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The Roseburg Steam Laundry

PHONE 79

O. C. BAKER, Prop.

NURSERY INDUSTRY AT DILLARD

(Continued from page 19.)

yond which we may hardly expect to go. Need I say more?

Let us consider the pear briefly. Southwestern Oregon has long been known for the excellency of its pears. In fact no district in the United States has equalled them for quality. The Bartlett has been our leader. Now come the "Rose," which has been a surprise even to pear enthusiasts. Douglas county "Rose" at the state fair and international live stock show this past season easily won first place over all competitors.

A word about cherries. While not grown extensively, those grown seem all that could be desired. Other localities may grow as good, but certainly no place produces better.

The apple, while not grown heavily for shipping is known beyond the borders of the United States. Probably the Spitzenberg as grown in Douglas county is fully equal to any apple grown.

The lusciousness of the peach is too well known locally to need any comment.

Walnuts grown in the Northwest are decidedly the best grown in the United States at least. To this there can be no question. Filberts grown

in Washington and Oregon are acknowledged best in the world.

After considering these three points, climate, soil and high quality of fruits, let us take a glimpse into the future. The old adage that "There is always room at the top," and "A survival of the fittest," we can still hold logical. In other words I believe this country can grow fruit and nuts profitably when many districts could not compete. We need have no fear of ultimately winning out. True, fruit-growing and all other lines have more or less gamble or "see-saw" and fluctuating markets must be expected; but, the grower, who has the staying qualities, understands this.

After considering the points mentioned it remained for me to decide what the orchardists of Douglas county required for future plantings. There may be some question as to what they may desire from time to time, but I have no hesitancy in stating that large acreages will be rapidly developed. The fruit and nut business in Douglas county has passed the experimental stage and conservative men are entering into this new development as never before.

My method of propagating, growing and handling trees in a general way may be of interest to some. Let us consider the prune for example. During the winter months seedling peach and myroholan and plum are

planted in rows 3-12 feet apart and about eight inches in the row. Sometimes when seedlings are scarce, pits are planted. These are sown quite thickly in the row and require hand thinning later to the desired distance apart. If the plants are properly cared for, by August they should calliper near three-eighths inch or better. All the lower limbs must be removed so as to give the budder an opportunity to properly place the bud. The budder removes the buds with a small piece of bark attached and dextrously places them behind a slit he has made in the bark of the seedling. An attendant or tyer follows tying these buds securely.

How this budding wood is secured and prepared would make a long story. If selected from inferior trees, as are often found in orchards, the same characteristics are transferred to the new tree. The Italian, Petite ro. French, Sugar, Silver, Imperial and numerous other varieties including the new and popular variety Double X French, sometimes called "Date" are all familiar to the growers. Great care is necessary not only in selecting bud wood from proper trees, but in keeping a correct record in the nursery rows, also in labeling when preparing for market.

If the budding is properly done in about three weeks the ties holding the buds must be removed otherwise the growing tree will cause the tying material to cut in deeply and ruin the buds, which by this time should be established. Late in winter these buds are examined and if any are found dead the seedling is cut at the surface of the ground and a graft inserted. Sometimes these are more numerous than we had hoped for. Grafting differs from budding. A piece of wood two to four inches long usually about the size of a common lead pencil is cut to a wedge at the lower end and forced into a split in the seedling stump. This is then tied, waxed in, and entirely covered with soil. A budded tree has the preference, however, as they make better unions. Getting back to the bud. When, toward spring the top of the seedling begins to show some life the entire top is cut off about two inches above the bud. After the bud starts nicely the remainder of the seedling is neatly cut just flush with the top of the bud. The stump grows many suckers, which must be removed from three to five times. The buds often do not grow upright, and require staking and training. Plant lice, cut worms, numerous insects and rodents prey upon the young trees. Some backache? Yes. Many get tired and quit, all enthusiasm gone. Working on the surface of the ground in a stooping position for days and months is essential. Only careful and conscientious help can be used. It cannot be done otherwise. As the young trees grow they must be hoed and cultivated similar to garden crops. The lateral or side branches must be kept of these young trees to a certain height this first season.

About December or the second year after the seedlings or pits were planted and one year after budding, the

trees are ready to be dug and marketed. When the trees become dormant the digging is done with a machine drawn by a number of horses. This tree-digger cuts under the row and at both sides at the same time making it easier to remove the trees later. It is a matter of considerable importance to the tree purchaser how deep this machine has been run.

The apple, peach, pear, cherry and other deciduous trees are propagated and handled very similarly, each upon their appropriate root stocks.

