

KING APPLE REIGNING TODAY

Two National Shows at Spokane, Wash., and Council Bluffs, Iowa—Over 500 Varieties—Ben Davis a Delusion.

By Frederic J. Haskin.
Washington, Nov. 15.—"Long live King Apple!" Such is the toast in Spokane, where the National Apple show opens today, and in Council Bluffs, where the National Horticultural congress is beginning its annual session. The apple is the most important of all American fruits, and among horticulturists is hailed as king. The show at Spokane is an annual affair, which exploits the apples of the great north-west, which in 1896 and 1898 the annual crop was about 60,000,000 barrels. In 1904 it was less than 40,000,000 barrels, and in 1907 and 1908 the total crop fell below 30,000,000 barrels. This falling off was due in large measure to unfavorable weather conditions, which in Michigan, the largest apple-growing state in the Union, resulted in almost a complete crop failure.

Apple Crop Decreasing.
The horticulturists of the country face some very serious problems, which will be discussed at the Council Bluffs meeting. Statistics compiled by apple trade authorities show that, despite increased demand and good prices, the apple crop of the United States is decreasing. In 1896 and 1898 the annual crop was about 60,000,000 barrels. In 1904 it was less than 40,000,000 barrels, and in 1907 and 1908 the total crop fell below 30,000,000 barrels. This falling off was due in large measure to unfavorable weather conditions, which in Michigan, the largest apple-growing state in the Union, resulted in almost a complete crop failure.

How Missouri Does It.
It is impossible to change the weather by human effort, but it is possible to take precautions against frost and thus to save the apple crops. One orchardist in Missouri in the spring of this year spent \$3000 for crude oil to keep fires alight in his 640-acre orchard for several cold nights. His neighbors laughed at his folly. He sold his apple crop in the orchard for \$64,000. His neighbors didn't have any apples this year. It is all a question of protecting the buds from a possible late frost. The question of the success or failure of an apple crop is often the question of one night. Heating in orchards is accomplished by means of large lamps, resembling scuttles, in which crude petroleum is burned. The heat given off by the heat and sent up enough smoke to lie as a protecting blanket over the orchard.

One orchardist had 80 acres of apple trees. He equipped it with 4000 heating pots and bought 25,000 gallons of fuel. The actual cost of the oil used and of a tenth part of the cost of the pots, their life is 10 years, was only \$275. To this was added the expense of seven nights' firing. If it had not been for this heat the apples would have been completely killed, as was the case in neighboring orchards. With the firing the frost was driven off, and the crop amounted to 40,000 cases of apples, which sold for more than \$20,000.

The "inland empire" of Washington and Idaho, whose crops are on exhibition at Spokane, has been proved to possess a more favorable climate for apple growing than other sections which produce fine fruit. It is probable that the next census will show the extreme north-west to be at the head of the apple-producing sections.

Scale Must Be Fought.
Another factor in producing the decline in the yield of eastern and central orchards is the scourge of insect pests and plant diseases. Intelligent efforts are being made to combat these enemies of king apple, and almost every state government has joined hands with the federal department of agriculture in the war on San Jose scale and other such pests. The scale does not suffer so greatly as the older sections of the country for several reasons. One is that the new countries are not so thoroughly infested, and another is that it is easier to secure the hearty cooperation of all fruitgrowers in a new country.

Fruitgrowers pay much attention to the problem of marketing their product. Orchardists have established selling agencies of their own control to obviate the economic loss of the commission merchant's profit. "From the tree to the table" is accomplished in such organizations, and some of them have been remarkably successful.

Applies to Europe.
Many American apples are exported to Europe, especially to England and Germany. Export apples are very carefully handled. The exporters do not risk the skill of the orchardist, as a rule, but buy the crops on the trees and send their own carefully trained corps of pluckers and packers into the orchards to take care of the crop. Progressive fruitgrowers add to the keeping qualities of their fruit by pre-cooling it before loading it into refrigerating cars. This is accomplished in small cold-storage plants in the orchards or at the railway stations. Ammoniated air is used as a refrigerating agent, and the apples are cooled to about 34 degrees Fahrenheit before being put in the cars.

