BUSH FRUITS AND THEIR CULTIVATION IN CANADA

(Continued from last week).

Yields of Blackberries.

The blackberry is a more uncertain cropper than the currant, gooseberry and raspberry, as it suffers more in winter and if affected more by dry weather in summer. Not really good crops of blackberries have been produced at Ottawa, the best yield being in 1895, when the Agawam yielded at the rate of 2,452-boxes per acre. The next best yield was in 1903, when the Agawam yielded at the rate of 1,979 boxes per acre.

Bailey, in his Horticulturist's Rule Book, gives the yield at from 50 to 100 bushels per acre, which at 32 pounds to the bushel is from 1,600 to 3,200 pounds, but where the blackberry does particularly well 5,000 or more pounds per acre are obtained, and as much as 7,000 pounds of the Evergreen.

Descriptions of Varieties of Blackberries.

Agawam (wild chance seedling).—Orig. John Perkins, Ipswich, Mass ,between 1865 and 1870. Fruit medium to large, oblong to long, black, glossy; firm; juicy, sweet; quality good. Season medium early. This variety has proved the hardiest and most productive at Ottawa.

Blowers.—Orig. New York State. Fruit large, black; firm; good quality. Season medium. Productive and one of the hardiest varieties.

Eldorado (chance seedling).—Orig. near Eldorado, Ohio; introduced about 1882. Fruit medium to large, roundish to oblong; black; firm; juicy, sweet, good flavor; quality good. Season medium early. Productive. One of the hardiest varieties.

Erie (Uncle Tom) (probably seedling of Lawton).—Orig. L. B. Pierce, Tallmage, Ohio, 1876; introd. J. T. Lovett, Little Silver, N. J. 1886. Fruit large, roundish oval; quality good. A strong grower and very thorny. Productive in the mildest climates in Canada. Too tender for most places.

Evergreen.—Orig. probably Oregon. Fruit large; firm; sweet; quality very good. Season late. This is a very strong grower with a trailing habit, canes reaching more than 25 feet in length, and succeeds best on the Pacific coast. It is too tender for the East. The canes of this variety are more or less perennial, and they root at the tip as does the Loganberry, and it might be grouped with that variety.

Himalaya.—Orig. uncertain. Fruit medium to large; black; firm; sweet, sprightly; quality good. Season late. A very strong grower, the canes reaching a length of 50 feet. Succeeding well on the Pacific coast where it is a heavy cropper, but too tender for the East where the fruit also is rather small.

Kittatinny (chance seedling).—Orig. and introd. by E. Williams, New Hope, N. J., about 1865. Fruit large to very large, roundish to oblong, black, glossy, attractive; moderately firm; juicy, sweet; and of good flavor; quality good to very good. Season medium late. One of the best varieties where it can be grown, but is only suited to the warmest parts of Canada.

Joy—Introd. by J. T. Lovett, Little Silver, N. J., 1918. Fruit large, black; firm; sweet; and of good flavor. Season medium. A promising variety.

Mammoth (Rubus vitifolius x Texas Blackberry?).—Orig. Judge J. H. Logan, Santa Cruz, Cal. Fruit very large, long, black; very acid; quality medium. A very strong grower of trailing habit. Canes grow from twenty-five to thirty feet in length and root at the tip as does the Loganberry. This does well in the coast climate of British Columbia, but is too tender for Eastern Canada.

Snyder (wild chance seedling).—Orig. Henry Snyder, La Porte, Ind., about 1851. Fruit medium in size, roundish, black, but sometimes with a reddish tinge; firm, juicy, sweet; quality good. Season medium early. This is one of the best known varieties as on account of its hardiness it succeeds over a wider area than most. Agawan has averaged better in yield at Ottawa.

Varieties of Blackberries Recommended.

The parts of Canada where blackberries succeed well are limited to where the winters are only moderately cold or where the winters are cold but where there is abundance of snow for protection.

Hardish Varieties.—Agawam, Snyder, Eldorado in the order named. Wachusett and Minnewaski have yielded best at the Kentville Station.

Variety for Southern Ontario.—In addition to above, Kittatinny.

For coast climate of British Columbia.—Himalayan, Erie, Mammoth, Evergreen.

THE DEWBERRY.

