

GARDENING NOTES

Seasonal Guidance

(By J. J. O'CARROLL, R.Sc.O.)

COMPATIBLE VARIETIES OF "TOP FRUITS."

As mentioned in last week's gardening article, most of our "top fruits" are self-sterile, i.e., they must be cross-fertilised before they can produce a crop.

In planting fruit trees we must, therefore, plant compatible varieties and as I promised last week to give a list of varieties that will cross pollinate one another, I will now name some such varieties of the most popular sorts.

APPLES.

Any of the following apple varieties will pollinate each other, at least, two of them are planted in the same garden. I will put the varieties in three groups, early flowering, mid-season flowering and late flowering. When choosing only two varieties to plant, it could be well to select them from one of the groups.

Group I (Early Flowering)—Dessert, Beauty of Bath, Brown's Russet, Irish Peach, Egremont Russet, Margil, St. Edmund's Russet and Straine's Pippin, Cookers, Bismark, Golden Spire, and ev. W. Wilks.

Group II (Mid-season Flowering)—Dessert, Allington Pippin, Charles Ross, Cox's Orange Pippin, Ellison's Orange, King of the Pippins, Lady Sudeley, Laxton's Superb, Rival, and St. Cecilia. Cookers, Early Victoria, Grenadier, and Prince Albert, Lord Derby, Lord Grosvenor, Newton Wonder, and Stirling Castle.

Group III (Late Flowering)—Dessert, American Mother, Worcester Pearmain, Cellini Pippin, Orleans Reinette, Royal Jubilee and Gascoyne's Scarlet. Cookers, Annie Elizabeth, also a dessert, Northern Greening, Cox's Pomona and Crawley Beauty.

There is another selection of apple varieties which are not good pollinators, and if planted, they must be accompanied by, at least, two of the above mentioned varieties from the similar group. Here they are in their different flowering groups:—

(1)—Early Flowering—Ribston Pippin, Belle De Boskoop and Washington.

Mid-season Flowering—Blenheim Orange, Bramley's Seedling, King of Tomkins County, Warner's King and Crimson Bramley.

Here is a suggested list of suitable pollinators for the above eight varieties. For Ribston Pippin, Belle De Boskoop and Washington the following two pollinators would suffice, Irish Peach and Golden Spire. Their pollen would fertilise the flowers of any of the trees and the Irish peach would pollinate the Golden Spire or Vice versa.

For Blenheim Orange, Bramley's Seedling, King of Tomkins County, Warner's King and Crimson Bramley any of the following varieties would be suitable to pollinate them:—Allington Pippin, Charles Ross, Ellison's Orange, Lady Sudeley, Laxton's Superb or Rival, but, at least, two of the latter varieties must be planted so to cross-pollinate each other.

PEARS.

The same principles apply to the setting of pear blossom and any of the following varieties will pollinate each other if, at least, two of each of the same group be planted near each other:—

Group I (Early Flowering)—Conférence Beurre Hardy, Duronian, Louise Bon of Jersey, Beurre d'Angé and Emile D. Heyst.

Group II (Mid-season Flowering)—Laxton's Superb, Seckle, Clapp'savourite, and William's Bon Crenon.

Group III (Late Flowering)—Fidelity, Hessele, Glou Morceau, Jules Guyot, Doyenne du Nice, and Winter Nelis.

The following varieties of pears have no pollen or are bad pollinators:—Vicar of Winkfield, Beurre d'Amanlis, Conseiller De La Condamnation, Duchesse, Beurre d'El Jargonelle; therefore, if planting any of them be sure to plant, at least, compatible varieties with them.

Here are suggested pollinators for each of the varieties mentioned. With Vicar of Winkfield, Beurre d'Amanlis and Conseiller De La Condamnation, Conference and Jargonelle; therefore, if planting any of them be sure to plant, at least, compatible varieties with them.

and Jargonelle it would be best to plant four varieties such as the following: Conférence, Laxton's Superb, Fertility and William's Bon Chretien.

PLUMS.

The following list of plums which is presented below will set a full crop of fruit if, at least, two varieties out of the same group are planted near each other:—

Group I (Early Flowering)—Monarch, Early Transparent Gage and Denniston's Superb.

Group II (Mid-season Flowering)—Victoria and Blaisdon Red.

Group III (Late Flowering)—Pershire, Purple Pershire, Laxton's Gage, Czar, Belle de Louvain and Golden Transparent.

Some of the above varieties of plums have been found in practice to set a full crop of plums although they have been planted alone. Victoria is an example and if only one variety is contemplated this is the one I would suggest.

If readers are interested in any of the finer varieties not mentioned here I would be glad to advise them on suitable pollinators for them. Incidentally, will correspondents please note that if answers are required through the post a stamped address envelope must be enclosed with the query.

