, or have only an occasional flower afterward. Because they are so extremely handsome, and because they withstand cold weather much better than the Hybrid Teas, they are still much grown in the colder parts of the country, and some rose enthusiasts prefer them to any other type. They should be grown in beds, the same as Hybrid Teas, but they need a little more space to develop.

Spring is the ideal time to plant roses. This is a good time to order your plants that you may have them on time to set out during first planting weather.

Mound the earth up around autumn-planted roses (see illustration) and when it has frozen, a covering of straw manure or leaves should be applied to protect against thawing and winter heaving. Use netting or branches to hold this covering in position. Do not cover the beds with wet, soggy manure, or use a dense covering which will smother the plants. The beds should be kept dry and shaded from the winter sun.

Austrian operatives are being imported to work in a silk factory being erected in Baskley, England, by a manufacturer of Vienna.

The Oberammergau Passion Plays will be given in 1934, although there has not been the usual interval of 10 years since the last production.

NEWSY NOTES

BY AGRICOLA

THE HYMENOPTERA OF CONNECTICUT

The Public Library is to be congratulated on having acquired a copy of the "Hymenoptera of Connecticut," a work dealing with insects having four wings. The book is thoroughly scientific, giving both the generic and specific distinctions of all such flies as are found in that State and is the result of the combined labors of Professors Viereck, MacGillivray, Brus, Wheeler, and Rohwer. This array of distinguished scientists has produced a work which can only be compared with Williston's "Diptera" or Blatchley's "Coleoptera"; thus intimating that it is almost (or shall it say quite?) perfect in its own particular line.

But why recommend a work dealing with Connecticut to students of insects in Prince Edward Island? Because, as even the most careless must have observed, insects tend to become cosmopolitan; so that a very great number of our species have worked up from the south, and more are on the way. Out of 100 hymenopterous insects of the coastal regions, we will not be greatly in error in saying that 90 are common to both districts, while five are peculiar to Connecticut and the same number to P. E. Island. That is to say, 90 out of 95 of these insects in our district will be noticed in this work; and with this proportion we must be content until Canada has her own books on these subjects.

"The order Hymenoptera includes all of those insects which, with few exceptions, have four membranous wings that are few-celled, without scales, and usually transparent or translucent. . . . The greatest diversity in form and habit exists, such as sawflies, hornets, four-winged parasitic Ichneumonidae, four-winged gall-flies, Chalcids, flies, Serphus flies, ants, wasps, and bees."

"Ichneumonidae, Chalcids, flies, and Serphus flies are of great importance, because they are parasitic upon other insects. . . . the tussock moth that devastates our shade trees has at least seventeen

kind of these parasitic four-winged flies attacking it and checking its ravages."

With these brief extracts we take leave of a very satisfactory work, with the hope that its accessibility will encourage the study of an important order of insects.

SOYBEANS v. PEANUTS

A correspondent asks if soybeans can be included among the hayseed when a grain-field is sown out; and from personal experience the answer must be: No! To sow it in competition with grass, clover, and grain would be a waste of good and (at present) expensive seed. An annual hay crop may be secured by sowing it thickly and alone, on a piece of clean land; if seed is wanted it is sown in drills, and the interspace cultivated, to keep down weeds till the beans cover the ground. I find that drills twenty inches apart are quite suitable.

The variety which appears to me most suitable, is the Mandarin variety, a yellow seeded bean, and one free from leaf blight—a very important matter. The seed is rather soft, because it is poor in starch content, and rich in oil and protein. If wetted or soaked the seed-coat wrinkles and may slip off if handled; for this reason inoculation is always done by lightly sprinkling the seed with inoculum.

A most effective substitute for oil-cake is made by grinding up one part of soybeans with two of oats. Soybeans are too oily to grind alone.

Readers may remember that a list of the industrial uses and food products of the soybean was given in last week's "Notes," and so numerous and valuable were they that it was thought another plant as useful would be hard to find. Two days after this appeared in "The Guardian," there was handed to me an article from the "American Magazine," describing the work of Dr. George Washington Carver, Negro scientist of the Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. This remarkable man, born a slave, stolen in his infancy from his owner, rescued, and adopted by a family called Carver, acquired an education by almost superhuman efforts, and became a "discoverer renowned far and wide for his chemical wizardry in creating useful new products from such stuff as peanut shells and fallen leaves, which most of us waste and throw away."

The list of useful products made from peanuts totals 285 and includes milk, butter, cheese, candles, "instant coffee", pickles, sauces, oils, shaving lotions, wood-stains, dyes, lard, linoleum, breakfast foods, soap, stock foods, face powder, tan

Spinning and Weaving

Send me your wool to be spun into yarn and wove into Blankets. The charges are: Single yarn 23 cents, doubled 26 cents per pound. Blankets \$2.00 and if unlaundered \$1.85. It takes five lbs. of wool per blanket. Wool must be well washed and all dirt and burrs picked out. The size of single yarn is medium and doubled yarn fine, medium and coarse. Put shippers name on all parcels and owners name, address and instructions inside. Send by mail or freight. Freight will be paid on 100 lb. lots.

