

Forest Grove Steam Laundry

Wood, Coal, Cold Storage and Ice.

MERTZ & LATTA

Cor. 5th Ave. and 2nd St., Forest Grove, Ore.

HOME COURSE IN FRUITS AND BERRIES

THE FIRST SEASON WITH THE PEACH ORCHARD.

By MAURICE A. BLAKE of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

THE selection of the site for the orchard is one of the first considerations in the planting of a peach orchard, and a very important one, for it may mean success or failure according to the character of the soil, exposure and elevation which is chosen.

Most fruit growers realize the importance of selecting a site which is somewhat elevated above the surrounding land level. A site which is severely exposed to strong prevailing winds, however, should be avoided, as the young trees are likely to be blown over or loosened from the soil during the first season of growth. If one plans to develop extensive orchards he should choose a site that will permit of uniform and economical development and avoid areas with distinct irregularities.

Selection of a Site.

The selection of a site also involves the selection of the soil, and this is of



DESIRABLE FORM OF GROWTH BY PEACH TREE HEADED ABOUT TWO FEET HIGH WHEN SET.

the greatest importance. The peach will succeed on a great variety of soils, but a well drained sandy loam is considered best. The adaptability of the surface soil for peach growing is much modified by the character of the subsoil and underlying strata. Some of the heavier loams and even soils containing some clay may be made to produce fine peaches if the subsoil is porous and affords good drainage. The better so called "chestnut soils" are well adapted to peaches, and the trees live longer than upon the sandy soils.

The purchase of trees for peach growing is a troublesome and puzzling one to many fruit growers.

In a general way it makes very little difference where the trees are grown if they are well grown and are free from injurious insects and diseases. Some believe that peach trees grown in the south and set in a locality a considerable distance to the north are likely to start into growth too early in the spring, but this will not be the case, even the first year, if the trees are properly handled. Temperature largely determines the time when the trees will start into growth. The top of a peach tree may be placed in a greenhouse in winter and brought into bloom with the roots frozen solidly outside, or the roots may be kept warm in the greenhouse and the top exposed outside, with the result that the portion of the trunk inside will send out new growths, while the part exposed to low temperature will remain dormant.

One should aim to avoid buying trees which are grown in a locality where any serious disease, such as peach yellows or root gall, is known to be established. It is very desirable also to secure trees free from scale, but this is not as important as the diseases mentioned, as the scale can be controlled by proper spraying, and this operation will be necessary each year, even if stock free from scale is set.

Do not order trees from an agent who represents a firm of whose reliability you are not certain, and it is better in any case to order directly from the nurseryman.

When to Order Trees.

Trees are graded by nurserymen in two ways—by height and by caliper. The height is measured from the point where the tree was budded, and the caliper is the diameter of the trunk three inches "above the bud." The latter is the more accurate and better system of grading.

Ordering the trees is a matter which is often neglected until a short time before the trees are actually needed for planting. This is a serious mistake. One should decide upon the varieties and the number of trees to be planted, and the trees should be ordered not later than February.

If there is no local nursery where good trees can be obtained write to some reliable grower and ask him if he can supply you. You will then receive

a reply as to whether the trees desired can be supplied, and if so you can place your order. If you are planning to purchase a considerable number of trees a good method is to order by samples by requesting the nurseryman to ship you samples of the kinds of trees you desire. Always order a few more trees than you actually need. This will permit of discarding any poor or injured ones.

Have your trees shipped to arrive a considerable time in advance of the day or week in which they are to be set and "heel them in." You will then have your trees at hand ready to set when the conditions for planting are best. If one understands "heeling them in" properly, so they will not be damaged during the winter, it is a good practice to purchase the trees in the fall.

As soon as the trees arrive from the nurseryman they should be unpacked to note their condition. If the trees are dry the roots should be placed in water for a time until the bark on the trunk and branches of the trees regains its full, bright appearance. If the soil is in workable condition when the trees arrive they should be taken to the proposed site of the orchard and pruned and heeled in. They will then be near at hand when needed for planting.

Proper Height to "Cut Back."

Two to two and one-half feet above the bud is about the proper height to "cut back" peach trees for planting. Good trees can be formed when cut back to eighteen inches, but anything more severe than this is not to be recommended.

Sometimes the roots of peach trees which have been grown upon sandy soil show an infestation of black peach aphides or plant lice. These are likely to check seriously the growth of the trees where they are planted upon the sandy soils, and it is recommended that the roots of infested trees be dipped in a solution of whale oil soap at the rate of one pound to three to four gallons of water. One of the soluble oils for killing scale would also probably be a safe dipping solution made up at the rate of one part of oil to sixteen or eighteen parts of water. The writer has used lime-sulphur successfully for this work, but other authorities have reported injury from this material, so, if tried, it should be used with caution.

