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# THE ~ NUT ~ GROWER

Devoted to the Interests of the  
National Nut-Growers' Association

Volume 4

AUGUST, 1905

Number 1

## Some Facts About Pecans

### SECOND ARTICLE

AS said in a former article for THE NUT-GROWER, pecan nuts have become very popular with the grocery trade, after these nuts have undergone a process of cleaning and polishing. While polished pecans are mixed with other nuts as walnuts, filberts, hickory, brazils and almonds, selling together under the name of mixed nuts, the pecans improve the appearance of the mixture to a great extent.

The polishing of pecans is either natural or with a light red brown color. I have stated before, that about 75 per cent. of all pecans are used by confectioners, caterers, bakers, etc., all sold shelled, or rather under the name of pecan meat. This pecan meat is put up in regularly three different ways, either in wholes (the whole body of the kernel in one piece,) or in full halves, or in pecan pieces. The pieces are used by bakers, or for caramels, or ground in many other ways for kitchen use; the pecan halves are carefully

cleaned from all small pieces of the shell in the windings of the face, and used to be put on top of sugar drops, chocolate balls, or sugar coated, or in chocolate dipped with lemon and other flavors, and they are considered to be the finest combination of first class confectionery. The wholes are used for salting, or as desert in hotels, restaurants, or on fine private tables. To get out these wholes from the shells with no cuts in the meat, it takes especially constructed machines to do such work, as to open the nuts with a hammer would be to cut the meat to pieces.

In the reports of the United States Agricultural Department for 1891, it said, "The industry of preparing kernels or meat of pecans for market, though yet in its infancy, has assumed large proportions. It was begun by Mr. Koerber at Austin Texas in 1884, and his books show that in 1887 he prepared 20,000 pounds, and in 1890 more than 100,000 pounds of meat." Since I have transferred this business from Austin, Texas, to New York, the

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demand for pecan meat has greatly increased; our machines constructed and patented have been improved to great perfection and we are able now to take contracts of any amount for delivery of pecan meat.

The walnut meat coming from France is, however, a great competitor, as that article is so much lower, although it is subjected to five cents per pound import duty; at present imported shelled walnut halves are laid down here at about twelve cents per pound and adding the five cents duty and a small profit, they are sold at 19c to 20c per pound for low grades, and at 25c to 32c for the finer grades, while pecan meat, to calculate three pounds of nuts to one pound of meat, at the present price for pecans, 10 cents at New York, and adding cost of manufacturing, 7 cents, the cost for pecan meat is 37c to 38c.

But in spite of the competition of walnuts and of almonds, both imported at a lower price, there is a good demand for pecan meat, as certain kinds of candies and confectionery articles have become popular, to which pecans give the main feature; also it has become customary to serve salted pecans at dinners, festivals, or at high-toned entertainments, where they are much preferred to salted almonds,

which were used formerly.

The pecan pieces have found the last few years another application—for pecan butter. Peanut butter has been in the market many years, selling at 12 to 20 cents per pound; but the taste was never much liked, while now pecan butter of a pure and agreeable taste has come very much in demand and is preferred.

In a later article I will speak about the sanitary conditions of pecan meat, and its applications for health purposes.

R. C. KOERBER,  
New York.

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**The Halbert Pecan**

**T**HERE is a commendable inquiry among prospective pecan growers after the best pecan that can possibly be obtained. Owing to conflicting interests in different varieties, all of which may have merit, the grower is confused by each nurseryman putting forth the claim that his is the best of all. So it may be for the locality where grown; but it may not be so good, or is perhaps worthless, with other environments of soil and climate.

I have always advocated contests for the different varieties along certain standards agreed upon, but the advocates of the several varieties avoid this as if afraid of it. I never fail to enter my variety on all occasions.

I am not so wedded to the pecan that originated on my farm and was named after me that I would not surrender it readily for a better variety to propagate. Whether this variety will retain all its good qualities in all localities I do not know. This point is now undergoing careful tests in widely different localities and conditions. Where soil and climate are better, I expect even better results. The soil is thin and shallow and the climate semi arid where the tree grows.

As there seems to be a demand for description and merits of different varieties, I wish to set forth the claims I make for the Halbert pecan. The nut is almost round, somewhat oblong in shape with no surplus shell—in fact as little as possible to cover so large and plump a kernel. The pith or bitter corky substance is exceedingly thin between the kernel, hence the waste is at a minimum. The shell is exceedingly thin and brittle, easily crushed in the palm of the hand and shell flipped off with the finger nails, exposing the kernels full and fat, unbroken and adhering together. The kernels can then be separated into full halves and pith drops out from between. It is the easiest of all nuts to extract without breaking a kernel.

From the above description it

naturally follows that the yield of kernel is the highest; very few equal it and none excell it in this respect. The per cent. of kernel in the individual nuts run from  $62\frac{1}{2}$  to  $66\frac{2}{3}$  per cent. The weight of selected nuts are 54 to the pound—average 60 nuts from the run of trees, thus classing in size a large medium. The nuts are uniform in size, of a brownish color with black dashes at blossom end. The tree is one of the most prolific, regular and constant bearers in existence. It is a most profuse bloomer, the catkins are dense among the leaves and extending way down the naked limbs, hence the pollen is scattered in dense yellow clouds to reach the female blooms. These appear on the end of every twig of new growth all up and down the body of the tree, as well as at the outer end of the large limbs. These are in clusters of seven to each twig—an extraordinary number for so large a pecan. From three to five in a cluster for large and medium pecans is good. Eight female blooms to a cluster is the outside limit for any tree as a rule, though occasionally I have seen nine to a cluster, and one cluster is on record of 75 nuts, and possibly the blooms were more. I have owned this tree 18 years, and have gathered 18 consecutive crops. The tree

bloomed and set equally full crops each year. Insects, however, destroy them more some years than others. I have now some 80 trees, budded, bearing and coming into bearing this year, which keep up with the prolific qualities of the mother tree.

H. A. HALBERT.

Coleman, Texas.

### The Propagation of The Pecan

[CONTINUED FROM LAST MONTH]

It often happens that there is a great disparity in the size or diameter of budding wood and that of seedling tree, or branch, in which case patch and semi-annular buds may be used. Patch budding has been previously described. The semi-annular method consists in leaving a piece of seedling bark (free from seedling buds) on the tree and applying the entire or greater part of cylinder of bark from budding wood to stock, leaving only enough of the seedling bark to come to vertical edges of transplanted bud. This is, in reality, a form of patch budding. In preparing the seedling for this kind of bud it does not matter if tree is entirely girdled by the cutting edges of the parallel-bladed budding tool. A quick and accurate fit is easily obtained by detaching vertical slips of bark in the event of bud not fit-

ting properly into its place with the first removal of bark. As an illustration, the practical eye can come within the smallest fraction of an inch in fitting a bud from a  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch or  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch stick of budding wood to a  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch or 1 inch stock. A perfectly tight fit of vertical edges of transplanted bud to edges of seedling bark is not advisable before wrapping, for the waxed cloth or other material used for wrapping the bud will be apt to draw it closer to the stock, and if an allowance is not made for this (say one-sixteenth to one-eighth of an inch), the bark of transplanted bud is apt to bulge out somewhere and not be in uniform and close contact with cambial layer of stock, with the result that all points not in contact will die. If on the other hand too much space is left between vertical edges of bud and seedling bark, and the bud should be wrapped too tight, the transplanted bud is apt to be split down the axis of bud and the bud proper ruined. Too tight wrapping is as bad as if too loose. There is a happy and rational medium in fitting and wrapping annular, semi-annular, patch or veneer buds on the pecan. Another fruitful cause of failure in pecan budding results from the improper removal or detachment of the bud from the stick of budding wood, as a

result of which the eye of bud is pulled out or injured. If buds have to be forced by leverage from budding wood, or if bark of seedling does not "slip" easily, as is the case in early spring and late fall, (it will not slip at all in the winter), the danger of injuring the delicate tissue of inner bark and eye of bud is very great. Trees (and budding wood) are in ideal condition for budding when the bark is easily slipped (without force) after the cuts are made. The bark should part from wood very readily, and the surface of aburnum or sap wood (which is exposed when bark is removed), should be moist and slippery with protoplasmic or cell-forming matter, which, upon being covered with the transplanted bud, immediately begins to sustain the bud and deposit new cells of woody tissue in the wounds made. After the bark is cut, both horizontally and vertically, by pressing and twisting at the same time, buds may be detached from budding wood with the least possible injury, but by directly lifting or pulling them off the bud connection with sap wood, or eyes of bud is frequently pulled out, and while the jacket of bark may live, no bud proper is left to grow.

I think it will be conceded that narrow strips of adhesive

waxed cloth for wrapping all forms of pecan buds give far better results than raffia, string or other material, as no wax other than that contained in the cloth is needed and no knots are necessary, and if well wrapped all wounds are hermetically sealed.

The method of budding suggested by Mr. Geo. W. Oliver, in Bulletin 30, Bureau of Plant Industry, differs in no way from the usual patch method except in leaving wings of seedling bark on each side of patch, which are folded over the sides of transplanted bud, thus, presumably, affording temporary moisture. These wings of bark, however, commence to discolor and die soon after they are lifted from the tree, and must be cut off when the bud is unwrapped or soon afterwards, or an unsightly union will result. I have tried the method and find no better success than with the ordinary method of making a complete excision of bark in the first place. In subsequently cutting off these dead wings of bark fresh wounds are most certain to be made, and a further healing process is more or less necessary before an absolutely perfect and pretty union is complete. It is likely, however, that in a different or dryer climate than that of the lower South, Mr. Oliver's suggestion is a valuable one. Buds should be

unwrapped as soon as good unions have formed, which is determined by the complete filling up of all cuts or wounds with new cellular matter. No arbitrary rule can be laid down as to the length of time wrappings should be left on, for it will vary from ten days to three weeks, according to condition and vigor of trees, governed a good deal by weather conditions. It may be necessary to unwrap and cut off part of the top of a rapidly growing tree before a fully perfect union forms, for otherwise it may become top-heavy and blow off, by reason of the interruption of the downward flow of assimilated sap and the enlargement of the tree immediately above the bud by the abnormal deposition of woody matter on account of the undue constriction made with the wrapping material when bud is put in or by a clumsy fit of bud. The subsequent growth of the bud is almost entirely in the hands of the operator, for by the cutting back of the seedling top to three or four leaves, after a good union has formed, and by keeping rubbed, or cut off, all seedling buds appearing in the axils of leaves, both above and below transplanted bud, the bud is forced out, and often very rapid growth begins right away, so much so that it is nearly always necessary to support it with a

stick or by tying it to the seedling stub, which is usually left above the bud the first season.

The pecan may be root grafted at any time during the winter and early spring months, preferably before sap rises in spring, otherwise the stock frequently bleeds severely and "drowns out" the scions. Scions for grafting should always be perfectly dormant, and may be prudently cut in the early winter and stored in sphagnum moss or sawdust or buried under ground in a cool but not wet place, only sufficient moisture being necessary to prevent their drying out. Dormant scions may be kept many months in this way.

The ordinary methods of splice, tongue and whip grafting are used. The common cleft graft is also used, preferably where stocks are much larger than scions. Root scions are usually inserted at from five to six inches below normal ground level, but may be inserted in crown (just below ground level) if earth is heavily banked up around them to retain moisture until good union has formed and growth actively started. This latter method is perhaps the best where the ground is normally damp or likely to become flooded.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Keep posted—read THE NUT-GROWER.

**Nut Scores**

The same subordination of taste found in the judging of fruit is discovered also in the judging of nuts. The size of the nut has 15, the shape 10, thickness of shell 20, size of meat 15, quality 20 points. Although it may seem that it is positively not worth while, to say nothing of money, to buy a nut except to enjoy its delicious flavor, yet to taste is assigned only 25 per cent. while 50 per cent. is given to the eye, the remaining 25 per cent. going to the convenience of cracking the shells.

Somewhat different allowances are given to pecans in the scale adopted by the National Nut-Growers' Association. For external character, size has 20 points, form 5, and color 5; for shell character, thinness has 10 and cracking quality 20; and for kernel character, plumpness has 20, color 5, and quality 15 points.

Upon translating these qualities, it appears that taste gets only 15 per cent. of the total, while the principal attractions of the nuts go to the eye and are rated at 55 per cent, the remaining 30 per cent being assigned to qualities of convenience.—GEORGE K. HOLMES, in Year Book, Department of Agriculture.

**A Freak in Pecandom**

While trying to locate the cause why some hybridized seed nuts did not come up, I found one which had a well established tap root, rather a little more than a foot long and a liberal supply of nice laterals in proportion, yet there was no sight of a plumule (stem bud). The cotyledons were very full, rather extending over the sides of the shell, fresh and somewhat greenish in appearance. The cotyledons must, no doubt, have absorbed the food supply this well established, well proportioned root furnished. I regret that I pulled up this would-be pecan tree; maybe a plumule would yet have formed in course of time.

C. FORKERT.

Ocean Springs, Miss.

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# The Nut-Grower

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**AUGUST, 1905**

## The Dallas Convention

A meeting the Executive Committee of the National Nut-Growers Association is called to convene at Albany, Ga., August 24.

The call for next Convention will not be sent out till some action is taken by this Committee regarding the expediency of changing the date to a time when all danger from yellow fever has passed. There are other important reasons for a later date, especially the exhibition and examination of nuts. October is too early in the season for most nuts to be ready to show or list.

The Amateur Sportsman is a recent and appreciated addition to our exchange table.

The date for the American Pomological Society meeting at Kansas City, Mo., has been postponed to Sept. 19-21.

A subscriber in Glencarlyn, Va., a suburb of Washington, says there are several young pecan trees growing in that village.

In the near future we contemplate sending out blanks for reports as to the condition and prospect for the crop of nuts now growing.

Every nut grower should be a poultry grower as well. An orchard that is over run with fowls is seen to escape insect depredations to a great extent.

If you recognize merit in THE NUT-GROWER, tell your friends about it, and how it will put them in line for improving the opportunities the industry offers.

The Southern Farmer, one of the leading poultry journals of the country, is now on our exchange list, and we expect to occasionally reproduce articles from its pages which will be of interest to orchardists.

We recently received a specimen of H. C. White's budding knife, which is now being given a practical test. In a later number we will give a description of this valuable tool, with report of its operations in our hands.

South Carolina has a number

of nut orchards started in different sections. One of the largest is probably that of Mr Horlbeck, Vice-president for that State, which has a fruit area of 500 acres.

—o—

Trees of the same variety differ in many respects; some are better growers, and some bear more abundantly. In the selection of scions and buds, there is much to be gained by taking some from the best trees of the variety desired.

—o—

The Fruit Report, sent out by the Missouri Horticultural Society, indicates a short crop of apples, ranging from 20 per cent. of the normal crop in West Missouri, to 30 per cent. in the Ozarks. Peaches are a failure, pears a light crop, while pecans are good and grapes abundant.

—o—

While much is said about the adaptation of different sections to growing pecans, there is the initial work of growing the trees, which, possibly, requires special and different condition in order to produce them to the best advantage. While good trees can be grown in almost any section where the nut is at home, still the percentage of buds, which are successfully set varies largely in different localities, and can hardly be accounted for

as depending entirely on the skill of the budder. Possibly a moist climate has a favorable effect on this operation.

—o—

With this issue we begin Volume IV of THE NUT-GROWER. The most casual observer who will contrast the present status of the nut growing industry with its conditions three years ago, must recognize the fact that well directed and powerful influences have been at work, that a new era in nut culture has begun, and that the most fascinating, profitable, and permanent agricultural resource known to man is now being established on so solid a basis that its rapid and great development is sure to follow. This publication has been a powerful factor in this changed condition. Its early issue insured the surprising success of the first convention of The National Nut-Growers' Association at Macon in 1902. Its subsequent numbers have made the work of this important organization doubly beneficial. All this has come about in a quiet and unostentatious manner, and the actual merit of the publication has been its sole claim for recognition and patronage. The future has much in store both for the publication and the industry it represents. Our equipment and facilities are now up to a

standard which will warrant the promise of a larger and better publication in the near future. As soon as additional space permits, new departments will be added, and illustrations used to a greater extent than has thus far been possible. It may be well to state here that we are duly appreciative of the support and patronage thus far received, and not only bespeak its continuance, but ask the active co-operation of all interested in the industry to help swell our subscription roll and enlarge our advertising patronage, as that will permit the improvements contemplated, and enable us to accomplish much that is now impracticable.

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#### An Appreciative Subscriber

Editor NUT-GROWER:

THE NUT-GROWER is always a welcome visitor to my desk, as it contains so much valuable information—such that I can not obtain elsewhere, so I could not afford to do without it if it cost twice the money. I have from twelve to fourteen hundred pecan trees—one half budded and the other half seedlings to be top worked later—on my fruit farm at La Parte, Texas. Each year I expect to add a few hundred budded trees, which I regard as equivalent to a good bank account and a grand heri-

tage to my only son.

In a year or two I intend to quit the profession and enjoy my little possessions in the South, in communion with nature, which, I believe will round out and embellish my life to my fullest anticipations. Then I hope to become a contributor, possibly, as well as a reader. Until then may every success crown the efforts of THE NUT-GROWER.

DR. H. M. HARRISON.

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#### Fertility and Moisture

The pecan is a native of the richest river and creek bottom lands in America, and there is where it does best under cultivation. By means of manuring and good tillage it is possible to obtain profitable crops of pecans on ordinary uplands, and even on poor sandy lands, but the expense is very much greater, and the profits far less certain than where the soil and subsoil are naturally suitable. The pecan tree not only flourishes in rich soil, but there should be water within reach of its deep roots, to make sure of the nuts filling well. It is the plump kernels and not the poorly filled shells that we must have.—H. E. VAN DEMAN, in Rural New Yorker.

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**Mr. Halbert Answers**

Editor NUT GROWER :

I answer Mr. Sample's questions as follows :

1st. That there may be exceptions to the rule that height and size, more than age, govern the bearing period, only proves the rule. But has Mr. Sample found an exception? When an old head is placed on young shoulders, maturer results are always expected. You do this when you take a bud or graft from a tree of proper height to bear and place it on young stock. By force or habit or because the embryo fruit buds are contained in the scion (either bud or graft) when taken from the parent tree, they will be developed the first year after insertion, before the young stock influences the scion. But the scion will not bear afterwards until the proper height is attained.

