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GARDENING

Fruit Trees Way To Propagate

So many people in Limerick tell me about the apple seed they have sown so many years ago, and that have successfully grown into young fruiting tress, and ask me hopefully if the fruit will be any good, I have promised most of them that some day I will write all about the correct way to propagate fruit trees, and try to explain why there is only one chance in 1,000 that their seedling apple tree will be a success.

NEW VARIETIES.

All of our well known varieties of fruit trees that are grown to-day have been raised from species and varieties of the wild fruits. Hybrids have been raised and these have been crossed again and again with one another.

This breeding and selecting of the best of the progeny has been going on for generations, and millions of new varieties have been raised, but only a very limited number have been found to stand up to the test of time, and these are now our standard varieties.

Now, to haphazardly cross any two of those varieties will more than likely only upset all the good breeding that has gone before in their make up, resulting mostly in throwbacks or inferior varieties to those we cross.

STANDING THE TESTS.

If we by chance or by scientific method raise a new variety it will have to undergo many a severe test for many a year before it will be accepted for general cultivation, and by that time the raiser will either be bankrupt trying to advertise it or be dead and forgotten.

Here are some of the tests that a new variety of apple or pear will have to go through—(1) It must be healthy and a vigorous grower; (2) it must not be susceptible to disease; (3) it must be easily propagated; (4) it must have an attractive appearance; (5) it must be a good keeper; (6) it must have a nice flesh and have a good flavour for eating and for cooking, and finally it must be in season when other better quality fruits are scarce, and it must be a good packer.

No, the raising of a good new variety is not to be obtained by chance now-a-days, but only by the up-to-date scientific methods of plant breeders who are specialists in the subject. They have made a life-time study of plant breeding, know all about the parentage of the varieties they are going to cross, and have a very good idea of what to expect from a cross of such and such a variety, but there is no harm in the amateur trying if he cares to chance his arm, and then wait a life time to test out the results of his work.

GRAFTING BY BUDDING.

What we can do more profitably is to increase the already proved varieties and this is easily done by grafting.

Budding is the easiest method of grafting, and it is performed at this time of year.

Even plant breeders who have raised a new variety of, say, an apple from seed, use budding to hurry up the fruiting of the new tree and, of course, make the new arrival much hardier. Yes, seedling apple and tree fruits are induced to fruit at a much younger age by grafting them on to other suitable root-stocks, and they are generally hardier and longer lived trees on those roots.

ROOT STOCKS.

As most varieties of tree fruits are hybrids they won't come true from seeds. They are also difficult to raise from cuttings; therefore, the easiest and quickest method of increase is to bud them on special root stocks which are raised for the purpose.

Not so many years ago, nurserymen budded the named varieties of apples on two stocks mostly. These were seedling crab-apples i.e., young crab-apple trees raised from the seed of crab-apples, or for that matter, from seed from any apple.

When the seedlings were two or three years old they were budded with buds from the named varieties of apples, and the resultant trees were sold as very vigorous growing trees on crab-stocks. Another stock called the "Paradise" stock was also used, and this was supposed to produce apple trees of less vigour than those on the crab-apple stocks, and were for this reason supposed to produce apples earlier or in fewer years than those budded on crab apple stocks. As a matter of fact these forecasts very seldom worked out in practice, and an orchard of the same variety, same age, on the same crab stocks and which received the very same treatment regarding planting, manuring, pruning and spraying, and all growing in the same soil more often than not produced apple trees of different size, vigour, and fruitfulness, and this was traced to the varying influence of the different seedling root stocks.

Generally speaking trees for a small garden or for cordons should be on No. IX stocks, and those for grass or other large orchards should be grafted on one of the other root stocks.

GAELIC LEAGUE NOTES

(BY "AN CABAC RUADH.")

Tidings From Coolea.

Down in West Cork, approximately halfways between Macroom and Killarney, midst the hills of our Gaelic tongue, are 40 children from County Limerick. Next Monday morning half-a-hundred "Limerick Leaders" will find their way into those Irish-speaking homes in that portion of Coolea called Doire An Chuilinn (the wood or grove of the holly), where those Limerick children are staying. Many a happy day I spent there, many stories did I hear, and many were the jolly nights spent at a scoruidheacht at some old Seanachie's house, like that of Amhlaoibh O Loinoigh, who won several prizes at the Oireachtas of the Gaelic League for his story-telling.

