

# THE PROPER CARE OF FRUIT TREES

(By Charles Meserve.)

To handle a modern orchard is a problem as difficult as to handle a modern warship. The modern fruit tree is as highly and delicately bred as is the modern dairy cow or fine horse, and to make it profitable takes the same thorough, intelligent care that the dairyman or the horseman gives to his cow or horse. And as is the finely bred cow or horse, and as is the finely bred fruit tree is far more subject to disease and the ravages of pests than was the hardy coarsely bred tree that grew in the orchards of our forefathers.

This lack of vigor and resistant power of the modern fruit tree is the sequence that comes in securing the quality of fruit that the market today demands and the productiveness that the modern fruit-grower requires of his orchard. When man disturbs the balance of nature to secure finer quality or greater productiveness in an animal or a tree the penalty is a loss of vigor and disease-resistant power.

While the modern orchardist has been so breeding his trees that they readily fall a victim to any pest that may attack them, he has been making a further unbalancing of nature's arrangements and has made conditions exceedingly favorable for the development of a multitude of pests, both animal and vegetable, that seek to destroy his trees and the fruit they bear. The experts of the department of agriculture and of the various agricultural colleges have identified over 1100 pests that are found in the orchards, gardens and fields of the United States. And to make this problem all the more serious to the farmer, this number of kinds of pests is increasing each year, four new pests having been identified the past year.

An instance of the development of a pest is that of the pear thrips. Prior to ten years ago the thrips was known as a harmless insect found on fruit trees, roses and other shrubs. Then for some cause unknown to entomologists a species found in California began to feed upon fruit buds, especially the pear. So serious is its ravages that it is rapidly becoming one of the most dangerous pests that California orchardists have to contend with.

And this pest has started out on a campaign of conquest, as did the San Jose scale that started at San Jose, Cal., and has in but a few years reached every state in the Union. No thrips has so far been found in the Rogue River valley, but last spring Professor O'Gara found many in an orchard near Salem, where it evidently had been imported from California. The pear thrips has been in existence as long as pear trees have grown, but it is only a little over 100 years ago that the blight began its ravages upon pear trees. It began its destruction in Connecticut and from there it has spread until it is now found in every section of the United States, Canada and Mexico.

That the fruitgrowers of Rogue River valley may be able to identify the most serious of the 1100 pests that threaten destruction to their orchards and that are most likely to soon appear here, the Rogue River Horticultural society has arranged with Professor P. J. O'Gara, from the department of agriculture at Washington, D. C., to give a lecture in Medford, on Saturday, December 12, on fruit pests. In his description of pests, Professor O'Gara will show by means of stereopticon views about 150 of them, the slides for the lantern having been sent to him from the department this past week for the purpose.

The lecture will begin promptly at 1:30 p. m., as Professor O'Gara has to leave on the 3:20 train for California, where he goes to join a farmers' institute train that will

traverse a part of that state during the latter part of this month.

Fruitgrowers who propose to make their orchards pay the big dividends that are certain where the trees and fruit are protected from the pests, will be quite certain to attend this meeting and gain the valuable information that Professor O'Gara will give in his address.

Alleged fruit-growers who declare that they have no time to attend such meetings and have no knowledge of the pests, and consequently no fear of them, will not attend, but they will think differently later on when the receipts from their orchards are so small that no profit is left after the expenses are paid.

## SPLENDID MEETING.

Fruit Growers' Convention at Portland.

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 4.—The afternoon session of the Northwest fruitgrowers' association yesterday was devoted to a paper on "Pear Blight and Its Control on the Pacific Coast," read by P. J. O'Gara. Mr. O'Gara is assistant pathologist of the department of agriculture, and has made an exhaustive study of the subject of blight and its causes. His paper dealt with every phase of the subject and his investigations were followed with close attention by the assembled fruitgrowers.

Mr. O'Gara said that the disease originates with wild crabapple and hawthorn trees. It injures these trees, however, to a very much less extent than the more sappy and vigorous growth of the pear, apple, quince and other fruits of that family. Though it was known as early as 1792, it was not until 1878 that Professor T. J. Burrill, of the University of Illinois, discovered the true nature of the disease and named the organism which causes it. The external appearance of the infection was described minutely and the factors governing it dealt with at length. In presenting methods of control and eradication, Mr. O'Gara said that such methods should be divided into two classes—primary and secondary. The primary method consisting of cutting out thoroughly the hold-over blight in the fall and winter. Secondary methods consisted in spraying, summer cutting and removal of water sprouts and low fruit spurs.