The fruitgrowers at Council Bluffs will hear an interesting discussion of the success that has attended the planting of trees with dynamite. The seed are not shot into the earth in a bombshell, as might be supposed. The dynamite is used to loosen the earth under the hole wherein the small tree is to be planted. The tree grows more rapidly as a result of the use of the explosive.

The third Tuesday in October is celebrated as the annual "Apple Day" in many states. On that day every apple is supposed to eat at least one apple. This custom is supposed to have originated with someone else. Apple day has been observed for six years and the custom is growing.

The Seedless Apple.
Horticulturists devote much time and attention to the production of new varieties of apples. The "seedless" apple has arisen and it is now possible that the fulfillment of the prophecy "There ain't goin' to be no core" is imminent. The seedless apple hails from the irrigated orchards of Colorado, and it is said that it possesses a delicious flavor and no core at all. It is one of the stars at the Spokane show.

Two other new varieties which have been celebrated in print recently must await the approving seal of some body of scientists before they are accepted as being really truly true. It is declared that one famous horticulturist has no copied twigs from sweet and sour apple trees that he has produced a tree bearing apples sweet one side and sour on the other. Another triumph for the nature wizard or the nature faker, as the case may be, is the chestnut apple. By grafting a twig from a chestnut tree on an apple bough it is claimed that an apple was obtained inside of which there were three well grown and well flavored chestnuts.

500 Standard Varieties.
There are no less than 500 standard varieties of apples grown in the United States. Each section has its peculiar favorites, and some are grown to eat and some are grown to sell. The man from Oregon or Washington will stake his fortune, his life and his sacred honor upon the proposition that a northwestern Spitzenberg is the best apple in the world. The man from California will challenge and ride forth to battle as the Knight of the Albarnele Pippin. The rural New Yorker will defend his

CIVIC AFFAIRS ARE DISCUSSED

Municipal Authorities Meet in Annual Session at Cincinnati.

Cincinnati, Ohio, Nov. 15.—Several hundred delegates, among whom are city officials and municipal authorities from all over the country, have assembled in Cincinnati to take part in the sixteenth annual meeting of the National Municipal league and the fifth annual meeting of the American Civic association. The joint gathering opens at the Shinton hotel tonight, with addresses of welcome by Governor Harmon, Mayor Galvin and Elliott H. Pendleton, and addresses by Charles J. Bonaparte of Baltimore and J. Monroe Martin of Harrisburg, president of the Municipal league, and the Civic association, respectively.

During the next three days there will be two sessions daily, at which papers will be read and discussions held on various phases of municipal activity, with a daily "round table" conference, at the luncheon hour and a dinner to the members and delegates Wednesday evening. The conference on the prosecution of graft tomorrow morning, and the conference on franchise problems Thursday morning, are expected to bring out some interesting discussions. Other subjects to receive attention include the commission form of government, public health, direct nominations, municipal budgets and research, immigration and the relation of the liquor question to municipal affairs.

Former President Eliot of Harvard university, who is an ardent advocate of the commission plan of government, is one of the foremost speakers on the program. Another prominent speaker will be Mrs. Phillip N. Moore of St. Louis, president of the General Federation of Women's clubs.

Baldwins to the last ditch. The Missourian and Arkansas travelers will join forces in defence of the primacy of the Winesap.

Two Ate Winesap.
It is a well known fact to the people of the Ozark mountains in Missouri and Arkansas that the Winesap apple is the best fruit grown on earth. Dave Craig, when past the meridian of life, forsook his primrose path of dalliance and, turning his back upon the devil, enlisted in the army of the Lord and the Baptist church. From that day forth he never tasted red liquor nor Winesap apples. He knew, as do all good Ozarkers, that the Winesap was the best fruit ever grown and reasoned that is therefore was the very variety of apple which Mother Eve ate in the garden.

Perhaps the most popular apple with growers is the Ben Davis. A Ben Davis apple is fair to look upon. It is red and tempting to the eye, well kept, and ships well. It grows in profusion and its trees are hardy frost resisters. From the sordid money making point of view the Ben Davis apple cannot be beat. But, pity the poor foreigners who buy them in ignorance and eater of parts know that a Ben Davis apple was designed only to sell. They should never be eaten.

