

PEAR BLIGHT AND ITS CONTROL UPON THE PACIFIC COAST

This is the Eighth of a Series of Articles That Will Be Printed Daily Until Subject is Completed—Every Orchardist in the West Should Save These Issues for Future Reference, as They Contain Valuable Information.

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(Continued from Monday, May 16.)

How to Inspect for and Eradicate Blight.

It must be understood from the very beginning that there is no spray, cure or remedy for blight. Being a bacterial disease, and once the germ has gained entrance to the bark tissues and the cambium layer by any means whatever, it can readily be seen that any external application in the way of a spray or wash could not be effective. There is but one thing to do after infection has started, and that is to remove, but cutting, the affected parts. In other words, the operation is purely surgical. In all of the cutting a strong disinfectant should be used to wipe off the tools after cutting into the blight, as well as to wash off the wounds made by the instruments; otherwise, it is possible to introduce the germ into the cut surface and to carry it from tree to tree on the pruning tools. In the majority of cases, in dry weather, infection would not result from the use of pruning tools even though they were not disinfected, but it is never a wise plan to take a chance. In the late summer or early fall, when the exuberant growing season is over, the chances for infection by the use of unclean tools are not so great; however, it has been determined by numerous experiments that blight punctured into the fresh bark in the fall may remain semi-dormant through the winter and may result in a fine case of hold-over blight the following spring. In working out blight as much care should be used to prevent accidental inoculation and infection as a surgeon would use in performing a major operation.

For disinfecting the cut surfaces and the instrument, the best thing to use is a solution of corrosive sublimate or bichloride of mercury in water, one part to one thousand. It is often advisable to use the disinfectant a little stronger and there is no danger in using one to five hundred. Tablets may be obtained from any drug store, and the number to be used to produce any strength of solution is usually indicated upon the bottle. To be sure that no mistake is made, ask the druggist how many tablets to use to produce a solution of desired strength. When possible, use rail water, as the slightly alkaline waters in dry countries tend to precipitate the poisonous mercurial compound. Also use a glass or non-metallic container, as a tin can or other metal container may react on the disinfectant and remove the poisonous principle. Corrosive sublimate kills the pear blight germ in solutions in water when it is diluted to one part to 10,000; therefore the above formulae are sufficiently strong enough and well within the limits. While there are other disinfectants which may be used, bichloride or mercury is far the cheapest, and there is nothing gained by using anything else. The use of kerosene, gasoline, and such like, is certainly not permissible. Even carbolic acid is distinctly inferior to corrosive sublimate, and, besides, its noxious smell and burning tendency do not warrant its use. It must be remembered, however, that corrosive sublimate is a deadly poison when taken internally, and the bottle or container should be plainly marked POISON. Applied externally to wounds, or upon the hands, will cause no injury, but, on the other hand, will as readily disinfect as in the case of the tools and cut limbs. The greatest care should be taken in emptying the bottles containing the solution when returning to the house, or otherwise keeping both the bottle and solution away from children or unsuspecting persons. As indicated before, there is no danger in getting the solution on the hands; in fact, a cut or wound should be treated with it to prevent bacterial infection which might result in blood poisoning. It should be understood, however, that the bacteria of pear blight are not pathogenic to man, that is to say, the germ can produce no evil effects even if introduced into the human system. It is a good plan to use a sponge, which, if fastened by a string, about two feet in length and tied to one's clothing, is always handy when it is necessary to wipe the pruning tools and the cut surfaces of trees. Some operators tie the sponge by a very short string on the wrist, and this is probably the most convenient way to use it. An inch or three-quarter-inch carpenter's gouge is also an ex-

cellent tool in the make-up of a worker's outfit. With it a small chip may be taken out of the rough bark in inspecting large trees, and, besides, it is a very handy tool in working the blight out of difficult places where ordinary tools cannot be so easily used. In inspecting large trees, whether apple or pear, the gouge must be used to examine the bodies and the crown. Unless this is done, cases of hold-over will certainly be missed. In large, rough-barked trees, a chip should be taken out at intervals of about two inches all around the crown as well as higher up on the body. It is not necessary to go below the outer layer of soft bark tissue, and it is quite unnecessary to cut as far as the wood. When the chip is taken out, if the bark tissue presents a water-soaked appearance, or if it is of a red or perhaps bright red color, it is almost certain that the body is infected. When a point of infection is found, it should be followed up so as to determine the extent to which the infection has run. If careful work of this kind is done, no hold-over will escape detection.

