

# OUR COMIC SECTION

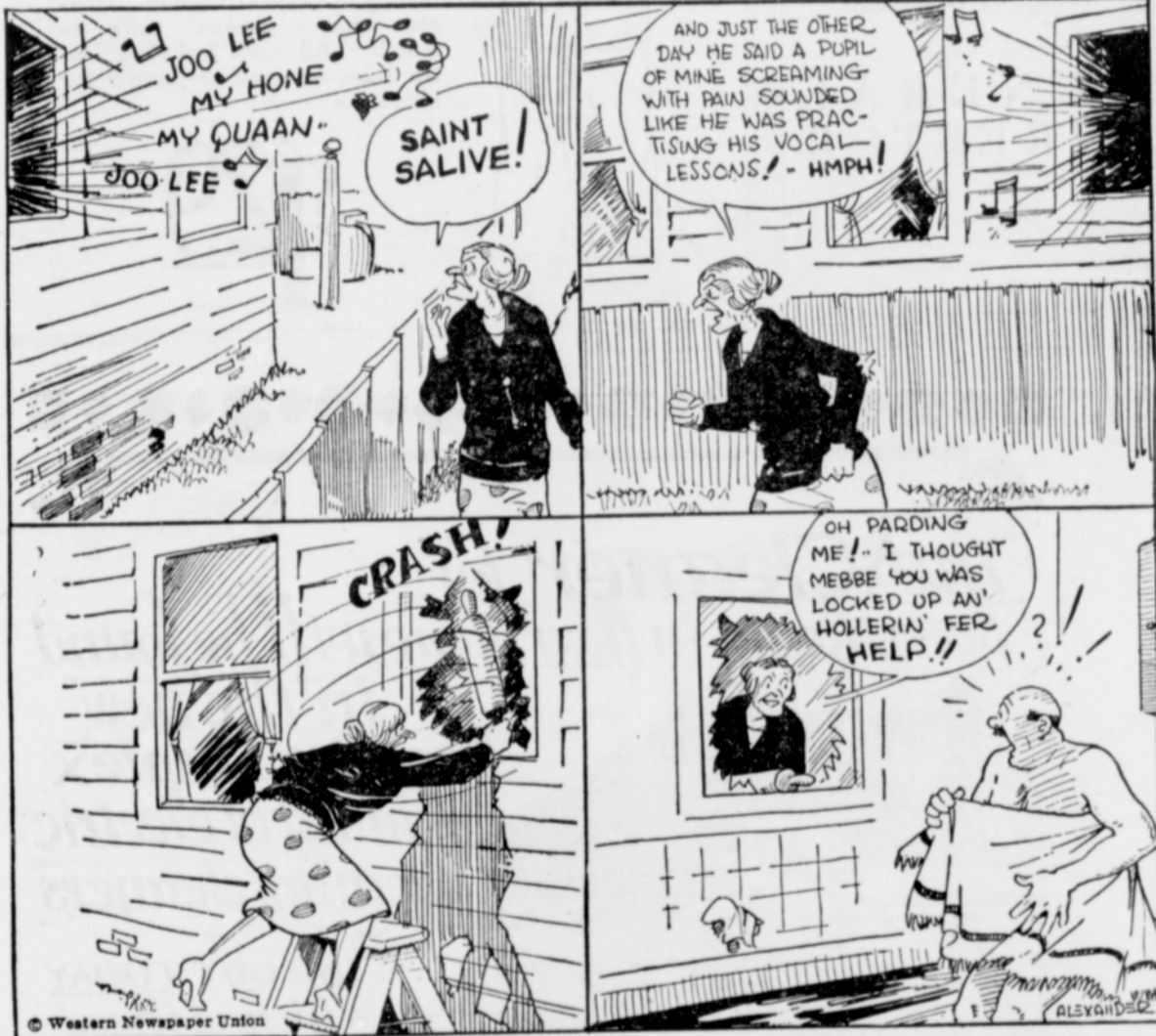
## Events in the Lives of Little Men



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## FINNEY OF THE FORCE

## Just Good Clean Fun



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## THE FEATHERHEADS

## Fanny Goes Too Strong



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# Horticultural News

## SPRAYING APPLE TREES IN SPRING

The cluster bud spray should be applied to the apple trees when the pink begins to show in the cluster buds and should be finished before the blossoms open. It may be necessary where large acreages are to be covered, to start this spray a little before the pink begins to show. It is never advisable to spray while trees are in bloom, according to L. C. Williams, Kansas State Agricultural college horticulturist.

The materials for this spray are one and one-half gallons of commercial liquid lime-sulphur and one pound of powdered lead arsenate to 50 gallons of water. In preparing the spray put the lime-sulphur in the water in the sprayer. After it is thoroughly mixed, add the arsenate of lead, which has previously been well mixed with a small amount of water. Have the agitator running when both materials are added. The spray should be applied as soon as possible after adding the lead to prevent the formation of a black sludge due to the chemical action of the lime-sulphur and the lead. Clean the spray tank before each filling.

If homemade lime-sulphur solution is used, it should prove just as effective as the commercial if tested with a hydrometer and dilutions made accordingly.

Some home orchardists may desire to use commercial dry lime-sulphur, because of the difficulty of securing the liquid product in small quantities. About four pounds of dry lime-sulphur may be used in 50 gallons of water. Arsenate of lead should be added at the rate of one pound to 50 gallons regardless of the kind of lime-sulphur used. Liquid lime-sulphur, where it can be obtained, is recommended.

## Packing Strawberries

Strawberry growers may be interested in the rules used by one of the Western fruit exchanges:

1. Berries must not be picked while there is moisture on plants.
2. Berries should be pink all over, or three-fourths red.
3. Berries should be picked ripe in cool weather than in warm.
4. A picker must not be allowed to hold more than one or two berries in his hand at the same time.
5. Filled carriers must not be allowed to stand in the sun.
6. Berries must be picked with a stem a quarter of an inch long and not longer or shorter.
7. Sort out all green, over-ripe, misshapen and small berries.
8. No culls in boxes. Put in nothing but fair-sized berries.
9. Use clean crates and keep them from being soiled.
10. Haul in spring wagon and cover to keep out the dust.

## Keep Tops of Apple and Old Peach Trees Open

There is one feature of pruning old apple trees and also old peach trees which always needs stressing. This is to keep the tops open. In those varieties of apples subject to sun scald this cannot be carried to extremes. On most varieties of apples, and especially on peaches, the top of the tree should be open.

In the unpruned tree you will notice the vigorous growths pointing up to the sky and the weak growth in the interior and sides of the tree (if the orchard is set too close). Only by cutting out the top and improving the light conditions in the interior of the tree will the bearing area of the tree be increased through invigoration of weak growths. The spraying done will be more effective also and the color of the fruit will be improved.

## Orchard, to Do Its Best, Should Have Attention

In order to have an orchard do its best it should receive attention from the time that it is planted, for an orchard that is neglected when started requires much more work, time and expense later on, than if care had been taken at once. The trees should be properly placed; spacing varies with the different varieties of fruit. However, the average distance between trees planted in Minnesota is approximately 30 feet. This should be done first, because crowded trees will not bear well and, secondly, crowded trees will spoil the general appearance of the orchard.

## Curculio and Gouger

The adult curculio and gouger make their appearance on trees before fruit sets. They feed upon the leaves till the little plums break through the blossom husks, when the female makes incisions in these and deposits eggs. The important thing is to get the adults before the little plums have broken through the husks, as after the eggs have been deposited they are there to stay. If the weather happens to be warm the plums develop quite rapidly.



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