Considering the interest shown in walnuts, I will briefly describe my method of propagating them. As a root stock the Northern California Black is practically the only root that any experienced orchardist will consider. The seedling or white root sometimes used for root stock is very objectionable as it causes the tree to bloom ten days to two weeks earlier than on the black root, which is also immune to mushroom fungus often an item of great importance. Then again groves grown on seedling Franquette or Mayette, sometimes called second generation are, of course, on white root and being seedling there is naturally a great variation in types of nuts they produce, and they come into bearing later than budded or grafted trees.

It is therefore highly desirable to graft or bud the Franquette or Mayette, the usual varieties grown in the Northwest, on this black root stock. Nuts are secured from these trees that are known to produce uniform strong rooted seedlings. It is essential that these parent trees are not growing near inferior root stock varieties as they readily cross pollinate. These nuts are usually stratified in sand during the winter months and planted in the nursery rows in the spring as fast as they germinate. The ground prior to this should be put in a fine state of cultivation, and the subsoil should be of a character to permit the roots to penetrate not only straight but deeply.

The following spring, or at one year old, these seedlings are ready to graft, which is the usual method of top-working. During the early winter, grafts are secured from the parent trees and held in good condition until the grafting season. At the proper time, which must be determined by the condition of the seedlings, the tops are removed, and the grafts inserted, similar to the method employed in stone fruits mentioned above. These seedlings often bleed, destroying the grafts, and various technical methods are used to avoid this. A great deal depends upon the kind of grafting wax used and the percentage of daylight the next sixty days. Some seasons it is necessary to cover all these grafts with soil. There are seasons when the most experienced propagators secure only a small per cent of grafts. It is an anxious time for the nurseryman when the weather gets warm as at that time he is able to determine the results of his expensive, hard, and painstaking labor.

Whenever the grafts fail to grow I remove the old root-stocks as an ef-

fort the second or third year to graft these stumps too often produces a poor union and an inferior tree is the result.

To get straight uniform trees all these grafts must be staked, and the trees during their rapid growth must be frequently tied to these stakes, as otherwise crooked trees are numerous.

Spring grafts on these yearling California black roots by September should average seven feet in height. Many of them eight to ten feet. The walnut is certainly a rapid grower. During the early winter these trees are dug by hand and the tap roots are cut about 24 to 30 inches below the surface and the trees are ready for the planter. These trees are naturally expensive, but as only 13 to 18 are usually planted to the acre the planting cost is not great.

Filberts are grafted on seedlings similar to walnuts, and a far better tree is grown than that produced by layering since a grafted tree produces fewer sprouts and a heavier root system. A common method in the past has been to get these sprouts rooted by layering. A great objection to the filbert is the persistence of these sprouts by planting certain pits that produce a fine root system, which when grafted, are practically free from sprouts is a method now employed by progressive nurserymen.

Space will not permit me to discuss the growing of bulbs. Let me say, however, that there are numerous localities adapted to the growing of bulbs commercially in this county. Personally I have become interested in the spring flowering anemone of which I have imported over 30 varieties from Europe.

At digging time and before delivery, the tree inspector makes his appearance. If he finds your stock apparently free from insect pests, fungus diseases, etc. you are in a position to sell your stock. However, you must have a nurseryman's license backed by a bond. In shipping to other countries your stock is supposed to be inspected by the inspector of that country also.

Nursery work is fascinating and immensely interesting especially when you have promising new fruits, shrubs, bulbs, etc., to experiment with but it must have close and personal attention. It is a business that the average orchardist is not as familiar with as he should be. The mistakes of the past are not pleasant to meditate upon. The standard of our nursery stock should be higher.

The fruit business of Douglas county is its most important industry. In a decade we will look back and realize that in 1923 it was just emerging from its experimental stage in not only productivity but more efficient marketing through co-operation.

The New Calendar

By Marie V. Caruthers, in New York Times

DAYS three hundred sixty-four. Like fair, uncut pages are in the volume, yet unread. Of my New Year's calendar—

One continued chapter they, Starting in afresh today!

Though this selfsame calendar Serves us all throughout the year, Hours which make your joy, for me May be fraught with grief and tears;

Those my happiness which bring, Will find others sorrowing.

Days that stretch on far ahead, I must live them one by one, Bearing what may be in store Till the year's long tale is spun. What is written there? I turn One page at a time—and learn!

Falls my lot in pleasant ways? Will death interrupt my task? All is hid from mortal eye. But, Life, just one boon I ask: Let me meet courageously Whatsoever fate may be!

WISHING YOU ALL

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS

NEW YEAR

KNUDTSON'S

Jewelers

218 Cass Street

Marsters Drug Co.



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