As early as the soil is in proper condition to work in the spring the site of the orchard should be well plowed and thoroughly harrowed. Make the land as level as conditions permit and avoid leaving any "dead furrows." In other words, prepare the land as thoroughly for peach trees as for a crop of potatoes or one of the truck crops.

The importance of early preparation of the land after it is in workable condition cannot be overemphasized. It remains much more moist, and the trees have much more favorable conditions in which to begin growth. If the land is plowed late it is often dried out, and the trees do not find the most favorable moisture conditions.

This is an important feature and one which will show the results of good or poor judgment during the whole lifetime of the orchard. There are various systems of tree planting, but the most common and the one to be generally recommended for peaches is the setting of the trees in squares.

Directions For Planting.

Three is a good number to make up a planting gang—two men to set and a boy or man to drop the trees. If the planting is done upon a bright day the roots of the trees should be kept covered with a piece of moist burlap or similar material as they are carried out to be set, and only a few trees should be dropped ahead of the men who are setting. If the weather is dull and rainy at planting time a considerable number of trees may be dropped ahead of the men who are planting, and the man who does the distributing can also assist in setting.

If the land is well furrowed out where the trees are to be planted it will only be necessary to move from two to four shovelfuls of soil in order to make a hole of sufficient width and depth to receive each tree. One man should then hold the tree in place while the other shovels in some of the loose, moist surface soil about the roots.

Most any vegetable crop may be grown between the trees the first summer without damage to the orchard, and it usually proves to be an indirect benefit. The truck crop is likely to receive attention in the form of good cultivation, and this is of much value to the trees. Where the orchard is not planted with some marketable crop the cultivation is seldom as well done.

Such crops as tomatoes, sweet potatoes, melons, sweet corn and bush lima beans may be grown successfully in the young peach orchard and under average conditions will at least pay the cost of the cultivation of the orchard for that season.

Caution In Summer Pruning.

Unless the young peach trees are upon fertile soil and are making a rapid growth it is best not to practice any summer pruning the first season.

In the past there have been too many orchard failures that could have been prevented, and too many such failures are occurring today. Lack of thorough cultivation is responsible for more partial and complete failures than any other one thing, not even excepting peach yellows, little peach or scale.

The peach orchard should be kept thoroughly cultivated from early spring until midsummer, when a cover crop should be grown. It cannot be left without cultivation for a single season without incurring temporary and permanent injury.

One must spray the trees thoroughly each year before the buds open with a good lime-sulphur mixture to control the scale and leaf curl.

START CAMPAIGN FOR VACANT LOT GARDENS.

American Civic Association Would Utilize Waste Land.

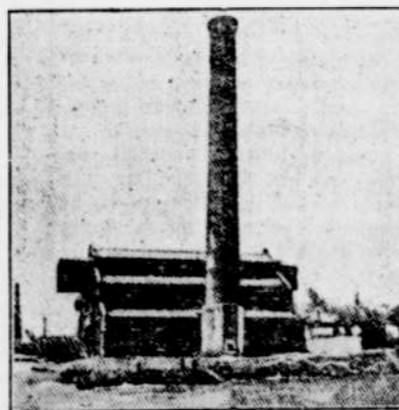
A feature of particular interest in connection with the annual convention of the American Civic Association, which was held in Washington, Dec. 13, 14 and 15, was the outlining of a program for what will be known as the "vacant lot gardens" campaign, upon which much of the attention of the association's workers will be concentrated during the ensuing year. An illustrative example of the civic betterment which may be secured through the cultivation and beautification of vacant lots in cities was offered to the convention delegates in an address by Leroy J. Boughner of Minneapolis. Mr. Boughner had an important place in the program of the session, which was devoted to discussion of "The Communities We Live In."