Mr. Sample claims that his tree bore at two years after planting, and was only 2½ feet high, but he does not state when the bud was inserted. Was it not inserted the previous year? I have only claimed this rule of height to be applicable to the pecan in its natural wild state. That this inclination may possibly be bred out of it I have never doubted. I hope to see the day when a variety will be bred that will begin to bear as does the

peach when a certain age is reached if no taller than "knee high to a duck." Has Mr. Sample or any other one reached this point? If so we hail him as a benefactor to the pecan industry.

2nd. It matters little how I answer his second question. Whatever per cent. the nuts I planted came true, is no certain criterion that his pecans will show the same per cent., though from the same tree. Only one of my trees have borne, and that one, two crops. The nuts resemble the one planted in quality—that is, in softness and full, fine quality of kernel, but are smaller and different in shape; a satisfactory nut. If Mr. Sample is impatient and tired of waiting for these 30 seedlings of the Halbert variety to attain the proper height, I can tell him how he can elevate them to the bearing height, and secure the identical nuts they will bear, though it may be ten years in the future before they bear. Just reverse the rule and place a young head on old shoulders. Or in other words take a bud from each and carry them to a tree that has attained the proper height to bear and insert them into its limbs. If they live each will bear in two years the identical nuts each tree the bud was taken from. This is a simple process of dividing

the future.

H. A. HALBERT,  
Coleman, Texas.

**Germination of the Twentieth Century**  
Editor NUT-GROWER:

I have trouble in getting the larger varieties of nuts to germinate. The medium size nuts will germinate readily nearly every time but the Twentieth Century is slow. I planted in a hot bed 150 of the Twentieth Century but have not been able to get one of them to sprout, while the Stuart, Van Deman and Centennial nearly all sprouted, were moved to where I wanted tree, and are growing finely now. Every one of the Schleys sprouted. I bedded 50, and got 50 trees. The 150 Twentieth Century nuts are in the same bed yet, and not one has sprouted. They were all planted the same day. How do you account for this in seed nuts?

H. W. SMITHWICK,  
Americus, Ga.

[The Twentieth Century pecan, which is regarded by many as identical with Rome and Columbian, possesses the serious defect of failing to fill properly. Some years this defect is more noticeable than others, last year being a particularly bad season. The nuts planted were evidently all defective on account of not being filled properly.—Ed.]

Plant pecans for prospective permanent profit.

## Questions and Answers

In this column we will insert questions bearing on the Nut-Growing Industry, giving each a separate number to which correspondents will kindly refer in sending in answers.

15.—How far North has top-working the pecan been successful?

Ans. Mound, La., De Witt, Ga., and probably further North.

16.—If you know a remedy for the bud worm, I would like to hear it through THE NUT-GROWER'S Questions and Answers.

Ans. See article on Bud Worm in June issue, page 164.

17.—Of all the named pecans, which one variety do you consider the best?

Ans. At present "Stuart" is planted more extensively and over a wider range than any other variety.

18.—What variety of pecan has the thinnest shell, and what is the size?

Ans. San Saba, a Texas nut of medium size, has the thinnest shell of any variety in our collection.

19.—Would like a remedy for the salamander, or ground squirrel, which cuts the roots of pecans.

Ans. Open the mound of loose dirt they throw up and set a steel trap just within the run.

20.—What do you think of the Japan walnut? Has it any commercial value?

Ans. There is much diversity of opinion on this point. It

seems to do well in some places, and in other localities they have been so unsatisfactory that lands have been replanted with pecans. It is hardly likely to be a commercial success in sections where the pecan is grown. When the conditions of soil and climate it demands becomes better known, or when a remedy for the trouble which causes early death of the trees is found, its commercial importance will command more attention. We advise the planting of a few trees each by all our subscribers, and a careful noting of results, and reports of successes as well as of failures. The English walnut is still an experiment in the country east of the Rocky Mountains.

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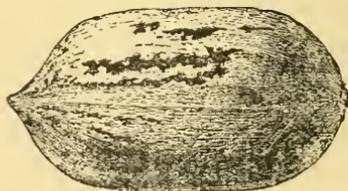
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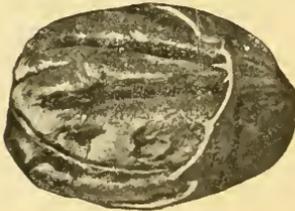
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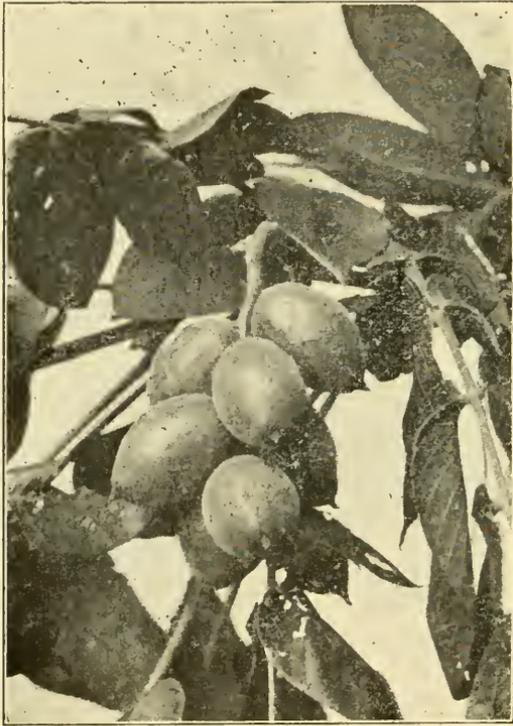
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JAPANESE WALNUTS, *Sieboldiana*. (See Page 21)

# THE NUT-GROWER

Official Organ of The National Nut-Growers' Association

Volume 4

SEPTEMBER, 1905

Number 2

## NUTS AS A FOOD PRODUCT

Their Superiority over Meats as a Diet--Interesting Facts and Figures on Relative Values of Various Nuts--Pecans lead all Others

BY R. C. KOERBER

IN The Theosophist, issued in London, England, I have read with great interest and delight the article, "The Food of Paradise." It says in general after a long explanation, "The only natural diet for man should consist of nuts and fruits."

The explanations are based upon experiences gained at many sanitariums in England; and in accordance with the great publicity given these facts, thousands and thousands of men and women have adopted this diet, and have abandoned animal food entirely to gain a perfect nourishment. In Gen. 1:29, you will find that, "God said, Behold, I have given you every herb, bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat."

Dr. Carpenter, the great English physician, says, "A well selected diet of the vegetable kingdom is capable of producing the highest physical development." Linnaeus, the eminent Swedish naturalist, says, "Man's structure, compared with that of other animals, shows that fruits and nuts and vegetables contain the natural food for man."

Dr. Cuvier, the greatest French authority in physiology, says, "The natural food for man appears to consist of fruits and the esculent parts of vegetables."

Professor Virchow, the greatest physiologist that ever lived, said, "The future of our diet is only in the vegetable kingdom."

By these great scientists the Bible's word is confirmed.

Experiments made by the United States Government ex-

perts show that nuts are a highly nourishing food, and easily digested. History shows that when Rome, Greece and Sparta were at the zenith of their power, the general diet was black bread, fruits and nuts. The Japanese in the late war with Russia, have shown great physical strength, courage and endurance, while in that country animal meat is very scarce and does not form an integral part of the diet.

The old mode to eat nuts on top of a heavy meal causes an undeserved impression that nuts are indigestible. A sound and refined body is essential to the highest development of the soul.

The appetite for alcoholic drinks is surely caused from animal meat eating; all flesh eaters of the animal kingdom are cruel and blood-thirsty, and it is natural that the diet of bloody animal meat reflects and will produce a cruel character. Comparative anatomy and the shape of the teeth are the proof that man is naturally built and formed to subsist upon herbs, fruits, nuts and vegetables.

The vegetarian diet will never be a success and a full nourishment, as it lacks the fat, but the fat of the nut is absolutely pure, while the fat of the animal is foul and impure. A clean diet of fruits and nuts, of course, be-

sides a moral education of man is the only way for a spiritual development and a higher degree of moral promotion.

It can be taken for granted that pecan nuts are the best of all known nuts for food and nourishment, and if the teachings of these physicians of nature are adopted and followed, our friends in the South, the growers of the pecan nuts will be benefited a thousand fold.

To compare pecans with other nuts we find that they contain:

	Proteids	Starches	Fats	Salts
Chestnuts	14.6	69.0	2.4	3.3
Walnuts	15.8	13.0	57.4	2.0
Hazelnuts	17.4	7.2	42.6	2.5
Peanuts	28.4	1.8	46.2	3.3
Pecans	21.4	6.11	62.3	2.11

Hence, in accordance with the foregoing table, the pecans offer the best proportion for food and will be preferred to all other nuts.

Nuts must be thoroughly masticated and eaten with fruits to form the substitute for animal meat. A combination of prepared nuts and fruits is a perfect and ideal diet for mankind. This diet of nuts and fruits, with vegetables and grain preparations, is here in the North adopted by many people; and large clubs, and associations have been established to advance and promote this kind of living, assisted by the temperance and prohibitionist party and by the clergy.

### Phylloxera Notabilis

By F. H. CHITTENDEN.

In charge of Breeding Experiments, Bureau of Entomology.

The insect which causes galls on pecan leaves is known as *Phylloxera notabilis* Perg. It is a relative of the pernicious *Phylloxera* of the grape vine. Fortunately, however, it is not nearly so injurious. In fact, attack by the pecan *Phylloxera* appears to be confined to the foliage, and if, as usually is the case, only a small percentage of the leaves are affected, the damage is not material. Certain of our correspondents have remarked on the fact that trees affected by this species appear to be otherwise healthy, and good fruit will develop in spite of the galls.

Under these circumstances, it is doubtful if remedial operations are necessary. As a safeguard,

however, against re-infestation in after years, such leaves as may be noticed badly infested and which can readily be reached with the aid of a twelve foot pruner and a ladder should be clipped off and burned. Unless the trees should suffer from borers or other insects and disease, or from adverse atmospheric conditions, the probabilities are that this manner of treating the trees will be sufficient. Another remedy, however, might be used; by spraying the trees in winter, when they are dormant, with kerosene and soap emulsion, the hibernating stage of the insect attached to the bark could be reached and destroyed. If the emulsion is used in winter it can be made as strong as one to five parts of water. Directions for the preparation and application of this insecticide are given in Farmers Bulletin 127.



## SELECT VARIETIES OF PECANS

How the Growers at the St. Louis Convention Expressed their Preferences for the Different Kinds

At all meetings of The National Nut-Growers' Association discussions of varieties have been a regular and interesting feature of the program. At St. Louis the work took a practical turn in summing up and tabulating the

opinions of members who were present, and the purpose of this article is to give a concise review of that feature of the Convention's work.

Following the general discussion of varieties, which is

reported in full in the Proceedings of the Convention, the members were furnished slips and requested to write down, in order of their preference, the names of five or six varieties most favorably regarded by the persons taking part in the plan.

Nearly all the prominent and experienced growers who were present made out, and turned in to the secretary, a list of their selection of varieties best adapted to general use in their respective localities, which, by the way, covered all the Gulf Coast territory and Texas. In summing up the reports thus obtained, it was found that eighteen varieties were listed, and the most notable feature of the tabulation was that the Stuart was embraced in every list submitted. The next prominent feature was the fact that no one reported in favor of the Rome or any of its synonyms.

An analysis of these returns can hardly fail to carry a strong conviction that the varieties mentioned by half, or over half of those reporting, are, in the light of our present knowledge, the most desirable for general planting. Only four nuts reached this distinction, viz., Stuart, Van Deman, Frotzcher and Schley, in the order named, except that the last two had the same percentage.

The next class, having the favor of 25 per cent. and over of all the reports, also embraced four varieties, in the order named: Pabst, Georgia, Curtis and Russell, the last two, as in the previous case, having the same percentage.

The remaining ten varieties drop into two classes, with about the same percentage in each. The third class also of four varieties had over ten per cent. of the reports and alphabetically arranged are Alley, Gregg, Halbert and Moneymaker. The fourth class had less than 10 per cent., but embraced some of the finest known nuts, but ones which are largely of recent introduction and not yet widely known, or tested beyond their place of origin. They were six in number: Atlanta, Magnum, Risien, Senator, Stevens and Success.

Subsequent reports of this kind will doubtless give different results as new varieties come to light and the older ones are tested to a greater extent; but those mentioned in the first group can safely be regarded as finely established and sure to hold a most prominent place in the industry, even though other varieties fully as good are originated in the future. Such a test as this, while not absolute, shows the trend of reliable opinion.

### The Japanese Walnut

While the Japanese walnut has not, as yet, proved a success in this country, except in the great walnut region of the Pacific coast, there are indications that in many other localities some of its varieties can be grown successfully and profitably.

Three varieties are now being grown in this country, *Juglans Sieboldiana*, *J. Cordioformis* and *J. Mandshurica*, the two first named coming from Japan, the latter being indigenous to the eastern part of the Asian continent.

Except as regards shape, size and quality of the fruit, the three varieties resemble each other very closely, the wood, foliage and peculiarities of growth being practically the same in all.

*J. Sieboldiana* was first introduced in this country about 1860, when seeds were planted in California, and has since been grown in many widely scattered localities. The fruit is ovate in shape, with a smooth shell somewhat thinner than that of the black walnut. The meat has a flavor similar to that of the American butternut.

*J. Cordioformis* is a more recent introduction from the island of Yezo. It derives its name from the heart-shaped nut. The

tree bears at four years from the seed, the nuts being very thin-shelled and of excellent flavor. In Japan the trees are said to reach a very great age.

The third variety, *J. Mandshurica*, is of little value, the shell of the nuts, which resemble the butternut, being too thick to allow them to come into general favor.



### Distance and Mixed Planting

BY C. FORKERT.

For a pecan tree 40 feet is entirely too close, 50 or 60 feet would be much better. I know pecan trees which are about 30 years old. The distance between them is 54 feet and the branches of those trees are interlacing already. A pecan tree at 30 years is only at its best and is capable of spreading, and will spread considerably more.

As the nuts are produced on the ends of the young, or yearly growth, those interlacing branches will never bear any more to amount to much. Those trees would be much better off were they 75 feet apart, as they grow on sandy land.

As to planting other fruit trees between the pecans, I have pears and Japan persimmons between pecan trees. All three seem to thrive and bear well together. As to figs—well all I know, or

the little I know, about figs is, the fig tree is a gross feeder and will rob his neighbor tree of considerable fertility; that is, if the locality is agreeable for fig trees and the trees remain healthy.

On land which is inclined to get dry the nematoides affects the roots of the fig trees badly, and the trees barely exist. Where figs do well they want but little disturbance; that is, very shallow cultivation must be given. If the ground be rich or plenty of fertilizer is applied where needed, figs and pecans may grow together without detriment to each other until the pecan trees spread and claim all the room there is.



### Too Many Varieties

By H. S. GRAVES.

An article from the pen of Mr. H. A. Halbert, in the August number of THE NUT-GROWER, proved of much interest to me, insomuch that I read it over carefully twice. The spirit that Mr. Halbert shows in endeavoring to bring his "Halbert" pecan into competition with other varieties is certainly commendable, and should be more generally followed by all producers of the best known varieties.

My list of the named varieties of the pecan constitutes some eighty kinds, and there are many

more, I have no doubt. Certainly all of these cannot possess the same value; even if they do, why propagate all of them, adding to the perplexity of the nurseryman and confusion of the purchaser?

There should be, and will be, a weeding out of many of these named varieties when they come to be placed on their true merits by the scale of points applied by the Committee on Standards. Records, such as Mr. J. B. Wight, of Caro, Ga., has given us of his Frotschers, should be carefully made and preserved by the owners of these named varieties, covering the entire pecan belt. A test orchard of all the leading kinds located in any one State will not suffice, as the adaptability of each variety throughout the different localities must be proven. The per cent. of kernel too, in the individual nut, is sure to become accepted as one of the most important points in judging a nut's value, notwithstanding efforts on the part of some to evade it.

It is time selfishness was laid aside and something done to have real value recorded against each one of our well known named varieties.



Four pages are added to THE NUT-GROWER this month.

### Convention Postponed

In view of the presence of yellow fever in portions of our territory and the consequent restriction on travel, it is deemed expedient to postpone the 1905 convention of the National Nut-Growers' Association, to be held at Dallas, Tex., to a later date than Oct. 25-27.

It is conceded that a better exhibition of nuts can be made in November or December, and that the testing and grading of new varieties—which is not practicable in October—can be made a part of the convention work if the meeting is held at a time when the nuts are mature. Members and all interested are invited to correspond with the Secretary, giving their views as to the best time, all things considered, for our 1905 gathering. Due announcement will be made as soon as the time is fixed. The Dallas convention can hardly fail to be of much interest and benefit and all who can should arrange to be present.



### Proceedings Nearly Ready

We are able to report that the difficulties and delays in publishing the Proceedings of the St. Louis convention, caused by the death of Mr. Barnett, the convention reporter, have been so

far overcome that that valuable volume will soon be ready.



### Prizes For Native Nuts

Through the American Agriculturist, New York, Dr. Robert T. Morris, who desires a collection of nuts for experimental purposes, offers cash prizes for 12 largest and best American varieties of wild nuts. We reproduce below the list of prizes and rules of the competition, as published in the *Agriculturist*.

American wild chestnuts \$3, second prize \$2; native shellbark nuts \$2, second \$1; hickory \$2, second \$1; American black walnuts \$1.50, second \$1; American pecans \$2, second \$1; hazel nuts \$1.50, second \$1.

A special prize of \$2 is offered for the best dozen nuts of any native wild variety not mentioned above.

The nuts must be selected from American wild and native trees in all cases. (European or foreign sorts excluded.) Describe exact location of tree from which the nuts are taken, so that a stranger will have no difficulty in locating the tree. State size of tree measured around trunk about 3 feet from ground. Also give its approximate height. The nuts must be of the 1905 crop, free from worm holes, mildew, etc., and from a single tree. They must be wrapped separately and placed in a small box, which must also contain location and description, together with address of sender. It must be mailed direct to Nut Contest Editor, 52 Lafayette Place, New York, so as to reach that office on or before October 20, 1905.