It is a good plan, when ignorant pruners are in the orchard, to make them disinfect in the general pruning. As a rule, I would suggest that eradication of blight precede the general pruning. A special set of skilled help should be used for this work, then the ordinary pruner may follow. Even in ordinary pruning it is a safe plan to disinfect when leaving each tree in order to avoid carrying the disease in case the pruner has cut into an overlooked case of the blight. There is a question as to what to do when the blight is found running down the bodies and into the roots of the trees. Where the disease occurs on limbs it can be readily sawed off, as the removal of even the greater portion of the twigs and the branches by no means entirely destroys the value of the tree. The tree will push its new top vigorously, and in two or three years be in full bearing again. Where the blight has run past the main forks, however, a serious question is involved. Where inefficient, unskilled labor has to be used and where there is but little blight to work out, we advise pulling out all trees where it has run down the bodies, or has infected the root system. Many growers, when the matter is explained to them, condemn such trees and root them out, and thus, of course, simplify the matter. On the other hand, it is possible to cut out the blight by carefully removing the bark and eyes, the discolored wood, entirely beyond the limits of the infection. An inch or two at the side and three to six inches at the bottom and top of the infection may be regarded as safe if done during the winter. However, such cutting will not do during the spring or summer when the sap is flowing rapidly. Such work invariably results in missing many cases. It is never a good plan to leave the matter of working out hold-over blight until after the sap begins to flow; the best time to do this and do it successfully is during the dormant period. However, I do not mean to say that hold-over may not be removed at any time, but I do mean to say the chances for a successful operation are very much less, and the amount of cutting necessary is always much greater and more destructive to the appearance and health of the tree. As a general principle, we believe in drawing the line on those cases where the blight has gone below the crown and into the root system. Even here, however, it is possible to dig away the soil and follow up the blight on the roots. A tree should never be considered as wholly lost where skilled labor may be had, and where the body is not completely girdled or where the root system is not too badly involved. Where a large portion of the bark must be removed from the body leaving only a small portion to carry sap, bridge-grafting may be resorted to, to fill in the part cut away. If this is well done, and if the bared wood has been protected by a white lead paint, a new bark covering may be grown. This has been done in a very successful way in several instances. In case the tree has set a heavy crop of buds for the next year, this plan will eventually help to carry the fruit crop.

(To Be Continued.)

Ransler Wilson and Susie Webster were married at the Presbyterian manse by Rev. W. F. Shields at 8 o'clock Saturday evening. The happy couple intend to make their home in Jackson county, Oregon.

STUDENTS TO ASK PARDON MORSE

Every Member of Senior Class at Yale, Including President's Son, Signs Petition for Pardon of the Convicted Banker.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., May 17.—Every member of the senior class at Yale, including Robert A. Taft, son of the president, has signed a petition for the pardon of Banker Chas. W. Morse, according to a report current here today. The petition will be presented to the president following the Yale commencement next month. Ervine Morse, the banker's son, and Robert Taft are classmates and warm friends.

THE OLIVER MEETINGS

The Evangelist.

Evangelists have always been important factors in the Kingdom of God. They always will be. Dr. Oliver is unique in his line. His powers of impersonation are fine.