Wm. LANDRIGAN, 65 Queen Street, Charlottetown.

remover, shampoo, printer's ink, and axle grease!

This must run soybeans pretty closely, but the bean still has an advantage as far as we are concerned: we can grow the bean but cannot grow the nut.

THE MAN-EATING TREE

What fine perennial vigor there is in the legend of the Man-Eating Tree: it comes along at intervals as regularly as the eclipse. Three times in the course of the years do I remember the usual exploration in search of the blood-thirsty vegetable and, alas, each time the explorer has returned intact, and disillusioned. And now another, a Bristol, with the uncommon name of Furst, is off to the wilds of Madagascar, on the same bootless errand. The Man-eating Tree, however is not confined to Madagascar. Once it was to be found in Central Africa, and at another time it flourished in the State of Columbia, in South America. In a volume called "The Living World," (which, I believe, was sold by subscription in the Island many years ago), there is a picture of this deadly tree which is worth describing. From a short stout trunk about the thickness of a man's body, rises a great number of long tentacle-like leaves, beset at their edges by sharp barbs. The leaves normally lie flat on the ground, but on contact with their prey they jerk upwards enclosing the unlucky victim, whose death Dr. George Washington Carver, Negro scientist of the Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. This remarkable man, born a slave, stolen in his infancy from his owner, rescued, and adopted by a family called Carver, acquired an education by almost superhuman efforts, and became a "discoverer renowned far and wide for his chemical wizardry in creating useful new products from such stuff as peanut shells and fallen leaves, which most of us waste and throw away."

All these yarns are said to emanate from native sources, and in their detail they lend a verisimilitude to an unconvincing narrative." They certainly have power to pull the explorer's leg afresh, in spite of the revelations of the past.

ACQUIRED CHARACTERISTICS I read, in these columns, of a British savant who states that animals of a low organization have had a limb cut off for several generations without passing on the mutilation to their progeny: and sec-

Storage Plants

Celery that is intended for storage should remain in the ground as late as it is possible in the fall, having regard to the difficulties in digging frozen ground. This vegetable may be injured by heavy frost. At digging time lift plants carefully, and cut off the roots taking care not to injure the leaf stalks or the stem. Any bunches which show signs of injury should be laid aside for use as soon as possible. Bunches are placed upright, and close together in deep boxes to go into cool storage quarters without delay. Covering lightly with newspapers or sacking reduces moisture loss from the plants and aids in keeping them in sound condition. Keeping till January is quite possible by this method if plants are sound and well matured.

Some gardeners report excellent results with smaller lots of celery from plants on which the roots are left, placed in boxes of earth and set away in low temperature. White-stemmed stalks they say are to be obtained from such treatment. Plants are set close together as when stored without the roots. By this method some gardeners claim to have extended the storage season for this vegetable very considerably.

Pumpkins, squashes and marrows need no covering and keep best in a dry storeroom. Where possible place them on slatted shelves so arranged that air can circulate freely round them. Occasional gardeners report pumpkins kept safely through the entire winter by special care in handling well grown mature specimens.

Wrapping each head of cabbage in several thicknesses of newspaper and placing wrapped heads on shelves is probably the most satisfactory way of storing cabbage, according to Professor C. P. Patterson, chief of the horticultural department, University of Saskatchewan. They may be piled two or three deep if necessary. Stems and roots should be cut off as they serve no purpose except to take up space in the storage quarters. Changing the papers may be found necessary if they become too moist as the winter advances. Ventilation of the storage quarters as with other garden products is here an important factor.

Not only that the child of a father who is over forty years of age, is likely to be mentally distinguished, while if the father is over sixty, the child may even be a genius. Considering the first of these statements, I believe it was Romanes who cut off the tails of mice for thirty successive generations, in the effort to produce a breed of tailless mice. He failed. One wonders how the biologist was betrayed into wasting his time in such a futile way, in the face of evidence to the contrary which comes down from the patriarchal days. He need only have referred to that sacrificial and hygienic rite enjoined on Abram and his descendants, and which, after centuries of mutilations, is still necessary. Possibly this practice took its rise in the Stone Age of mankind, for in that curious little anecdote related in Exodus 4, 24, Zipporah's use of the stone knife is evidently traditional. No, Nature is so ordered as never to reproduce an accidental mutilation, and it is well for the symmetry of the race.

But if Nature cannot be bludgeoned (as it were) into taking a certain path, she is not inflexible, and may easily be led, provided we ask not the impossible. By intensifying slight individual variations the biologist in the long run can produce varieties of animals differing greatly from the type, and able to transmit the difference to their progeny. In this connection the numerous varieties of the dog come to mind.