# The Nut-Grower

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SEPTEMBER, 1905

## Proposed Convention Date

Many letters have been received regarding a suitable date for the Dallas Convention. These have been carefully noted, and the strong concensus of opinion is in favor of December 6-8, and from the present outlook that date is most likely to be selected.

Many of these letters favor a later date regularly, in order that nuts may be ripe and ready for exhibition and examination.

It is confidently expected that by December 1, the restriction on travel will be removed.

The Southern Agricultural Press League was organized at Norfolk, Va., Aug. 15. It promises to be an important agency in promoting agricultural and kindred interests.

A Press Bulletin of the Pennsylvania Experiment Station

cautions farmers regarding the purchase of nitro cultures. Results obtained were not so marked as to demonstrate their value.

Several catalogues and price lists received advertise THE NUT-GROWER, in offering it as a premium for the purchase of pecan nursery stock. This is a good plan, working to the advantage of nurseryman, purchaser, and the publication as well.

Considerable complaint about the bud worm has been heard the past season. There is some confusion in the minds of many growers as to identity of the species causing the damage. Dr. Chittenden has promised an article on *Protopteryx deludana*, which has been the most injurious to the foliage of pecans during the year.

Crop reports are assuming an important place in the industry. Blanks are being sent out to prominent growers, and there is a fair prospect that an interesting report will be ready by date of the Convention. It is not expected that this report will be complete, but it will be a nucleus for future work.

In the article published in this number, giving concensus of

opinion on the choice varieties of pecans, mention is made of the "Risien" nut, which is the early name of San Saba. If this variety proves to do as well in other sections as it does in Texas, where it originated, it is sure to be planted largely for domestic use. Its shell is so thin that it will thus be handicapped as a commercial variety.

¶

Some months ago we published Mr. J. B. Wight's record of his original Frotscher tree, which was set out on his home grounds in January 1892. Since that record was published it has been supplemented with the additional data for the year 1904. A yield of 121 pounds was gathered which was 41 pounds more than the previous crop in 1903, and the circumference of the tree had increased from 44 inches in 1903 to 46 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches in 1904. The crop was sold for 50 cents per pound.

¶

With this number four additional pages are added to THE NUT-GROWER, and four more are in prospect in the near future. We feel warranted in congratulating ourselves as well as our patrons, on the improved appearance which has gradually been taking place for some months in the mechanical make up of the publication, as well as the val-

uable character of the contents of each number. It is with considerable satisfaction that we can report regular additions to our subscription list, and that our advertising patronage keeps pace with our growth in circulation.

¶

The invention, by H. C. White, of tools for budding, and the granting of patent on same, shows progress in the mechanical work of propagating the pecan, which promises better results than have heretofore been accomplished. This implement is quite different from other tools designed for the same purpose—in which a parallel cutting blade for girdling stock is the characteristic feature—in having the handles hinged at one extreme end of the tool, and sets of oppositely disposed cutters, secured to the top and bottom of the handles and having their cutting edges covered, the lower cutter being fractionally more recessed, to compensate for difference in diameter of stock at points where cuts are made, thereby preventing the cutter from making a spiral incision.

¶

In Wight's price list for 1905-6 is given a cut of a Thomasville, Ga., pecan tree, with following description and history:

It stands on the lot of Judge A.

J. Linton, in Thomasville, Ga., who has lived on the premises for 31 years, and he has gathered a crop of nuts from the tree for each of these years. Judging by the size of the tree when he bought the place, he estimates the age of the tree at about 40 years. The tree, which is a seedling, is 85 feet high, has a spread of 79 feet, and its circumference three feet above the ground is 121 inches. Last year Judge Linton gathered and sold from this tree 225 pounds of nuts, besides many that were eaten without being accounted for. The crop this year promises to be 350 pounds.



## The Propagation of the Pecan

[CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE]

In grafting it is always important to have cambium of scion in close contact with cambium of stock—at least on one side if not possible on both. The pecan may be grafted above the ground in the spring by the straddle, cleft, tongue and whip methods; the straddle and cleft forms being the better.

The ideal time for grafting above the ground is when there is the first indication of swelling buds on the seedling. Scions must be perfectly dormant in all cases, and towards late spring should be kept in an ice box or cold storage, or they will bud out when trees start to grow. Some propagators store dormant scions in a cold place until spring opens

and trees are leafing out; the scions are then buried in the ground or in moss, and in a variable time they will show swelling buds and bark will slip. Immediately it is found that the bark will slip, the wood is used in the ordinary way for budding. It, however, takes some experience and care to successfully handle dormant wood in this way. The percentage of both buds and grafts to live is quite variable even in the hands of skilled operators. Long continued drouths or wet spells are inimical to successful propagating work. Some very successful house or bench grafting has been done with the pecan, and sometimes a higher percentage obtained than by grafting on seedling roots in the ground. By grafting roots in the house very accurate fitting can be done, and by storing the grafted roots in sawdust or sphagnum moss for several weeks they can be kept at a uniform degree of moisture until the scion forms a union with the root. If scions by any chance have dried out or become loose during the storage period, it is instantly detected upon unpacking the trees preparatory to planting, and the root can be cut off below the first wound and a new scion inserted. In field grafting a long-continued drouth

and hot spring often causes a large number of scions to become dried out, from contact with the warm dry earth. Bench grafted trees should be planted so that only the top bud of scion shows above ground. They should be carefully handled in planting, as the scion is easily disturbed.

To revert again to budding, a good deal of discussion has arisen as to whether it is better to use the buds from the growth of the current season, or that of the previous one. My experience, and that of many others, is that both may be used with equal success in the South. The previous season's dormant buds may be used in the spring, as soon as bark will slip; the current season's buds may be used just as soon as they have matured sufficiently to detach from wood without bruising or other injury—that is to say, as soon as the current season's growth has reached a woody condition or about assumed a light brown color and is of sufficient size. There is, however, considerable waste of buds by the too early use of the current season's growth: for the first buds to mature are at the base of the growth, and many green, un-matured ones must be discarded; but by commencing the use of wood, approximately in the middle of July and continuing until

the end of September (especially in September), practically every bud on round matured wood, no matter how small, may be used. I have frequently used buds from sticks that would not caliper more than one-eighth of an inch. It is, however, a rather delicate matter to use wood as small as that, but when one is propagating choice varieties and wood is scarce, it is an object.

I cannot too emphatically suggest that in employing persons to bud or graft the pecan for you be sure they have had some experience and that they will do good mechanical work. There are many more poor budders than good ones—there are all kinds of “grafters.” The results following from poor work are numerous—a low percentage of living scions with the consequent butchery and at least temporary disfigurement of the trees, often the loss of a year's time, (although if buds fail in the summer the trees can generally be rebudded the same season) the waste of budding wood, etc. On the other hand while a large percentage of buds may live, yet the unions may be so imperfect that a weak, slow growth results, and large open spaces of exposed sap wood may remain, after wrapping is removed, leaving a field for the entrance of insects and the species

of fungi, and necessitating, perhaps another season for new wood to cover the wounds, causing the tree an unnecessary effort. A well fitted bud will usually start into growth much sooner than where there is an incomplete union. In the top working of large trees especial care is needed to place buds in suitable positions to make not only a symmetrical but a strong tree. Pecan trees of any age or size can be top budded or grafted. The better method with large trees is to cut them severely back during the dormant period and bud into the strongest of the resulting sprouts the following summer.

Owing to the fact that the propagation of the pecan by budding and grafting requires so much care, many are deterred from attempting it, and many unscrupulous persons have distributed common seedling trees as budded and grafted ones. They cut back the tops of seedlings and in some cases wound the back with a knife in simulation of the cuts necessarily made in genuine budding. Others do genuine budding (the mechanical part) but are not particular from whence the budding wood comes. Genuine budded and grafted trees, true to name, cannot be produced and profitably sold at the prices many have of-

fered them. With grafting scions and buds of choice varieties commanding a ready sale at from \$15 to \$50 per 1,000, and considering that thousands of pounds of the very choicest nuts are sacrificed annually by cutting grafting and budding wood (nuts worth wholesale from 40 cents to \$1.00 a pound) and with the variable success attending the propagation, it is readily seen that genuine trees must command a price sufficient to compensate for the loss of nuts, bad seasons, and the necessary care and attention to make marketable trees. Then, again, there are certain limitations to the number of trees which can be produced at the present time, for only a comparatively small quantity of wood of the best varieties is yet available, as budded and grafted pecans have not as yet been very widely distributed, and but few nurserymen have an adequate supply. The intrinsic value of a genuine budded or grafted pecan tree is, in my opinion, much higher than asked by any nurseryman I know of, considering its future earning capacity if properly taken care of.



The sale of budding wood for pecans has been very active, and many of the older groves are filling large orders.

### The Great I

Editor NUT-GROWER: While we enjoy very much reading reports from any of our nut growers, less of the great I and little U would be appreciated; and so ingeniously is this trait mixed into some writings that not a trace of courtesy for others can be detected. It's all self. I don't know how so much self-praise sounds to others, but to me, it suggests that certain parties are having a hard time getting others to think the same as they do.

But maybe the editor's right in letting them have so much space, for so often it happens that by getting rope long enough they hang themselves. But then in the mean time a great injustice can be done to those who are not fluent in writing, and often we see instances where parties produce the best of goods but lack the selling ability. These are the kind that need the free advertising that the less deserving ones get, and this is why I hope your readers will be more influenced by what others say, before buying trees, or at least first make the quacks give references showing several years test. This, I think, will prove a revelation that will count. The way things are going now there actually seems to be a premium on humbugery. If I didn't have

so much to do single handed I would contribute a few dots on pecan culture; but then I don't know it all.

E. E. RISIEN,  
San Saba, Tex.



### Growing Chesnuts in Mild Climates

Chestnuts hold a leading place among the marketable trees in some parts of the middle South, and is only surpassed in quantity by oak. Its large use for ties, trolley, telegraph and telephone poles, rails and fence posts, has increased the demand for the wood until the prices are rapidly rising. With a large and increasing demand for the wood intelligent efforts in growing it are bound to pay eventually. Bulletin No. 53 of the Bureau of Forestry, just issued, gives valuable suggestions for the growing of the trees.

The chestnut grows rapidly and is inclined to associate itself with the oak, maple and hickory on steep slopes. It is a sensitive tree, subject to injury by frosts. A large vigorous taproot enables it to draw nutrition from the lower layers of earth. It thrives upon soils which may not be fertile on the surface but which are deep and loose. Its deep-rooted nature makes it quite independent of surface conditions and it stands well the destruction of

leaf litter by fire. Soils containing a moderate amount of clay, though not hard, suit the tree best.

To grow the chestnut for commercial purposes, it is best to propagate it by the sprouts. Any attempt at planting the nuts would, in most cases, prove unprofitable, since the sprouted chestnut is capable of enduring more shade than those from the nut and permits of a thicker planting. It also makes more vigorous growth early in its life on account of the fostering influences of the stump. Fruit does not begin to appear until the tree is eight to ten years old, and regular and plentiful crops only after the 20th year. Only every other year is a seed year, although some small quantities are borne every fall.

Using the wood lot as a pasture is one of the chief enemies to the production of the woods, since animals keep the younger plants from growing to maturity. In such cases it is impossible for plants to grow from the seed. Trees for timber should be cut either in winter or early spring which insures better reproduction from the stump and timber of higher quality. When cut timbers are left in the woods for some time they crack at the ends and increase the unsalable part. The trees should be cut with care

to leave as nearly level stumps as possible, and these should be sloped enough to shed water.

While alone not constituting a very material source of revenue to the present owners of wood lots, careful management of existing groves will lead to much increased values of those timber lots in subsequent years.—American Agriculturist.



### The Rush Walnut

The Persian walnut, *Juglans regia*, is a most variable species. It has been in cultivation for centuries, and varieties have originated bearing nuts varying from the size of peas to that of a moderate orange; some with shell so thin they are likely to break in falling from the tree, and others thick enough to need a heavy blow from a hammer. The trees also vary greatly in size, productiveness and hardiness. Persian walnuts have been planted in the Atlantic States for generations, but their culture has been generally far from successful, as most varieties start too early in the Spring, and are killed back by severe cold when in sap. The trees are fairly hardy, when dormant, as far north as New York, and if varieties starting late enough can be had there appears no reason why this desirable nut cannot be

profitably grown. The French varieties, Mayette and Franquette, are recommended as possessing the desired characteristics, and are very popular in California, but it is necessary to secure grafted or budded trees, as seedlings cannot be relied upon to perpetuate the good qualities of their parents. Some promising varieties have originated in the Eastern States, but are not extensively disseminated. One of the best of these appears to be the Rusb. It originated in Lancaster county, Pa., and is said to be entirely hardy, and a heavy and regular bearer. The original tree bore 100 pounds of fine nuts when 13 years old. The color of the shell is very light, and the cracking quality excellent. The nut may be easily crushed in the hand. The kernel is plump and of a very sweet and agreeable flavor. —Rural New Yorker.

## Questions and Answers

In this column we will insert questions bearing on the Nut-Growing Industry, giving each a separate number to which correspondents will kindly refer in sending in answers.

21.—I have purchased and arranged to plant one hundred pecan trees this fall. I will plant them forty feet apart each way. If I plant figs, or Japanese persimmons, or both, between the pecan trees will either one in any way interfere with the growth, bearing or flavor

of fruit of the other? I do not wish to plant both figs and persimmons between the same trees, but to plant figs between one half of the pecans and persimmons between the others. Will be very grateful for the advice and opinion of some one who has had experience along this line.—Subscriber.

Ans. See article on "Distance and Mixed Planting," by U. Forkert, on page 21.

22.—Where can Burbank's fast growing walnut be obtained?

Ans. Next year Geo. C. Roeding, of Fresno, Cal., will have the new walnut for sale, as he has them for propagation. Nuts from same can be obtained this fall from Mr. Burbank, Santa Rosa, Cal., at \$10.00 for 100 nuts.

## Catalogue Mention

Budded and Grafted Pecan Trees; price list for season 1905-6, J. B. Wight, Cairo, Ga.

R. E. Funsten Dried Fruit and Nut Co., St. Louis, Mo. Price list and pointers.

Pecan Culture, for the Gulf Coast Region; catalogue and price list of standard varieties, with cultural directions, for season 1905-6, Gainesville Nurseries, H. S. Graves, proprietor, Gainesville, Fla.

Tree Fertilizers; Messick Tree Fertilizer Co., Quincy Ill. Price list, with description of liquid and dry preparations.

Colorado State Agricultural College announces a short course in Agriculture and Domestic Science.

Alabama Nursery Co., Huntsville, Ala., Fall 1905 catalogue; Chase's "Red

Book." List of Alabama grown stock, tools and nurserymen supplies; 28 pages.

West Texas Pecan Nursery, San Saba, Texas, E. E. Risien, proprietor, announcement for 1905-6, with list of eleven varieties of trees, and prices.

The Handicraft Schools, of Hartford, Conn., announce a list of 18 courses for the season 1905-6. H. D. Hemenway, Director.

T. W. Woods & Sons, Richmond, Va., Fall catalogue of farm and garden seeds, for 1905; 40 pages, illustrated.

### Book Notices

Success and Failure in Orchard Growing, by H. L. Messick, Quincy, Ill. Price 25 cents. A useful book devoted largely to apple culture.

The Department of Agriculture's Year Book for 1904 is a large volume, with many carefully prepared articles on a wide range of subjects, many of which are of interest to nut growers, especially those on new fruits and the pecan weevil. The appendix gives a great variety of statistical and other information, with lists of organizations and societies.

The Southern Fancier, Atlanta, Ga., monthly, in the interest of poultry, pigeons and pet stock; 50 cents a year. Poultry and pet stock find such favor with nut growers that this publication is of much interest.

Journal d'Agriculture Tropicale, an agricultural, scientific and commercial magazine, published by J. Vildouchevitch; Paris. The June number, received recently, contains articles on the culture of vanilla, rubber, etc. A review of the work on Citrus Fruits and Their Culture, by Prof. H. H. Hume, of the North Carolina Agricultural Department, is given prominence.

A Treatise on Spraying, by J. M. Steadman, with description of insects attacking fruit trees, and treatment recommended for holding them in check, with formula for spraying mixtures. This is No. 2 of Brother Jonathan's series; price 25 cents.

Propagating Trees and Plants, by W. L. Howard. The Fruit Grower Co., St. Joseph, Mo., Price 25 cents. This is No. 1 of The Brother Jonathan Series of Booklets on fruit subjects, and gives practical instructions for farmers and amateurs, for propagating the common and widely grown fruits.

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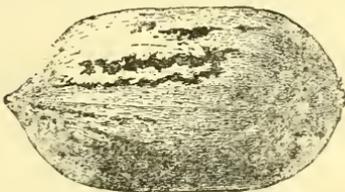
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# THE NUT-GROWER

Official Organ of The National Nut-Growers' Association

Volume 4

OCTOBER, 1905

Number 3

## THE PECAN NUT

BY D. GALBREATH

THE tree bearing this fruit is indigenous to the forests of the Southern States, and under favorable conditions may be grown profitably as far North as Kansas. We of today may see clusters of these grand, majestic old trees from three to four feet in diameter, sixty to eighty feet high, with spread of branches sixty or seventy feet, on the lawns and lots of the old plantation homes. Some of them are seedlings, evidently grown from select nuts of the forest trees, bearing from five to ten barrels of nuts annually.

We are propagating the same nuts by budding and grafting, and today we find the pecan attracting much attention, forging its way to the front rank of all other nuts in commercial supremacy. The Gulf and South Atlantic States are building up large nurseries of select varieties, and some few groves are in bearing, while many trees are being

planted out. The earlier groves of seedling trees are being topped or grafted with such other varieties as the owner may favor. All young groves are being set with budded and grafted varieties, and no one now thinks of planting a grove of seedling pecans. The National Nut-Growers' Association, organized a few years ago, is doing good work through its official organ, THE NUT-GROWER, published at Poulan, Ga. If you are interested in pecans you should be a subscriber, as you may then read THE NUT-GROWER's instructive articles on the pecan, by practical field workers, for there are others introducing statements and theories which have not yet passed muster.

We read of six year old seedlings so heavily fruited that the branches have to be propped to save the tree. In another instance the tree must be eight feet tall before fruiting, etc.

Now we of Louisiana cannot boast of such phenomena. Our seedling trees rarely bear nuts earlier than fifteen or eighteen years from planting, while grafted or budded trees, well cared for, will give a few pounds of nuts at eleven or twelve years of age from seed. Such discrepancy of the fruiting age and size of trees may be accounted for, but has not been yet.