When he imitates the society leader or the sanctified old hypocrite his caricature and impersonation of them are laughable in the extreme. His powers of story-telling are unsurpassed, and his sermons are replete with anecdote and story. He is terrific at times when he feels that the meetings for the salvation of men are opposed or unnecessarily interrupted. He lives what he preaches, and his convictions of right are very pronounced. It is a terrible thing for the ungodly to fall into the hands of the living God, and it is a terrible thing for the abettor of ungodliness and crime to fall under the invective of Dr. Oliver, who knows how to lay on the denunciations of God's eternal truth. The people of Medford have the opportunity of hearing rare and great preaching.

The Sermon.

The sermon last night was on the transfiguration, as recorded in the 17th chapter of Matthew. Dr. Oliver said in part:

"We must live the transfigured life. Those who come in contact with us in business and in society should know that we have been with Jesus. Experience precedes usefulness. If you want to take Medford for Christ let each Christian live the transfigured life and it will be done. A young man offered himself for the ministry of the Gospel and then fell in love with a young woman who would not marry him unless he left off the study for the ministry and take up the study of law. He did as she wished. He could not be with that woman and in line with his conviction of duty.

"In a little over a year he stood at the coffin of his dead wife and babe with a broken heart and an uncertain future.

"Hear me, young man! It is a dangerous thing to hear the clear, distinct and definite call of God to service and then turn your back upon it for any cause.

"A young woman was appointed to the missionary work in China, a work to which she had given her heart. She met a man who said that it was not necessary to go as a missionary. Good could be done at home. He backed up his argument with an offer of marriage, which she accepted. They went to Alaska, and there the man laughed at her religion, and spent his time in the saloons, and in worse places, if there can be a worse place than the saloon this side of hell. The woman's heart was broken and her life's ideal shattered. Young woman, don't part with Christ for any man; he will break your heart if you do. The providence of God is real. When the opportunity comes to make the complete surrender and be a vital Christian, pay the price. Place your life upon the altar of service."

At a meeting of unusual power many came forward. They came in great numbers. The helpers felt unequal to the duty of leading the prayer of consecration. Finally a prominent business man in the number who came forward made this prayer: "Lord Jesus, if you can make anything out of my life, I give it to you tonight for service." Neighbor, get to the place where God can use you for his kingdom.

Almost every Christian present came forward and knelt in prayer for the power of the spirit in greater service, for the salvation of souls.

Tonight the subject is, "What Is Hell?" No one can afford to miss this sermon.

Haskins for Health.

CENTRAL POINT NEWSLETTER

Charles Pankey of Sams Valley was in town yesterday after supplies.

The Sells-Floto circus at Medford yesterday nearly depopulated the town for the day.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Brophy of Ashland visited friends in the city for a few hours on Monday.

Miss Marguerite Holmes of this city is at home for the summer vacation, having just closed a very successful year as teacher of a school near Talent.

Mrs. N. P. Thompson left this city for Condon, Or., on Sunday evening, where she will visit relatives and will also spend some time at the hot springs in search of health. Mrs. Thompson is an aunt of Mrs. James Shields of Central Point.

Among those who attended the circus at Medford yesterday were Mrs. Bessie Randall, Mrs. Sam Holt and Miss Frances Holt, Claude White, Miss Marguerite Holmes, D. W. Harvey, Mrs. D. C. Grim and Miss Pearl Pankey.

Wick Welch assisted R. Burton in the latter's tonorial establishment all day Saturday.

Mr. Burton reports his business increasing right along.

W. H. Norcross begins in a few days the erection of a fine modern home on his recently acquired lots in the southeast part of town. His house will cost him, when complete, between \$3000 and \$4000, and according to plans will be a model of comfort and convenience.

The fact that cement walks and water mains will be laid in this part of town this year will result in bringing the best class of homebuilders to that section.

Among those who registered at the Central Point hotel Sunday were: R. W. Maxey of Dunsmuir, Cal.; F. O. Seaton and E. C. Garthright of Portland and F. R. Harrell of Medford.

On Wednesday afternoon Mrs. Dan McKillop entertains the members of the Presbyterian Missionary society at her home, just west of town.

