Farm and Garden

PREPARATION FOR WINTER.

Work Which Can Be Done Now to Insure Next Crop.

Although in climates where zero temperatures are expected, late fall or early winter pruning of fruit trees is not advised, as making wounds that do not readily heal, still, after the fruit harvest, even in the best cared for orchards, considerable cutting out of branches that cracked or broke under their weight of peaches, apples and pears is necessary.

Branches that have been cracked or broken off about half way would, in most cases, be best sawed off as close to the main trunk as possible without injury to the bark of the latter. If desirable to save the basal part of a broken branch, make the cut just above a strong upward growing branchlet.

Clip off all twigs that are hanging merely by their bark, also take out all blighted wood that had not previously been removed, cutting this well below the diseased portion, not omitting to dip the pruning shears or knife

APPLE TREE CAREFULLY PRUNED, SCRAPED AND PAINTED.

into a weak solution of carbolic acid and water or into a vessel of alcohol after making each cut.

The best mixture for coating the cut surfaces is a preparation made by boiling one ounce of litharge in one pint of linseed oil for two hours and then stirring in sifted wood ashes until the paint is of the proper consistency. This is applied with a brush after the edges of the bark have been pruned smooth, and just enough should be used to coat the cut.

All the mummied and undeveloped fruits and excrescences should also be taken off and decayed fruits and broken branches cleanly raked up and burned, as well as many of the fallen leaves as possible, to destroy the germs of disease and the hibernating cocoons of insects that may be among them.

Newly set trees may need some cutting back of too protuberant or unsymmetrical growth, and the young trunks ought to be carefully examined from the base to top for indications of borer work, which can be easily checked by killing the young grub just under the bark with a penknife or pointed wire. Where it is convenient to do so a couple of deep furrows may be plowed between each two rows in both the old and new orchards.—Farm Progress.

STUDY YOUR SOIL.

Over 400 types of soils are listed in the United States. To farm properly on these various types demands clear thinking and good judgment, for "it pays best to grow our staple crops only on soils to which they are adapted or on soils similar to or nearly identical to those on which they have been developed."

Early Pasture For Hogs.

If a patch of rye seeded last fall is available for spring hog pasture the cost of producing pork can be considerably reduced. If green rye cannot be had, then sow at the earliest possible moment a mixture of oats, field peas and rape.

Sow two or three lots of this and change from one to the other. The oats will provide earliest grazing, the field peas next and the rape, if not overpastured, will carry the animals well along through the summer.

Hogs do especially well on green forage of this kind. It keeps them in good health, results in rapid gains and is the cheapest kind of feed. Ordinarily farmers depend altogether too much upon grain, the most expensive kind of ration. Why not utilize these green crops and reduce the cost of raising pigs?

Manure the Asparagus.

Asparagus is a hardy plant. It does not need a winter mulch to keep it from being killed by freezing, but it pays to put on three or four inches of coarse manure because it will result in asparagus eight or ten days earlier next spring and better stalks as well. And this means a great deal when you are waiting for something fresh from the garden in the spring.

MOVING THE BULL.

One of the best ways to handle an animal or to move him long distances is to place a heavy sack or covering of some kind over his head. When an animal is blinded it is an easier matter to load him into a wagon or to lead him. It is not always easy to get an animal to walk into a wagon when he has an opportunity to see it, but by blindfolding him it is, as a rule, an easy matter to get him into it.—Hoard's Dairyman.

SILO INSIDE OR OUTSIDE?

Some of the Advantages of Each Plan. Place Near Barn Anyway.

Silos are sometimes put inside of barns on account of the following advantages:

First.—Some men desire to build a square silo and find that they can do so by the use of the timbers of a joint or band in the barn to support the walls.

Second.—A silo inside the barn should freeze less than one outside.

Third.—A cheaply made silo may last longer if it is inside and not exposed to the weather.

Fourth.—When the silo is placed in the center of the barn there is less distance to move the feed.

At the present time the majority of silos are being built outside the barn for:

First.—The inside location is not an economical use of barn room. The man who is working his plant to its full capacity will need that space for storing materials which will not go into the silo.

Second.—The average silo usually does not need the protection of an inside location.

Third.—Often the inside silo is unhandy to fill, while a silo on the outside may be reached easily.

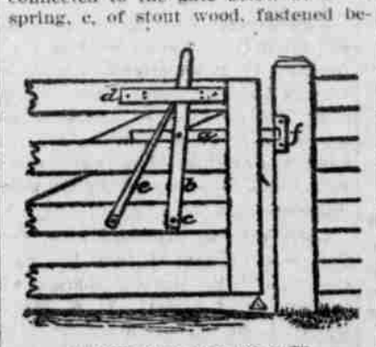
Fourth.—The location keeps the odors from the barn. Nearly every outside silo has a door between it and the barn, and if this is closed one of the chief objections to the use of silage is removed.

The outside silo should not be over four feet from the barn and located so that the chute or communicating passageway leads into the feeding alley. The silo should be so placed in respect to other buildings that there is room to run the ensilage cutter and for teams to reach the cutter with their loads.—Professor R. W. Redman, Maine Agricultural College.

HOMEMADE GATE LATCH.

A Convenient, Economical and Time Saving Device.