We suppose much depends upon the environments; such as soil, climate and cultivation. To illustrate: Go to the cotton field in the hills; you find the plant ten to twelve inches high fairly fruited, then go to the field of the river bottoms; you find the cotton plant ten feet high, so we take it for granted that the same rules applies to the pecan tree. On the thin lands of Florida or the hills of Texas trees do not grow so large, but mature fruit at an earlier age than trees in alluvial and rich lands in Louisiana, where the trees grow to the height of seventy to eighty feet, with a spread of branches of thirty feet on either side. So that in reading the correspondence from different sections of the Pecan Belt you must bear in mind that the apparent discrepancy of writers may be harmonized by considering the diversity of soil and climate, more or less adapted to

growth or size of the tree.

It is stated by some growers of nuts that, while the larger size commands better prices, many of them are defective in kernel filling. The tree, hull and shell are apparently in a healthy condition. Why not the kernel? This is a question for the Association to answer. We are inclined to favor the rich bottom lands of the Gulf States as the home and choice spots for a pecan grove.



### The Dallas Convention

FORMAL announcement is made that the Annual Convention of The National Nut-Growers' Association will be held at Dallas, Texas, December 6th, 7th and 8th, 1905.

All members who can arrange to be present are expected to attend. All others who now are, or expect to become interested in the nut-growing industry are cordially invited. A special invitation is extended to the ladies, as many of them find pleasure and profit in nut-growing.

The program, as thus far arranged, assures a most interesting and profitable meeting, the subjects selected for discussion being pertinent and practical, and the speakers men of wide experience and marked ability.

The date chosen seemed, under the pressure of varying circumstances, to be the most available. The restriction on travel will doubtless be removed or greatly modified by this time, and the present crop of nuts available for exhibition and the examination of varieties by the Committee on Standards. Local hotel arrangements and railroad rates will be subsequently announced.

This convention has much in prospect which will be of material importance to the State of Texas, and every one interested in the pecan should attend. Members who have not already paid dues (\$2.00) for 1905, should remit promptly to the Secretary and Treasurer at Poulan, Ga., as funds are needed in advance of convention date, as well as a revision of the membership roll before publishing the Convention Badge Book.

A large increase of membership is needed in order to provide increasing revenue for important work now awaiting development. Subsequent information regarding Badge Book, program and local arrangements will be given out in due time.

### Mildew on Growing Pecans

Having observed in nearby groves, pecans having the appearance of mildew on the hulls,

the editor of THE NUT-GROWER sent specimens of the affected nuts to the Bureau of Plant Industry and received the following report from Mr. W. A. Orton, Pathologist:

The whitish discoloration is due to the powdery mildew (*Microsphaera alni*). This fungus disease is fairly common on the pecan but it does very little damage. It may have a tendency to prevent the nuts from filling well and on the leaves of young trees in nurseries sometimes causes defoliation. It is, however, never liable to become a serious pest and is not of sufficient importance to merit any remedial treatment.



### The Nut Exhibit at Dallas

The indications are that the nut exhibit at the Dallas Convention will be a commanding feature of the meeting. The vice-presidents of all the Gulf Coast States will doubtless show up with State exhibits, which will not only be a surprise but a delight to all beholders.

Rules and regulations will be published in our next number. It is expected that they will be so liberal that exhibits will come in from all over the country.



The Koerber Nut Meat Co., is manufacturing a nut marmalade, a combination of cooked figs, dates and other fruits, with choice nut meats.

## PROMISING NEW FRUITS---PECANS

Descriptions of Leading Varieties From the 1904 Year Book, Department of  
Agriculture

BY WM. A. TAYLOR,

Pomologist in charge of Field Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry.

OF our native nut-bearing trees of those exceptionally fine trees none promises to become of such pomological importance as the pecan. Within the region to which it is well adapted for cultivation, which may be roughly stated as the Mississippi Valley below St. Louis, the South Atlantic, and the Gulf States, including Texas, no other nut tree, either foreign or introduced, can be considered as fairly in competition with it. Though long neglected as a possible profitable orchard tree, it has, during the past fifteen years, assumed considerable importance, and extensive orchards have been planted in most of the Southern States. Previous to about 1900 most such orchards were planted with seedling trees or nuts of particular varieties, which were placed at desired orchard distances and allowed to germinate and grow where the future trees were to stand, thus avoiding the transplanting process. As the earlier seedling orchards have come into bearing it has become increasingly apparent that the seedlings from trees of those exceptionally fine varieties which the orchardist desires to perpetuate vary too greatly from their parent types to be of much commercial value. Such seedlings rarely bear nuts closely similar to the parent in size, form, color, thinness of shell, plumpness of kernel, or dessert quality, and still more rarely do they reproduce the desired productiveness, ripening time, or other important characteristics that determine the commercial value of the tree. The necessity of relying upon budded and grafted pecan trees for commercial orchards is now very generally recognized by intelligent planters, so that at the present time few seedlings are being planted.

Unfortunately, much confusion exists among growers as to the exact identity and proper nomenclature of several of the leading sorts. This is partially due to the fact that for many years the locations of the original trees were not known to the general public, and partially to the fact that in certain instances

deliberate renaming of varieties previously introduced was practiced by certain nurserymen and dealers in seeds and trees. The situation has been further complicated by a somewhat general practice of selling seedling trees under the names of the varieties from which they were grown. The result of these practices is that many and diverse forms of the pecan are now found in orchards throughout the South under the names of some of the best known sorts. These practices are now discouraged by the leading nurserymen and orchardists, and it is hoped that, through the educational campaign which has been inaugurated by the National Nut-Growers' Association through the adoption of the code of nomenclature of the American Pomological Society and its application to the names of nut varieties in catalogues and other publications relating to the subject, these productive causes of confusion in the names and identity of varieties will soon cease to operate.

#### CENTENNIAL PECAN.

The original tree of this variety stood on the Anita plantation of Mr. Amant Bourgeois, on the east bank of the Mississippi river, in St. James Parish, La., from some date early in the nineteenth century until March 14, 1890, when it was destroyed by

the disastrous Anita crevasse, which swept away, to the depth of 15 feet, the earth in which it stood. Whether it was a chance seedling or was grown from a planted nut is not known. So far as known, the first effort to perpetuate the variety by grafting was made by the late Dr. A. E. Colomb early in the "forties." Not succeeding in this effort, Doctor Colomb later cut scions from the original tree and took them to the late Telesphore J. Roman, owner of Oak Alley plantation, on the east bank of the river, whose slave gardener, Antoine by name, succeeded in grafting 16 trees near the mansion and quarters with this variety in the winter of 1846 or 1847. Somewhat later than this Mr. Roman had 110 trees grafted "in the large pasture which was forty arpents from the river" with the same variety, so that by the close of the civil war (1865) there were 126 grafted Centennial trees in bearing on this plantation. The plantation having changed hands shortly after the war, the later plantings of grafted trees were cut down to make way for sugar cane, although they were just reaching their most productive age and the nuts from them were selling at from \$50 to \$75 per barrel.

In 1876, Hubert Bonzano, who

then owned Oak Alley, exhibited nuts from these grafted trees at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. He was awarded a diploma based upon an examination by Prof. William H. Brewer, in which the variety was commended for its "remarkably large size, tenderness of shell, and very special excellence."

It is not clear as to who first applied the name Centennial to the variety, but so far as ascertained it was first catalogued under that name by the late Richard Frotscher, of New Orleans, in 1885, the propagation of budded and grafted trees of it for sale having been begun about 1882 by William Nelson, who was associated with Mr. Frotscher in the pecan nursery business.

So far as ascertained, the Centennial is the first variety of pecan that was successfully propagated by budding or grafting. It was also the first variety planted in commercial orchard form, with a definite view to producing nuts for sale, and one of the first three to be catalogued and offered for sale.

Two of the earliest grafted Centennial trees, above referred to, are still standing at Oak Alley. They were thrifty, productive, and in fine condition when inspected by the writer in the

autumn of 1902. The date of their grafting by the slave Antoine (1846 or 1847), under Doctor Colomb's direction, marks the beginning of modern pecan culture

#### DESCRIPTION.

Size large, average nuts running about 45 to 50 to the pound; form long, compressed cylindrical, gradually tapering to the wedge-shaped apex; base conical; color bright grayish brown with rather scanty purplish splashes toward apex; shell rather thick, partitions thin; cracking quality medium; kernel clear, reddish yellow, deeply and narrowly grooved, but quite smooth and separating easily from the shell; plump, solid; of delicate texture and flavor, quality very good.

The Centennial tree is a rather slender grower with grayish green young wood sprinkled with small light dots. It becomes pendulous as it attains age, and is on this account one of the handsomest varieties for parks or large lawns. It is slow to come into bearing, but appears to be a fairly regular cropper after attaining an age of about 15 years from bud or graft.

(to be continued.)



December 6, 7 and 8 are the dates set for the 1905 Nut-Growers' Convention at Dallas Texas.

### Big Pecan Deal

A transaction, which is of much interest to nut growers generally, was consummated recently, when Chas. T. Yerkes, of Chicago, purchased three fourths of the capital stock of the G. M. Bacon Pecan Co., at DeWitt, Ga., the purchase price being \$75,000. This corporation is one of the oldest and best established in the industry, having over 700 acres in groves and nurseries.



### Change in Convention Date

For the sake of convenience in securing railroad rates for the Dallas Convention, it has been decided to change the dates from the 6th, 7th and 8th, to the 7th, 8th and 9th. Arrangements for the Convention are rapidly being perfected. A number of important additions to the program have been made, and everything points to a large and enthusiastic meeting. Further particulars will appear next month.



### Planting the Grove

The proper distance apart to plant pecan trees in rich soil is not less than 50 feet, and 75 or even 100 feet is better. Their tops will interfere at 50 feet apart in about 20 years, if the trees are given proper treatment,

when it will be necessary to cut down a part of the trees or allow them seriously and permanently to injure each other. At 75 feet apart they will not interfere for many years, but at 100 feet they will rarely be too close at full maturity. The pecan, like all other trees that bear fruit or nuts, requires plenty of air space for the development of the lower branches. If they do not have direct sunlight on all sides the foliage will be scant and the branches become dwarfed and assume an upward tendency, instead of being nearly horizontal, as they should be. A pecan tree should in no case be forced to take on forest proportions. Nuts and not wood is the desired result. On poor land the distance apart for the trees should be less than that just mentioned, for they will not grow so fast, nor live so long as those on rich land.

A pecan tree should be at its prime at 50 years from planting. The height above ground at which the head should be formed is generally thought by experienced growers to be from six to eight feet. This will give ample room under the branches, but none too much, if the trees are given proper treatment otherwise. Some of the largest trees are found near the northern limit of growth.—H. E. Van Deman, in Rural New-Yorker.

# The Nut - Grower

Published by The Nut-Grower Co.

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Subscription Price: 50c per Annum

Advertising Rates Sent Upon Application

OCTOBER, 1905

Mr. J. F. Jones, of Monticello, Fla., publishes address of the late Dr. James B. Hunnicut, at the St. Louis Convention, in his 1905 catalogue.

The growing of pecans on irrigated lands will be watched with much interest. Important results are in prospect in such sections as have facilities for this test.

The Committee of Arrangements for the 1905 Convention is an able body of wide awake men. They are in conference and plans for handling the Convention will doubtless be announced in our next issue.

The hickory nut crop is said to be large in Missouri. This State is a good producer of this nut, especially in the western part of the State, having great numbers of trees along the river and creek valleys.

The Convention program promises to be of unusual interest and great practical value. However this meeting is likely to be a working Convention, rather than speech-making, as special time and attention is given to the exhibits and grading of nuts.

The distance to be given trees in groves is an ever recurring problem. Pabst says: "In heavy rich soil it would be best to plant fifty feet apart; in the lighter soils forty feet, or even closer if a larger revenue is desired at once, and the planter will have the requisite courage to cut out when trees begin to crowd each other."

Dark colored pecans are not in favor to the extent that lighter colored ones are at present. While appearance has an important influence in favor of light colored nuts in the retail trade, there is reason to regard darker nuts which have light colored, plump and highly flavored kernels, as excellent commercial varieties, especially where they are known to be regular and abundant bearers. We know of a large, thin shelled nut of this kind which will doubtless be exhibited at the Dallas Convention, and be submitted to the Committee on Standards for examination.

Messrs. H. P. Atwater and Stanley H. Watson, both of Houston, Texas, have been added to the Local Committee of Arrangements for the Dallas Convention.



The awards on native nuts, offered by the American Agriculturist, will be made by the judges of the American Institute Fair, at New York, early in November next.



Jackson county, Mississippi, has given to the pecan industry a choice selection of varieties, and its list embraces Stuart, Pabst, Russell, Schley, Robson, Jewett, Delmas and Success.



Mr. H. E. Van Deman has been at the Lewis & Clark Exposition this season. He is on the program for the Dallas Convention, and will tell about nut culture on the Pacific Coast.



We know of a nurseryman who has started in a systematic and scientific way to test pecans for seed purposes. It is so simple and easy that any one who will record his planting of chosen varieties, and note and record results through a series of years, will be sure to obtain valuable data of general interest.

The Southern Poultry Courier is a recent addition to our exchange list. It is of much interest as all such journals are, for the reason that nut growers need the presence of poultry in the groves, which furnishes ideal ranges for fowls.



In our quest for new and superior varieties of pecans, there is danger that we may overlook and pass by the nuts most suitable for seed purposes. This is an important matter if one nut is better than another for this use. We may take a lesson from the largely increased yield of corn which results from careful selection and breeding of seed. The same law undoubtedly applies to pecans, and although we look to the buds and grafts for character of product, still we need the best possible stock on which to grow these same buds and grafts, and thus far but little systematic work in the line of comparative value of stock has been reached.



#### New Grove at Cairo, Ga.

Dr. C. A. Van Duzee, of St. Paul, Vice-president for Minnesota of The National Nut-Growers' Association, has recently purchased lands at Cairo, Ga. which will be set this season in pecan trees,

### A Punch at Mr. Halbert

Editor NUT-GROWER: I do enjoy reading your paper. I am an old woman: have been a pecan enthusiast since, 20 years ago this month, I saw some little grafted pecan trees. The man who owned the San Saba water works had them in his green house, growing in five gallon oil cans; so when my son got a place with pecan trees on it I was a proud woman.

Now we got some nuts from Mr. Halbert when he claimed that his nuts would come true to type. He also said (and in his circular too) that his fine tree was isolated. Now I would like to quote for Mr. Samples benefit the language of Mr. Halbert in the American Nut Journal of February, 1905. Mr. H. says: "I bought a wild grove some years ago in which 999 trees out of one thousand bear on an average every three years, large crops of very good wild pecans for which I can only get from three to eight cents per pound. One tree bears regularly every year large crops of the finest nuts; at present they bring me one dollar per pound for planting purposes, and I cannot supply the demand." So, Mr. Sample, you see your nuts and mine stand just one chance in one thousand of being any thing but the very commonest kind of

a nut, and no bearer either.

A three cent pecan is about as big as a bullet, and an ordinary good pecan brings 10 and 15 cents. We were disappointed in the Halberts. We have many little trees that go ahead of them. The nuts averaged, three or four years ago, 84 to the pound. Mr. Halbert also says, in the same number of the American Nut Journal, that his budded trees begin to bear some fine nuts the second and third years after the bud begins to grow. In the June number of American Nut Journal he says, "Many buds will bear nuts the next year after inserting. All will bear the second year enough nuts to cover the expense, care and attention given, and the third year there should be a nice income; at least, this is our experience in top-working our native grove." What is a paying income, Mr. Halbert?

In the Texas Almanac for 1904, Mr. Halbert says, "A single noted tree of merit will bring an immense income to its owner in a single year's product. I do not like to refer to myself, but to illustrate the point, I hope I may be pardoned for referring to my fine trees. From the crop of nuts for 1903 I sold \$121.75 worth, and planted for my own use \$50.00 worth at the same rate. I sold buds for \$4.25, and

reserved \$37.50 worth of the 1903 growth for my own use, making a total of \$253.50 worth of nuts and buds from a single tree for a single years growth." In American Nut Journal for November, 1904, he says, "The writer sold from his noted tree last season, nuts and buds aggregating over \$250, and I challenge any one to show another tree of any kind that ever brought such an annual income to its owner."

Now I think it would pay Mr. Halbert to cultivate a better memory for what he writes. I do not see how any one can swallow all he says. I notice one thing, and that is he has learned a lot about pecans since he went to the New Orleans Convention. It is so easy for him to enlarge upon other peoples experience and get lots of free advertising.

MRS. JOHN A. ELLIS,  
Cameron, Tex.



### Japan Walnuts Again

Editor NUT-GROWER: Your article on Walnuts in Volume 4, No. 2, page 21, is misleading. The habits of *J. Sieboldiana*, or *Sieboldii*, and *Cordiformis*, are almost identical, but the nuts are very different. The *Sieboldii* resembles a butternut (*J. Cincera*) in both form, size and fla-

vor, also in thickness of shell, and the greatest thing that can be said of it is that there is about twice the amount of kernel in it as there is in the butternut. *J. Cordiformis* is heart shaped, averages about the size of good hickory nuts, and by careful cracking the nut can be extracted whole. The shell is comparatively thin. I think this nut the most valuable nut we have had introduced. Both of the above walnuts need a strong, rich, moist soil to reach perfection.

I grew some in a creek bottom that were two inches in diameter and 16 feet high four years from seed. Other seed planted at the same time on rather poor dry land are not now more than three feet high. There are many crosses between the two varieties, and in *Cordiformis* there is a wide variation in the shape, size and flavor of the nuts. No *Cordiformis* should be propagated except from select seed.

*J. Mandshurica* is not a distinct variety. It is a hybrid of *J. Regia* and *J. Japonica*, and in growth and habit of leaf, has more the appearance of *Juglans Regia* than of *J. Japonica*. Theoretically speaking, it should partake of the fine qualities of *Juglans Regia*, with the hardness of *Juglans Japonica*. I have not seen it in bearing and can only

presume that it will be valuable on account of its parentage.

A. W. NEWSON.

Huntsville, Ala.