OTHER FRUITS.

Cherries are seldom grown here except on walls. These, too, must have suitable pollinators, but all the "bush" and "cane" fruits are self fertile.

BEES AS POLLINATORS.

For thorough cross-pollination it is necessary that the pollen of one variety is carried to the stigmas of the flowers of a compatible variety and bees are the principle carriers.

This being so, it will be necessary to have some bees either wild or hived near the orchard. Bees do not travel in search of pollen or honey more than two miles as a rule. In wet weather they may not be able to travel so far as this. Therefore, it is always safer for orchardists to keep bees of their own, and it is reckoned that it is necessary to have, at least, one hive of bees to the acre.

SHELTER.

In spite of interplanting compatible varieties of fruit, an orchard may not set a full crop of fruit for the following seasons. The trees may be too young and too vigorous, they may be too weakened by disease and pest attack, the blossoms may be frosted or damaged by wind.

One should, therefore, not plant trees in a frost pocket; the site should be sheltered by a shelter-belt from strong winds, and a proper programme of spraying should be carried out each year.

Young over-vigorous trees may be brought into bearing by proper pruning, root pruning or bark ringing, and weak, undernourished trees should be vigorated by giving them a proper balanced diet by way of farmyard manure and or artificial fertilisers.

Grassing down an orchard often brings it into fruiting early in its life or young trees may be lifted bodily out of the ground at this time of year, the long roots cut and the trees replanted immediately.

SHELTER BELTS.

In planting shelter for a garden or orchard one looks for quick-growing trees or hedge plants.

Whitethorn planted at 1 ft. apart makes a fine windbreak and an impenetrable hedge fairly quickly.

Where there is room it would be well to also plant three lines of trees inside the hedge.

The following is a suggested quick-growing shelter belt. A line of Black Italian poplars on the inside of the hedge, a line of sitka spruce or Cupressus Macrocarpa inside this and for the inner row I suggest a line of Cupressus Lawsoniana or even Larch where it does well. The poplars will grow so quickly as to give shelter to the orchard and the other trees in two to four years and they can be cut out altogether when the other shelter trees grow big enough.

The Cupressus Macrocarpa must be kept topped at ten to twelve feet or they will get bare at the bottom.

FATAL FALL

Post Office Worker Killed

EVIDENCE AT INQUEST

SHORTLY before he died in the County Infirmary on Tuesday, Patrick Fitzgerald, Gardenhill, Castleconnell, was able to tell the doctor all about the accident which was causing his death. And the doctor told deceased's story at an inquest held on Wednesday evening by Mr. J. S. McNeice, solicitor, Deputy City Coroner, and a jury in the Co. Infirmary.

Mr. Fitzgerald, aged 40 and leaving a wife and children, fell off a telegraph pole on Tuesday morning and injured his spine. He was a retired sergeant from the Irish army, and a native of Co. Kerry. When he retired from the army he became employed in the Engineering Department of the Post Office as an unestablished skilled workman.

At the inquest, his brother, John Fitzgerald, gave evidence of identification. He said deceased left home on Tuesday morning at 7.40 for work.

CLEAR ACCOUNT.

Dr. Eamon O'Connor said he saw the deceased in the Co Infirmary at about one o'clock on Tuesday. He was then conscious and gave witness a very clear account of his accident.

"He told me," said Dr. O'Connor, "that he had fallen from a telegraph pole, head downwards, a distance of about twenty feet on to the road surface, that his chin struck his chest and that he found himself paralysed from the neck downwards."

Dr. O'Connor added that on doing a post mortem examination of deceased, he found a fracture and dislocation of the vertebrae, and a complete laceration of the spinal cord. Death was due to cardiac failure following these injuries.

Robert Lynn, 18 Quin's Cottages, Prospect, foreman of the gang of Post Office Workers of which deceased was one, described how the accident occurred. He said the men were working on a job at Newgarden Cross. Fitzgerald went up to the top of a ladder which was placed against the top of the pole and arranged his safety belt. He fixed portion of a swivel, and when he had finished he began to descend, undoing the safety belt. Witness told him to stay where he was and fix the second portion of the swivel before coming down. At the same time he told Richard Power, who had been standing at the bottom of the ladder, to hand up the other portion of the swivel.

HEARD A SHOUT.

"After giving these instructions I turned my back," said witness. "When I had gone a few yards I heard a shout and on looking back I saw the deceased lying on his back on the ground, touching the kerbstone. He was quite conscious and said: 'I fell and hurt my shoulder.'"

Richard Power, 21 Mallow St., gave corroborative evidence. He said that when he had given deceased the second portion of the swivel he descended. When he had reached the lower rungs of the ladder he heard a thud beside him and saw Fitzgerald lying on the ground on his back.

