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BUSH FRUITS AND THEIR CULTIVATION IN CANADA

(Continued from last week)

THE BLACKBERRY.

The blackberry is a native of the Eastern States, and in Canada it is found wild from Nova Scotia westward and northward to near the Manitoba boundary.

The commercial culture of blackberries in Ontario and Quebec is confined mainly to southwestern Ontario. In the Lake Huron district, where there is a heavy fall of snow, blackberries succeed very well, but when unprotected by this covering in winter they are not satisfactory. They are grown with varying degrees of success in other parts of these provinces, the amount of protection they get in winter usually governing the results obtained. At Ottawa there is rarely a good crop of blackberries, as there is not quite enough snow as a rule to protect them well, and the canes are injured. Blackberries do exceptionally well in British Columbia, and also succeed in parts of the Maritime Provinces.

Propagation.

The blackberry is one of the easiest fruit to propagate. The suckers, which are produced in great numbers, may be used or if one wishes to propagate a variety even more rapidly than by suckers, it may be increased from root cuttings. The roots are cut up into pieces two or three inches long. They may either be made in the fall or in the spring, and then planted in nursery rows about three inches deep for one season, at the close of which if the soil is well cultivated there will be good plants available.

Soil, Planting and Culture.

The blackberry ripens its fruits at a trying time of the year, as in late July or August there is often hot, dry weather, and if there is not a good supply of moisture in the soil the fruit will dry up, and what has promised a big crop will result in only a few good berries. In selecting a soil, therefore, one should be chosen which will retain moisture well. As the blackberry is inclined to grow late in the fall, and on this account is more tender than the raspberry, soil should be chosen which although rich in plant food has not an excess of nitrogen, which would be liable to induce late growth. Hence bottom land should be avoided in most places, as much is likely to be rich in nitrogen.

One of the best soils for blackberries is a good upland clay loam. In such soil there is likely to be sufficient plant food without an excess of nitrogen, making conditions favorable for the development of the crop and ripening of the wood. The soil should be well prepared as for all other bush fruits, and a good application of well rotted barnyard manure to most soils will be found desirable.

Spring planting is usually preferable. If planted early in the autumn the young plants are liable to start growth and the new shoots to be injured by the frost, hence if planted in the fall they should be set late. Strong one-year-old suckers are the best to plant.

Blackberries require a great deal of space to develop properly and to give an opportunity of cultivating and picking them. The rows should not be less than eight feet part, with the plants about three feet part in the rows, but where the blackberry grows very vigorously four feet apart in the rows is not too much. The Evergreen variety is planted sixteen or more feet apart in the rows. The quickest way to plant is to open deep furrows eight feet apart which cross a light mark every three feet. At each intersection of the rows the plant is set a little deeper than it was before and the soil thrown against it and well pressed against the roots. Where the soil is well prepared, planting may be done very quickly by opening a hole with a spade when the soil is lightly marked both ways.

If especially fine fruit is desired a good method of planting is to set the plants about eight feet apart each way and keep them in hills. By this method cultivation may be maintained both ways, and the plants having a better opportunity to develop will bear finer fruit.

Good cultivation should be given the first year to get the plants well established and to procure a strong growth early in the season. When the plants are eighteen inches to two feet in height they should be pinched off to make them throw out side shoots and thus keep them the better within bounds. All canes except three or four of the strongest should be cut out. The second year the new shoots made that season should be pinched back when about two feet in height, and as they will not all be the same height at the same time, it is necessary to go over the plantation several times. All suckers should be destroyed. It is important to do this work in good time, as if done too late the laterals will grow too late and be injured by winter. During the second season five or six of the strongest canes should be left, and all the rest should be removed either during the summer or in the autumn.

This practice is then followed every year, the canes which have borne fruit being removed as soon after fruiting as it is convenient to do the work. Each spring the laterals should be headed back considerably, the length of lateral to be left depending on the variety, as some kinds set fruit further out on laterals than others. Until the fruiting habit of the varieties is known the laterals should not be headed back until the flower buds show. The length of lateral to leave after pruning will vary considerably, but there should not be more than two feet left. If it has not been possible to pinch in summer, and no pinching is better than pinching too late, the bushes may be headed back to three or four feet in height in spring, and the laterals headed in as already described.

The pinching back in summer tends to keep the bushes lower than they otherwise would be, and they are thus more protected in winter, but they may be still more protected by bending them over and covering the tips with soil to hold them in place, although this is very unpleasant work, and it scarcely pays to do it if blackberries are grown for sale. More protection is given if the canes are covered with soil, straw or coarse manure. In parts of Canada where the winters are mild and low bushes are not necessary, a trellis is provided for supporting the canes and making this fruit easier to handle.

