

ADVISES PLANTING PEARS AND CHERRIES

The following letter to E. H. Shepard from Henry T. Williams, Ozark, Ark., offers valuable suggestions to Hood River fruit growers interested in pear culture:

You inquire about pears. I have studied them a good deal, and they will bear studying a good deal more. The market question is the main question, what the market likes best. Late papers tell us of the decline of the pear business in California, and I think there is a good chance for Hood River to take its place, in good satisfactory fruit.

A leading dealer in New York told me they raised no such fruit as was raised in California and the Pacific Coast, in the Eastern States. The flavor might be better, but the market qualities were not there, of size or appearance. He has sold a car of fine Winter Nellis for \$1.00 a box in New York, that came from California, when nothing in the Eastern States would bring over \$1.00 a bushel.

Those from California were bright yellow or fine color and size, four tier, and one glance sold the lot. Nothing in the East could do this, so he says he need not fear anything in the East.

When it comes to varieties of pears he told me nothing outside the Bartlett. As it comes in just as there is a shortage in the Eastern market, the price will be satisfactory for any Bartlett that Hood River can furnish. But I can not estimate on transportation. If they will carry, the price is there for them the very best of the season.

Pears raised under irrigation are not good keepers, nor good flavor. But on deep soil in Hood River, not too wet, not too dry, pears will grow there good enough to carry to any market, if the distance is not too great, and as quick as from California.

The varieties of pears you mention, I have inquired into a good deal. The Bourne Rose is a gem of a pear for any purpose. As far as quality is concerned everything is in its favor, in desirability for market. Its main trouble is that it needs to be double worked. That means an intermediate stock, to be worked upon. I do not know if the Oregon nurserymen go to this trouble, but no good, but the cultivator in the East will grow it without it so worked and on satisfactory stocks.

Otherwise there is no serious objection to the fruit. It can be grown large enough and has good color and the best of flavor and is good all around in all the markets. Very much among pears like Golden Grimes among apples. The B. rose de Comice is very tardy in coming into bearing but bears well later. After it reaches the seventh year it is a good bearer, but before that it is not a good bearer. Its market value other ways is extra. I do not think it is a heavy bearer any where but is good generally.

The Bourne de Anjou is a model pear in many respects: a good keeper and good seller, not quite as high in standard value or demand as some others, but is good and reliable. The tree is model every way, the only fault is that the pear growing large and with many on the tree there will be a danger of falling off, if there is any motion of the wind to stir them or move the trees any. This pear is quite popular in New York markets. It ripens at a time when it sells well. The tree grows fairly more to spread and less to excessive wood than any variety I know. Still perhaps too many of this variety might be raised for the market. But in general good large pears of good flavor and particularly good color, will be sure to find a good market.

carlot shipping of cherries from California. It has not usually been satisfactory. The fruit does not arrive in sufficiently good order. The fruit is gathered and packed while it is yet warm, and sent off all at once. The cherries arrive more or less rotted, and it is difficult to get a good price. This can not be avoided any other way than by first cooling off in some temporary storage, before putting in the car, so that when all are in the car, the fruit is all one uniform temperature. Then it will carry well. There will have to be attention to the cars also. Cherries not attended to rot easy in improper temperature. This process of cooling before putting in the car is now being followed by the best growers. In the Pacific States of the south, it has been found to make the carrying qualities five times as great. And in California the subjecting the fruit to a cooling breeze for five hours only insures safety from most rotting.

Add to this the advantages of the Hood car, or a still better one, first tried last season, and the Hood River cherry will be able to travel anywhere. It must be remembered that there are but five or six good varieties that can stand transportation across the continent. The Lambert is a treasure not having, but it is a question if carlots are available.

I have watched the European trade a good deal, and there is no limit to the sale of good carrying pears that will stand transportation across the water, and will keep sufficiently long to do this. All good keeping pears for winter use, that stand the test of the market in appearance and color, will be sure of selling. But they must be up to the mark in looks and size. The market takes nothing secondary in this matter. There is plenty common elsewhere. It does not pay to freight it across the continent.

LAD THEY SCARED WAS ONTO HIS JOB Special to the Glacier. Belmont, Hood River Valley, Nov. 1.—On Thursday evening, October 29, Guy Woodworth and Marsh Isenberg ran a rumpus on some of their young associates which caused amusement for the Belmont neighbors during the balance of the week, and even some of the victims of the rumpus have an occasional smile over it yet.

Guy and Marsh had been laying their plans for a week previous to have a little fun. So on the evening mentioned eleven young fellows, ranging in age from sixteen to twenty-five years joined Marsh in a plan to get a slip around the house on the old Button farm, where Guy keeps his bachelor hall, and frighten Guy, the boys being first fully prepared for some grand sport by Marsh giving them assurance that Guy was a great coward and picturing a laughable scene of his rapid exit from the little valley, never to return to occupy the house alone again.

They stole down, and to make it exceedingly frightful for young Woodworth, they all crept into an out cellar, and began scratching on the walls, and making calls like wild cats. Marsh suggested that he would crawl out and get closer to the house so that the attack would be more threatening, but he only reached the opening, when Guy, whose nerves were no doubt strengthened by his knowledge of the arrangements, began yelling at them, accusing them of theft, and accompanied his threats with firing his revolver. Marsh dropped on the door step pierced with smothered laughter and announced to his accomplices that he was wounded. I suppose he referred to his treacherous "Yes, and I will finish you," yelled Guy, as he fired again. Then he turned his attention to those present in the cellar, with no way of escape except through the door, past the infuriated protector of his property, and he argued with the deadly weapon with which he had already put their companion out of commission. When the boys in the cellar refused to come out being sustained in their obstinacy by their knowledge of Guy's gun, Guy said: "I am prepared. I will bring you out or make a new exit for you by blowing the top off the cave with this bomb," and as he said this he threw the first fire cracker he could purchase in Hood River for the occasion, into their midst, and then such scrambling and running as was done there, has never been witnessed in this country before. They tramped over their fallen comrade on the door-step with as little regard as if he were a sack of hay. One ran into a horse rick; a number were caught in the wire fences, and it is believed some are running yet.

I will not give names but if you will phone in numbers 1253, 1151, 1253, 1177 and inquire of the heads of the families, and ask John Carter about a couple of his apple pickers, you will learn by the number of missing coat tails, pants legs and seats, and scattered household furniture that were in evidence on Friday morning last that I have not exaggerated on the facts—that there was something doing on Thursday night.

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