The jury returned a verdict of death from cardiac failure following injuries accidentally received when deceased fell from a telegraph pole in the course of his employment with the Department of Posts and Telegraphs.

They added a rider recommending deceased to the consideration of the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs.

SYMPATHY AND TRIBUTE.

The Coroner and jury sympathised with the relatives of the deceased and joining with them on behalf of the Garda, Superintendent Collieran said deceased was a very popular man in Castleconnell. He had, he said, served his country well during his ten years in the army, in which he was an exemplary non commissioned officer.

THE BRITISH LEGION

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.")

Dear Mr. Editor—I was, indeed, glad to see the letter concerning the work of the British Legion in your esteemed paper, and I hope that you will publish this letter in your next issue and the thanks of

ODDS AND ENDS

Light To The Countryside

(By "AN MANGAIRE SUGACH")

LAST week I stopped short, midway through my list of prize-winners in recent local history competition. Here are the remainder of the winners.—P. J. London, Cullen, Tipperary; Catherine P. Giltenane, Farm Lodge, Adare (pupil in Convent of Mercy, Adare); M. O'Leary, Castlefarm, Hospital; Michael John Fitzgerald, Galtee House, 26 Ranelagh Gdns., Barnes, London, S.W. 13; Kathleen Rose, The Gardens, Adare.

Book prizes go to all above, and consolation book prizes to the following.—John K. Murphy, Doona-keena Nth., Templeglantine; Sean O Scannlain, No. 5 Cork Board of Fishery Conservators, 53 South Mail, Cork; Sean O Culhane, Morgans, Borrigone; Anna O Kelly, Moore Street, Kilrush; "Ide," Killeedy; Siobhan Corrigan, 48 O'Connell Street, Limerick; Thomas O. C. Leahy, Tiermore, Kilmallock; M. J. M., Newcastle (if he sends name and address); Timothy Costello, Ballyclough, Askeaton; Maureen Quaid, Graigue, Adare; John Ryan, Patrickswell. Please note that the names given here are not listed in order of merit.

DREAMS COME TRUE

Rural electrification has now reached our part of the world. The poles are standing in the fields, and it is hoped that the houses will be lighted before Christmas. The advent of such a modern amenity has had a mixed reception. A great many are overjoyed at the prospect, and, already, are deriving pleasure at the mere thought of fingering a switch and filling kitchen, parlour or bedroom with the long-desired, brilliant light. No more will they have to grope their way into hen houses and cow houses at night, with match and spluttering candle. A move of the magic switch and night is turned into day! Bit by bit they plan to fill the house and farmyard with electrical gadgets that will make rural life so much easier. At night they will be able to listen in to their wireless without fearing that the battery will fail. In short, it seems to those who look at it in this way, that the coming of the "clean white light" is the realisation of a dream, and that only a fool would not avail himself of it.

AN TAObh EILE

The other point of view is that it is too costly, and not worth getting in. Added to this view, in many cases, is the reluctance of the countryman to change his present way of living. "Yerra, sure," he says, "a lamp and a candle did us always, and they'll do us for the rest of the time. Let them that'll come after us get it in if they want to." That is his way of looking at it. In ten years time I wonder will he still look at it in the same way?

SEEKING A BOOK

For a long time I have made a vain search for a book called "Rambles In The South Of Ireland." It was written in the last century by, I think, an English lady. I can give precious little information about it, except that it contains Crofton Croker's poem: "When First I Saw Kilmallock's Walls." I want to check up on a piece of information in that book, and if any reader could lend it to me for a day or two I'd be very grateful.

FEAR NA RANAIGHE.

Inniu la saoirse Eaglaise—La na Naomh. Bhios ag obair an la ar fad istigh sa chathair; ach ni raibh aoinne des na comharsain a d'fhag me ag baile ar maidin ag obair, mar coinnighéann muintir na tuaithe la saoirse eaglaise mar is coir. Ta a lan d'oidhreacht na nGall i seibh cathracha na hEireann fos, agus is maith is mithid doibh e do chaitheamh uatha.

Fuairesas litir le deanai o "Fanaire o Luimnigh." Do leigh se "Bean na dTri mBo" sa cholun so tamall o shoin, is do chuir se an sceal so i gciumhne do. Bhi meithiol ag feirmcoir la, ag bualadh coirce. Glaodhadh chun dinneir ortha. Cuireadh fear san doras, a dtreoru, na feirmeoiri sa pharlus, agus na sglabhaithe sa bhiaid. Bhi meithiol ag feirmcoir la, ag bualadh coirce. Glaodhadh chun dinneir ortha. Cuireadh fear san doras, a dtreoru, na feirmeoiri sa pharlus, agus na sglabhaithe sa bhiaid.

