

OLD ORCHARDS ARE BEING CLEANED UP

State Agricultural Dept. Reports Activity; Eliminating Pest-Harboring Trees

Owners of neglected orchards are complying with the state's cleanup requirement, according to a survey just completed in the plant industry division of the state department of agriculture.

At the request of Director Stuart E. Pierson, of the agricultural department, Phil S. Haner, superintendent of the plant inspection forces, thru field observations and reports from fruit growers, located some fifty orchards that harbor insect pests and plant diseases to an extent sufficient to endanger fruit production on adjacent property.

Condemned as Hazard

The insect pest and plant disease law, in effect, condemns any neglected orchard that constitutes a hazard to adjacent property, according to the plant industry superintendent. Thus far, efforts to remove the menace that neglect permits, he said, have been limited to the commercial fruit production sections.

Trees that remain unpruned and unsprayed, according to the plant authorities, harbor hords of destructive insects and develop blight, and plant diseases. These, as foes to successful fruit production, invade adjacent property.

By explaining to the negligent owners that orchards suffering from such neglect are decidedly unprofitable and a menace to their neighbors' production, the plant industry official finds it possible in most cases, he stated, to induce the owner to clear the orchard or, if practical, to overcome objectionable conditions by intensive pruning and repeated spraying.

Cleanup in Progress

Records on file in the division office show that cleanup operations are now underway or contemplated in 35 Illinois orchards. The efforts to effect improvement will continue, the agricultural department officials said, until all such hazards are removed from the commercial fruit producing sections of the state.

Another Initiation by 40 and 8 in July

Another initiation or "wreck" of candidates for membership in the local chapter of 40 and 8, the fun organization within the Legion, will be held early in July according to Mance Talcott, chef de gare. A second big wreck, similar to the one held last Saturday night at Gurnee will be staged in August at which the degree team from the Cook County 40 and 8, the largest voiture in the world, will put on the work.

The July meeting will be in the form of a fish fry at one of the lakes in the county.

The sun has to do a lot more tanning than it used to when mother was a girl.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Fred Stone, Comedy Star Says Farm Turned Out to Be Only Circus

Fred Stone, musical comedy star, has had his fill of farming, he declares in *The Country Home*. The last farm he started turned out to be a circus, he relates. And it was largely the fault of his friends.

One of the first reverses he experienced was a gift of seven wild calves from Will Rogers. Then Will spent most of his spare time out on the Long Island farm roping the calves and they became so wild that they ended up in a butcher shop.

"About that time," says Fred, "somebody donated a flock of tumbler pigeons and soon after came a flock of fantails. We made the technical error of putting them in the same quarters, with results that would have driven a pigeon fancier into hysterics. The following spring we were overrun with the dizziest assortment of pigeons one could imagine—fantails tumbled all over the place and spread their tails until they looked like a Japanese lawn party. Our dignity was ruffled and we gave them away. The next morning the whole flock was back. I guess they had a little homing blood in them, too.

"We spent our time meeting incoming freight trains, carting animal crates back and forth, establishing and breaking up one menagerie after another. We didn't contribute one constructive thing to the farm problem, during those days, but the circus people could have learned a lot from us."

New Machine Picks Cotton Faster Than 70 Men Can by Hand

The 1930 season may prove as epochal in the cotton industry as did the invention of the cotton gin by Eli Whitney, according to Wheeler McMillen, agricultural expert, writing in *The Country Home*.

The new development, says McMillen, is the tractor cotton picker, which threatens to do away with Negro labor in the fields, which has not been improved upon since earliest days of cotton in America. In a test in Kentucky, the fastest colored cotton picker known started down a long row and in 2 hours 21 minutes he had picked 45 pounds of cotton, a record in itself. Then the machine started and in two minutes it pulled out of the row to unload 54 pounds of cotton. The machine had gathered more cotton, 70 times as fast as hand labor.

Fifteen such machines will be used in experiments with this year's crop, and, if equal to the test the whole cotton market may be revolutionized.

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Voliva Is Not Only Proponent of Claim That Earth Is Flat

Two men are preaching the theory that the world is flat, but no one knew there was anyone other than Wilbur Glenn Voliva expounding this doctrine until the other day.

Out in Van Buren, Mo., Gilbert "Flat Earth" Johnson has been sending out views along the line of Voliva. He will reach a greater audience if he has his way about it as he has asked permission to talk over radio station WOS in Jefferson, Mo.

Johnson maintains he has been endeavoring since 1886 to convince people that the earth is flat, and as yet recognition and assistance have not been given him. So he has appealed to Governor Henry S. Caulfield for permission to use the state radio station to broadcast a lecture on his newest "flat earth" theory.

In his communication to Governor Caulfield, Johnson revealed that "I am sending some of my work to all the leading nations of the earth. Business is on the alert. Some other country may pick up theory and our own nation lose the honor."

"The earth is a great circular plane, with the vault of heaven resting on the great southern circumference. At this point the sky and soil join and the sky becomes part of our great air vessel. The compressed air between the earth and sky is what the writers of the Bible consider the four corners of the earth, the four winds

of heaven the north, south, east and west winds.

"Therefore the foundation of the earth is the air, the pillows of heaven and the pillows of the earth are one, therefore our earth is one grand air-ship."

Attorneys in Swamp Land Case on Trip to Washington, D. C.

In an effort to strengthen the case of the county and the state, in a fight to get control of the swamp lands of Lake county Assistant States Attorney S. H. Block and an assistant attorney general from Oscar Carlstrom's office went to Washington, D. C. last week to get government surveys of the land.

The case has been under hearing for five years. It was brought by Frank Hatch, of Grass Lake, against the state and county and involves but 160 acres. Although it is but a small tract on which title is being cleared it really will involve all swamp land in Illinois as the supreme court will be asked for an opinion eventually from which future rulings can be made.

Hatch claims the land through old patents and payment of taxes.

The state claims it through a grant from the government and the county contends it belongs to Lake county because the state ceded it to it.

Large groups of visitors from down state Illinois are being received at Field Museum of Natural History as a result of excursions conducted by the Chicago entertainment committee.



THE barefoot boy of song and story was a picturesque figure of the easy going, carefree youth of other days. But he missed all the fun of the active young fellow of today who wears Pool and Piper summer shoes for easy going at all speeds.

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