This club in 1911 had planted in vegetables and flowers 399 vacant lots, or approximately 2,225,000 square feet, of which 2,000,000 square feet were planted to vegetables. The city was divided into six districts, about sixty gardens to a district, and each district was in charge of an assistant gardener furnished by the Minnesota farm school. Each individual having a vacant lot garden thus received careful instruction in gardening. An idea of the extent of the work will be offered in a statement showing that the club gave out 28,000 cabbage and tomato plants on May 25, and there also were given out on May 11 22,000 packages of nasturtium seeds. So great was the stimulus to gardening in the city that the stores in the same season sold 40,000 packages of nasturtium seeds, and it was estimated that fully 25,000 to 30,000 homes were decorated with these plants, most of which were in bloom by July 1. With the Garden club acting as intermediary every vacant lot on Hennepin avenue, one of the principal thoroughfares of Minneapolis, was cleaned and planted to grass and flowers. About 600 vacant lots in other parts of the city were cleared of rubbish. Twenty thousand feet frontage of vacant lots were screened with sunflowers or other bushy plants. Through the influence of the Garden club, too, hundreds of private individuals were inspired to cultivate vacant lots, and a summary of the year showed 1,000 vacant lot gardens under the control of the club, of an area of 150 acres, and 18,000 home gardens, of an area of 1,000 acres. It was shown by Mr. Boughner that the total cost of all the cleaning, seeds, instruction, supervision and machinery was \$4,000, while with the experience gained the same work could be duplicated for \$1,800.

DISPOSAL OF GARBAGE.

Two Successful Methods Adopted by American Cities.

At least two methods of garbage disposal have proved effective in typical American cities—incineration and reduction. In the incinerating type all kinds of refuse, ashes, paper, rags, scraps of food, kitchen waste, etc., are fed together into crematories and burned. In European works of this type the heat generated by the combustion with a forced draft is a source of considerable revenue. One of the best examples of an incinerator plant in this country is the Milwaukee incin-



REDUCER AT MILWAUKEE.

erator, which has been in full operation since May, 1910. At the old Milwaukee plant the cost of disposal reached as high as \$1.37 per ton of garbage, while the cost at the new plant is less than 60 cents per ton. If the excess supply of steam generated at the plant is economically used the actual cost will be further greatly reduced.

In garbage reduction works the sorted garbage is passed through various digesters, tanks and roller presses with a view to extracting the valuable portions, especially the fats and the nitrogenous matters. The Columbus (O.) plant, put in operation in July, 1910, is the first reduction plant in this country designed and constructed by a municipality. Successful financial operation of this plant appears in the fact that it netted \$2,000 a month for the first six months.

Would Have Cleanest City.

The Spokane Realty association is inaugurating a campaign to clean up the city, especially the vacant lots. The first work will be done in cleaning up the vacant lots within a radius of three or four blocks from the ends of the Monroe street bridge prior to the opening of the bridge for traffic. After this work is done the work will be extended to include all of the vacant lots under control of the real estate men, and individual property owners will be requested to join in the movement to make Spokane the cleanest city in the United States.

Absolutely Safe and Reliable

The Bankers & Merchants Mutual Fire Association

Of Forest Grove, Oregon

Conducted on Economic and Business Principles. The Home Company That Has Made Good. Insure Your Business or Dwelling in The Bankers & Merchants

GILTNER'S GROCERY Phone Main 701

South Main Street, Forest Grove, Ore.

Fresh Vegetables Every Day

Log Cabin Bread Amber and Golden Gate **COFFEE**
Fresh Each Morning

Neat Printing

is something every business man desires when he orders stationery. Neat appearing business letter heads, envelopes, statements, bill heads, cards, etc., are what can be had from the Press Publishing Co. Neat printing

Is Our Motto

and we endeavor to live up to it at all times. When we fail to deliver a job of printed work which entirely satisfies, we are prepared to make it right. A job turned out of this office must be correct in every particular. Bring your work to the

Press Publishing Co.

and be assured of securing something which is typographically correct, tasty in construction and neat in appearance.

ELECTRIC POWER

Cheapest and Best

Washington-Oregon Corporation.

Watch and Use the Want Ads

and you'll not need to be a mind reader

The thought has often come to you perhaps, that you could easily solve most difficulties if you were a mind reader—if you could for instance, KNOW who would be glad to rent your property, or to buy it; who would be glad to employ you.

Want advertisers, and those who watch the want ads, learn these things in a BUSINESS WAY—not through occult means.

S. A. WALKER H. LIDYARD

WALKER & LIDYARD SHOEMAKERS

1st Ave. N., near Main St.

We are prepared to do the very best of all kind of shoe work.

UP-TO-DATE MACHINERY

Special attention given to crippled feet.

WM. WEITZEL

Tinning and Plumbing, Sheet Metal Work and Repair Shop.

North First Avenue, between Main and "A" Streets; phone 863.

Forest Grove Oyster House

Everything to Eat

Oysters and Shellfish a Specialty.

Open Day and Night

ED. BOOS, Proprietor

BUTTER WRAPPER PRINTING

at the FOREST GROVE PRESS

100 for \$1.25
250 for \$1.75
500 for \$2.25