[We fail to gather from our correspondent's letter wherein our article on Japan walnuts is misleading, unless it be on account of our not mentioning the opinion of some authorities, that *J. Mandshurica* is not a distinct variety but a hybrid. —Editor.]



### Chestnut Culture

The activity of pecan growers in the South in recent years has not been without a parallel in the North, where considerable interest in the chestnut industry is being manifested. As was the case with the Southern nut growers, one of the most significant features of this revival is the tendency toward the selection and propagation of new and improved varieties, especially of European or Japanese origin; the fruit of such varieties being much larger than that of the native American tree, and, the Asiatic varieties, especially, being less affected by fungus diseases.

No native nut has such a wide range of adaptability as has the chestnut. Practically the entire territory east of the Mississippi river is suitable for its culture, besides sections along the Pacific Coast. By far the bulk of the crop is still obtained from wild trees, but large groves are now

being planted, both in the East and in California.

Like the pecan, the chestnut has a tap root of such length as to render its transplanting somewhat difficult, and on this account many growers still prefer to plant the nut where the tree is to stand. When planted in nursery rows, they should be allowed to attain a size of from three-eighths to one-half inch in diameter, three or four feet from the ground, before grafting. For small stock the whip graft is preferable, while cleft grafting should be used on large stock. 50 per cent of the grafts is considered a fair result.

Grafted chestnut trees are early bearers, the Japanese varieties often showing fruit the first year, though to secure a vigorous growth, the fruit should be picked off for two or three years. Well drained, gravelly soil is considered the best for the chestnut. On rocky hill sides with an eastern or northern exposure, it thrives well.

The chestnut is by no means immune to the attacks of insects which damage both the leaves and wood, besides the weevil which works in the fruit, and which is the worst pest the grower has to contend with. Leaf blight, one of the fungus diseases, may be controlled by spraying with Bordeaux mixture.

## Composition of Nuts and Some Other Food Materials

From the Farmers' Bulletin No. 122, Department of Agriculture.

	Refuse	Edible portions	Composition and fuel value of the edible portion.					
			Water	Protein	Fat	Carbohydrates	Ash	Fuel value per pound
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Calories
Almonds .....	64.8	35.2	4.8	21.0	54.9	17.3	2.0	a3,030
Brazil nuts .....	49.6	50.4	5.3	17.0	66.8	7.0	3.9	3,329
Filberts .....	52.1	47.9	3.7	15.6	65.3	13.0	2.4	3,432
Hickory nuts .....	62.2	37.8	3.7	15.4	67.4	11.4	2.1	3,495
Pecans .....	53.2	46.8	3.0	11.0	71.2	13.3	1.5	3,633
English walnuts .....	58.0	42.0	2.8	16.7	64.4	14.8	1.3	a3,305
Chestnuts, fresh .....	16.0	84.0	45.0	6.2	5.4	42.1	1.3	a1,125
Chestnuts, dried .....	24.0	76.0	5.9	10.7	7.0	74.2	2.2	a1,875
Acorns .....	35.6	64.4	4.1	8.1	37.4	48.0	2.4	2,718
Beechnuts .....	40.8	59.2	4.0	21.9	57.4	13.2	3.5	3,263
Butternuts .....	86.4	13.6	4.5	27.9	61.2	3.4	3.0	3,371
Walnuts .....	74.1	25.9	2.5	27.6	53.3	11.7	1.9	a3,105
Cocoanuts .....	48.8	51.2	14.1	5.7	50.6	27.9	1.7	2,983
Cocoanut, shredded .....	100.0	3.5	6.3	57.3	31.6	1.3	a3,125	
Pistachio, kernels .....	100.0	4.2	22.6	54.5	15.6	3.1	a3,010	
Pinenut or pinon .....	40.6	59.4	3.4	14.6	31.9	17.3	2.8	3,354
Peanuts, raw .....	24.5	75.5	9.2	25.8	38.6	24.4	2.0	a2,560
Peanuts, roasted .....	32.6	67.4	1.6	30.5	49.2	16.2	2.5	3,177
Litchi nuts .....	41.6	58.4	17.9	2.9	2	77.5	1.5	1,453
Beefsteak .....	12.8	87.2	61.9	18.9	18.5	.....	1.0	a1,130
Wheat flour .....	100.0	12.8	10.8	1.1	74.8	.....	.5	a1,640
Potatoes .....	21.0	80.0	78.3	2.2	.1	18.4	1.0	a385

a. These values were calculated; unless otherwise indicated the fuel values were determined.



### Pistachio Nuts

The Government Plant Bureau is going to try to introduce the cultivation of the pistachio nut on an extensive scale in California and Arizona. In parts of that State and Territory, which are scarcely capable of producing anything else of value, conditions seem to be highly favorable for the introduction of this particular crop.

Old World, such as the Sahara, wild species of pistachio are the only plants that reach the size of our own large trees. Experiments have shown that the cultivated nut can be grafted upon these stocks, the resulting hybrids retaining the drought-proof qualities of the wild parent, and it is altogether probable that such cross-bred varieties could be introduced successfully in arid parts of our own Southwest.—Ex.

### New Pecan Company

The formation of a company which will invest heavily in a new pecan grove at DeWitt, Ga., is announced. The company has already purchased 500 acres near the extensive grove and nurseries of the G. M. Bacon Pecan Co., and will plant the tract, this winter, in trees of the choicest varieties.

Mr. Herbert C. White, well known as an authority on pecan culture, and who is high in the councils of The National Nut-Growers' Association, has been elected president of the company, and Mr. Chas. E. Yerkes, son of the Chicago street railway magnate, will be secretary and treasurer. Mr. J. C. Cowan, of DeWitt, is named for superintendent.

Other parties interested are Frank B. Taylor and Alexander L. Dewar, of Chicago, and R. F. Cowan, of DeWitt.

The Apple Specialist, monthly, published at Quincy, Ill., is an interesting addition to our exchange table.

Another planting season will soon be at hand. Plans should be carefully laid and worked out as early as practicable. Find out what you are to do, then do

it at the proper time in the best way.

### Questions and Answers

In this column we will insert questions bearing on the Nut-Growing Industry, giving each a separate number to which correspondents will kindly refer in sending in answers.

23.—What causes a pecan tree to put out buds 6 inches long early in the season and then never grow any more that year, seeming to remain dormant? Give us the cause and relief.

Ans. The age and environments of the tree is not stated. Without this an answer can only be hypothetical. If a newly set tree, and the first season's growth was six inches, it is satisfactory. With a healthy tree, properly cared for, the second season's growth will be very much greater. If the tree has been planted two or more years a six inch growth only, would indicate either an unhealthy tree, lack of attention, or insufficient plant food, as a latter result either of (a) natural poverty and incidentally uncongeniality of soil; (b) too close planting and insufficient soil moisture. If not a newly set tree, and the inquiry applies to the second or subsequent season's growth, the remedy is, preferably, an organic fertilizer containing principally nitrogen, such as stable manure, cotton seed meal, fish scrap, blood, well hoed or plowed under within a reasonable distance of the tree in the Spring. Two or three crops of cow peas or velvet beans would have the same, but a slower, effect.—H. C. W.

24.—What causes a vigorous

tree in June, July and August to have a young growth? Limbs die and you will cut the limb off, and find it is something like a cow with the hollow horn inside. It looks diseased, but the tree is growing fine, and in full strength and vigor.

Ans. If a "vigorous" tree, the term "the hollow horn inside" effect can only be caused by insects (borers), probably one of the *Ellaphidion* species. The better treatment in such cases is to examine the tree from time to time and cut off and destroy (by burning) all affected limbs or twigs, when first noticed, and thus at least keep the enemy in subjection. A tree will not, however, remain "vigorous" many years if annually subjected to such shocks during the growing season.—H. C. W.

25.—A dormant tree doesn't put out until about May, and then it will put out one thousand and one buds, where it ought not to have but two or three, and these buds are so full that if the tree is not looked after, it will die. It seems to me the tree woke up and found out it was behind the others in growth, and it then began trying to catch up; but there is some cause for it, and we would like to know the cause and remedy.

Ans. It is difficult to make an intelligent answer to this question as it is stated. The age, height, and the time the tree has been set out, and methods of pruning used should be stated also whether budded or grafted, and if either, the variety. Some varieties are

habitually later than others in putting out, the Stuart being a notable instance.—H. C. W.

26.—Why is it that pecan trees that are full of blooms will not hold their fruit; referring now to groves that have 2000 trees in them?

Ans. The question is too wide to answer specifically without fuller particulars. It may be said that if a tree has age and energy enough to produce large numbers of fruit buds (resulting in the case of the pecan of both staminate and pistillate blooms) and the young nuts habitually drop, or do not form, in normal seasons, the indication is that the soil is deficient in phosphoric acid and potash, both being essential in the production of good fruit (nuts). Young trees frequently bloom profusely a year or two before setting fruit, but the age, size or varieties of trees are not given. By the examination of the trees and soil by a person experienced in pecan culture, the cause could probably be at once determined and remedies suggested. As a general proposition the sandy soils of Florida are generally very deficient in potash.—H. C. W.



### Book Notices

Packing and Marketing Fruits, No. 5, of the Brother Jonathan series, by Prof. F. S. Waugh, price 25 cents. Published by the Fruit Grower Co., St. Joseph, Mo.

Insects of the Pecan, Bulletin No. 79, of the Florida Experiment Station, by H. S. Gossard, a valuable publication for the nut grower. It shows that insects are not only less common with the pecan than with the apple and other fruits, but are more easily held in control.

### Catalogue Mention

West Texas Pecan Nursery, E. E. Risien, proprietor, San Saba, Texas. Quotations for 1905-6.

The Planters' Handbook, Munson Nurseries, Dennison, Texas, 30 page catalogue and price list.

The Nut Nursery Co., Monticello, Fla., illustrated catalogue and price list of budded and grafted nut trees—16 pages.

P. J. Berckmans Co., Augusta, Ga., finely illustrated catalogue of fruit and nut trees and plants, and 48 pages of interesting matter.

Bay View Pecan and Grape Vine Nursery, C. Forkert, proprietor, Ocean Springs, Miss., descriptive price list of eight choice varieties of pecans.

Ocean Springs Pecan Nursery, Ocean Springs, Miss., Chas. E. Pabst, proprietor, price list for season of 1905-6, eight page leaflet with valuable information.

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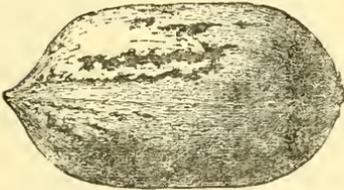
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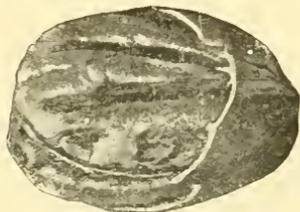
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**CHAS. E. PABST, Prop'r**

# THE NUT-GROWER

Official Organ of The National Nut-Growers' Association

Volume 4

NOVEMBER, 1905

Number 4

## MORE CONCERNING NUT GROWING

BY W. M. KING, Department of Agriculture.

**T**HERE is a growing tendency to use nuts more freely as an article of diet. The more the people become familiar with the many and excellent qualities of each variety, the greater will be the desire to obtain a supply and in this way the consumption by a far greater number of people will be the natural result.

Nut meal is known to greatly increase the nutritive value of bread and much of it is being used for this purpose in foreign countries where nuts are more extensively grown. When nuts can be had at a reasonable price they are fairly economical articles of diet for daily use and should be considered available sources of protein and energy and not as heretofore, be used almost exclusively as luxuries.

Peanuts and many other edible nuts are being more largely used than ever before in the making of candies and confec-

tions. The annual value of nut meat sold in a single city, that of St. Louis, is over \$250,000. Nuts are an excellent and satisfactory substitute for meat and in Southern Europe where they are cheap and plentiful they have almost entirely supplanted meat in the dietary of the masses. The more general use of nuts in our daily food is likely to follow as soon as the markets can be supplied with a sufficient quantity to cause a slight reduction in retail prices.

Persons who are not accustomed to eating nuts daily can soon acquire a fondness for them and improved health will follow. The almonds can be followed by other varieties but in less quantity. The hickory and pecan nuts make a desirable change. Once the nut-eating habit is formed, it is not likely to be discontinued.

According to the last census,

the value of the nuts produced in 1889 in the South Atlantic States was \$32,073. The trees producing them consisted mainly of the pecan, Persian or English walnut, almond and cocoanut. If the nuts of the chestnut, hickory and black walnut had been included, it is safe to assume that the total value of the edible nuts grown in the United States would have much exceeded \$1,950,161, those being the figures given in the 12th census.

Notwithstanding the damage which is done to the chestnut and pecan crop by the weevil, nut-growing is, and will continue to be, a profitable branch of farming. No one should be deterred from planting the trees for it is clearly within the province of the entomologist to discover methods by which the damage effected can be partially or even wholly controlled. The Florida Agricultural Experiment Station has just issued an important and timely Bulletin No. 79, relating to the injurious insects that attack the Japan and hickory nut trees. Pecan growers have found that it is not best to start a pecan orchard too close to a grove of wild pecan or hickory trees. They also advise that hogs and chickens have the range of the pecan orchard as soon as the trees come into bearing. As a preventive and remedial meas-

ure, the plan is to be commended.

One advantage of planting nut trees is that each year a properly planted grove of the kind best adapted to the locality, increases the selling value of the farm on account of the increasing crops which go to make up an additional source of revenue to the fortunate owner. The increasing value of the wood of the hickory and walnut makes a grove desirable from a lumberman's standpoint.

As to the culture of pecans it is now conceded that only budded or grafted trees should be used. Trees three years from the graft often bear a few nuts and begin to bear paying crops in ten to twelve years. Grafted trees are somewhat expensive but they are the cheapest in the end. The ordinary seedling nuts seldom sell for more than 10 cents per pound while the best of the grafted varieties command at least 20 cents per pound.



ENGLISH WALNUT CREAM.—Use French cream as directed, having ready shelled English walnuts, taking care not to break the meats. Make a ball about half the size of a walnut, place a half nut meat on either side of the ball, pressing them into the cream. Lay aside to dry.—Ex.

## PROMISING NEW FRUITS--PECANS

BY WM. A. TAYLOR,

Pomologist in charge of Field Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry.

(Continued from Last Month.)

### FROTSCHER PECAN.

**T**HIS variety was originated by the late Oscar Olivier in his garden beside the Bayou Teche at Olivier, Iberia Parish, La. The original tree, now owned by H. J. Pharr, is still healthy, vigorous and productive. Its exact age is not known, but the indications are that it was planted subsequent to 1860. It appears to have been first propagated about 1882 by William Nelson, and first catalogued by the late Richard Frotscher as "Frotscher's Eggshell," in 1885. Locally it is still known as the "Olivier" pecan, in honor of its originator.

#### DESCRIPTION.

Size large, averaging about 45 to 50 nuts per pound; form cylindrical oval with broad, rounded base and blunt quadrangular apex; suture rather indistinct; color bright yellowish brown, with scattered purplish black splashes toward apex; shell thin to very thin, with thin partitions; cracking quality excellent, kernel brownish yellow, often shrunken, showing dark veins even in the fresh nuts; texture rather

dry and coarse; flavor pleasant; quality medium.

The tree of Frotscher is a strong grower, of broadly spreading and sprawling habit, the young wood bright, brownish green in color and conspicuously dotted. The variety is precocious and productive, but the faulty character of many of its kernels and their stale appearance, even when perfectly fresh from the tree, materially lessens its value as a commercial variety.

The tree characters of Frotscher are quite clearly reproduced in its seedlings, and, as many of these have been planted throughout the South, there is much confusion regarding the variety.

### JEWETT PECAN.

The original Jewett pecan tree was grown from a nut planted on what is now known as the Wilcox place,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of Scranton, Miss., by the little son of Charles M. Cruzat, about 1881, it being the only one obtained from a half dozen nuts purchased in New Orleans at a cost of 50 cents. Mr. Cruzat has no information regarding the source of the nuts which he purchased,

but remembers that they were large, fine looking pecans. The tree commenced bearing at the age of 7 years, and attracted the attention of the late Col. W. R. Stuart, of Ocean Springs, Miss., who, purchased the crops for several years and cut scions for grafting in nursery. He introduced the variety in the form of grafted trees in 1893, naming it Jewett, in honor of Col. Stephen Jewett, of Crosby, N. C. The original tree is still standing, and is about 4 feet 7 inches in circumference, but is affected by a bark disease to which the variety appears specially susceptible, and is now bearing but light crops of nuts.

#### DESCRIPTION.

Size large to very large, varying from 45 to 55 nuts per pound; form long, angular, obovate, often constricted at middle, with a blunt quadrangular apex, which is often curved and beak-like; suture quite distinct; color dull reddish brown, with many purplish splashes, sometimes extending the full length of the nut; shell rather thick, with thin partitions, cracking easily but adhering to the kernel; kernel long, wedge-shaped, rather broadly grooved, bright in color, rather coarse in texture, and only fairly good in quality.

The Jewett tree is an erect, strong grower when young, and

is at least fairly productive. It is apparently very susceptible to a bark disease which has attacked the original tree and many of those propagated from it. Aside from the large size and striking appearance of a portion of its crop there appears to be little to commend it to planters.

#### PABST PECAN.

The original tree of the Pabst pecan is one of a number of seedlings on the grounds of the late William B. Schmidt, of New Orleans, at his country place at Ocean Springs, Miss. These trees were grown from nuts from unknown sources obtained in New Orleans about 1875. The Pabst tree proved to be an especially strong grower, yielding nuts of large size and plump kernel, and was first propagated by Mr. Charles E. Pabst, of Ocean Springs, in 1890. It was named in 1893 in honor of Mr. Pabst by Mr. B. M. Young, of Morgan City, La., who has done much to clear up the uncertainties regarding names and to determine the relative merits of pecan varieties.

The Pabst tree was over 5 feet in circumference when badly damaged by a severe wind and rain storm October 9, 1893, which destroyed most of its top. It has been replaced by two thrifty sprouts from the root of the original tree, which in 1903 were

good sized trees, 27 and 21 inches in circumference, respectively, and bearing nuts.

## DESCRIPTION.

Size large, averaging about 45 to 55 nuts per pound; form short, cylindrical, with a very blunt, broadly grooved apex; color dull gray, heavily splashed with purplish black; shell thick, hard; partitions rather thick; cracking quality medium; kernel plump, smooth, with broad grooves, bright straw color; texture fine; flavor delicate; quality very good.