School of Poetry.

Here too is a Dumh-Scoil or school of Irish poetry, consisting of such learned modern Irish poets as "Torna," "Gael no nGael," "An Suibhneach Meann" and Sean Eoghan O Suileabhain, who, many a time thrilled us with his singing of his own compositions. This school is convened twice yearly in the old traditional style of summoning the poets to attend. Their poetry is recited in public and appreciated by the old and the young.

Gaels From Tipperary.

The Coisde na bPaisde scheme is being undertaken also in Tipperary, and side by side with our own Limerick Paisde are the Paisde of the homes of Tipperary.

On next Sunday a hurling match will be played between those young lads of Tipperary and Limerick, and there will be more rivalry there, you can take it from me, than there will be in Thurles on Sunday. I remember one year we were down there together with the Tipperary boys and girls. The same match was played and was won by Limerick, while away in Thurles for the Munster final Limerick defeated Cork. The joy of the Limerick lads was unbounded, and be it always to their credit that in the full excitement of the match, and thrills of hearing of Limerick's victory in Thurles, not one word of English ever escaped their lips.

Luimneach, Abu!

Let us hope when the second next "Leader" reaches them that they will read of another Limerick victory in Thurles, and that we at home will also read of their victory on Sunday next against Tipperary in Muscraidhe Ui Thloinn, and that in three counties the old war cry of Limerick, abu! resounded through hills and o'er plains.

Shields "Discovered."

Two magnificent shields, the property of the Limerick City branch of the Gaelic League, were shown to me by Mr. Irwin, jeweller, Patrick St., Limerick. Both shields were made by Mr. Irwin, and are a tribute to his craftsmanship. One of them in particular is an excellent piece of work, the like of which I have never seen before. I understand that both shields were placed in the vaults of some city bank for safety during the "troubled times," and only very recently saw the light of day once more.

O'Brien's Bridge Feis.

The programme for this Feis is now available, and is a credit to the local committee. Besides the usual items of dancing, singing, etc., they have included a "bagpipes" (solo) competition and Anglo-Irish Ballads competition. The Feis will be held on August 4th, and the speaker is Padraig O Cearbhaill (Vocational organiser), whom I have heard once before giving a brilliant and well-balanced lecture on "Thomas Davis."

Organisers of the Gaelic League.

I have just come across an amusing incident recorded by Sean O Cearbhail (Go ndeinid Dia Trocaire ar a anam). The paths of Sean and Peadar O h-Annrachain (both excellent organisers) sometimes crossed. Sean, on a visit to a place that had recently been organised by Peadar, was delivering an oration. He produced a map of the world and pointed out all the English speaking countries on it, and then showed them England—a small island—that had brought all those people into slavery and enforced its own language and customs on them. One old man remained, when the meeting was over to congratulate Sean, saying: "Dom that Peadar—he had no map!" He had heard Peadar, too, but was not stirred till he saw the map.

Co. Donegal Committee of the Red Cross is making arrangements for the reception of 200 displaced children from the Continent.

OBITUARY

MRS. ELSIE CASEY.

With deep regret we announce the death of Mrs. Elsie Casey, Verona Esplanade, Limerick, which occured on the 4th inst. after a brief illness. Deceased was wife of Mr. Joe Casey (Messrs. Clune and Co., William St., Limerick), and daughter of the late Mr. Joe Quilty, representative of Cork Steampacket Co. in Limerick, and a prominent member of the Amnesty Association which laboured successfully for the release of political prisoners nearly half a century ago.

The possessor of a lovely disposition, Mrs. Casey made innumerable friends during the course of her life, and while it is true that her interests were mainly concerned with her family and home, those who became acquainted with her were deeply impressed by her sincerity of manner, and her charitable and kindly outlook. To her bereaved husband and family sincere sympathy will be extended in their great bereavement, in which we fully share.

The immense concourse of people present at the removal of the remains from Barrington's Hospital to St. Michael's Church on Thursday, 4th inst., and at the funeral to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery on the following day provided ample testimony as to the esteem in which deceased, her husband and family are held, many attending from Co. Clare and Co. Limerick, while from the city itself every section of the community was represented.