"The importance of the pear blight problem to the horticultural interests of the Pacific coast states," said

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Mr. O'Gara, "emphasizes clearly the value of the plant pathological work. What each state needs is strong institutions, both scientific and practical, for handling such a difficult problem. Not only do we need the careful and constant work of our state pathologist, but we need inspectors and commissioners who will see to it that the horticultural statutes are rigidly enforced. If a grower chooses to lose his crop by scab or some fungus trouble, readily controlled by simple methods, it is his own lookout, but where his pears and apples are a source of general infection from pear blight, it becomes a matter for the inspector and commissioner."

## ENDED AT LAST.

Marquam Case at Portland Finally Settled.

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 3.—After a fight lasting ten years, the famous "Marquam suit" was settled out of court today by Judge P. A. Marquam releasing whatever interest he pretends to have in the Marquam Grand theater property in this city for a consideration of "something less than \$100,000. The property involved is valued at about \$1,500,000.

During the hard times of the nineties Marquam secured \$200,000 from the mortgage to an eastern corporation, giving a mortgage on the property and a trust deed to the Title Guarantee & Trust company. In 1899 the Title company, having failed to keep up the taxes on the property, the mortgage company became dissatisfied and ordered the title company, which was acting as its agent, as well as the Marquam trustee, to have the mortgage foreclosed. J. Thorburn Ross, secretary of the title company, got himself appointed attorney for the mortgage company.

Ross was released from the case, however, before the suit was actually commenced. The mortgage was foreclosed, Ross, under an agreement, kept the secret from Marquam, bid the property in for the mortgage company as "trustee," and the title company was discharged from its trust.

The title company, on the plea that it had advanced sums to Marquam in connection with the trust, had been allowed to intervene and later redeemed the property from Ross. Ross then organized the "Oregonian company," in which he and the other officers of the title company held stock and took over the title to the Marquam property.

Marquam, about the time the title company redeemed the property, seems to have thought that the title company and Ross, as "trustee," for him, "agent" for the mortgage company, and "owner" of the property was carrying rather too great a burden. He began action to have the case reopened and be allowed to redeem. After the first temporary victory in the state circuit court he met with nothing but rebuffs. Three times his contention was turned down by the supreme court and twice by the circuit court. The court repeatedly held that the trusteeship ended with the foreclosure.

A year ago the Title bank failed, and out of the six weeks' scandal that followed Ross was convicted of converting to his own use hundreds of thousands of dollars of state funds which had been entrusted to his care, while the other officials of the bank were awaiting trials on similar charges. Marquam took advantage of the bank's failure and disclosures and made them a basis for another suit to reopen the case.

Former United States Senator Chandler says that "the stars will be our future abode." But that will be all right. Living won't be higher there than it is in this tough, beef-trust-ridden old world.—Exchange.

## REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

Many Small Sales in Record of Last Week.

Lizzie Lindsley to Martha B. Thornbrew, 40 acres in township 35 south, range 2 west; \$500.

Thomas Kealher to E. T. Erickson, 10½ acres in township 36 south, range 2 west; \$525.

D. P. Provost to J. P. Crawford, lots 8, 9, block 46, Summit addition, Ashland; \$3250.

Louise Gleason to J. L. Helms, land in block 4, Barr's addition, Medford; \$1260.

H. P. Lawrentz to Bert Anderson, 4 acres in township 37 south, range 2 west; \$1.

Charles Carney to Oregon Granite company, 40 acres in township 37 south, range 2 west; \$1.

A. V. Carlson to G. R. Lindley, 5 acres in township 37 south, range 2 west; \$400.

G. R. Lindley to A. V. Carlson, bond for deed to 5 acres in township 37 south, range 2 west; \$400.

D. W. Day to Emma Gagnon, lot 12, block 74, Medford; \$525.

Ella B. Mills to D. B. Provost, lots 8, 9, block 46, Summit addition, Ashland; \$1200.

Martha E. Rapp to Louis Lager, 25.6 acres in township 38 south, range 1 west; \$1600.