The dewberry is not grown very extensively in Canada, although it is a delicious fruit. The varieties at present on the market were originated from the more southern forms of the wild species, and are not hardy except in the mildest parts of Canada without being protected by soil in winter. It is a native of Eastern Canada and is found wild as far north as lake Superior, so that hardier cultivated varieties are likely to be obtained. The newberry is very similar to the blackberry in fruit, but the best varieties are juicier and of more delicate flavor. They ripen before the blackberry also, and on this account where they are grown commercially they lengthen the season of blackberry-like fruit. The dewberries and blackberries are so nearly related bontanically and overlap each other so much that botanists have great difficulty in separating them, but the cultivated dewberries can be readily distinguished from blackberries by their trailing habit, and the fact that they root readily from the tips of the canes. The flowers and fruit of the dewberry are more soattered than those of the blackberry, which is another distinguishing characteristic.

Soil, Plainting, Cultivation and Training.

A good warm, well drained soil is desirable for dewberries and, as the varieties were originated where the climate is warmer than where they will be grown in Eastern Canada, it is important in the East especially to choose a warm site for the plantation. They will succeed with less moisture than some of the other fruits. The plants are set early in the spring. While in some parts of the United States they are planted in hills about five by five feet apart and trained on posts, in most places in Canada it is more satisfactory to grow them in rows with the plants three feet apart and the rows six feet apart. The first season the plantation is kept well cultivated as for any other bush fruits. The second season it will be necessary to train the plants. The dewberry is of trailing habit, but to have good crops the fruiting canes should be kept off the ground. A single wire one foot from the ground, to which the canes are tied, is a simple fethod, the wire being stretched along the row and fastened to posts about thirty feet apart. If the vines grow very strong a wire three feet from the ground will be better. Sometimes a stake is driven down between two plants, and when grown in hills, stakes which will rise between five and six feet above ground are desirable, about which the canes are wound. The aim is to get the canes off the ground so that there will be sufficient light and air get at them to ensure a good development of flowers and fruit. There is likely to be some fruit the second year, but it will be the year after before the vines will be bearing well. Each year after fruiting the fruiting canes are cut off as soon as possible to permit the new ones developing. Five strong canes are sufficient to leave in each hill.

Varieties.

As dewberries sometimes do not fruit well owing to poor polination it is desirable to plant more than one variety. Lucretia and Mayes (Austin Improved) are two of the best, and if these were planted alternately, two rows of each, better results would likely be obtained than if but one were grown. Another good variety, the Premo, is more or less self-sterile, and must have another variety near it and blossoming at the same time to ensure a profitable crop.

Lucretia.—Fruit large, oblong, glossy black, juicy, sweet, and of good quality. Season early.

Mayes (Austin Improved).—Fruit very large, oval to somewhat conical, glossy black, juicy, and of good quality. Season very early. Earlier than Lucretia.

Premo.—Much like Lucretia in vine, though has not proved so productive on the whole. Doubtless the flowers are not perfect and must be pollinated by some other variety. It ripens earlier than Lucretia.

Varieties of Dewberries Recommended.

In districts where dewberries succeed, namely, in warmest parts.—Lucretia, Mayes (Austin Improved), Premo.

(Continued next week).

MARVELOUS TREE

MANY FARMERS IN CANADA WANT SUPER-SILK TREES.

Not since the advent of tobacco as a staple crop in Ontario has there been so much interest displayed in a new product as is evidenced by farmers all over Canada in the Osigian Super-Silk Tree. Large orders have been placed with the Osigian Silk Corporation, of Canada, Limited, Room 29 Sun Life Building, Hamilton Ont., for these trees, which will be planted on many farms in Ontario in May of this year. The company guarantees each tree, and will replace free every tree that fails to grow.

In addition to this the firm supplies free to each purchaser of trees a hatching of silk worms, which starts the farmer in one of the best paying ventures ever introduced into Canada, which will give returns the first year of at least $50 per acre, and which will increase in a short time to $500 and $750 per acre. It has been conclusively demonstrated that silk can be grown in Canada superior to that of old silk-growing countries, while as many as eight crops a year can be secured against but one in other countries which is made possible only by the use of the Osigian Super-Silk Tree. An interesting club has been formed, and thousands of farmers, as well as city and village residents are enrolling. Full particulars are sent on application to the company at their Hamilton headquarters, 29 Sun Life Building.—Advt. 5

Muscular Rheumatism Subdued.—When one is a sufferer from muscular rheumatism he cannot do better than to have the region rubbed with Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil. Let the rubbing be brisk and continued until ease is secured. There is more virtue in a bottle of it than can be fully estimated.

