Horticultural News

GETTING FACTS ON APPLE PEST

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The codling moth is a troublesome insect enemy of apples, prevalent in most of the apple-growing regions. A special appropriation for meeting the situation in Kansas was made available to the bureau of entomology July 1, 1926, but in order to cover an entire season work was begun in cooperation with the Kansas Agricultural college during the spring. Damage was especially severe in Kansas and the Ozarks during the preceding season, and it is hoped that these studies will throw much light on the codling-moth problem throughout this region. Field experiments in control are under way at the Bentonville (Ark.) laboratory, which include the testing of arsenicals applied in various dosages and at various times, and of ovicidal and larvicidal materials. Questions relating to the quantity of spray residue on fruit at harvest time are being studied at the Yakima (Wash.) field station. Tests of a large series of baits for moths in the orchard and in packing sheds are also being made. An apple ferment has been found to be the best bait material of those tried, though a ferment of molasses and yeast is also good. None of the essential oils tested shows much promise.

At the Sligo (Md.) laboratory the feeding habits of the codling-moth larvae are being studied, especially those just hatched. The development of insecticides other than arsenicals is being attempted.

Variety of Apple Trees Changed by Top-Working

"Apple tree varieties may easily be changed if the grower wishes to follow directions and use a litle care in his work," says Prof. G. W. Peck of the New York State College of Agriculture at Ithaca.

"The undesirable Ben Davis may be top-worked with some variety of real quality, such as McIntosh or Spy. Grafting may also be used to get another variety of fruit on an isolated plum or pear which does not bear because of lack of pollination.

"Any one may graft fruit successfully if he will take well-matured one-year-old terminal growths from known bearing trees, keep the scions dormant, graft when growth is just starting, and be sure that the growing or cambium tissues of the stock and the scion come in contact so as to insure a union."

Failures of grafts may often be laid to the neglect of the grower to be sure about this union, and another important point is the careful placing of wax over all cut surfaces immediately after the graft is placed. This is to keep the cut from drying out. For best results, scions should be set within a few days at a time when the first leaves of the tree become from a quarter to half an inch long. Warm weather should be selected for the job.

Parasite of Gypsy Moth

The Department of Agriculture has recently introduced into the United States a parasite of the gypsy moth which is particularly promising. This insect is called Compsilura concinnata Meigen. It lives on about 100 host insects. It has now been studied for eight years by experts of the Department of Agriculture, and these authorities feel that the insect will prove of great benefit. It will not only check the spread of insects of the kinds it was intended to control, but it has also shown ability to combat other dangerous insects in this country.

Horticultural Notes

A good raspberry plantation will be profitable for six to ten years.

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Ordinarily the quantity of fruit and vegetables used on the farm is in direct proportion to the quantity raised.

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In pruning see that dangerous crotches and crowding of limbs are eliminated from young trees to avoid breaking down when the trees come of age. The earlier this shaping is done the less shock to the trees.

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Cutting the firewood with a carpenter's saw is just as sensible as using one to prune the fruit trees. Buy and use a good pruning saw. Efficient tools make it easier to do efficient work. Ninety cents for a pair of hand shears and a dollar and a quarter for a saw is an investment justified even in the home orchard.

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Black walnut trees seem to be poisonous to apple trees, if planted near them. They are also harmful to tomatoes, potatoes and corn.

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After all rotten apples, pruned limbs an other refuse have been cleared up about the orchard, give your trees a thorough spraying.

