

# --GRAND-- BAND CONCERT

by the  
**Bandon Concert Band**  
Composed of 24 Pieces  
..IN THE..  
**MASONIC OPERA HOUSE, MARSHFIELD**  
**Sat., Eve., Mar. 21, '08 at 8 p. m.**

RESERVED SEATS . . . . . 50c  
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## SPRING OPENING

We desire to announce that our opening of Spring and Summer Millinery will take place

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## FORMING and PRUNING YOUNG APPLE TREES

The following paper on the above subject was read at the last annual meeting of the Northwest Fruitgrowers Association at Vancouver, B. C., by T. W. Stirling of Kelowna:

Any fruit grower, on being pointed out an apple tree, can say at once whether it is well shaped or badly shaped. The general characteristics of such trees as would be called well shaped by an experienced fruit grower are found to be somewhat as follows:

The main branches spring from the trunk at a good broad angle. They do not spring opposite to each other but are distributed up and down the trunk. They are evenly placed around the tree and do not interfere with each other. There is a definite center stem from which they spring and which extends above the main side branches.

Such a tree is of the strongest possible frame. It will carry its proper load of fruit without propping. There is no fear of it being split down to the ground and ruined by an over weight of fruit or by wet snow or any other cause. The greatest damage that will be likely to happen to it will be the breaking of a bough, an injury which can easily be repaired and the loss replaced within a short time. If any main branch is overladen and breaks off, the injury to the trunk will be comparatively slight; there will be no splitting. Always fresh shoots can be grown from the center to replace broken branches. After all, the main stem of the tree is the tree; keep that intact and the tree is still there to grow any branches from that are required.

To illustrate the advantages of this form it is only necessary to think of another form which is very common. That is the tree where the center has been cut out and never replaced, where the branches all spring from about the same point as the fingers grow from the palm of the hand. Such a tree when the day of trial

comes, either from an overload of fruit or from a fall of wet snow—yes, and sometimes by reason of its own weight will get tired and "lie down, splitting right to the ground so that there is nothing left from which a new tree can be grown.

Now, shaping a tree is not the whole art of pruning, and by shaping a tree is meant that treatment of the tree in its earlier years which definitely determines its general form; a tree may be well shaped in this sense yet at the same time woefully in need of cutting and clearing out, but this latter branch of the pruner's art can not be dealt with adequately in a paper and it is the first only which is the subject of this present effort.

The object of this paper then is to outline a method, and to state a few short rules, which if followed will insure every tree growing up in a correct form.

The rules are three in number, viz: (1) keep the leader; (2) have out one leader; (3) make the leader lead. The explanation of these and the method of carrying them out in practice is as follows:

The tree is planted as a yearling whip and cut back to about three feet, or a little less, from the ground with the object of forcing buds into decided growth so that there may be something to work on the next spring. The first real step towards shaping the tree is taken the spring after planting, preferably when the buds are just beginning to show green. It will be found then, if the tree has established itself, that some of the buds near the top, very generally three, have made a strong upstanding growth coming out from the stem at a very acute angle, lower down, more shoots will have grown from the stem at a greater angle than the leaders, and usually have not made such a strong growth. It is from these latter that the first tier of branches may be chosen.

Leaders.—Of the one, two, or three strong, upright shoots near the top, select the best and most upright as the leader and sacrifice the remainder. If they are retained with the idea that they will become satisfactory side branches, amenable to discipline, it will be found to be a mistake. They will not do so but will for years be a source of bother, competing continually with the leader for supremacy. Cut them out leaving but the one leader.

Side Shoots.—From the other shoots lower down select, if possible, three side branches. These must be evenly distributed around the tree in a horizontal direction. In a perpendicular direction they must be well separated; the angle they make with the trunk should be large, nearly a right angle. If there are not three shoots that satisfy these conditions then leave only two or one that does; better one right than three wrong; plenty more shoots will grow during the current year to fill any vacancies. (N. B.—Certain varieties of trees, for instance the Northern Spy, have shoots which almost invariably spring from the stem at an acute angle. In such cases it can not be expected that shoot will be found to satisfy the third condition mentioned above. It is as well then to use a spreader to cause the shoot to grow in the desired direction.)

Cutting Back.—Having selected the shoots which are to remain, and removed the others—cutting them off close up to the stem—it is necessary to cut them back. It will be observed that the buds on the upper end of a wood shoot are better developed than those near to the base. The object in view is to give the leader the start and to have it keep ahead of the rest; therefore do not cut it back too much. Cut it amongst these buds towards the upper end—perhaps one-third of its length down from the tip.