The following Mass cards were placed on the coffin: Miss E. Hurley, Limerick; Miss L. Hurley, Directors, John Clune Ltd.; staff, do.; P. and M. J. Moloney, P. and K. McMahon, Carmel and Eileen, Staff James McMahon, Ltd., Mr. and Mrs. P. MacNeice, T. Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. McDonnell, Paddy O'Neill, K. Whelan, K. and J. O'Dea, J. and K. Coghlan, O'Driscoll family, Marie MacNeice and family, Mary and Denis Murphy and family, Josephine Portley, Nora and Ita O'Connor, Mr. and Mrs. Hogan, Bee Moynihan and Mrs. O'Sullivan, Bee Moynihan and Co., Ltd., Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Barry, Margaret Ryan, Constitution Hockey Club, Limerick Ladies Hockey Club, Kevin, Mick, Paddy and Brendan Slattery family, Brinn family, Mrs. Gale and family, Will and Pat Fitzgerald, Una and Paddy Barry, Mr. and Mrs. J. Moynihan, P. J. Costelloe and family, Carmel Dooley, Sadlier family, Counihan family, Stephen and Mary O'Sullivan, Stephen Nicholas and family, Michael and Moira, Cooke family, Geary family, Clontarf Place, Keane family, E. Hayes, Michael and Mai O'Sullivan, Jack and May, Mrs. Leahy and family, Paddy and Margie, Peg Molloy, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Treacy, Denis and family, Greta, Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor, Stella Control staff, Mr. and Mrs. Denis Foley, Mrs. Hanrahan, Kathleen and Louie, Joan Hayes, Larkin family, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Verona; Mr. and Mrs. Foley, do.; Mr. and Mrs. Barry, do.; W. Mulcahy and family, Mr. and Mrs. Crowley, Mr. and Mrs. Hickey, Higgins family, Grannie and Delia, Sixmilebridge, O'Dea family, Casey family, The Square; Jimmy, Bridget and Paddy, Carmody family, Rev. Fr. Reidy, Martin and Annie Casey, M. and A. Breen, Joe Kenny, Ennis; Lily Callanan, do.; Bill and Maureen O'Dwyer, Lahinch; Anthony and J. Cullinane, Waterford; E. and J. Delaney, Thomastown; Rose and Peter, Dublin; T. Keyes, Limerick; Limerick Operatic Society, Burke family, Ald. D. Bourke, T.D.; Ald. M. Hartney, M. O'Shaughnessy, Kilkee; Una Kearney.

Telegrams and letters—J. C. Barrett, Glin; P. Conway and C. Casey, do.; Dermot Hurley, Paddy Quin, Foynes; Kearys, Portumna; Murnane's Kilkee; Hassett family, do.; Frances Lawlor, do.; Mrs. Collins, do.; Mrs. Gohan, Feakle; Mrs. Holohan, do.; Cleary, Borrisokane; Foley, Loretto; Rev. Bro. Priest, Jim Purcell, O'Shea family, Jas. O'Regan, Sixmilebridge; Dan Ryan, Kilrush; Paddy Madigan, Spiddal; Geary family, St. Annes; Casey, Newport; Miss O'Neill, Limerick; Kathleen Gabbett, Mrs. Downey, Arnold, Ashleigh; Mrs. Sadlier, Imperial Hotel; J. O'Reilly, Anne Barry, Aherne families, Dromcollogher Jim and Josie, do.; Smith, O'Callaghan Mills; Curlin, Bodyke; Gleeson, Nenagh; Clandillon, Athea; K. Cleary, Dublin; Pat McMahon, do.; Jack Murnane, Clonmel; O'Reilly, Limerick; Sr. Veronica, Laurel Hill.

A beautiful floral tribute was sent by Mr. and Mrs. Hurley, "Ardbrae," Limerick.

The clergy in attendance were:—Rev. Fr. Moynihan, C.C.; Rev. Dr. Fitzgerald (St. Joseph's); Rev. Fr. Quin, Sixmilebridge, and Rev. Fr. Moroney, Scariff.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

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