The conservation of moisture is very important in growing blackberries, and as the fruit does not ripen until late in the summer, cultivation will be later than for most fruits. It will be usually found best to continue cultivating until the berries are almost ready to pick.

A blackberry, when it is perfectly ripe, is one of the finest fruits, but if picked before it is ripe is quite unfit for use. Unfortunately, some varieties become black before they are are well colored, the result being that they reach the market in an unripe condition, and it is not to be wondered at that those who try them in this condition do not wish to use blackberries again. It would be in the best interests of their business if fruit growers would pay more attention to this matter, and only ship fruit which will be in good condition when it reaches the consumer.

A blackberry plantation is in full bearing the third season after planting, and will continue profitable for a long time if well cared for, but it is usually best to renew the plantation every eight or ten years.

(Continued next week).

MARRIAGE MEDDLERS

Very rarely do a couple marry with the complete and cordial approval of all their friends and relatives on both sides. There is always someone who is of the opinion that Jack is too good for Jill or that Jill has made a sad mistake in marrying Jack. Not even the division of property causes so much dissension in families as meddling in love affairs.

Rarer still are the cases where opposing a marriage accomplishes its purpose of breaking off the match. There is very little that disapproving relatives can do to prevent a marriage, however cogent and valid their reasons for objecting.

Violent opposition is of all courses the most impolitic. Gentle discouragement of a love affair sometimes effects much. Ridicule, tactfully employed, is a potent weapon.

Much may be done by contriving to postpone a wedding, provided the contriving be artfully concealed, thus affording opportunity for better acquaintance and possible disillusionment. But open opposition of any kind is more likely to defeat its purpose and make the two more determined to wed.

* * * *

Opposition is, however, much more effective with women than with men. The reason is obvious. It is only the exceptional woman who can afford to set her family at defiance upon any subject of importance. The average woman is accustomed from her youth up to take their advice.

The woman who marries in direct opposition to the wishes of her kith and kin must either be tremendously in love or tremendously self-willed, perhaps both. It requires a far greater effort for a woman to forsake father, mother, sisters, and brothers for the man whom she loves than that which the man makes in similar circumstances. She may love him all the better because she thinks them unjust to him and fully intend to disregard their advice, but when it comes to the pinch her heart fails her.

Most men, on the other hand, are eager to break a lance with anyone in defence of the woman for whom they care enough to marry. The better the man the more willing he is for the combat.

Moreover, the vanity of man bids him rely on his own judgment. The man who is in love, or fancies himself in love, with a woman believes that he knows her thoroughly. He resents outside advice or information.

His self-esteem is enlisted in defence of his own opinion and he declines to believe anything to her discredit. Indeed, he will quarrel with his best friends if that friend shall attempt ever so kindly to discourage his marrige with the woman of his choice.

—E. M., in The London Daily Mail.

CURE YOUR COLD WITHOUT MEDICINE

Just Breathe "Catarrhozone." Its Balsamic Vapor Does the Rest

It's a tiny germ that sets up the irritation that makes colds so disagreeable. Colds die quickly if Catarrhozone is used, simply because the vapor of Catarrhozone instantly destroys the germ that keeps the cold alive.

Every breath you draw through the inhaler fills the whole breathing apparatus with pure piney essences that stops colds at their very beginning. You experience a pleasant sensation of relief at once. Soreness, nose and throat, the head is cleared, and every trace of cold or catarrh is cured. Catarrhozone is so sure, so pleasant, such a safe, remedy for winter ills that you can't afford to do without it. Get the dollar outfit, it lasts two months and is guaranteed to cure; small size 50c; trial size 25c, all dealers or The Catarrhozone Co., Kingston, Canada.

Uncle John's Josh

One of the most effective vermifuges on the market is Miller's Worm Powders. They will not only clear the stomach and bowels of worms, but will prove a very serviceable medicine for children in regulating the infant's system and maintaining it in a healthy condition. There is nothing in their composition that will injure the most delicate stomach when directions are followed, and they can be given to children in the full assurance that they will utterly destroy all worms.

Minard's Liniment For Diphtheria.

Distrust and knowledge of his own profession, caused an Australian lawyer to include a clause in his will, stating that if any of his beneficiaries, for any reason whatsoever, contested his will, that person's share was to be paid to a certain charity, and no lawyers were to make any money out of his will.

A Prime Dressing for Wounds.—In some factories and workshops carbolic acid is kept for use in cauterizing wounds and cuts sustained by the workmen. Far better to keep on hand a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil. It is just as quick in action and does not scar the skin or burn the flesh.