In regard to the side branches. Perhaps amongst these retained one or two are weak, and one or two are strong; these latter, perhaps, nearly as strong as the leader. It is they which require to be watched or they will start racing for supremacy with the leader. Put them in their right place right away. Cut them back to within three buds or so of the stem. The buds here will be very much backward and by the time they have been forced into growth the leader will have shoots several inches in length and there is no fear that the side branches will catch up.

Next Year.—The following spring the process will be much the same. The leader will be treated practically as was the whole tree the year before. The lower tier of branches of last year will probably have made two or more shoots. Almost invariably one will be enough to leave, and that should be cut back among the well-

developed buds towards the extremity or about one-third in from the tip. The next year will be time enough for these side branches to have side shoots.

Third Spring.—The next year will be a repetition of the first and second except that there will be an additional tier of branches to prune. The treatment of this lower tier, this year, will be somewhat similar in principle to that of the leader the first year. The cutting of the preceding year will probably have resulted in two or three strong shoots growing from the end and one or two weaker shoots growing further in on it. Of the strong shoots at the end but one should be left, and that cut back as before about one-third; of the others one or two may be left as there is room or not.

After this, if all has gone right, as it will have done with a normal well-growing tree handled as suggested, the tree may be considered to be formed and it is usually unnecessary to continue cutting back the leading shoots. The leader will be firmly established and the tree will tend to keep the form in which it has been trained. Subsequent shaping will simply consist of thinning out superfluous shoots and branches, keeping a just balance between all side boughs.

The idea to keep in view is to give the leader the preference when cutting out; that is, if a shoot from the center is crowding a shoot from a side bough it is the latter that must give way.

Should the shaping have been neglected in the earlier years, or should an injury have happened to the leading shoot, it is often found that one of the side branches has come ahead of the leader and is competing with the leader for supremacy. There are three things that may be done, and one of them must be done, if a well-shaped tree is to result, viz: (1) the side branch may be cut off; (2) the tree may be cut off immediately above the side branch and thus the latter becomes the leader. (Where the side branch has grown practically as large as the rest of the tree above it, one of these two things must be done.) (3) check the side branch back hard by cutting it off immediately above one of its own side shoots; the stronger its tie the lower down must it be cut.

This latter will be best where such cutting is likely to be efficacious in putting the side branch in its place. It will, however, in any case, have to be watched the next season.

Always the side branches must be headed in this way if they show signs of coming ahead of the leader until they are finally induced to take a subordinate position.

It will likely now be found that there are too many branches and that they are crowding each other, no matter, it gives a choice and if any have to be sacrificed their existence will not have been wasted, they will have assisted to thicken and strengthen the main stem.

It is not claimed that there is anything new in this paper; it is simply an attempt to state in clear and concise language a definite system which at any rate has the merit of producing surely, and without waste of time and energy plant growth—the results aimed at. The attempt seems to be justified because this part of the orchardist's art has not often been stated either clearly, concisely or completely and it is very necessary to have clear and definite ideas on the subject.

With a clear mental picture of what is needed in regards to shaping a tree the pruning of young trees is a rapid and sure operation. The tree is pruned and shaped mentally as the operator walks toward it. A few deft cuts with a sharp pair of shears and it is done.

Lacking this clear idea there is in decision and doubt, the indecision of the first year produces the puzzle of the second year which in the third year becomes an insoluble problem rather one only to be solved by sacrificing half or more of the tree and thereby wasting the greater part of the energy of growth that the tree has put forth in the past.—P. H. Homestead, Salem, Or.

### LINE FROM MEDFORD.

**Lumber Road Will Be Built In Southern Oregon Town This Year**  
Fourteen surveyors have recently completed surveys of an additional ten miles of trackage which is to be built by the owners of the Pacific Eastern railroad in southern Oregon during the present year. The road, owned by Edgar Hafer, of Medford, and C. H. Lewis, of Portland.

The Crater Lake Company, successors of the Iowa Lumber and Box Company, of which Mr. Hafer is manager, is erecting two new sawmills on the line of the Pacific and Eastern. The mills will have a capacity of 75,000 feet of lumber a day.

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Phone 1611. Marshfield, Ore.

**R. GRO. E. DIX**  
Physician and Surgeon.  
Office—First Nat. Bank Bldg. Phone 1681

**R. J. W. INGRAM**  
Physician and Surgeon.  
Office over Sengstacken's Drug Store.  
Phones—Office 1621; Residence 783.

**R. A. L. HOUSEWORTH**  
Physician and Surgeon.  
Office over First National Bank.  
Residence, two blocks north of Crystal Theater. Office Phone 1431. Residence Phone 1656.

#### Lawyers.

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