The Pabst is a very sturdy, upright tree with stocky gray-green young wood, sparsely sprinkled with large dots. It appears to be fairly productive where it has been under test for a sufficient time to test its bearing habit.

## POST PECAN.

The original tree of the Post pecan is a wild seedling on the farm of Mr. H. B. Freeman, on the Colorado river bottom, in San Saba county, Tex., near Milburn, McCulloch county. The farm was formerly owned by a Mr. Post, by whose name the variety was locally known prior to 1891, when Mr. Herbert Post, of Fort Worth, Tex., began purchasing the crop and advertising it and other pecans widely under the trade name "Post's Select." Little effort appears to have been made to perpetuate the variety

by grafting until a comparatively recent date.

When examined by the writer in November, 1903, the original tree was in fairly thrifty condition, and had a circumference of 9 feet 8 inches at 18 inches from the ground. Its crop has varied from 1½ to 11 bushels per annum in recent years.

## DESCRIPTION.

Size medium, averaging about 65 to 75 nuts per pound; form compressed, short, obovate, with a rather blunt, conical apex; color bright reddish yellow, showing very few purple splashes; shell thick, partitions thick, cracking quality medium; kernel clear, bright straw color, but deeply grooved and wrinkled; texture firm, compact, fine grained; flavor delicate; quality good.

The original Post tree is a moderately strong, upright grower, with rather slender, bright young wood with numerous small dots, and is quite regularly productive. The variety has been fruited on buds or grafts in but few places, and its behavior outside of the locality of its origin can not yet be determined.

The variety described is the true Post. In recent years an entirely distinct sort, the Hollis, which originated at Bend, San Saba county, Tex., and is a larger and superior nut, has been

distributed by the introducer under the name "Post's Select."  
(to be continued)



### A Letter From the Field

Editor NUT-GROWER:—I don't suppose that a word or two from the field would be out of place at this time. My last letter, it seems, helped some of the beginners, and I hope some of the facts in this will be helpful. I was glad when I read the September number and found that the list of varieties had been boiled down. That is just what the beginner needs to know, and if there is not a set list he is likely to get wrong. However, this boiling down may hurt the feelings of some nurserymen, to find their pecan which they claimed to be the best in the world, just able to make 6th or 7th grade. I have been my own judge of pecan nuts; by paying \$1.00 per pound for seed. These are the varieties that I have seen and examined, viz: Bolton, Money Maker, Clark Schley, Stuart, Egg Shell, Dewey, 20th Century, Jacocks, etc. Now of all these I am partial to the Schley. As to the trees that bear these nuts I am unable to judge, but will follow The National Nut-Growers' Association's rating, viz: Stuart, Schley, Frotscher.

When I started to planting pecans I patterned after Mr. Hal-

bert, and am following him yet, but at a distance. I planted the Halbert pecan nuts where the trees are to stand, just as Mr. Halbert stated he did. This year I find that Mr. Halbert is budding and grafting, so I sent for a budding knife and am now in the budding business also. I have budded these fine seedlings of Halbert's over to the Schley, so you see I have fine stock to bud upon. Now, Mr. Editor, I hope Mr. Halbert is a good natured man, for certainly he is receiving a lot of punches, and the last one he got, from Mrs. Ellis, is so close home that it is hardly necessary for me to punch him again; but I do think when he had had so much experience with pecans, he should have told us that seedlings will not do--get budded pecan trees.

Now a few facts regarding my young trees. I gathered two Schley pecan nuts from two trees planted two years ago. These nuts matured all O. K. and are fully up to the sample. Every Schley tree I have, planted two years ago, bloomed this year; and about eight or ten set nuts. I have five each of the Bolton and Clark, one year older, and one bloomed a little but no nuts set. I find that with me the Schley, Stuart and Jacock's Mammoth are the fastest growing trees.

I am getting ready now to

plant about 240 budded trees this winter—and I mean to follow Mr. Halbert, viz: I am going to probe into the bowels of the earth to see if the dirt is alright. To do this I sent to Chicago for a post hole auger, which bores a hole 8 inches in diameter and 10 feet deep. This auger works nicely except in rocks or roots. I dig the holes 3 feet wide and 3 feet deep with a long shovel first, then I put in this auger, which makes a nice hole for the tap root.

I can't close without asking a question. I want you or some one else to tell me who is selling such nuts as Stuart, Frotsher, Columbian, etc., (not for seed) and what price is the raiser getting for them per pound?

A. B. SAMPLE.

Greenwood, S. C.



### Mr. Halbert Replies

Editor NUT-GROWER:—I see an article in your interesting journal headed "A Punch at Mr. Halbert," and as I bear that cognomen, I beg leave to defend myself against the unenviable light in which the good lady from Cameron, Tex., who signed the article, endeavors to show me. She starts out by saying she is "an old lady." This accounts for her effusion, and her age will cause me to throw a still

greater mantle of charity over it. She says that "she bought some nuts from me when I claimed that the nuts would come true to type, and that the tree was isolated, and that this claim was made in my circular." I have never had but one circular printed and on it appears the pecan tree interlocking limbs with adjacent trees and there is not a word in the circular about the trees being isolated. I would have been very foolish to have claimed isolation with the picture belieing my words. I said distinctly about planting nuts in said circular, "There is no more certainty of securing the identical nut planted than there is in planting the peach seed to get the identical peach."

I will attribute this defective memory to the good sister's age, or possibly she remembers names so indistinctly that she has me confused with some one else from whom she or her good son bought nuts. I have no recollection of selling them any, but I cannot remember all of my casual customers. I do not mind being called a crank, ridiculed or made fun of, but when it comes to impeaching my honesty and fair dealings, it stings, for this is the first effort I have ever had flung at me. But then it is only by an old lady.

(Continued on Page 66)

# The Nut-Grower

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A recent number of The Peach Grower had two important articles on the pecan nut.

Judicious pruning will produce an increase in growth of bearing wood. It will also add to the beauty of the tree in giving it regular form.

There are premonitions of a change of sentiment regarding the large pecans. Size is very well, but if quality and plumpness are lacking it does not count.

The reported sale of an interest in the G. M. Bacon Pecan Company to Chicago parties seems to have been premature. The negotiations were interrupted by the recent quarantine regulations.

"What is the typical Pecan?" will receive attention at the Dallas Convention. The consensus of opinion among the experts

who will be present will make interesting reading in some future number.

Plant trees—it will add to the selling price of your farm. Plant pecan trees and they will pay the taxes and keep up repairs, so that you can afford to keep the farm.

Did you ever notice shade trees by the wayside and observe how they are valued? Suppose they were pecans; how much would their value be increased, without detriment to their beauty and shade!

There is probably only one fruit tree, the olive, which surpasses the pecan in living to a great age. It promises to be a long time before the years of the pecan can be numbered.

There is no occasion to hurry in marketing nuts. They will keep all right while you are looking up the best market. You cannot do this with ordinary fruits, but must hurry, and then frequently fail to profit.

Planting season is again at hand. Don't be afraid to cut back the tops of trees when they are put out. They will start into growth better for such treatment, besides the loss will be less

in dead trees.

Systematic work in examining and grading nuts, according to the scale of points adopted by the National Nut-Growers' Association, is an interesting and profitable study. Suitable blanks for this work can be had at this office by sending ten cents to cover expenses and postage.

The planting of pecan trees, in large commercial peach orchards, is becoming common. It is figured that they take but little space, only one pecan to six or eight peaches, and will be coming into bearing by the time the peach trees have out grown their usefulness.

The character of pecan trees, in growth, productiveness and freedom from insect injury and diseases, is a matter of careful study on the part of those who plan well for profit in nut culture. This is more important than even size and quality of the nuts. Abundant and regular crops are the objects sought.

We have use for a new word or term, which can be conveniently looked on to names like Van Deman, Nelson, Bacon, Curtis and a score or more of others, who have distinguished

themselves as nut experts. They are more than horticulturists or pomologists, because their callings have been but stepping stones to a higher profession.

The Council of Horticulture which had its inception at St. Louis in 1904, assumed definite shape at a meeting of the organizing committee recently held in Chicago. The object is to fraternize horticultural interests in North America.

A subscriber adds a significant postscript to a recent business letter, as follows: "One of my Schley trees planted two years ago (a budded tree, 2 year bud on 2 year stock), bore this year. Some contend that the Schley is not an early fruiter. Looks like they might be mistaken."

We recently had our attention called to a pecan tree which had been top worked to two selected varieties, both of which have been in bearing several years. An inquiry as to the relative bearing of these varieties under identically the same circumstances developed the information that one of these varieties was in some seasons much injured by the bud worm, while the other one was not injured enough to reduce the yield of nuts. This calls to mind Captain Cuttle's injunction, "make a note of it."

**Mr. Halbert Replies**

(Continued From Page 63)

The other points she tries to make at my expense do not amount to a great deal, but I will briefly touch on them. She says a three cent pecan is about as big as a bullet. Pecans this year are selling on the market for six or seven cents, when the same pecan sold a few years back for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents. So, my good sister, it is the fluctuation of the market from year to year that makes the pecans sell from three to eight cents and not their different sizes. She says my fine pecans three or four years ago weighed 84 to the pound. Possibly so. This year, on account of a very severe drouth and the immense crop on the fine tree, I believe it will take 90 to 100 on the original tree to make a pound; yet some buds from the same tree, one and two years old, that were not crowded with nuts and were supported by an immense root system of a large tree, bore nuts that 50 weighed a pound. After quoting what I said about "when buds will bear and the amount of income they bring," she asks, "What is a paying income?" From buds of two years growth, I gathered, this year, \$5.00 worth of nuts, and from the three year old \$10.00 worth of nuts. This pays me very well for time and atten-

tion given them. I regret not having more of them to fill all of my orders. She then quotes from the Texas Almanac to show that I claimed an income of \$253.50 cents from a single tree and in the Nut Journal an income of over \$250.00 from the same tree. I take it that she wants to show up my inconsistency in writing. Then she says I should cultivate a better memory of what I write. I ask the good sister if her mathematics don't show her that \$253.50 is over \$250.00. Then where is the inconsistency? She says she noticed that I learned something at the New Orleans Convention. Why of course; I went there for that purpose. I also went to St. Louis for the same purpose, and I am going to Dallas for the same purpose. Did the good sister suppose I was too old to learn? If she is not, I would be glad to meet her at the Dallas Convention and see if she can't learn something too.

H. A. HALBERT.

Coleman, Tex.

**Pecan Trees For Ornament**

EDITOR NUT-GROWER:--It strikes me that not enough stress is laid upon the importance of planting a few pecan trees about the home, and I think this matter should be brought to the attention of the home owners as strongly as possible.

This idea was indelibly impressed upon my mind several years ago when my wife and I paid a visit to her grandmother, who had thoughtfully planted two pecan nuts in her back yard about 20 years ago. The two trees grown from those nuts are now over fifty feet high, and have produced as many as 15 bushels of nuts in a season. Her children, grand-children and great grand-children are now and have been enjoying them every year for the past ten years.

There is a pecan tree on a vacant lot in sight of where I am now writing, which is about 25 feet high. It is full of nuts and it is a delight to see the eagerness with which the small boys and girls in the neighborhood are gathering them. What a pity more of our fathers and grandfathers did not think to plant a few trees about the home, and will not our children and grand-children some day make this same remark unless we are more thoughtful?

There is even enough ground around almost every city home to plant from 2 to 6 trees, and when we stop to think how many of the most delicious nuts even this many trees will produce in a few years, to say nothing of the pleasant shade, and how much enjoyment they will give to so many people, the question

naturally arises, in what way can I better perpetuate my name and memory than to plant a pecan tree?

Why plant a meaningless shade tree? In other words why kill one bird with a stone when it is as easy to kill two? The proportion of those who have the means, the ground and the time to plant two or three pecan trees, to those who are in a position to plant and care for a grove of one hundred or more trees, is very greatly in favor of the former.

In my humble opinion it will be a very great number of years longer before pecan nuts will be as plentiful in the South as they should be, unless the importance of planting a few trees around the home is urgently impressed upon the individual home owner. It would seem the press should be very willing to take this matter up and in a systematic way educate the people up to the idea.

Trusting that you can use this suggestion at the Fourth Annual Convention, I am with best wishes and kindest regards,

NORWOOD ROBSON.

Macon, Ga.



## Pecan Thrashing in Texas

BY E. E. RISEN.

I have been hoping for some time that some one would bring up the subject of pecan thrash-

ing, for this class of labor is getting to be a tough problem to solve here, caused mostly, I think, from the high price of cotton. Since it has been proven that pecan thrashers promptly go out of business after buying a marriage license, it leaves us in a dilemma for which I have found no solution. With a few exceptions \$1.00 a day at other work satisfies better after marriage than \$2.50, the ruling price before. To many of your readers this will doubtless be something new in the line of "before and after," but it is a fact just the same.

Some of my trees I suppose were growing when Columbus discovered America. These go by the name of "sky scrapers." I don't ask any one to thrash them, although I have in mind one that yielded 22 bushels before this class of labor was so hard to procure, but now the waste is getting enormous from the lack of skilled thrashers. The word "skilled" is quite in place in this work.

The best thrasher I ever had was a man some twenty five years old. He unfortunately was subject to fits. The reason I took him was because it was either him or none. Of course I had the uncomfortable feeling of expecting a fall at any moment I was told, however, that so long

as he kept working there was no danger, but only at an interval of rest. I paid him \$3.00 a day, and he was not only the best but the cheapest, because there were no wind falls to be found when he got through with a tree.

Some parties here have tried Mexicans, but as yet no good reports come from that source; negroes are scarce and I don't know of a single one at this time. Our native boys are good enough when we can get them. How this part of the industry is managed in other parts will read very interesting to the writer.



### Pollinization of the Pecan

Editor NUT-GROWER.—What data is there at hand relative to pollinization of pecans when but one variety is planted, and would it be beneficial to the productiveness of the grove to plant more than one variety? If so, have we any orchards growing and in bearing of but one variety, so as to have a source of authoritative information?

If but one variety was planted what should then be, ignoring the largest or showiest nut, but considering early, regular bearing and productiveness, with good size; or getting down to business, figuring it on a dollar and cent basis? That means which will make the most money,

or has the best chance to? Information would be appreciated.

S. J. VERHELEN.

In answering this question I beg leave to say I have had ample opportunity, for several years, in observing the blooming period of the pecan by climbing in and out of the trees for the purpose of crossbreeding, viz: hybridizing. I have observed but one variety which begins shedding its pollen prematurely to receptive pistillate bloom. This is Columbia, and that may be the cause of its often imperfect kernel. Most other varieties observed are regular, the pollen of the staminate flowers ripens and sheds when the pistillate flowers are receptive, both of which depend considerably on climatic conditions, yet there is ample pollen to fertilize all the pistillate flowers and considerable to waste. The staminate flowers are produced considerably in excess, but exceptions may occur and this is out of our power to regulate. If several trees or an orchard be planted and one or the other tree should bear no staminate flowers at all, the pollen from the other trees will fertilize the pistillate flowers of that tree, unless a tree should produce staminate flowers only, or a tree standing all by itself bearing only pistillate flowers, in such instances quite naturally no nuts or fruit could be expected.

Climatic conditions have considerable to do with a perfect setting of fruit or nuts. Warm, bright, dry and still weather will be very congenial, whereas cold, cloudy, stormy, wet weather may cause a very imperfect setting. A strong wind blowing from one direction for some length of time during blooming period may cause trees to be barren on that side, but such as this is not in man's power to adjust. In regard to pollenization, a pecan orchard planted of several varieties may have its advan-

tages over one planted of of one variety only. My experience with several of the best varieties, like the Russell, Stuart, Pabst and Success, is that they will bear well, climatic conditions being right, whether there be one tree or an orchard of one or several varieties combined. They are, either one, or all, very perfect bloomers; the Russell should not, however, be planted far out of its Southern range, as it seems that the Southern conditions are most congenial to its perfection.

C. FORKERT.



### Modern Pecan Culture

Since the organization of the National Nut-Growers' Association in November, 1902, rapid and substantial progress has been made in the nut growing industry. Growers in many different states have been brought into close touch with each other, reliable information has been gathered and given wide currency, improved methods of cultivation exploited, the ways of the fraudulent dealer exposed and confidence in the business established to such an extent that large commercial groves are now being planted in several different states, where formerly but a few acres or a few trees for home use or ornament measured the extent of nut cultivation east of the Pacific slope.

But this is not all. The recognition of superior varieties and their recent successful propaga-

tion by annular budding and grafting has placed nut growing on a level with other lines of modern fruit culture as carried on commercially. The same considerations which prompt the growing of an Elberta peach or a Ben Davis apple apply with still greater force to the choice varieties of pecans. By buds and grafts we gain much more than the certain production of a choice kind, which is not possible in a commercial way with seedling trees. A budded or grafted pecan will bear remunerative crops in half the time a seedling will require, the danger of having barren trees is eliminated, the regular and abundant bearing characters of selected trees are thus reproduced, while the uniform product of an improved variety adds to its market value, bringing prices much above those of a lot of mixed seedlings.

In contrast with other lines of fruit culture there is much in favor of the pecan. The tree is long lived, and one planting furnishes profits for several generations. The crop is not so perishable and can be marketed at pleasure. There is no possible chance of overstocking the market for years to come, for the demand is increasing much faster than the acreage is being enlarged. The profits, with a minimum yield at the lowest prices

for inferior wild nuts, pays a handsome dividend on the cost of a similar acreage planted in an improved manner with budded and grafted trees of the choicest varieties.

The pecan bears regularly, is not subject to injury by late frosts, is more free from insect injury than most of fruits, and is exempt from the ravages of the San Jose scale. However, with all this in favor of the pecan, it is important that planting be done wisely, under the direction of experienced growers, and when trees of standard varieties are properly planted they need regular care and cultivation in order that the best results may follow. The occupation is a delightful one for those horticulturally inclined, and combines well with poultry and livestock raising, bee culture or gardening.—J. F. WILSON, in *The Peach Grower*.



### Bearing Age of Pecan Trees

I am now convinced that the bearing age of pecan trees is determined mainly by the character of the soil in which they are planted. Of course I know that it is also influenced by strain or variety. That some varieties come early into bearing is well established. But from my experience I conclude any variety

will come into bearing much younger when planted on light sandy soil than if planted on a deep rich soil such as we have along the rivers and bayous here in Louisiana. In this last named soil the trees make a vigorous growth and continue this vigorous growth for years, until a very large tree is formed. On the lighter soils the growth is shorter; the trees reach maturity quickly, and at once come into fruiting conditions.