In the drawing is shown a handy gate latch made at home from hard wood and oiled so as to prevent the absorption of water by the wood. The following description will aid a handy man to make it: The latch a slides back and forth and locks in f when the gate is closed. It is connected by a pin with b, which extends above the gate, where it forms a handle and is connected to the gate below at c. A spring, e, of stout wood, fastened be-



HOMEMADE LATCH ON GATE.

low to the same panel of the gate as b is fastened. A piece of wood, d, hollow on one side of the handle b to move back and forth in.

Nails may be used for fastening the various parts to the gate, but screws are preferable except where there is motion. In such cases short bolts should be used.

The lower end of the spring at e should have a large staple driven over it and a nail through it to prevent both cracking and slipping. It may be a good plan on some gates where the panels are not too far apart to have a second staple in the part e, either in the lower panel, or if the panel is narrow, in the one above.

This gate latch has been found to work very satisfactorily and to last a considerable time where the wood has been oiled well at first and once or twice a year afterward.—Orange Judd Farmer.

NOTES FROM THE HOG LOT.

Fine hair denotes good quality in a pig nearly as much as in a horse.

Don't feed the young pigs intended for breeding purposes altogether on corn.

Ashes have good effect on the pigs' digestion, besides killing intestinal worms.

A hog that can be fattened while young will be the most profitable one to breed.

It is well to have a trough in the hoghouse in which are kept wood ashes, salt and copperas.

A hog needs all his time to make pork and should not be expected to spend any moments fighting lice.

Hogs require attention regardless of condition, age or sex, but the management of the brood sow is the surest test of the breeder's skill

EXHIBIT PLANS FOR EXPOSITION

Commission Proposes To Have Oregon Divided Into Four Zones.

Plans for the division of the state into probably four zones for the preparation and assembling of the horticultural exhibits to be shown at the Panama Pacific Fair were worked out at a meeting of the state commission at Portland last week, says the Journal. This way out of the apparent difficulty which faced the commission was decided upon following a suggestion from Commissioner R. A. Booth, who pointed out the fact that there is no society or organization that can handle the horticultural interests of the state as a whole.

The space in the state building is to be divided so that there may be a sectional grouping of exhibits, and the commission will immediately urge upon the different sections of the state to perfect organizations as early as possible, so the work of arousing interest among horticulturists can be gotten under way.

The four subdivisions as suggested by the commission should consist of one for the southern counties of the state, one for Willamette Valley and two for Eastern Oregon.

QUANTITY OF SEED FOR BEST RESULTS

Thirty Pounds of Turkey Red Wheat Gives Best Yield.

(By L. R. Breithaup, supt. Harney County Experiment Farm, in Burns News) Resuming the discussion of winter Wheats given in previous issue, it would probably be well to give some of the results obtained in "rate of seeding" and harrowing tests together with a few words on the moisture contents of the soil at the time of seeding, the pr per dates for seeding and the method of seeding.

Conceding from the start that the Turkey Red wheat would prove to be the best winter wheat for this country, Turkey Red was used for all the tests upon these points. The "rate of seeding" and harrowing experiments were most interesting.

In the rate seeding test, two strains of the Turkey Red were used as checks upon results. Following are the yields per acre at the varied rate of seeding:

Turkey Red,	local,	30 lbs,	17.15 bu.
Turkey Red,	local,	45 lbs,	14.50 bu.
Turkey Red,	local,	60 lbs,	13.00 bu.
Turkey Red,	local,	75 lbs,	10.33 bu.
Turkey Red,	local,	90 lbs,	6.33 bu.
Turkey Red,	local,	120lbs,	4.15 bu.
Turkey Red,	2998,	15 lbs,	19.50 bu.
Turkey Red,	2998,	30 lbs,	24.15 bu.
Turkey Red,	2998,	60 lbs	16.50 bu.

These results show in favor of the 30 pound seeding. From a study of the results, it is apparent that there is both an upper and a lower limit at which the seed should be sown. If too thick, the plants crowd each other so that none are able to reach a proper maturity. If too thin, there will be lesser yield because of the plants not taking the best advantage of the moisture and plant food available for making the grain. But these results are of value to no one who does not go deeper into the matter. There must be a knowledge of the moisture supply in the soil before the dry farmer can really know how much seed to sow.

We hear a great deal about the amount of rainfall certain places have. What difference does it make what the rainfall is, if it does not get into the soil. And what difference does it make it it gets into the soil and the farmer allows it to escape back into the air again as it will surely do in an incredibly short time unless moisture conserving methods are used. Just a little harrowing makes such a difference. I know of an instance where a man, by discing up newly cleared land before it was even plowed, has this year driven the moisture to a depth of between 4 and 5 feet into the soil. Just across the border line on the same soil and everything the same but the discing, the soil is DRY.

But to get back to the subject: I can see no hope for the man who plants winter grain on dry land that is moist to a depth of less than two feet at the time of planting. Of course there are exceptional summers when we get exceptional rainfall, but on the average dry land soil, two feet of moist soil at the time of planting is little enough. This with the winter's moisture should give a little more than three feet of moist soil. In very sandy soils which carry less water it may be that the soil should be moist to a still greater depth.

A. E. Friday, a merchant of Plush, came over to Lakeview Saturday in his auto, returning home Monday.