With regard to the second statement, the peasantry of the North of England had a saying, "An old man's son is a wise hairn." The British observer endeavors to prove the truth of this by taking the names of 1,000 distinguished people from the latest edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, and finding their father's age when they were born: an ingenious task which gives the average age as 53. The idea behind this is that a man who has lived well, and acquired knowledge, will transmit some of his mental experience to his offspring. There is possibly something in this, for as a sort of correlative idea one cannot help noticing that children of 10 nowadays are as knowing as children of 13 were, say fifty years ago.

Those same peasantry had another belief, that the oldest and the youngest of the family were not so physically perfect as the intermediate members.

Profitable Acres

(C. E. Mackenzie)

One of the recognized rules in production and trade is known as the division of labour. The theory is, that each man should do that which his talents enable him best to do, and then when we exchange our products, one with another, we are better off than though we each and every one attempted to provide with their own hands all the necessities of life.

This economic law holds good in most things, but it can be carried to extremes, as farmers have learned to their sorrow. In theory, perhaps, it would be good business for us farmers to produce cattle, hogs, grain, beef, pork, butter, cheese and eggs and from the proceeds purchase their feed supply. In practice, however, it would be a losing spec to sell our cattle at five cents per pound, our hogs at four and four and one half cents, our oats at twenty five cents per bushel or our potatoes and turnips at the prices offered and in turn buy our hard coal at the price asked by the dealers: this one instance clearly shows what we as farmers are up against by having to sell our products at a ruinous price so far below the cost of production that one could hardly make a comparison.

The only quick way out seems to be to make the farmers dollar the monetary standard for all commodities then when the farmer receives a living wage all will be well.

But I did not start out to discuss economics. I have wandered from the subject. Farm wood lots are proving their value this year. A year's fuel supply is worth a tidy sum of money on any farm, and a large number of owners of wood lots are preparing this winter to market a product which should be an output on from twenty to fifty per cent of all the farms on Prince Edward Island.

While the wood or lumber on our farms is a valuable asset I do not think owners of good tilable land should in at reforestation but we have in many parts of our fair Island rough places and land not suitable for tillage that would make valuable wood or lumber lots on which we should foster the growing of wood and lumber.

In periods such as the one through which we are passing our one object after giving good service should be the lessening of our overhead cost, then if by taking the boys plus a good axe each and a cross cut saw and making an onslaught on our wood lot be it ever so small we are able to make a saving of the price of say ten tons soft and two tons hard coal that would cost us about seventy five dollars this would be making a good cut in overhead and I am sure even if our women folk had to pay more attention to fires this winter the cleanliness of wood over coal would pay for all the extra trouble.

In these days of sawing outfits and gas engines the preparation of wood for fuel is easy indeed as compared with the methods used by our forefathers and they did the extra work and in turn enjoyed the cheery wood fires in the old open fire places.

Now I have sometimes thought that there was too much independence about farming but in this particular one feels that anything we can do to improve our condition should be given a trial; let any of us who are fortunate enough to have wood lots get busy to make the chips fly and by so doing we will have reduced our overhead. It is up to us—here's at it.

COCKEREL DISTRIBUTION POLICY

Important changes have been made in the provisions of the Cockerel Distribution Policy introduced by the Hon. Mr. Weir last year, with a view to making it more effectively available for the 1933 poultry breeding season. This year negotiations for the purchase or sale of birds must be direct between the parties interested. The Department on the presentation by the purchaser of male birds approved under the Policy of a Declaration Form properly completed, refunds \$1.25 of the purchase price for the birds. Where male birds purchased under the policy were in lots of ten or more the Department supplies the seller with a Transformation Order Form, which is authority to the railway company concerned to charge the full cost of transportation directly to the Department at Ottawa. Detailed information about the policy may be obtained by writing to the Senior Poultry Promoter in your province or to the Poultry Division of the Dominion Live Stock Branch at Ottawa.

Annual Egg Laying Contest Results

List of Total Eggs and Points for Individual Birds in the 14th Prince Edward Island Egg Laying Contest, Ending October 22, 1932.

Table with columns: Owner's Name and Address, Pen No., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, Totals, 1, 2, 3. Lists various owners like John B. Poole, Montague, P. E. I., and their respective egg production results.

The following birds have been registered in the Canadian National Records Association, having laid 200 eggs or over, averaging 24 or to the dozen:

Table with columns: Pen 1 Birds Nos., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. Lists bird numbers and their corresponding egg production statistics.

Average production for W. L. 30 birds 172.3 eggs
Average production for R. I. R. 10 birds 186 eggs
Average production for B. P. R. 140 birds 213.5 eggs
Average production for all breeds 180 birds 205.1 eggs
Number of birds laying 200 or more eggs—122
Number of birds registering in C.N.P.R.A.—129