James G. Foley, ex-clerk of the CCrown in Chancery, died in Ottawa after an illness of one month's duration. Mr. Foley suffered an attack of pneumonia in December and had apparently recovered when complications caused death.

Advice to Girls

By Miss Rosalind

Registered according to the Copyright Act

Miss Rosalind welcomes letters from young women asking for advice on any subject. All you have to do is to address your letter to

MISS ROSALIND,

34 King William St., Hamilton, Ont

Dear Rosalind:

I have always taken an interest in reading your Advice to Girls. I am a boy of 20 years; I have come back home after been west for a few years and I seem out of place here; I am fond of girls' company. I came east thinking to have a good time but the young people around here seem to have their steady friends so I am writing to you to see if you can put me in touch dwith some nice girl. Hoping to hear from you. Yours truly.

TINY.

Dear Tiny:

We have a correspondence club for lonesomes in the column. Through it I exchange names and addresses if my readers send me addressed and stamped envelopes. The object of the club is to encourage good letter writing and give our girls and young men something to do in hours that would otherwise be every lonely. I take it for granted that young people wishing to correspond with each othe' through this column do so with the approval of their parents. I shall forward your address with pleasure to girls or boys asking for it and sending me a self-addressed, stamped envelope. With best wishes that you may make many friends .

ROSALIND.

Dear Rosalind:

I am a young girl of eighteen years and in love with a boy who is attending college a considerable distance from here. He has been home for a vacation and does not expect to be back till next Christmas. Do you think it would be proper for me to keep company with any other boys in his absence. I know he loves me as he has told me so and thinks that I shouldn't go out with any other boys. No doubt he will be lonesome as he does not go out with any other girls. Wishing for the coming year, I am

AMBITION.

Dear Ambition:

Don't you think you are rather young to talk of being engaged. And don't you think you will miss a lot of good times between now and next Christmas if you stay in the house all the time. If I were you I would have all the friends and all the good times I could have and would advise the young man to do the same. Thank you for the nice New Year's wishes.

ROSALIND.

Dear Rosalind:

I have been reading your advice lately and I think it very helpful to girls.

I am a girl of eighteen. Am quite a sport; in fact I enjoy any kind of sport.

I go to quite a few dances during the winter where I usually meet a number of strange fellows. You meet a fellow who seems very friendly to you, he asks you to dance several times, you also eat supper with him and finally he asks to take you home. Is it proper for you to allow this strange fellow to take you home?

Should a girl present a fellow with a Christmas present first or should she wait till she receives one from him first.

I am very fond of corresponding so if you could I would ask you kindly to send me a boy's address between the age of eighteen or twenty so I could write to him.

I will close hoping to hear from you soon and wishing you a very prosperous New Year. I remain,

PEGGY.

Dear Peggy:

What do you mean by "met a fellow at dances." If you mean that at a properly chaperoned party you meet a new friend by means of an introduction through a friend, then it is quite correct to dance with him and have supper and let him take you home. It is not always wise to let a very new friend monopolize too much of your time, until you know more about him. Girls do not give presents to young men unless engaged to them except trifling little home-made gifts perhaps to friends of long-standing. Send me your envelope stamped and address.

ROSALIND.

Dear Rosalind:

I am just a boy of eighteen and would like awfully well if you would please tell me what I am to do., I go with a girl friend here and I like her awfully well. She uses me fine only when a boy her sister used to know comes up. Then she goes out with him and shuns me. I would like you to tell me what you would have me do . It is awfully lonesome up here, and would like to correspond with anyone my own age. Hoping to have you answer my letter soon.

A LONESOME LAD.

Dear Boy:

Just be as friendly with the girl as you can be; and try to be a pleasant companion to every person. Do not consider the girl you speak of as the only girl you should go with; and take it for granted that she may find pleasure in the society of other young men. Try to make your friendships general. You did not send me your full name and address. How did you think I could forward letters to you? Send it to me right away and I do hope there will be a bushel of letters to send to you.

ROSALIND.