Minard's Liniment For Garget In Cows

Protect the child from the ravages of worms by using Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator. It is a standard remedy, and years of use have enhanced its reputation.

The Sunday School Lesson

Lesson V. January 30.

JESUS GREETED AS KING.

Lesson—Matt. 21: 1-46. Printed Text—Matt. 21: 1-16.

Golden Text.—"Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord" (Matt. 21: 9).

Historical Setting.

Time.—A. D. 30. Place—Jerusalem.

The Lesson Text.

1 And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and came unto Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples,

2 saying unto them, Go into the village that is over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me.

3 And if any one say aught unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them.

4 Now this is come to pass, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken through the prophet, saying,

5 Tell ye the daughter of Zion.
Behold, thy King cometh unto thee,
Meek, and riding upon an ass.
And upon a colt the foal of an ass.

6 And the disciples went, and did even as Jesus appointed them,

7 and brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their garments; and he sat thereon.

8 And the most part of the multitude spread their garments in the way; and others cut branches from the trees, and spread them in the way.

9 And the multitudes that went before him, and that followed, cried saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

10 And when he was come into Jerusalem all the city was stirred, saying, Who is this?

11 And the multitudes said, This is the prophet, Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.

12 And Jesus entered into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money-chargers, and the seats of them that sold the doves;

13 and he saith unto them, It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer; but ye make it a den of robbers.

14 And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them.

15 But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children that were crying in the temple and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were moved with indignation,

16 and said unto him, Hearest thou what these are saying? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea: did ye never read, Out of mouthes of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?

Comments

Verse 1. Our Lord had arrived in Bethany on Friday evening, and at the close of the Sabbath (Saturday) He was anointed by Mary. On Sunday morning He left Bethany for Jerusalem. Bethphage is a village between these two cities. The two disciples were James and John.

Verse 2. Jesus' purpose was utterly democratic. While being the spiritual leader. He is sympathetically one with all men.

Verse 3. Christ anticipated that the owner of the animal might ask for explanations. Probably the owner was a disciple.

Verse 4. This was not done for the purpose of fulfilling prophecy, but when done it did fulfill prophecy.

Verse 5. The quotation is from Zech. 9: 9. The Jews regarded the passage as pointing to the Messiah (John 12: 14-16).

Verse 6. The details of the finding of the colt are given by Mark (Mark 11: 1-9).

Verse 7. Splendid and gorgeous trappings were thrown upon animals ridden by Eastern monarchs. The colt here mentioned was covered with the garments of the plain people.

Verses 8. Probably some in the multitude did not take part.

Verse 9. The word "Hosanna" had come to be the formal expression of congratulation.

Verse 10. Personally Jesus was known in the city. The question, "Who is this?" came probably from the cynical Pharisees.

Verse 11. Of this much they were all sure. Only Jesus' intimate disciples knew His character.

Verses 12, 13. On Sunday Jesus entered the temple and saw the abuses there. In the evening He returned to Bethany. On Monday He entered the temple and cleared it.

Verse 15. The scribes rejected Jesus' divine authority without inquiry. He was not like their notion of the Messiah. He had looked to popular recognition without appealing to the Sanhedrin.

Verse 16. The approval of an innocent child "is the perfection of praise."

Prevent Falling Hair With Cuticura Shampoos

The first thing to do in restoring dry, thin and falling hair is to get rid of dandruff, itching and irritation of the scalp. Rub Cuticura Ointment into the scalp, especially spots of dandruff and itching. Next morning shampoo with Cuticura Soap and hot water.

Soap 25c. Ointment 25 and 50c. Talcum 25c. Sold throughout the Dominion. Canadian Depot: Lymans, Limited, 344 St. Paul St., W., Montreal. Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

UNION BANK MAKES SOLID PROGRESS

FIFTY-SIXTH STATEMENT REVEALS VERY STRONG CASH POSITION BUILT UP DURING PAST YEAR—TOTAL ASSETS INCREASED $60,000,000 SINCE 1916—SAVINGS DEPOSITS AGAIN SHOW MARKED INCREASE—QUICK ASSETS TO LIABILITIES INCREASED FROM 47.23 PER CENT. TO 54.35 PER CENT. THERE ARE NOW 393 BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

There is no better proof of the confidence of the people in a banking institution than to see the savings deposits in that institution grow from year to year. The 56th Annual Report of the Union Bank of Canada, covering the year ended November 30, 1920 shows a very satisfactory increase in Savings Deposits, despite the many demands and calls that have been upon the people's savings during the past year. Savings Deposits now stand at $85,610,464 as compared with $84,376,700 in 1919 and $60,144,940 in 1916.

