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Also have 80 acres just a mile from the business part of the city. Modern house—cost \$2,000—6 acres orchard—good barn and outbuildings. This is a splendid buy at \$7,000.00.

160 acres of fine Sandridge land; about 30 acres in alfalfa; balance all good. Price \$100.00 per acre, small payment, easy terms.

80 acres Sandridge land, all in alfalfa, good improvements. Reasonable payment down and we can give terms so that place will pay out balance.

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Modern residence, fine lot and shade trees, best part of town, for only \$1700.00. Have 120 acres four miles from town, good roads, 50 acres tilable, balance is good pasture and some good timber—fine stream running through it, only \$2500. Terms if desired, or will trade for city property of equal value.

Have Montana and Washington property to trade for property here. Will trade three fine lots in Wellington Addition to Portland.

19 acres four miles from Summerville and three miles from Elgin. 6 acres in 2 and 3 year old orchard, apples, pears, peaches and cherries. House, barn, chicken house and cellar. Price is only \$1500.00. Will take city property.

Seven room house, barn and outbuildings, all new; four nice lots, close in on north side of track, fruit trees, city water. Will trade for horses, cattle or lumber. Can make a good deal on this property.

Have residences and residence lots in all parts of the city. Shall be glad to show them.

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For the first time in the history of New York City, complete school census figures were given out recently. The census reveals that 26,000 children are out of school illegally, violating the child labor and compulsory education laws.



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SPRING PRUNING BEST IN THE GRANDE RONDE.

Horticulturist Points Way to Orchard Men of Union County.

(By George Reiben, Horticulturist at Eastern Oregon Experiment Station)

Eastern Oregon Experiment Station, Union, Ore., Jan. 20.—The answers which the careless orchardist has to offer to questions asked him regarding the brushy appearance of his orchard are many and sometimes even ridiculous. One will say that he has not the time; another that it is contrary to the laws of nature; a third that when he was a child they grew better fruit than they do now without ever touching a tree with a pruning tool, and so on, but the enterprising fruit grower of today knows that annual pruning is essential and necessary for a successful orchard.

Modification Prime Motive.

The reasons for pruning are numerous, but there are several which apply to fruit in general and they are as follows: First, to modify the vigor of the plants; second, to establish and maintain a balance between the roots and top; third, to regulate the number of fruit buds; fourth, to train a plant to some desired shape so that the fruit may be cared for and harvested most economically; fifth, to build up a stronger tree; sixth, to thin the fruit; seventh, to produce a better grade of fruit; and last (unfortunately) in some cases for firewood.

General Rule Varies Here.

Knowing that it is an advantage to prune the next thing to know is the date, whether fall or spring. It is generally considered best to prune in the fall where the weather permits but in the Grande Ronde valley and Eastern Oregon in general the temperature drops rather low to make fall pruning advisable. In any locality where the temperature goes down to zero or below it is better to delay pruning until early spring after the cold weather has passed but before growth has commenced. The reason for this is because those branches which are cut off before the zero weather has passed are apt to die back a foot or more which necessitates another cutting back in the spring. Whatever the time of the year one prunes, it should never be done when the twigs or branches are frozen.

Sharp Tools Essential.

It is not necessary for me to say that no stubs should be left and that the cuts should be made parallel to and as near the trunk as possible for the wounds will heal much more quickly if cut off close than if stubs are left. The tools used in pruning should be sharp so that smooth cuts can be made. Cuts of limbs more than two inches in diameter should be protected from the action of fungus diseases by being painted. Any heavy white lead paint is good.

By judicious pruning the fruitfulness of a tree can be regulated at least to a more or less extent. That is, by heavy pruning during the dormant season, trees will produce more wood and less fruit than by light prunings either during the growing or dormant periods. Some of the fruit growers of this valley seem to think that summer pruning can take the place of winter pruning but they are mistaken and the sooner they find it out the better it will be for their orchards at least. Light pruning during the time just before the trees have ceased growth in the late summer may be all right, but all of the heavier pruning should be left until the trees have gone into their rest period.

One should strive to regulate the fruit yield so that a fair crop may be produced each year and this can only be done by heavy pruning in those years when an overloading of the fruit trees is expected and by lighter prunings in the other years. During the coming year unless another frost strikes Eastern Oregon many of the apple and pear trees will be overloaded and many branches will be broken unless pruning or propping is resorted to. The latter of these two methods is very expensive to say the least, and by far the best method is to prune the trees so that they can hold the fruit at least until it can be thinned.

Disinfected Knife Necessary.

A very important item which is generally overlooked in pruning a pear orchard in this part of the state is the necessity of disinfecting the pruning tools after each cut is made. These tools unless disinfected are one of the best means of spreading the blight from tree to tree. In order to prove

(Continued on Page 7.)



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A. F. & A. M.—La Grande Lodge No. 41. A. F. & A. M. holds regular meetings first and third Saturdays at 7:30 p. m. Cordial welcome to all Masons. N. MOLITOR, W. M. A. C. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

B. P. O. E.—La Grande Lodge No. 433 meets each Thursday evening at 8 o'clock in Elk's club, corner of Depot street and Washington avenue. Visiting brothers are cordially invited to attend.
H. J. RITTER, Ex. Rul
H. E. COOLIDGE, Rec. Sec.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD—La Grande Lodge No. 169 W. O. W. meets every second and fourth Saturdays at K. P. hall. All visiting members welcome.
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J. H. KEENEY, Clerk.

M. W. OF A.—La Grande Camp No. 7703 meets every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock in K. of P. hall, over Lilly's hardware store. All visiting neighbors are welcome.
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KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—Red Cross Lodge No. 27 meets every Monday night in Castle hall, (old Elk's hall.) A Pythian welcome to all visiting Knights.
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REBEKAHS—Crystal Lodge No. 80 meets every Tuesday evening in the I. O. O. F. hall. All visiting members are invited to attend.
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