Elmer E. Bagley to G. W. Wilcox, 20 acres in township 36 south, range 4 west; \$1352.80.

W. L. Edmondson to Elmer B. Boardman, 160 acres, more or less, in township 35 south, range 3 east; \$200.

Elmer B. Boardman to J. M. Allne, 160 acres in township 36 south, range 3 east; \$400.

Viola Simmons to C. F. Dunford, 280 acres, more or less, in township 38 south, range 2 west; \$6000.

T. J. Kinney, administrator, to P. E. Cass, part of lot 8, block 7, Jacksonville; \$450.

Rowe G. Gale to E. Woodbury, land in township 34 south, range 1 east; \$2000.

Harrist L. Wilkinson to Tressa Wilkinson, deed of gift to land in Ashland near land deeded by E. D. Briggs to Nellie G. Ewan.

I. B. Williams to Dick Besse, title bond for land in township 35 south, range 1 east; \$750.

A. A. McFarland to George Young, 11.40 acres in township 39 south, range 1 east; \$1250.

George Young to G. W. Stevens, 11.40 acres in township 38 south, range 1 east; \$1000.

G. W. Blalock to G. H. Pease, land in township 32 south, range 4 west; \$400.

R. H. Whitehead to T. E. Pottinger, 160 acres in township 38 south, range 4 west; \$6000.

Victoria S. Clair and E. C. Mickelson to E. C. Card, lot 1, block 20, Chitwood addition, Ashland; \$10.

I. L. Wise to Mary Meible et al., land in block 22, Chitwood tract, Ashland; \$3000.

Mary Meible to E. C. Gard, land in block 22, Chitwood tract, Ashland; \$10.

E. C. Gard to Ashland Mineral Springs Sanitarium, land in Chitwood tract, Ashland; \$10.

C. H. Chapman to Gold Ray Realty company, land in township 26 south, range 2 west; agreement.

Louis Lager to Jackson county, land in township 38 south, range 1 west; \$1.

Eva Hockenyoos et al. to Elizabeth Breeze, 40 acres in township 38 south, range 1 west; \$800.

Elizabeth Lawrentz to Elizabeth Breeze, land in township 38 south, range 1 west; \$350.

Penelope Henrietta Johnston to J. A. Lyon, lot 5, block 1, Palm's addition, Medford; \$150.

Roselma A. Morrison to G. N. Fisk, land in block 9, Park addition, Medford; \$10.

Louis Lager to E. E. Foss, 20

acres in township 38 south, range 1 west; \$2500.

G. Ritz to Z. W. Morrison, assignment of bond for deed for 21 acres in township 38 south, range 2 west; \$1.

Lula B. Minear to Z. W. Morrison, title bond for 21 acres in township 38 south, range 2 west; \$3250.

## GLOBE TROTTER HERE.

"Colonial Jack" Tramping Way Around World.

"Colonial Jack," who is making his way around the borders of the United States on foot, pushing a vehicle which he calls a "Sphinx," which looks like a cross between a wheelbarrow and a bicycle, was in Medford yesterday morning on his way south. He has already accomplished 4243 miles of the 9000 he is to travel to get back to his starting point at Portland, Me. He has been 162 days on the road and is now 600 miles ahead of his schedule.

In order to make the trip in the required time of 400 days he must average 22½ miles a day, and so far he has made over 26. His biggest day's walk was 44 miles, and he has reached the 40-mile mark five times.

When here he was suffering from the effects of a fall through a cattle-guard, but expects to be all right again after a day's rest today.

## MAY CO-OPERATE.

States May Unite on Wild Animals Bounty.

Seeking co-operation between the states of Oregon and Idaho in the matter of a bounty for predatory animals, G. E. Noble, state veterinarian of Idaho, has written Dr. S. W. McClure, head of the bureau of animal industry in the northwest, through whom he hopes to interest the leading stockmen of this state in the plan.

According to Mr. Noble, Idaho pays a bounty of \$1.50 for the two front feet of coyotes, cats and lynx, \$5 on timber wolves and \$15 on mountain lion, cougar, panther, etc.