The Reserve Fund has been increased by $400,000, and now totals $6,000,000. The total assets of the bank now amount to $169,205,445, these figures representing an increase of $60,000,000 since 1916.

The difficult period of deflation through which the country has been passing has presented many difficult problems to our banking institutions, but it is gratifying to note that the Union Bank is now in a stronger liquid position than it has been at any time in its history. The 1920 balance sheet indicates that the policy of the officials of the bank has been to build up a strong cash position, and in this they have been successful. Liquid and cash assets on November 30, 1920 totalled $82,203,563 being equal to 54.35 per cent. of the total liabilities to the public as compared with the ratio of 47.23 per cent in 1919.

Two new headings appear in the statement this year which were included in 1919 under "Current Loans in Canada." One of these "Demand Loans in Canada secured by Grain" amounting to $10,762,755.47 shows plainly that the bank has been rendering valuable services in assisting the marketing of the grain crop. The other new heading is "Loans to Governments and Municipalities," and amounts to $7,648,176.39. These items when totalled with "Current Loans and Discounts in Canada," show $88,230,716.79 or 1.96 per cent. increase over 1919.

MR. SHAW,

The General Manager of the Union Bank of Canada, whose fifty-sixth annual statement shows very strong position.

The Union Bank now has 389 branches which cover the entire Dominion and is thus in a position to give banking service second to none. In addition to its branches in Canada, the Bank operates its own offices in London, England and New York.

HOW TO BE HEALTHY DURING THE WINTER

MANY TROUBLES MAY BE AVOIDED IF THE BLOOD IS KEPT PURE.

Do not let your blood get thin this winter. For people who have a tendency towards anaemia, or bloodlessness, winter is a trying season. Lack of exercise, lack of fresh air, and a more restricted diet are among the things that combine to lower the tone of the body and weaken the blood.

As soon as you notice the tired feeling, lack of appetite and shortness of breath that are warning symptoms of thin blood, take a short course of treatment with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Do not wait until the color has entirely left your cheeks, until your lips are white and your eyes are dull. It is so much easier to correct thinning of the blood in the earlier stages than later. This is well illustrated in the case of Mr. B. M. Day, Newcastle Bridge, N. B., who says: "From my own experience with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and after taking several boxes I felt like a new man."

You can procure Dr. Williams' Pink Pills through any dealer in medicine or they will be sent you by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for $2.50 by writing direct to The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

An English clock is run without attention for about 1,000 hours with a single cell dry battery.

PRICES OF FARM ENGINES SMASHED

GILSON'S' ARE FIRST FIRM TO COME DOWN TO PRE-WAR PRICES.

Now that there is a downward drop in prices of nearly al commodities it is interesting to learn that the farmers are among the first to benefit, and that the break in prices is in a commodity that should be on every farm. One of the essentials for good farmers is a gasoline or kerosene engine. Every farmer either has one or wishes he has, and is arranging to get one as soon as possible, or when he has the money.

The Gilson manufacturing company of Guelph, which makes the engien that has the largest sales record in the British Empire and therefore must give satisfaction to the thousands of farmers who use it, has smashed engine prices. It is the first engine company to drop to pre-war prices. This is a step in the right direction and one that should appeal to farmers and others who are anticipating the purchase of a gasoline or kerosene engine.

This company has kept up its high standard of manufacture for performance, economy and dependability. It gives free demonstrations of its engines to any who are interested, and always is glad to send any information necessary to farmers and others. As it is important that anyone contemplating the purchase of an engine secure his information at once, it would be a good idea to write now to the Gilson Manufacturing Co., 5716 York Street, Guelph, and ask them to send you information about their engines. It will give you a line on your requirements and places you under no obligation to purchase.

WEEKS BREAK UP A COLD TABLETS TRY THEM PRICE 25c

GILSON SMASHES ENGINE PRICES

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Gilson—the largest selling engine in the British Empire—has always led in value. Now it leads in trimming prices to rock-bottom. Gigantic production of the new Gilson "Wizard" line has made possible amazing cuts in prices. Nothing like these values has been seen since pre-war days. And this new engine sets a new standard of performance, economy and dependability.

Demonstrated FREE—Easy Terms

You get manufacturers' price on this Gilson "Wizard." You get a free trial on your farm, if you want it. You buy on easy terms or cash. Five-year guarantee goes with every engine. But to get our present amazing values, you must act quick. Prices can't be a cent lower. They may be higher. And demand is pouring in. Write at once for full facts.

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Experts at the O. A. C., Guelph, and at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Ottawa use and endorse Zenoleum; leading livestock and poultry raisers all over Canada endorse it; farmers in every country use it. It is the best disinfectant you can buy.

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