



PRACTICAL GARDENING
YOUNG STOCK HURT TREES.
Stock of almost any kind will injure a young orchard, and should not be allowed to pasture among the fruit trees until the trees become of some size and able to withstand severe knocks.

PROPPING FRUIT TREES.
Never prop a loaded fruit tree; it is much better to thin the fruit so it will take care of itself. Do it when the fruit is quite small. An overcrop exhausts the tree, exhausts the soil, and the fruit is to be taken off anyhow, and it requires no more labor to do it at one time than another. Learn to thin or give up growing fruit.

"BREAKING" THE ORCHARD.
It has been said by a prominent institute worker that "at five years from planting, the ideal orchard should bear from a peck to a bushel to the tree. If it does not do this it is shirking its duty, and needs 'breaking in,' just as a colt is broken in to work. In other words, at this age, the orchard should be forced into the bearing habit. This may be done by pruning both root and top sufficiently to bring about a proper equilibrium between wood growth and fruit buds. This is an important matter, which, if delayed, becomes harder year by year."

MANAGEMENT OF GRAPEVINES.
One farmer says he planted twelve Concord grapevines. The first winter he cut back to two or three eyes; the second, so as to leave two feet of new wood. Last spring he trained them on a trellis, raised from six to eight canes, pinched out the laterals, and now there are twenty to thirty large clusters of fruit on each vine. With the Concord one can hardly make a mistake in such treatment, but with other varieties, this course would be fatal. I saw a Delaware vineyard ruined by pursuing such a course. In the spring one should raise two canes, which are to be grown for the bearing wood of next year. A three-year-old Concord vine should not be allowed to bear more than from twelve to fifteen bunches. A Delaware not more than six or eight. It is also recommended to remove some of the canes as soon as the leaves have fallen in autumn; after this to dig up the soil around each vine and apply a liberal dressing of liquid manure. This treatment, it is supposed, would secure a good and healthy growth.—Ella M. Hess, in The Epitomist.

A BIT ABOUT LILIES.
It seems strange that there are not more collections of lilies in the grounds of amateur gardeners. During the weeks of mid-summer these regal blossoms surpass all others in grace and beauty. They are especially fitted for border gardens, standing out boldly against a background of vines and shrubbery. The lilies are infinitely variable in their appearance, but wonderfully uniform in their structure. The Madonna lily may be taken as an illustration of the structure of the whole group. The outside of the blossom is made up of two sets of broad petals, the three outer ones really representing the sepals, and the three inner ones the petals. These six together form what



the botanists call the perianth. On the inside of these are six stamens, each consisting of a long, slender, stem-like filament and a shorter, broader anther that contains the pollen. In the middle of all is the long pistil from which the seed develops.

In the Madonna lily the flower is horizontal and the perianth is of an unspotted white. The variation in the appearance of the other lilies is chiefly due to differences in the way in which the flower is held upon the stem, and the shape and coloring of the petals. There are hundreds of species of lilies now available for American gardens. Many of them are very beautiful, and yet are of easiest culture.

The Markets

Wholesale Prices Quoted in New York

Table listing various market prices including MILK, BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS, BEANS AND PEAS, FRUITS AND BERRIES, LIVE POULTRY, DRESSED POULTRY, HAY AND STRAW, VEGETABLES, GRAIN, ETC., and LIVE STOCK.

OUR AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS.

\$700,000,000 Shipped During Eight Months of Fiscal Year. Washington, D. C.—The total value of agricultural products exported from the United States for the eight months of the fiscal year 1906, ending with February, was \$700,000,000, as against \$570,000,000 in the same period of 1905, \$661,000,000 in 1902, and \$568,000,000 in 1905. The growth occurs in all of the three great groups which form the bulk of agricultural exports, viz.: Breadstuffs, cotton, and provisions, the latter term including meat and dairy products. The gain in breadstuffs was \$70,000,000, in provisions \$33,000,000, and in cotton \$30,000,000. While agricultural exports are larger in total value than ever before, the percentage which they form of the total exports in the eight recorded months is smaller than in any earlier year in our history, except in 1905, in which they were abnormally low by reason of the shortage in the grain crop of 1904. The percentage which manufactures form of exports in the eight months is 32.8, as against 27.2 per cent. of the total in the corresponding months of 1903, and 22.5 per cent. in 1898.