I have seen pecan trees along the Gulf Coast in Mississippi, 10 or 12 feet high, planted only 4 or 5 years, in full bearing, meaning that the trees were loaded down with nuts. This is never seen in my immediate locality and could not be brought about by any means I know of except by a very serious injury to the tree.

In all fruit trees there seems to be a certain maturity of growth necessary before fruit is produced. That this condition is much hastened where the growth of the tree is retarded seems to be well established. This is a fact well known to horticulturists. To cite a common experiment, if a branch of a fruit tree is girdled so as to partly cut off the return flow of sap, that particular branch will bear fruit the following year. This accounts for the practice sometimes

adopted by our older residents here of boring holes in the trunks of large trees and plugging them up again, to force them into bearing. It would seem from all this that the bearing age of pecan trees will vary with the localities in which they are grown.

The fact that some varieties are very poor bearers must not be overlooked; these should not be planted anywhere. An important feature of the subject is here suggested, and one that as yet it is not possible to decide. This is, will the early maturity of the trees planted on light soils shorten their lives? Will they become unproductive after twenty or more years of fruitfulness, can their vitality be kept up by cultivation and the liberal use of fertilizers?

Since the propagation of the best varieties of budding and grafting has become common, perpetuating varieties that bear abundantly and as far as possible, annular bearers, I think we may confidently look for a much larger yield when these varieties reach maturity.—Farm and Ranch.



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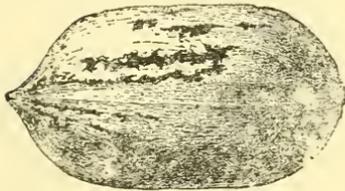
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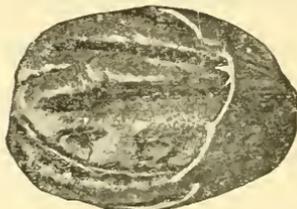
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# THE NUT-GROWER

Official Organ of The National Nut-Growers' Association

Volume 4

DECEMBER, 1905

Number 5

## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS

Delivered at the National Nut-Growers' Association at Dallas, Texas, December 7

By G. M. BACON.

IN coming to Texas we realize a pleasure long anticipated. The welcome accords with our fond anticipations and I am sure our memories of the event will be cherished in the years to come.

Simple words of thanks seem unworthy of a welcome which corresponds with the size of the great State where we assemble for our 1905 meeting. But we are here for work in a chosen and beloved calling, one that is attracting merited attention and one which offers exceptional inducements and opportunities for pleasure and profit.

Our deliberations will be a guiding star to thousands of interested people all over this land, and of interest in foreign countries as well. It becomes us then to attend to our work with care, to dispatch business with skillful deliberation and make this meeting a stepping

stone to greater achievements for the benefit of our members and profit to the general public.

The program arranged for this meeting, which is already in your hands, needs no commendation from your presiding officer. The subjects suggested are live and practical; the speakers are specialists in the matters assigned, while the general subjects and discussions are sure to bring out the best thought and most practical experience that the present status of the industry affords.

Through our several committees you will be advised of accomplished results during the past year. In a general way I may say that in no year since our organization has our work been more favorably regarded by the public at large, or the value of our work been more apparent. The future has much

in store, but we must be alive, progressive and industrious in order to work out our obvious destiny.

In many sections of our territory abundant crops have been gathered during the past season. Budded and grafted trees are rapidly coming into bearing and all such varieties are in increasing demand, the products of which sell for highly remunerative prices. Local seasonable causes have curtailed the production in some sections, but on the whole the season has been one of great encouragement and holds rich promises for the future.

One of the marked results of our work is the rapidly increasing confidence in the business, which is conclusively demonstrated in the organization of many large commercial groves in different localities, principally (from positive information) in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. These organizations represent capital and skill and they are promoted for the specific purpose of pecuniary profit. The example which such movements give, can hardly fail to inspire individual efforts on the part of our general farmers to plant these same trees out of which the capitalist as well as small investors make money.

Our work is doubly important

on account of the fact that a pecan is a permanent investment of the amount it cost in cash, labor and time necessary to bring it into bearing. This investment of a three-fold character, if wisely made, is of untold value for a period covering several generations, rather than the span of a single life. On the other hand it may be a perpetual disappointment to the planter and a monument to his lack of care and skill. A word to the wise is sufficient.

During the past year some of the largest investments ever made in our line have been planned, organized and active work started, and a few years time will surely produce surprising results. These investments are not confined to any particular locality, but are found from the Atlantic all along the Gulf coast into your own great State of Texas. Our future work will embrace the tabulation of information embracing all operations of this kind.

The details of our work will come before you in regular order in reports of special and standing committees. I bespeak for all such reports your careful attention, and due deliberation in such matters as require action at your hands.

At our meeting in 1904 the Committee on Resolutions

embraced in its report a recommendation, which was adopted, that your President appoint a special committee to confer with the United States Department of Agriculture with a view to cooperative work in lines in which both would be mutually helpful to the industry. This matter has been under consideration and it seems of such importance that I have thought it best to ask the assistance of this Convention (through your Committee on Nominations) in selecting the committee. I have placed in the hands of the Secretary a memoranda on this matter which will be brought to the attention of the Committee on Nominations and through this channel reach you for consideration.

There is no agency which is at present accomplishing more or which promises greater good to the interest we have in hand than the two publications devoted exclusively to this business.

THE NUT-GROWER, our official organ, so ably edited and managed by our Secretary, is nearly as old as the Association, which a few days ago passed the fourth anniversary of the initial meeting of this body. It early demonstrated its usefulness in bringing about the splendid results of the first convention at Macon,

Ga., in 1902. Since then it has been enlarged and improved in various ways.

The American Nut Journal is a more recent addition to our small list of nucicultural periodicals and supplements, rather than competes with our official organ in giving prominence to the commercial features of the industry, market reports etc., and represents us as well as the large peanut interests which are centralized at Petersburg, Va., its place of publication.

These journals are the only ones in the world devoted entirely to this important branch of horticulture. They merit, and should receive the active and substantial sentiment which they are building up in favor of nut culture.

The administration of our affairs as an organization have been largely in the hands of our Secretary, whose fidelity and skill needs no commendation at my hands. I cannot relinquish my position as President without assuring you that the services demanded of and freely performed by our Secretary merit a much greater pecuniary reward than has been allowed during the past. When we organized at Macon, Georgia, in 1902 our membership was so small and our resources so very limited that an allowance of \$50

a year was all that the Executive Committee felt able to appropriate at that time. In the years which have since intervened the work has increased many fold, the revenues, and of course expenses, have been much enlarged, but since our revenue has more than kept pace with the increase in expenses, the Secretary's salary still remains at the original modest sum. I trust this meeting will take due cognizance of this matter.

Much interest was manifested at our St. Louis meeting in the matter of experimental work, to be conducted in different States, with a view to gaining practical information as to the adaptability of our choice varieties to the varying conditions of soil, and climatic and other environments. You remember, the subject was referred to a special committee with whose reports you are familiar, and that various members generously offered to donate trees for such use. Lack of available funds has thus far prevented any operations in this line, but the value of information of the kind necessary for the work contemplated becomes more apparent as each year passes. I suggest for your consideration the advisability of having a standing committee in whose hands this important matter can be placed. In this con-

nection, I am pleased to report that The Nut-Grower Company has partly effected arrangements for conducting interesting work in this particular line in Southwest Georgia, and negotiations are pending for making similar arrangements with several respective commercial orchards in other States. The policy in these prospective arrangements is, to make the skill and experience of our officials who may have charge of the work available for the horticultural direction of the commercial enterprises which perform the experimental work under our direction.

Many of you are familiar with the untoward circumstances which greatly delayed the publication of our 1904 Proceedings. The protracted and finally fatal illness of Mr. Barnett, the Convention reporter, began shortly after our last meeting, before the report of the Proceedings was complete. After his death much difficulty was encountered in having his notes transcribed, and when the report was finally received it was found to require time and labor to prepare it for publication. Doubtless many errors and mistakes have escaped detection, but the volume recently sent out is the most valuable addition to our literature, being replete with data of

(Continued on page 88)

## PROMISING NEW FRUITS--PECANS

BY WILLIAM A. TAYLOR

Pomelologist in charge of Field Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry.

(Continued from last month.)

### ROME PECAN.

The original tree of the Rome pecan was grown from a nut garden at Convent, La. It has been planted by the late Sebastian Rome in his garden at Convent, St. James Parish, La., about 1840. The source from which the nut which he planted was secured is not known. The variety appears to have been first propagated by Mr. William Nelson, who took scions from the tree about 1882, and it was first catalogued by Richard Frotscher in 1882 under the name "Rome." About 1883, the late Emil Bourgeois, of Central, La., secured scions from the original tree and top-grafted some seedling trees at his home on Rapidian plantation in the same parish. There it was christened "Pride of the Coast," and soon thereafter Mr. Bourgeois began its propagation in nursery under that name. This variety yields the largest nuts of any yet brought to notice, and has therefore been the subject of deliberate renaming by nurserymen and seedsmen more frequently than any other. This accounts for the diversity and number of its synonyms.

The original tree of the Rome

is still standing in the Rome garden at Convent, La. It has been a state of decrepitude for several years, and now yields but light crops of nuts, many of which have imperfect kernels.

### DESCRIPTION.

Size variable, large to very large, 40 to 55 nuts per pound, selected samples running as large as 25 per pound; form oblong or cylindrical oval, tapering gradually to the wedge-shaped apex; color grayish, often heavily splashed and spattered with purplish black over most of the surface; shell thick, hard; partitions thick; cracking quality poor; kernel often shrunken or entirely "false;" color bright, texture rather coarse and dry; flavor fair, quality good when plump and well filled, but usually quite indifferent.

The Rome tree is an erect, fairly strong grower, with rather stout bluish-green young wood. It occasionally bears large crops, but is erratic in this respect, and at most points where it has been tested a large proportion of the kernels are defective.

Aside from the fact that a portion of the crop is of extraordinary size, there is little to commend it to the planter.

#### RUSSELL PECAN.

The Russell pecan tree, like all others at Ocean Springs, Miss., was grown from planted nuts, that locality being below the native range of the species in that section. This tree was one of a lot of seedlings grown by the late Col. W. R. Stuart, of Ocean Springs, Miss., about 1857, from nuts secured by him from James Moore, a blacksmith of that village. The exact source from which Moore secured the nuts is not known. Colonel Stuart sold five of these seedling trees to Peter Madison, who planted them in his garden, now the property of Mrs. H. F. Russell. Of the five trees, four produced nuts of good size and thin shell, the largest and thinnest shelled one receiving the name Russell from Mr. Charles E. Pabst, who first propagated it in 1894. The tree is a fairly regular bearer, averaging about 150 pounds of nuts per annum, and, though receiving little care or attention, is a healthy, vigorous tree at present writing. It has attained a high local reputation on account of its exceptionally thin shell and regularity of bearing.

#### DESCRIPTION.

Size medium to large, 55 to 60 nuts per pound; form compressed, oval, tapering to a long, sharp apex and a rather pointed base; color grayish brown, with narrow splashes and splatters of purplish black; shell very thin, and fragile, cracking quality excellent; kernel broadly grooved, rather dark straw color, often lacking in plumpness and defective at tip, texture rather dry, flavor pleasant, quality good.

The tree is rather pendulous in habit, with slender, dark, conspicuously dotted young wood, bearing regularly and well, so far as tested.

#### SAN SABA PECAN.

The original San Saba tree is a native seedling on the San Saba River bottom, near the intersection of that stream with the Colorado of Texas. It came to the notice of Mr. E. E. Risien, its present owner, as the result of the offer of a \$5 premium by him for the best pecan that should be brought to him with the privilege of purchasing its crop. He was so impressed with the superiority of this one that he purchased the farm upon which it stands in order to secure the tree, although he found that it had been so ruthlessly stripped of its top with ax and saw in harvesting the crop that only a single branch remained.

After repeated failures in his attempts at grafting, Mr. Risien developed a method of annular budding, which is very successful with him, and which has enabled him to transform the tops of many large wild pecan trees into this choice sort, as well as to bud young seedlings in nursery for transplanting to orchard.

Mr. Risien formally introduced the variety under the name San Saba about 1893. The original tree is at present a fine, healthy specimen, with a girth of 9 feet 6 inches, bearing an average crop of about 180 pounds of nuts.

#### DESCRIPTION.

Size small to medium, averaging about 85 to 90 nuts per pound; form varying from long oval to oblong, with blunt apex; color bright, reddish yellow, strongly splashed toward the apex with purplish black; shell very thin and brittle, though quite dense in texture; partitions thin; cracking quality very good; kernel plump, bright straw color, smooth and broadly grooved, almost invariably well filled; texture delicate, solid, fine grained; flavor very delicate; quality best. The tree is a short-jointed, rather slender grower, enormously productive in the vicinity of its place of its origin. It has not yet been fruited elsewhere to any extent,

but is considered one of the best high-grade dessert varieties. On account of the thinness of shell, the nuts should be packed in relatively small boxes when shipped to avoid cracking in transit. Its small size is its only conspicuous fault.

(To be Continued.)



### Burbank's Walnut Trees

The report that Luther Burbank has succeeded in producing two varieties of black walnut trees which grow with remarkable rapidity will prove of much interest to users of this wood. Black walnut, which a few years ago was plentiful and cheap, is now very scarce and commands a high price, the wood ranging from \$250 to \$500 a thousand feet. Mr. Burbank, according to the report, says that no tree has ever been found which makes so rapid a growth as the two walnut trees which he has produced. They excel other trees from 25 to 50 per cent. in growth of wood. Trees not yet 14 years old are said to have a circumference of six feet at a height of three feet from the ground. If the trees prove to be as valuable as they are said to be, their production will be not the least among the things which Mr. Burbank has done.—Green's Fruit Grower.

# The Nut-Grower

Published by The Nut-Grower Co.

Entered as second-class matter at the Postoffice at Poulam, Ga., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Subscription Price: 50c per Annum  
Advertising Rates Sent Upon Application

DECEMBER, 1905

## The Dallas Convention

This meeting was fully up to the standard of interest and practical benefit which marks all these Conventions. The attendance was very encouraging, as to members, and was representative of all the more important nut growing States east of the Rocky Mountains.

A spirit of active and intelligent interest in the industry was prominent throughout all the session. All the former papers were given close attention, and discussions were lively and to the point.

The most casual observer could not fail to notice the prevalent spirit of confidence and faith in the nut growing business, while the desire for practical knowledge of the ins and outs of successful operations prevailed the entire gathering. All were after information, and the satisfaction at the close of the meeting indicated that it paid to be there.

Much important work was accomplished and provided for by the regular and special committees. The president's address was a careful review of the work accomplished, with pertinent suggestions for the future. Special pains were taken to secure a full stenographic report of the proceedings, which will be carefully edited by a special committee, and published at as early a day as practicable.

The exhibits were of unusual interest and of much importance. Ladies were much in evidence at the meeting and contributed largely to its success.

In subsequent issues we will give space to as much Convention matter as circumstances will permit.

John S. Horlbeck, of South Carolina, is exploiting a promising nut, which he calls the "Laurel"

Nut meat is rapidly coming into demand. A firm at San Antonio, Texas, handles 15,000 pounds of pecans a day.

A Florida nurseryman reports a sale of 10,000 budded pecan trees to one firm, which will plant them this season in Louisiana.

Cordial greeting from Cole-

man's Rural World, St. Louis, Mo., to the Dallas Convention, gave assurance of their interest in the nut growing proposition.

The Annual Review and Harvest edition of the California Fruit Grower is of much interest and of particular benefit to the Pacific Coast fruit interests.

Sample of the "Bayel" pecan have been submitted for examination by the Committee on Standards. This is a Florida variety propagated by Jas. A. Bear, of Palatka.

The typical pecan seems to require quality, reliable bearing, and plumpness of kernel, rather than size. For purely commercial planting the order of preference may be changed.

While en route to Dallas we had time at New Orleans to call upon some of our advertising patrons, especially the widely known J. Steckler Seed Company, who have a new ad in this issue.

The new President of The National Nut-Growers' Association, Mr. E. W. Kirkpatrick, is well and widely known in horticultural circles, and his preference for the pecan has made him a prominent figure at all of the

nut growers' Conventions.

A small add of Mr. Guy P. Stubbs, in the November issue, went wrong in locating him at Naomi, La., instead of Monroe, La. Those who wrote him will understand that he is not to blame for delay in answering inquires, unless they are sent to Monroe.

The number of persons who have attended all of the four Conventions, was much reduced at the Dallas meeting, and some of them were late in arriving. But then they traveled a long ways. One Florida member made a round trip of over 3,000 miles in order to attend. Several others made nearly as long a journey.

Cutting back pecans at time of planting is not the common practice, as with other fruit trees. However the claim is made that a larger percentage of trees will live if well cut back. It is worth a trial, as there is no danger of killing the tree by cutting off a third or more when it is removed to its place in the permanent orchard.

#### A Letter From Michigan

The Nut-Grower is a welcome visitor in other sections of the country as well as in Texas and

all other localities where the pecan thrives. The following shows how it is used in Michigan:

We are now receiving the paper that you kindly had sent to us. In behalf of the Horticultural Department and the students who make use of the reading-room, I wish to thank you for your courtesy. The paper is now on file in the reading-room, and is open to consultation by all students in the agricultural course.

Very truly yours,  
S. W. FLETCHER.

Professor Michigan Agricultural College.



### An Enthusiastic Meeting

The fourth annual convention of The National Nut-Growers' Association was held at Dallas, Texas, December 7-8-9. The attendance was large and representative, members from ten states being present. With few exceptions the published program was carried out.

Both President Bacon and First Vice-President Nelson being absent, Dr. J. B. Cartis, Second Vice-President, Prof. F. H. Burnett, Vice-President for Louisiana, and Mr. E. W. Kirkpatrick, presided at the various sessions.

One of the most interesting features of the Convention was the exhibit of nuts, nut products, nursery stock, etc., which attracted considerable attention.

Samples of all the nuts in this exhibit were voted to the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College.

