

SPRAYING.

SALT LAKE, March 19, 1898.

I read with great pleasure your article on spraying and fruit culture in Tuesday night's and Wednesday night's papers.

A trip to Colorado, Idaho or Oregon will convince anyone that there is no Utah industry so badly neglected as fruit culture, and to inspect the beautiful orchards near Grand Junction, Boise or Walla Walla, with their modern methods of caring for trees, and then come back to the neglected and vermin-infested orchards of Utah, with its perfect soil and climate, makes one's heart sick.

I enclose an article from a recent Oregon paper on the subject of spraying which I hope may be of service to you.

Very truly yours,

H. M. MCCARTNEY.

The article referred to is as follows, under the heading, "How to Spray"—our correspondent does not tell us the name of the paper to which the credit ought to be given.—Ed. News]

The warm weather is bringing out the buds upon the fruit trees, so that spraying promises to be in order about a month earlier than usual. This makes timely the following letter of instruction issued by Mr. John Minto, secretary of the state board of horticulture:

SALEM, Or., Feb. 22.—The desk of the state board of horticulture is daily receiving applications for instructions in orchard management, nearly all of which is, at this season, how to clean fruit trees?

Spraying is a recognized means of insuring the product of an orchard to be clean and marketable. The orchards wherein the use of this means seems at present an imperative necessity are neglected city and suburban home lots and old apple orchards, which, once profitable, are now a result of long years of neglect, breeding grounds of infection and decay.

In the name of private comfort and pleasure in home surroundings; in the name of public spirit, and private gain, owners of city fruit lots, suburban family orchards and old starved and decaying apple orchards are urged to have their trees sprayed as soon as possible. The composition recommended for a fruit spraying is six pounds of blue vitriol and ten pounds of lime, the vitriol to be thoroughly dissolved in hot water; the lime to be made into milk of lime thoroughly stirred and strained, so when the two ingredients are mixed in 45 gallons of water they can be passed through a spraying nozzle. This is the first spray. Both these ingredients are insecticides, as well as fungicides, the copper solution being as sure death to insect life even as large as a maggot half an inch long, as it is to the dust-like spores of the grain fungus we call smut.

This first spray should be applied now throughout western Oregon. The second spray should be applied just before the flower buds open, made of four pounds of lime and five pounds of blue vitriol, to forty-five gallons of water. The third treatment is not needed until after the fruit has set, when to the last-named ingredients four ounces of paris green is recommended to be added.

I desire to say to the owners of old apple orchards, many of whom were like myself, pioneers as fruit-growers, who helped to give Oregon the name of "land of big red apples": Your holdings now represent about one-fourth of the area in orchards within circles of 10 to 25 miles around the oldest cities and towns of the state. You are not alone, by tens of thousands in other states, in now being annoyed and put to cost in keeping clean these insect and fungus infected properties it was once your pleasure and just pride to own. Neither are there new pests. Even the idea of spraying to check these injuries to the then old orchards of New England originated as early as 1797. From Pennsylvania and New York, that 50 years ago were teeming with unblemished fruits, these pests have for many years been increasing injuries, until now this board is favored by the use of costly plants, illustrative of the needs and effects of spraying from the state of Pennsylvania, and on my desk are bulletins numbered above 100 from the horticultural division of the experimental station of Cornell university, New York, from No. 84 of which I quote, (pages 25 and 26) the statement of H. L. Brown, of Orleans county:

"As near as I can get at it my orchard is about 30 years old. It contains 146 trees."

Mr Brown proceeds to say he has had the care of these trees since 1869. Began then top-dressing and followed it up, getting no apples the first two years; 100 barrels the third; 75 barrels poor the fourth; 200 bushels used for drying the fifth. Increasing the application of manure he says:

"In the spring of 1894 we gave the orchard a very severe pruning, and began spraying. In this work we followed the direction of Cornell bulletin No. 60. We used Bordeaux exclusively. I cannot give the exact dates of each spraying. The first one was made early in May, before the leaves started. The next one came just as the buds began to show a little red color. The third one was made after the blossoms had fallen and the fruit set. Part of the orchard was sprayed the fourth time, the very last of June, and I could see a marked difference in favor of four sprayings. The general result has been everything I could ask. We barreled 898 barrels this year, 749 firsts and 149 seconds. I sold apples for 2.12½ per barrel, and our neighbors could get only \$1.50 to \$1.75."

This is selected for the brevity of its illustration of the value of spraying.

MALAD STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Malad Stake of Zion convened at Portage, Utah, March 15th and 16th, 1898, and although the weather was unpleasant and the travel bad, the attendance of officers and members was very large. The people were delighted to have President George Q. Cannon visit them again and also Elder S. B. Young, who comprised the visiting brethren during this conference. They were the principal speakers and their remarks were much enjoyed. The sweet music by the choir under the leadership of Brother D. P. Jones and of the brass band, led by Brother

Charles Wright, was greatly appreciated and did much to make the occasion one to be thoroughly enjoyed.

There were four meetings held and conference adjourned at 12 m. on Monday.

Sunday morning was partly occupied by Brother W. H. Gibbs in giving a report of the condition of the Stake which was very favorable. Elder S. B. Young occupied the remainder of the time on a number of subjects of worth to the people.

The afternoon meeting was addressed by President O. C. Hoskins in further reporting the condition of the Stake; he said that the Stake received enough from the fast offerings to supply the needs of the poor. He was followed by President Cannon, who spoke upon the beauty and great worth of the Gospel and what a strong testimony it bore to the world constantly of its genuineness in various ways; said the Lord would surely come. Some had grown impatient, but it behooved every one to live a virtuous life and be prepared, as we know not the day nor the hour.

Sunday evening there was a Priesthood meeting to which the sisters were invited as well. Much good instruction was given by Elders Cannon and Young.

Monday morning was mostly occupied by President Cannon on practical affairs, showing the necessity of doing whatever we do in the best way; advised the young to set their mark high; the young men should educate themselves and add to that skill in order to prepare for the battle of life, shun idleness and the use of tobacco if they wished to be men.

W. H. Richards was ordained a Bishop to preside over the Malad ward in place of Jenkin Jones resigned.

L. D. JONES, Clerk pro tem.

MILEAGE GOES GLIMMERING.

The Supreme court of this State has finally passed upon the mandamus proceedings begun by Selectman Curtis Johnson against County Clerk Stanton, with a view to compelling the latter to issue to him a warrant for \$26 in payment of a mileage claim for attendance upon sessions of the county court. The opinion was formulated by Judge Miner and concurred in Chief Justice Zane, and sustains the ruling of ex-Chief Justice Merritt on the same point. The opinion, in substance, is as follows:

Section 203, page 310, first compiled laws of Utah, 1889, provides, that the probate judge and selectmen shall each receive from their county \$4 per day for each day actually employed in attending to business pertaining to the county court, together with mileage at the rate of 20 cents per mile, in going only, from their residence to the county seat at each session of the court attended by them.

The duties of the county court are plainly defined by the statute. When these duties are performed by members of the county court, and an itemized and verified claim is presented to the county court, therefore such member is entitled to such compensation as is fixed by statute for such services.

The statutes give each selectman \$4 per day for each day actually employed in attending the business pertaining to the county court. This plainly fixes the only charge that any selectman can make or