Farming Communities Prosperous.
Business is booming and in no way can conditions be described except by calling them a boom. T. C. Snowwell writes in the New York American. Not only are farming communities prosperous and all conditions promising big crops for the year so far as they can be promised this early, but mining and manufacturing are being carried on at the limit of capacity and at the highest rate of net profit ever known.

NORTH CAROLINA AFFAIRS

Items of Interest From Many Parts of the State

MINOR MATTERS OF STATE NEWS

Happenings of More or Less Importance Told in Paragraphs—The Cotton Markets.

Charlotte Cotton Market.
These figures represent the prices paid to wagons:
Good middling... 11 3-4
Strict middling... 11 3-4
Middling... 11 5-8
Good middling, tinged... 11.50
Stains... 10 to 10 1-2

General Cotton Market.
Galveston, steady... 11 1-2
New Orleans, easy... 11 3-5
Mobile, steady... 11 1-4
Savannah, quiet... 11 3-16
Charleston, quiet... 11 1-8
Wilmington, steady... 11 1-8
Norfolk, steady... 11 1-16
Baltimore, nominal... 11 5-8
New York, quiet... 11.70
Boston, quiet... 11.85
Philadelphia, quiet... 11.95
Houston, quiet... 11 5-16
Augusta, quiet... 11 7-16
Memphis, steady... 11 3-16
St. Louis, quiet... 11 7-16
Louisville, firm... 11 5-8

Will Plough Up Cotton.

Maxton, Special.—At an enthusiastic meeting of the cotton growers of this section of Robeson county here it was decided to reduce the cotton acreage by plowing up a wide area of cotton land, and planting other crops. This action was determined upon when the reports from the statistical committee revealed the fact that the acreage in this vicinity was in excess of the proposed reduction of 25 per cent. on the basis of the 1904 crop. President Charles C. Moore of the State Division of the Southern Cotton Association addressed an enthusiastic body of farmers and business men at the meeting, and the large audience responded to every sentiment he uttered, and followed every suggestion he made. A rousing mass-meeting of the farmers of Robeson county will be held here Saturday afternoon at three o'clock, when the entire county division will begin the work of reducing the excessive cotton acreage by plowing up cotton and planting diversified crops. President Moore spoke before a big crowd of cotton growers at Raeford.

To Meet in the Eighth.

Salisbury, Special.—A meeting of the Democratic executive committee of the Eighth Congressional district has been called by Chairman John S. Henderson of this city, to be held in Wilkesboro on the 25th inst., for the purpose of selecting a time and place for the district convention. Salisbury is making strenuous efforts to secure this political gathering and there is a strong sentiment in favor of holding the same here. There are a number of party leaders who believe the race in the convention will be between W. C. Newland, of Lenoir, and R. N. Hackett, of Wilkes, each of whom has a long list of followers in this section of the State.

North State Brevities.

A charter was granted the Crescent Cotton Mills, at Bessemer City, with a capital stock of \$150,000. State Chairman Josiah William Bailey of the North Carolina Anti-Saloon League says there are only 225 saloons in the entire State and less than 10 dispensaries, and North Carolina is in better condition than any other State regarding temperance.

61 Killed in Asylum.

Oakland, Cal., Special.—Dr. Clark, superintendent of the San Francisco County Hospital, telephoned Press headquarters in Oakland concerning the situation at the Agnews Insane Asylum near San Jose. Dr. Clark said that 11 employes and officers of the institution, including Drs. Kelly and Bell, were killed and 20 injured. Among the patients 55 were killed and 120 injured. All the buildings were demolished. Dr. Clark said that there was absolutely no confusion, and that he believed all the patients had been accounted for.

TAR HEEL CROP BULLETIN

Condition of Crops For the Week As Seen By the Department.

The North Carolina Section of the Weather and Crop Service of the Department of Agriculture issues the following Bulletin of conditions for the past week:

The weather during the past week was generally clear and much warmer than the weather during the preceding week. The mean temperature for the State was about 6 deg. above the normal. The highest temperature reported was 86 deg. in Iredell county; the lowest was 36 deg. in Jackson county. The warmest period extended from the 10th to the 13th. No damage from frost has been reported. On Friday the weather became cloudy and some rain fell. On Saturday, good showers fell in most sections of the State. In Jackson county 3.92 inches fell on the night of the 14th. The rainfall for the week was above the normal in the extreme eastern and western portions of the State, and below normal in other sections.

For a High School Course.