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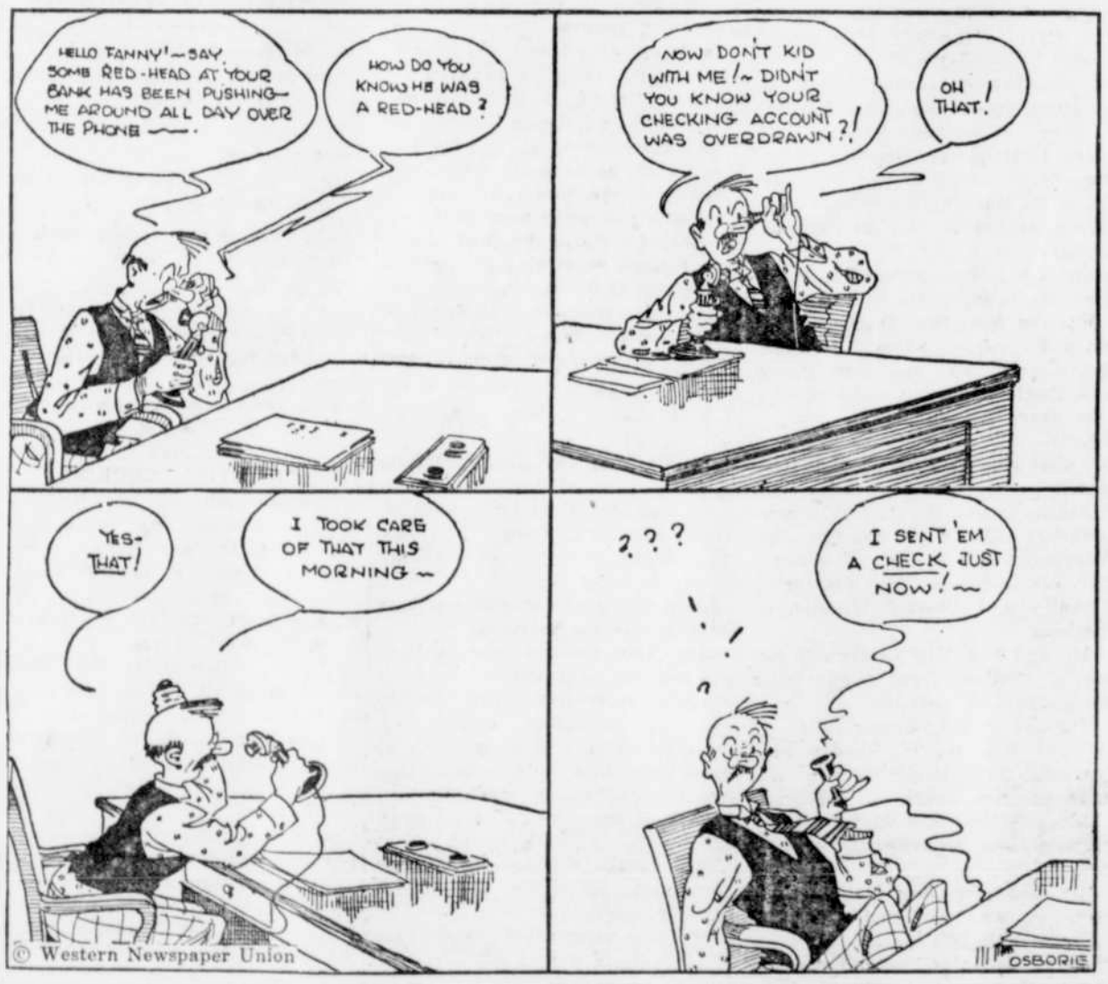
In pruning gooseberries and currants, remember that they bear fruit on wood that is two years old, instead of last year's growth as with raspberries and blackberries.

OUR COMIC SECTION

Events in the Lives of Little Men

THE FEATHERHEADS — Another N. G. Check



MICKIE, THE PRINTER'S DEVIL — *Answers the Description*

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

SLANGUAGE

Parole your peeve.

—

She's an optic orator.

—

He is a neutral pronoun.

—

Unroll some brain fabric.

—

Too honest to steal away.

—

He runs his brain in low gear.

—

Even his jokes have jaundice.

—

Blow into my igloo some time.

—

Tickle your eardrums with that.

—

Who's uncalled-for bundle are you.

—

He thinks an alienist is a foreigner.

—

You're only a freckle on this planet.

—

Trace a bee-line from here to anywhere.

—

So dumb she thinks the furnace is gone when it's out.

NEW INVENTIONS

A motor propelled buoy that can be used to carry two swimmers through water is a Californian's invention.

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Turning a new gas range valve even slightly lights automatically the burner that it serves, preventing danger from leaking gas.

—

The use of heat is not needed with a new sealing wax that is sold in metal tubes and soon hardens on exposure to the air.

—

A motor-driven pump that can be placed in any tub to convert it into a washing machine by agitating the water it contains has been invented.

RUSSIAN SAYINGS

You must sing his song on whose cart you ride.

—

Fools quarrel over the booty while the wise divide it up.

—

The rich man eats when he wants to, the needy when he can.

—

Fools are neither ploughed nor planted, but grow of themselves.

—

A fool can throw a stone into the water, but ten wise men won't get it out.

EPIGRAMS

An expert is merely an ordinary person away from home.—Edward C. Stone.

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In this life, alas, there are many more feet than ladder rungs.—Maurice Donnay.

—

I don't like to think of the past. That's for women and scenario writers.—Jim Tully.

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Travel has destroyed the traveler and there is nowhere for the pilgrim to go save on a spiritual journey.—G. K. Chesterton.

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Methuselah passed away in the year of the flood; there is no telling how long he might have lived under a dry regime.—Bruce Barton.

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Taking an average of theft, and dividing it by the population, it appears that the average man has stolen only $2.25.—Stephen Leacock.

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