According to Dr. Noble, the professional trappers in the state would rather furnish the two front feet than the scalp, as the removal of the scalp depreciates the value of the hide from 10 to 20 cents each. The authorities of that state hope that Washington and Oregon will

pay bounty on feet also to prevent dishonest trappers from collecting bounty on the feet in that state and the scalp in the others.

According to Mr. Noble, Montana pays a liberal bounty on the scalp, Utah pays nothing, and Nevada pays 50 cents on the ears.

## CURSORY COMMENTS.

Good roads will help the country more than cabinet-making.

Now, if your old friend, Dollar Bill, only responds to that holiday feeling!

It is hoped that the bear which gave Mr. Bryan such a close call was not a Teddy bear.

The country will have faith enough in Prosperity to hang up its Christmas stocking.

And here is the holiday strap-hanger again, but not half as strapped as he will be later.

A scientist says the garter causes dropsy. Science still interfering with things that are above it.

It's just as you look at it: The holiday shoppers think they are having the time of their lives.

Before posing for another picture the kaiser should ask Germany to see if his hat is on straight.

Mr. Bryan will not include his recent wrestling match with the Mexican bear in "The Mystery of 1908."

"No children in 150 years," says science, but—glory be!—we'll have a few to reckon with next Christmas.

Perhaps the reason Mr. Taft "spends Sunday quietly" is that the office-seekers go to church to pray that his eyes may be opened to them.

The writing of one little poem saved William L. Branch from death in the electric chair; but don't let that inspire you. Perhaps you case is not so desperate.

A western prizefighter was killed in a football game. This is a warning to prizefighters to stick to the harmless profession for which they have qualified.

# BIRTH RATE DECREASING

ITHACA, N. Y., Dec. 5.—"During the period from 1880 to 1900 the proportion of children to 1000 women of child-bearing age decreased in the United States by 152, or an average of about 30 in each decade. If we assume that the change will continue unchecked for a century and a half in the direction in which it has been during the last 40 years there will be no children left."

This startling statement came out in the lecture on birth and birth rate delivered by Professor Walter F. Wilcox in the course of sanitation in Goodwin hospital.

"It is one of the main duties of statistics to point out the whirlpools in the stream along which society is going," said Professor Wilcox, "before the current becomes irresistible, and thus to arouse a desire to change the course."

"The true reason for the fall in the birth rate is that in modern times, mainly within the last half century, births and the birth rate have come under the control of human will and choice in a sense and to a degree never before true."

"Our leading American authority, Dr. John Shaw Billings, put it as follows:

"The most important factor in the past in the change is the deliberate and voluntary avoidance or prevention on the part of a steadily increasing number of married people who prefer to have but few children. Before this change began the birth of a child in the vast majority of cases was not an indication of a deliberate preference for that result on the part of either of the parents."

"There is not a single one among the experts who denies that this is the great underlying cause of the modern decline in the birth rate of all civilized communities."

Professor Wilcox also gave statistics to show that marriage is less common among college graduates of both sexes than it is in the average of the entire population.

The figures regarding the birth rate among college graduates show that the highly educated part of the American people not only does not increase the population at all, but on the contrary, fails to reproduce itself.

Another payment of \$35,000 was made on the Bybee tract purchase this week by Honore Palmer and his associates of Chicago.

Judge F. M. Stewart has moved his office from the opera house block to room 6 in the Stewart block.

Alfred Flynn returned from Grants Pass a couple of days ago and will engage with his brother, Tom Flynn, in the electrical business.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Heard have leased the J. W. Cox residence on South Central avenue, where they will reside during Mr. and Mrs. Cox's absence in Southern California. Monday evening Miss Gladys entertained with five hundred, Miss Bess Kenner winning first honors. A delightful lunch was served at midnight.

Er and Mrs. J. H. Wood of Berkeley, Cal., who have been spending the week with Medford friends, left for Seattle Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Olwell, R. Rowley and H. C. Lewis will leave today to attend a meeting of the Fruitgrowers' association at Spokane.

W. H. Holmes an family will spend today with relatives and friends at Eagle Point.

I. L. Bradshaw shipped a carload of Spitzenberg apples to Los Angeles yesterday.

## Probably Steamboat Collision.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 5.—It is now thought the steamer Soo City was probably sunk in a collision. Life belts bearing the name of the steamer Stanley were found among the Soo City wreckage, according to dispatches received here.

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