Raleigh, Special.—The president of the State University, presidents and professors in State colleges, and the heads of public and private high schools and academies gathered in Raleigh to plan for a uniform course of study that would lead from the high schools and academies to higher education. The conference was held at the Yarrowborough House, but the only result of the discussion was the appointment of a committee to formulate a course of study that would be uniform for the high schools and academies as preparatory to college. On this committee there was appointed President Poteat, of Wake Forest College; Dr. W. P. Few, of Trinity College; Prof. M. H. Holt, of Oak Ridge; Prof. J. C. Horner, of Horner's School, Oxford; Prof. Hugh Morson, of the Raleigh High School, and Superintendent I. C. Griffin of the Salisbury Graded School.

Homicide in Franklin.

Louisburg, Special.—Phil Alston, colored, shot and killed his negro mistress, Keziah Wilson, at the home of her mother Saturday night, about 10 o'clock. It is said that the cause of the shooting was over spending 30 cents of the man's money by the woman. The shooting occurred while they were eating supper. The woman ran out of the house for some distance after being shot, where she fell dead in a ditch. The coroner held an inquest. No permission has been given for the removal of the body. This killing occurred in Cripple Creek, a low disreputable negro suburb, and is the sixth killing there within the past three years.

Highland Forest Company.

Asheville, Special.—The complaint in the suit of the Highland Forest Company of New York against Jackson Owens, was filed in the clerk's office of United States circuit court. The suit involves thousands of acres of land in Jackson county and a large sum of money. The Highland Forest Company, a corporation organized under the laws of New York, is suing the defendant for \$10,000 damages and also undisputed possession of thousands of acres of mountain and timber lands in Jackson county.

Buys A Timber Boundary.

Asheville, Special.—It is stated that W. A. Rexford, of this city, has acquired a large boundary of timber lying in Transylvania, Jackson, and Macon counties. It is stated that the consideration involved is about \$100,000 and that \$25,000 has already been paid over. The boundary is heavily timbered with hardwoods.

No Fairy Tale.

He belonged to the "hic" brigade. He came home late and in disorder. His wife met him with a rolling pin and a tense biceps, ready to strike when the ire was hot. "Sweetheart," he said, "I've been discussin' war at the club. I heard you reading a paper on peace you read before the woman's club. Now (hic) tesh arbitrate thish matter." He thought he was wise. Next morning he was wiser.—Indianapolis Star

In Interest of The South.

Washington, Special.—A request was made of the President by Representative Livingston, of Georgia, and Underwood, and Richardson, of Alabama, that he instruct the American delegation to the Pan American conference, to be held next July at Rio de Janeiro, to present to the conference in a favorable light the lumber, cotton and iron interests of the South. It is likely that such instructions will be given.

Shooting at Wadesboro.

Wadesboro, Special.—Kershaw Ballard, of Hamlet, was shot and badly wounded here by Noah Ramsey, colored, whose home he was trying to enter. He had been drinking heavily during the day. Ballard was given medical attention and it is believed that his wounds are not very serious. He was placed in jail. Ramsey has also been locked up.

Mahaden Factories in Operation.

Wilmington, Special.—The mahaden factories at Old Brunswick, down the Cape Fear river, started up last week for the first time. A fleet of fishing steamers has been here for two weeks or more but the "fat backs" did not make their appearance off this coast until this week and therefore no hauls of consequence could be made. The ocean fisheries at Old Brunswick will probably begin operations next week.

Strawberry Shipments Begin.

Wilmington, Special.—Lettuce prices are now looking up and the growers in this section feel somewhat encouraged. The vegetable is bringing from \$2.25 to \$2.50 per basket and the demand is good. Strawberries are beginning to move by the single crate from the Rocky Point and A. & Y. sections. The prices are depressed north on account of the heavy shipments of Florida berries just now.

The Derrick Fell.

Faith, Special.—While men were loading cars with granite curbing the derrick broke and falling cut two large gashes in Aught Copley's head and bruised him otherwise; also mashed the foot of Medlin Sluder. The men worked for Peeler, Barne & Co., and lived in Faith. A messenger went to the granite quarry for Dr. Peeler and to Faith after a carriage to take the wounded men home.

TELEPHONES
Are a Necessity in the Country Home.
The farther you are removed from town to railroad station, the more the telephone will save in time and horse flesh. No man has a right to compel one of the family to lie in agony for hours while he drives to town for the doctor. Telephone and save half the suffering. Our Free Book tells how to organize, build and operate telephone lines and systems. Instruments sold on thirty days' trial to responsible parties.
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