Professor Davis, the musical director, associated with Robert E. Johnson, the expected evangelist, arrived Saturday evening and on Monday evening began training the choir that will furnish music for the meetings.

Frank Hawk, with his family, took a 75-mile drive in their new Buick last Sunday and according to Frank "she climbed the hills like a bird

on the wing." Motoring certainly does beat driving a span of horses, especially when a man is nursing a dislocated shoulder.

Between the building of the tabernacle and the installment of the new water system, Central Point is one of the busiest towns in the valley, and as both these institutions are working along the same line—that of fire protection—everybody is interested in seeing the work progress.

Beginning with next Sunday's issue of the Medford Mail Tribune, Central Point society will have a recognized place in the society columns of the above paper. Mrs. Evelyn Maple, who looks after the local happenings of Central Point, would be grateful to have everything in the way of society functions, parties, reunions or special church and lodge gatherings, reported to her early in the week, so that they may have a place in the Sunday paper following.

Hotel Arrivals.

At the Moore—Ralph Bacon, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. Bluett, Ashland; P. E. Gervald, Sid Beck, Portland; R. W. Hitchcock, Eagle Point; Ray F. Baling, Hester Melkenolds, Footh Creek; Mrs. W. P. Quinlan and daughter, Portland; Mrs. Park Ash, H. D. Mills, Adams, Klamath Falls; D. A. Nordlinger, Portland; C. A. Welster, Roseburg; C. C. Dollard, Butte Falls; C. H. Starbuck, Portland; J. M. Davidson, Driggs.

At the Nash—W. P. Smith, Portland; C. H. Verellen, San Francisco; Duman J. McDonald, Spokane; James K. Kunan, Portland; W. A. Frace, Sacramento; F. P. Walltrummer, Philadelphia; C. J. Ford, Falls City; D. J. Mathus and wife, Phoenix; George P. Mims, Seven Oaks; A. E. Maren, Portland; G. W. Call, New York; George W. Kearns, Grants Pass; Charles Boyce, Portland; J. R. Harvey, Galice; G. W. Cole, Portland; L. E. Tidball, Portland; M. E. Hamill, Eagle Point.

Want a cook? Want-advertise. It's hard to keep the money-supply ample, unless the buying is done with as much skill as the money-earning requires. That means persistent ad reading.

Want to sell that furniture? Want advertise.

Haskins for Health.

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THE PROGRESSIVE TAILOR

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The Pasadena of Oregon

People of refinement; people with means; retired business men; professional men; college and university graduates, are coming to the Rogue River Valley by the score. Within the past two years almost a hundred Chicago and Evanston, Illinois, people have purchased homes near Medford, and nearly every one of them has a friend or two whom they hope to induce to come and locate in the valley.

New York, Philadelphia, Boston and many other eastern cities are almost if not quite as well represented, while St. Paul and Minneapolis have more representatives here than any other several cities combined.

Think these statements over and get your thinker going. Write to the undersigned or the Medford Commercial Club for detailed information about the country, and you will never have cause to regret it.

Bearing Orchards Near Medford

Most of the producing orchards have been held in large holdings until recently. A few weeks ago the Eden Valley Orchard, containing 605 acres, was placed on the market in any desired acreage. We have been authorized to offer the bearing apples and pears for sale, and if you know anything about the country and want a desirable block of bearing trees, write or come soon. During the past week over \$150,000 worth of the property has been disposed of. It is located within two miles of Medford at an elevation of about 100 feet above the city and is one of the best kept orchards in the world. Parts of the orchard offered for sale have paid the owner over \$600 per acre per year for four years straight.

Do not come unless you are prepared to stay, for just so sure as you do come the combination of fat soil, grandeur of scenic beauty and Italian climate will steal you, body and soul. After one visit here you will be miserable any other place on earth.

John D. Olwell

EXHIBIT BUILDING

MEDFORD, OREGON