Dear Miss Rosalind

I read in the paper every wek, Advice to Girls. I think it is very helpful to us all. This is my first letter to you but I hope not my last. I am going with a young fellow that is two years my senior. I love him very much but there is someone that I love better. Should I tell him that I like someone better or should I try to forget this other fellow. How can I forget this other fellow who does not care anything for me any more, but I still do for him? Should I go go back with this other felow when we have had several bust-ups. No words or anything, just drop-out like but I think he likes me and I think very much of him. Is it right to let him kiss me at parting? I think he him kiss me at parting, I think he would feel very much hurt if I didn't.

When a fellow asks you to write to him and you do so and he does not answer should you write again to him? Well I think I have taken up too much of your valuable space already so hoping to see my answer soon.

DISCOURAGED.

My Dear Girl:

I'm not just sure that you are so very much in love as you think. I think you should play for awhile before settling down to the serious business of loving. Keep the friendships of your two friends. Time will tell you which is the right one. Avoid foolish little quarrels. They are not much in themselves, but sometimes things are said that hurt and cause bitter feelings; and these are to be kept out of our lives as much as possible. A nice girl does not kiss a man she is not engaged to unless he happens to be a relation and that's different- I would not write again in that case. I am glad to answer your queries. Come again.

ROSALIND.

Dear Rosalind:

I often read your advice to girls and some of it I think is real common sense if followed out.

In this week's paper I read that there is a young lady who wishes to have a boy friend. Do you think she would be willing to correspond with me. I am at present kind of lonesome and I would enjoy corresponding to some young lady as I think it helps both parties in more than one way.

I am a returned man, twenty-two years of age, kind of quiet, but in spite of all I've plenty of fun in me if reach in the right way. I hope I do not offend either you or the young lady by my abrupt question of corresponding. I hope to hear from you soon.

TOM B.

Dear Tom:

Come right in to our cozy circle. We are very glad to have you and I sincerely hope you will like your shadow friends. I need not say more for there are several letters today about correspondence rules.

ROSALIND.

Letters received from Hawaiian Trio, E. E. H., Unhappy, Bunny, Belle, Fan, Alice, Irene, Henrietta, Four Chums, Jay, Golden Locks, Brown Eyes, Lonely Wolf, Blue Bell, Puzzled aMid, Weary Girl, Perplexed and Trixy.

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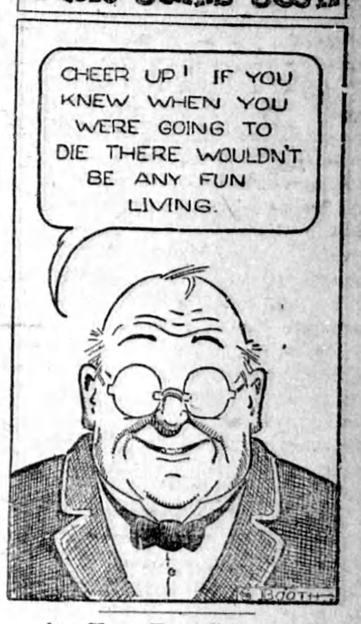
SCALY LEGS.

This infectious trouble is caused by a very small mite burrowing under the scales of the leg. The scales of the legs become large and rough. The mites are easily killed by soaking and removing the scales with warm water, and applying an ointment of five parts vaseline to one part oil of caraway.

Uncle John's Josh



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GUESS!

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Canada's Trade Returns for February, 1921

The figures for February, 1920, were $60,701,248.00; for February, 1919, they were $52,255,909.00; for February, 1918, they were $41,185,814.00; February, 1917, were $53,578,027.00, and for February, 1914 (before the war) they were only $23,286,731.00. You see where we are and what we are coming to in Canada. What will the figures be for February, 1921? Are you a good guesser? If so, win one of the prizes.

HOW TO WIN

Get two of your neighbors to give you only ONE DOLLAR each for a year's trial subscription to "MY CANADA" (regular price Two Dollars per year), and send in the money with your three guesses. Each subscriber is also allowed three guesses! Will you risk an hour of your time to win THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS? Come! "GO, GET IT! !"

"MY CANADA" will be published monthly. It lives to help you and Canada to better things. It goes without saying that the more readers we have the better this National periodical will be. This is not only true commercially, but we feel that every additional reader means so much added moral support.

Your guess must be in by FEBRUARY 28th, 1921. As the old adage would say, obey that impulse—obey it now! Help us by this means to reinforce our convictions as to the future and the present in Canada, and of leading the way to better things for you, and yours, and us. Address your guess and send subscription to the publishers, "MY CANADA," Suite 314 N.E.L., Stair Bldg., Toronto.

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