Nobody Likes Ben Davis.
The Houston Post and the Kansas City Journal long have labored to warn the public against the hypocrisy of the Ben Davis. It looks like an apple, it smells like an apple, it is an apple, but it doesn't taste like an apple. No editor has come to the defense of this snare and delusion, but much remains to be done before Ben Davis is driven from the market places. It is the founding stone of more than one swollen fortune made in apples.

The big red apple is the king of fruits. Fifty-five per cent of all the fruit trees in America are apple trees, and they yield more than 80 per cent of all the orchard fruits produced by the nation. There are 200,000,000 apple trees and the average crop per year is about a bushel for each tree. If all these trees were to bear a full crop in any one year, the United States could feed the whole world with apples. Notwithstanding the decline in the apple yield, the apple still is the best market maker in the whole catalogue of fruits. It is King Apple.

Tomorrow, Incorporating the Farmer. 2 MORE ROADS FOR BRISTOL SECTION

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Bristol, Wash., Nov. 15.—Two more wagon roads will be added to this section this winter. The board of county commissioners this week allowed the survey for what is known as the Canyon road, which brings Fine Pine and Snowden about three miles nearer the Columbia river. Yesterday, in accordance with subscriptions made at the recent meeting of the Bristol Development club, work was resumed on the Bristol cutoff, a short cut from the river, four and a half miles long. All the right of way for the Canyon road has been secured and \$900 subscribed by ranchers along its route, which, it is understood, will be augmented by an equal amount from White Salmon business men. The Canyon road work will be under the supervision of the commissioners.

Chicago Firm Buys Orchard Land.
(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Huson, Wash., Nov. 15.—A Chicago manufacturing firm has purchased a large tract of orchard land in the lower valley through Leonard Fowler, a traveling man, who was instructed to make the investment in the west where the best of climatic conditions prevailed. Mr. Fowler traveled all over Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, British Columbia, Alaska and the Yukon country, and selected this valley for the future home of the Chicago firm. A large modern bungalow will be erected, built of native stone and large enough for occasional house parties. The buildings and costly improvements promise to be the pride of the White Salmon river valley.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST SPEAKER DROPS DEAD

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Santa Cruz, Cal., Nov. 15.—While addressing a gathering of Christian Scientists in the Native Sons' hall here yesterday afternoon, Thomas A. Walford dropped to the floor dead. At first it was supposed he had fainted, but physicians later pronounced him dead from heart failure.

Ditch Case Dismissed.
(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Wallace, Or., Nov. 15.—The complaint filed before the grand jury charging the Lower Valley Ditch company with neglect in screwing their ditch has been withdrawn and the case dismissed.

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Special Sale Fine Table Linens All This Week

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Special \$2.65—Full bed size white Wool Blanket extra good weight and real \$3.50 values. Special \$2.65
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Special \$4.95—Extra large size Oregon Wool Blankets in white and gray; standard \$6.00 values \$4.95

CURTAINS

Ruffled Swiss Curtains; 2½ yards long and good width; the kind usually sold at \$1.00. Special, per pair \$85¢
Full length White Nottingham Lace Curtains; great choice of patterns. Special, per pair \$98¢

TOWELING

18 inch-brown Linen Crash; extra absorbent and best 15c grade. 10c
Special, now a yard 12c
18 inch absorbent Turkish Towelling; the very best 18c grade; on sale now, at a yard

BED SPREADS

Special 98¢—Full bed size white Spreads; good heavy quality 98c and worth \$1.50 each. Special at \$1.29
Special \$1.29—Extra heavy white Bed Spreads; the quality usually sold at \$1.65; now on sale at \$1.29
Special \$1.47—Full bed size fringed Bed Spreads; cut corners; best \$2.00 quality. Special each \$1.47

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20x20 inch Linen Napkins; several new patterns; best \$1.75 quality. Special, a dozen \$1.25
18 inch Hemmed White Table Napkins; extra good wearing quality. Special a dozen 75c
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