Limerick, As to-day we find different accents among English speakers in the County, so was it among the Gaelic speakers of the past; the pronunciation of some of their Irish words varied slightly from place to place, giving to their speech a pleasing diversity.

NORTH-WEST AND SOUTH-WEST.

The local pronunciation of place-names and of Irish words and phrases that are still current, often helps us in determining just what kind of Irish was spoken in our townland, or parish or barony. The Irish spoken in North-West Limerick, along by the Shannon, resembled closely the Irish that one may still hear to-day around Carrigaholt or Kibbaha in Clare. This is only what we would expect, seeing that there was much contact, much crossing and re-crossing, between one bank of the Shannon and the other, through the centuries. For a close approximation to the Irish that sounded, not so long ago, in South-West Limerick, one need only visit the Coolea Gaeltacht in West Cork.

IN THE LIMERICK DECIES.

The Irish formerly spoken over the greater part of East Limerick was the musical dialect of the Decies, which still sounds sweetly in the homes round Rinn O gCuanach in Waterford. In January, 1946, Eamon de Valera stated at a public meeting in Waterford City that he had had enquiries made as to the Irish spoken around Bruree, where his youth was spent, and found it was the Irish of the Decies. Some of us may not have heard of the Limerick Decies, but all of us, I am sure, have heard of Deisi Mumhan, as the Waterford Decies are known; for there is situated the justly famous college of Ring, with Seamus O hEochadha—An Fear Mor—a West Limerick man, as Headmaster.

MUSICAL DIALECT.

The territory of the Deisi, an ancient tribe, who originally came from Meath, extended from Waterford almost to Limerick City. The Irish spoken in this territory was very musical: Aodh de Blacam, author of "Gaelic Literature Surveyed" considers it the most musical of the Irish dialects. For those unacquainted (alas!) with Irish it might be of interest to give a few examples of the Decies pronunciation of certain words. Cill-a-church—is pronounced "Kile" in the Decies and "Keel" elsewhere; Binn—sweet (of sound)—is pronounced "Bine" in the Decies and "Been" in most other places; Rinne—a dance—is "Roynka" in the Decies and "reenka" elsewhere. Even to this day not a few of the Irish words that still survive in English conversation in East Limerick have that peculiar Decies ring.

EXTENT OF LIMERICK DECIES.

Part of the Decies incorporated in Limerick came to be known as Deisi Beg, and comprised portions of Small County and adjoining baronies. Canon Begley makes Deisi Beg co-extensive with the parishes of Bruff, Ballingaddy, Uregare and Eflin. The parish of Athneasy, east of Kilmallock, is called by the Four Masters, Beal Atha na nDeiseach—the Mouth of the Ford of the Decies; and John O'Donovan, writing in 1840, says that the Morning Star River, which flows through Small County to join the Maigue, was at that time called by the local Irish speakers—Abha na nDeiseach, the River of the Decies. I might mention here that the old name for this river was An Samhair, later changed to Camhair, which means dawn or daybreak; hence the modern appellation—Morning Star.

THE BINN-LISIN

On the Morning Star lies Bruff, called in Irish, Brugh na nDeise—the Residence of the Deisi. Just outside Bruff is a celebrated fairy lios, known to all the countryside as the Binn-Lisin; and even to-day, among English speakers the "binn" gets its distinctive Decies pronunciation. It was of this famous lios that the Gaelic stonemason poet of Bruff, Brian O'Flaherty, wrote: "La meidreach da ndeagh-sa liom foib."

HUN

Recall

IN the previous course friends (wonderful) (Jim) Carr vault of his yard last. The late time and being a day and his standing is one in the days of Hogan, C. Matt Mit Moloney, Eflin; J. Hederman, Coll, J. Moloney, who thy hunters to their spoken of

AFTER

It was a days and fresh and large number of Cork and riding his bred hunter of racing, Paddy thoroughbred winner of the Atty Per was leading day, and blank, a fine noe. When the hound were let a good start at the he some time Kilmallock was joined. The three Kilmallock road and into Carr came a bit famous B overflew double on the double on one side and with not evident and decide panions w the result racing, no keep his water, put "Kuropatki jumped in and Coll trench. Th perilous p with the l ing and th irons. Carroll their comr McCarthy sleeping their resp horns or May they

THE

The reman roll were and Paul's interment ing day in in the pres most rep that was a which the Officiating Rev. J. C. V.F. Bru Foley, P.P. J. Moloney R. Sears Mission; Bruff, and do.; Rev. Knockaney The chie M. S. Carr Mr. P. Car B. Walsh Carroll, M in-law); E. Walsh, E. Miss I. B.

LATE

The fune J. Murnane West, who reported issue, took West Chur tery and