

EXPERT DISCUSSES STOCK SITUATION SOUTHERN OREGON

WHEN TO PRUNE SHRUBS AND PLANTS ABOUT THE LAWN

C. M. McAlister, representing the Union Stockyards at Portland, is visiting among the farmers of the valley for a few days. Mr. McAlister is an enthusiast on thoroughbred hogs particularly. Concerning the Portland market and the prices that have prevailed this year Mr. McAlister says the conditions have been entirely abnormal.

"Draw a line from Canada through the United States to the Gulf of Mexico," said Mr. McAlister, "and you will have divided the two sections of the country in which conditions have been unusual since the European war began. That region east of the line, including Chicago, has been wonderfully benefited by the war conditions while that whole section west of the line has been affected but little, and that adversely in some cases. This holds good in the market for stock, as in a myriad of other things. Crop conditions have played no small part in this situation west of the line."

Feed and Stock Prices.

"Generally, when prices of feed go up, the figures of the stock market rise. That situation has been reversed in the west during the past several months. In many parts of Oregon, for instance, feed crops have been short in yield. Instead of increased prices for stock, as is generally the case in such a condition, the figures in the market went down."

The farmers became discouraged on account of the shortage in feed crops and concluded to get rid of their stock. Particularly was this the case in the matter of hogs. The southern Oregon situation illustrates the condition fairly well. The feed bins were locked up and the hogs shipped at the earliest possible moment. They arrived at the yards generally in unfit condition. The necessity for feeding after their receipt increased the cost to the yards and necessarily reduced the price to the shipper. So, when the feed prices went up the hog prices naturally went down. The yards could do nothing to remedy this condition. It was so, although in smaller measure, with cattle and sheep.

Value of Pulp as Feed.

"The pulp-fed cattle, it will be seen, by reference to market reports bring the highest prices always. And right here I want to say that your sugar beet enterprises in this valley are a tremendous hit thing for your cattle and sheep feeders. When cattle on common feed sell at \$7.25, the pulp-fed cattle sell at \$7.75, as a rough comparison, showing the added value of the pulp-fattened cattle.

Climbing roses should not be pruned at this time except for the removal of surplus or interfering branches. Every bit of wood removed now reduces the amount of bloom the plant will bear during the coming season. Roses used in border planting should be treated in exactly the same way as other shrubs, except that many of these species will be improved by having all their old wood cut away once in every five or six years. This would mean cutting off the old canes off within three or four inches of the ground and forcing the bush to throw up entirely new wood.

Roses used for cut flowers, like the hybrid perpetuals, the hybrid teas and tea, should be severely pruned. The hybrid perpetuals may be cut as soon as frosty weather is past. Pruning of the hybrid teas and tea, however, should be left until the young growth has started. In both cases the plant should be cut to within six inches of one foot of the ground. Four or six eyes in a shoot is about the proper amount of wood to leave.

It was pointed out by Mr. Goodsell who said that if the market went down after the sale was made then the consignees reported the fruit unsatisfactory and if it went up he of course made an extra profit while the grower suffered a loss. Instead of dilating on the merits of the auction system the speaker simply pointed to the fact that all fruits except apples and pears were sold at auction and he asked "Does this mean the other growers are wrong if the apple and pear growers are wrong?"

We help the motorist plan his trip from start to finish, supply him with accurate information as to distances, crossings, bridges, railway stops, etc., and in fact, make it easy for him as he had already covered the route.

Motorists have not been slow to avail themselves of this opportunity and the deluge of letters and cards which daily pour in speaks eloquently of its growing popularity.

Mr. Goodsell is arranging for a trial to call from Portland about November 1 for the apple and pear growers of Oregon, Washington, Utah and California. The fruit can be shipped from Portland to any European port for 20 cents a box and he advised local growers to take advantage of this shipment.

Extensive advertising of northwest fruit as a whole was advised with some trade names studied to shorten names, which would not replace the brand but would put all the fruit under one inclusive term, which would add greatly to the value of any particular fruit.

At the close of his remarks a vote of thanks was extended Mr. Goodsell after a motion from the body by J. A. Pennington.

The speaker emphasized the need of cooperation among the apple and pear growers and said that until a better organization was effected there would be no money in these fruits just as there was no money in oranges and grapes before the growers of California organized.

Medford Bookstore Smoke.

The disadvantages of smoking.

CAPITOL SEETHES IN LABORED SPASM OVER PREPAREDNESS

By GLENN GARDNER.
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 6.—A little early care given to the pruning of ornamental trees and shrubs during the early part of March will do much to control their growing and flowering habits, and enable the home owner to have well-formed plants and well-trained hedges or boundary plantings. The pruning of ornamental trees and shrubs, is in fact, one of the first duties that may profitably be performed in the home garden. The amateur, however, should not make a ruthless assault with shears or pruning knife upon everything in his yard.

Flowering Trees.

Flowering trees and shrubs that bloom in the spring or early summer should not receive radical pruning at this time, according to the garden specialists of the United States department of agriculture. Of course, if on these plants there are dead or weak branches, these should be taken out, and any crossing limbs that are rubbing and seriously interfering with the growth of the bush should be removed. The tips of the limbs, however, should not be cut off nor should any young wood that does not interfere with the growth of the bush be removed. It must be borne in mind that the blossoms buds for this year's flowering were formed last year, and every shoot removed takes off that much of the prospective blossoms.

Trees and shrubs that bear their flowers in midsummer and which were not pruned in the fall may be pruned at this time. Plants of this sort are the Rose of Sharon and the shrubby hydrangea. Where the largest possible mass effect is desired, these plants should be pruned but little. If the aim is to secure the largest possible trusses or blossom heads, last year's growth should be pruned back to two or three eyes at least. The other night at Congressman Keut's house former Secretary of the Interior Walter Fisher, known as a trusted lawyer and conservationist, talked for two hours to an audience of senators and representatives and society people about twenty-blanks of the peace and war problem. The president's party is rapidly dividing and subdividing. A lot of people who were formerly most enthusiastic Wilsonites are bitterly assailing him now for his alleged emanation of Theodore Roosevelt. On the other hand, minority critics sneer "insincere." Senator Wadsworth was asked if he was supporting the president, and replied that he was not an expert in the game of leapfrog. Altogether Washington is seething and writhing in an infantile organ in an effort to understand new things that ought to be understood about the great problem of what the United States ought to do.

Climbing Roses.

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