The nut trade journals receive many commendations for the assistance rendered the Association and the industry at large, and plans for aiding them to secure increased patronage were adopted. A Committee on Publicity, consisting of H. S. Watson, of Illinois, E. M. Treakle, of Missouri and J. F. Wilson, of Georgia, was also appointed, whose duty it will be to popularize the industry still more.

The matter of a traveling exhibit which could visit certain selected points and display the resources of the industry, was discussed but no definite action taken.

The life membership fee was reduced from \$50.00 to \$10.00 as an inducement for more members to enter this class, and a number immediately took the opportunity to enroll themselves.

The matter of place of next meeting of the Association was referred to the Executive Committee, which will probably decide in favor of either Scranton, Miss., or Albany, Ga.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

President, E. W. Kirkpatrick, McKinney, Tex.

First Vice-President, Dr. J.

B. Curtis, Orange Heights, Fla.  
 Second Vice-President, Prof.  
 F. H. Burnette, Baton Rouge,  
 La.

Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. J. F.  
 Wilson, Poulan, Ga.

The Dallas Commercial Club entertained the delegates with a smoker on the evening of the 8th. Light refreshments were served, and the occasion was much enjoyed by all.

Dallas having agreed to furnish a stenographic report of the Convention and to pay \$50 toward the publication of the proceedings, a resolution was passed by the Convention requiring candidates for future meetings to agree to the same terms.

As soon as the official report of the Convention is received from the stenographer, work will begin on the proceedings.



### To Kill the Chestnut Weevil

While hydrocyanic acid gas could be used for destroying weevils in chestnuts, bisulphide of carbon is better. The former gas is lighter than air and is therefore adapted to the fumigation of large enclosures, like elevators and mills, while the latter is heavier than air and will penetrate through grain in store or nuts in a bowl or bin. Prof. F. H. Chittenden, of the United States Department of Agricul-

ture, has given this subject much attention. The value of bisulphide of carbon as a fumigant for chestnuts infested by weevils is now fully established. Prof. Chittenden says:

"Although at first thought it would seem difficult for the gas to penetrate through shells so firm and compact and kill the larvæ, nevertheless a prominent grower in Pennsylvania successfully uses the bisulphide, applying it when the nuts are first harvested. The dead weevil larvæ are at this time so small that the average person would never detect their presence, while if they were permitted to develop they would soon destroy the nut for food. Bisulphide of carbon has been used on the largest chestnuts grown in this country, and, since a score or two of larvæ find shelter in a single nut, one can appreciate the desirability of prompt fumigation. The grower mentioned uses bisulphide of carbon at the rate of one ounce to a bushel of Paragon nuts placed in a kerosene barrel of about 50 gallons capacity and covered by sacking. "After after an exposure of about 16 hours the nuts are removed, the larvæ being then practically all destroyed. Several hundred pounds were treated in 1904 in this manner with perfectly satisfactory results."

### President's Address

(Continued from page 80)

practical interest, and will, in my opinion, be highly appreciated by all interested in our work. Other difficulties were encountered, which have not heretofore been made public, but you should know them and make provisions for preventing such embarrassments in the future.

This volume of proceedings is more than twice the size of our former issue. An edition of 500 copies of the 1903 Proceedings was practically exhausted within a few months of its publication. It was deemed expedient to increase the size of the 1904 edition to 750 copies. Thus we increased the cost per page and as previously stated, more than double the number of pages, while the care exercised in the selection of advertisements admitted, prevented any increase of revenue from that source. When I stated that our available financial resources were not sufficient to meet this additional expense, and that a small debt to the Secretary-Treasurer has been carried over from the previous year, you will see that some one has had to provide funds for this work, as current expenses required all our regular income from membership dues. This condition was the

occasion for further delay, and you should await the report of our Executive Committee and Ways and Means Committee before attaching any blame for the delay in issuing the publication.

A review of further work may not be out of place at this time. While our membership is scattered over a wide territory, still our distinguishing work has been in connection with pecans. Although this surpassing nut prompted this National Association and enlisted Southern men who were familiar with it, still we have work to do in other parts of the land, where the pecan is not available but where other nuts find congenial surroundings. How to make out of the hickory nut, the walnut, the chestnut, and other valuable nuts, for other sections, what the pecan is doing for the lower South and to Texas, is a subject to which I wish to attract your attention. While we may not yet be ready for such a move, I want to throw out the idea that eventually we may have sections of our organization, each devoted to a particular nut, and possibly, with auxiliary meetings in localities where the various nuts find the most favorable conditions.

A chestnut section would be at home in Pennsylvania or Maryland; the hickory nut

would cover a wide belt, with headquarters in the Mississippi Valley; California could claim the almond; the Persian walnut belongs for the time being to the Pacific Coast. Such auxiliaries would work great good to all these allied interests, which are so widely separated, temporarily, that they cannot well all be adequately represented at such a meeting as this. I have no recommendation on this point, but simply throw out the suggestion for future consideration.

Another suggestion is, that we cultivate closer relations with other bodies and especially with railroad companies who are alive to the development of territory along their line. Mutual assistance would be of mutual benefit to the public's good. In this connection, I wish to express appreciation of many favors and courtesies we have received from such sources.

Your particular attention is invited to the large and instructive exhibit we have at this Convention. I know it is of much interest, and I use it now to illustrate a plan suggested. Those who are now present and all who come to see this exhibit are already more or less interested in the industry. Are we not in the position of the prophet? If the mountain will not come to Ma-

homet, Mahomet must go to the mountain. Since but comparatively few can come to our exhibit at Dallas, would it be possible to take the exhibit, or an even better one to the people? It seems to me that by a judicious assembling of interests we represent with those of real estate people and railroads having new territory to develop, that a car of nut exhibits might be installed and sent on a mission of usefulness all over the country, touching at as many state and county fairs as practicable and stopping for a few hours at selected points on selected routes. This exhibit should be equipped with a printing outfit to supply ample advertising matter en route. Such a program under the auspices of this Association could accomplish wonderful results for Texas and all other Southern territory, and would not be a difficult proposition if rightly handled.

Our work has grown to such importance and covers so wide a field that it would be presumptuous on my part to wish to longer occupy the position of President of The National Nut-Growers' Association. We have many men of distinguished ability and experience among our members who can fill the position with dignity and skill. Other States, as well as Georgia, should be

honored with this office, as circumstances may determine, and whoever my successor may be I bespeak for him the same cordial support which has been so generously accorded to me.

For all these courtesies and the honor bestowed upon me, I tender sincere thanks, expressing the hope that the future will look upon the early days of this Association and the labors of our pioneer workers with feeling of kindness and honor, and that our monument will be in the esteem of future generations.



### **New Orleans Dealers**

In returning from the annual convention of the National Nut-Growers' Association, held at Dallas, Tex., Dec. 7-8-9, Dr. J. B. Curtis, of Orange Heights, Fla., Mr. J. B. Wight, of Cairo, Ga., Dr. J. F. Wilson, of Poulan, Ga., and Mr. Herbert C. White, of DeWitt, Ga., visited some of the principal dealers in pecans in New Orleans, including Messrs. Kohlmann Bros. & Sugarman, Mr. Jas. A. Ball, Mr. Chas. Stubs, Messrs. J. L. Beer & Co. Every courtesy was extended the visiting party and much useful and encouraging information obtained. All agreed that the demand for pecan nuts, especially of the larger sizes, was rapidly increasing, and that there

was no difficulty in growers getting highly remunerative prices. In several cases it was said that if the demand for fine nuts was more generally known, there would be many more trees planted, and that land owners in the pecan growing regions of the South are neglecting wonderful opportunities.

Great and increasing quantities of pecans are being called for by the shelled meat manufacturers, and one of the houses visited had themselves gone into the industry of extracting the kernels, and said that it was impossible to meet the demand.

It was also said that the market for pecan nuts is rapidly extending and that more pecans are going North each year as the public becomes acquainted with their delicate flavor and high nutritive qualities. At one time the pecan was hardly known outside of the Southern States, but its popularity is widening each year, and there is more evidence than ever that the prediction made in 1879, in the Government Bulletin, that the pecan was destined to become the leading nut of at least the American market is rapidly becoming well confirmed. The National Nut-Growers' Association is and will be of great value to this line of operations.

**Old Fashioned Nut Cakes**

Heat a pint of milk just luke warm. Stir into it a teacupful of lard. The lard should be melted. Stir in flour until it is a thick batter, then add a teacupful of liquid yeast. Set it in a warm place. When light, work in two and one-half teacupfuls of powdered sugar, four eggs beaten to a froth, two teaspoonfuls of cinnamon and one of salt. Knead into it sufficient flour to roll it out; put in a warm place to rise again. When it appears of spongy lightness, roll out about half an inch thick, cut into cakes with a wine glass and set aside. Now put in a porcelain lined pot, over a brisk fire two pounds of lard; when this is boiling hot a blue smoke will rise; the cakes will now be ready to cook: drop in a few at a time and when they are a light brown, take out with a wire dipper. As they are removed from the lard dip them in powdered sugar, if liked. The lard must not be allowed to burn; a piece of Irish potato dropped in occasionally will help to keep the lard clear, and will not affect the taste of the cakes.—Farm and Ranch.

**Jacocks Mammoth Takes First Prize**

Mrs. C. W. Jacocks, of Formosa, Fla., has again taken first premium at the Florida State

Fair with her Jacocks Mammoth pecans. Mrs. Jacocks seems to have a monopoly on this award, as we understand she has received it regularly for several years.

**Silver Medal for Bacon**

We are just in receipt of a reduced fac-simile half tone of The G. M. Bacon Pecan Company's diploma awarding them a silver medal for an exhibit of 100 budded, grafted and seedling pecan trees planted on the exposition grounds at St. Louis last year. This was the only award made specifically for pecan trees and we congratulate the company on the fact.

**A Substitute for Candy**

Chestnuts may be made into a good substitute for candy. When freshly picked, hull them and take off the brown skin by putting the nuts in boiling water until it will slip off; then slowly boil in slightly salted water till tender, but not too soft. Drain, then reheat in a syrup made of equal parts of water and sugar. The juice and a little of the yellow rind of a lemon added to the water will improve the flavor. Gently simmer for twenty minutes. They are good thus, or may be dipped into melted chocolate.—Ex.

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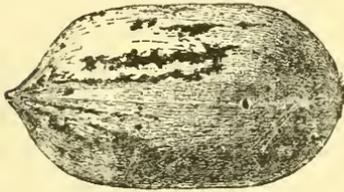
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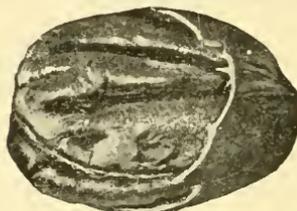
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# THE NUT-GROWER

Official Organ of The National Nut-Growers' Association

Volume 4

JANUARY, 1906

Number 6

## AN EDITORIAL RAMBLE TO DALLAS AND RETURN

A Journey of over eleven hundred miles, three busy days at the fourth annual meeting of the National Nut-Growers Association, and home again, all within the space of eight days and three hours, is our record for the early part of December 1905.

This was not a vacation trip, but was made solely in the interest of the industry we represent officially and editorially. The going and coming, however, were necessary incidents to our Convention work, but it is of this trip which we propose to write, as it was one of rich experiences in various ways.

Central and West Florida, with South-west Georgia furnished the party, which came together by previous arrangements at Montgomery, Ala., on the evening of December 5.

Dr. Curtis was the first to arrive at the place of rendezvous, although coming several hundred miles via Jacksonville and Savannah before taking the real start for Texas. Jones of Mon-

ticello, and Wight of Cairo, came later by another route, while White of DeWitt, and the writer had met at Albany, Ga., and were warmly welcomed by the earlier arrivals at Montgomery.

Here the real journey began, the route being via the L. & N. to New Orleans, thence to Houston on the Southern Pacific, and to Dallas via the Houston & Texas Central.

Western roads had kindly furnished transportation for the secretary from both Memphis and New Orleans to Dallas, but it was found that the regular fare to reach either of these points from Montgomery was greater than the home-seekers' ticket clear to Dallas and return. So we enjoyed the novel experience of paying fare for over twelve hundred miles of travel, with free transportation in our pocket, and still saved money by so doing.

Our entire party used these home-seekers' tickets for the

round trip. The ticket was, judged by its length, suggestive of a long journey, but as to its actual length in feet or yards, it is doubtful if even Dr. Curtis can tell, but he concluded that it was long enough to reach to Texas and back.

After a hurried supper by the late arrivals, the party left Montgomery, taking a sleeping car for the night's run to New Orleans. It was on this car that Mr. Brown, editor of *Arborculture*, and a specialist on *cat-alpia speciosa* was met.

Next morning at New Orleans, as simple a matter as getting breakfast brought out a wide diversity of inclination. One wanted oysters, another fish, and others something else. So the selection of a place to dine was the problem. Mr. Wight proved to be a good questioner, and after several street loafers and a few policemen had been skillfully interrogated, a selection of place was made, on the grounds that we could get anything we wanted at the place designated, and there we went.

The place proved to be all that could be desired for supplying the inner wants, but was rather too much of a mystic maze, in the arrangement of numerous large mirrors, which disguised the place of entrance to adjoining rooms, much to the confusion

of the bald headed members of the party.

Whether it was the breakfast, or a misfit schedule, we did not get out of New Orleans till about one o'clock p. m., and so late that an important connection at Houston failed, and prevented our being at Dallas at the opening session.

Travel was heavy that day on the *Sunset Limited*, and the diplomacy of the natural leaders of the delegation was shown in perfecting arrangements for contiguous chairs for the entire party. We understand this was accomplished by other means than simple ease and honor. Even when it was nicely fixed it was not long till Jones was so thoughtless as to leave his seat unguarded and some other man promptly occupied it, so we had four chairs for five men for the rest of the day.

The miles of travel through the cane fields of Louisiana, and later in the day the rice plantations, were of much interest. Wight was especially interested in the cane as his Georgia experiences with this crop led to sundry comparisons. When he wanted to know how rich and juicy Louisiana cane was, Jones promptly suggested the advisability of testing it, while Wight insisted that a test could only be made by having a stalk to

sample. Other members of the party supported Wight's contention: so it was up to Jones to produce the sample. However Jones was equal to the occasion, and, without waiting for the train to make a stop, simply helped himself from the loaded cars on a convenient siding. It was a rather hazardous undertaking, but he got the sample, which proved so palatable that there were many in the car ready to help eat it. The question of relative merits of Louisiana and Georgia cane was promptly tabled when the first large and long cane came in through the car window.

Other scenes followed, and as night came on the rice plantations disappeared, to be succeeded by the lights from natural gas wells as the Beaumont oil fields were reached. It was about this point on the trip where a few minutes stop gave some diversion and not a little amusement.

It was near supper time and those who were so inclined could purchase refreshments from the vender who hawked them warm on the station platform. White's persuasive tongue induced Curtis to invest in a supply of "hot tamales." This was a new preparation to most of the party, although the name was familiar. Curtis

soon was hunting for help to dispose of his purchase, and seemed disappointed when Jones and Wight did not want any of them, but felt relieved when it developed later that Jones had borrowed one from "Uncle Josh," who dispensed them, to see if he liked them. He must have been in doubt as he tried to share it with Wight, and their efforts to divide the specimen gave them the impression that the corn shuck casing was hard to unite with the teeth, and by the time a knife was brought into requisition, the contents of the package was hopelessly wrecked. But the resourcefulness of Curtis found vent in other directions in realizing on his investment. He retired to the car, passed down the aisle, with his kindly smile and in cordial tones invited his victims to "take one," at the same time presenting the open paper bag containing them. He soon disappeared and some time later was seen enjoying a good meal in the dining car, but Jones was not with him.

This day's trip, with the incidents and fun, was in reality a business session in which many important matters were discussed and prepared for presentation at the Convention. With one exception all of the party were important officers and com-

mitteemen of the association.

Conversation on nut-growing was the regular order. Experiences were related, plans for new work discussed and much information was imparted and received which can hardly fail

to be productive of good. Arriving at Houston too late for the Dallas convention, a night's rest followed, then an early breakfast and another day's ride to Dallas.

(To be continued.)

## ANNUAL CONVENTION REPORT

By J. B. WIGHT

Vice-President for Georgia.

THE nut industry of Georgia is in a prosperous condition. During the year several pecan companies have been formed for setting large commercial groves in the state, and the planting of a 500 acre tract has already begun. Substantial progress has been made in the education of the public to demand budded or grafted stock instead of seedlings. Experience is demonstrating more and more that the latter cannot be depended upon either as to when the bearing period will begin, or as to the quantity and quality of the product. The time has passed when responsible nurserymen recommend the setting of seedlings, unless intended to be subsequently budded or grafted.

Progress is further shown in the increased number of trees that will be set this season, exceeding by 50 per cent. the

plantings of any previous year. Our interest as promoters of nut growing demand that, first, we encourage the best care to be taken of these trees, that no disappointment come to those who have set them; and second, that only strong, healthy stock be sold, because the opposite course will react to the detriment of honest dealers. It is already reasonably assured that all nursery stock will be sold before the end of the transplanting season.

There is a commendable tendency to discourage the introduction of new varieties of the pecan, unless they have some point of superiority to the old established kinds; and to drop out of the lists some that are well known to be inferior to well established varieties.

As is well known, the pecan  
(Continued on page 103, 2nd column)

## PROMISING NEW FRUITS---PECANS

By WILLIAM A. TAYLOR

Pomologist in charge of Field Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry.

(Concluded.)

## STUART PECAN.

The original tree of this, which is generally considered the most widely successful pecan variety yet introduced and tested, stood in a garden at Pascagoula, Miss., now owned by Capt. E. Castanera.

It is supposed to have grown from a nut brought from Mobile, Ala., by John R. Lassabe and planted about 1874. It early acquired local celebrity on account of its productiveness and the beauty and fine quality of its product, its average yield from 1889 to 1892 being about 140 pounds per annum. In 1892 it yielded 350 pounds of nuts, most of which were sold by Charles M. Cruzat, who then held the place under lease, at \$1 per pound. It was first propagated by Mr. A. G. Delmas, of Scranton, Miss., who cut scions in 1886. Out of some sixty grafts inserted he secured one tree, which still survives in his garden. John Keller, then associated with Col. W. R. Stuart, of Ocean Springs, Miss., in the pecan-nursery business, secured scions from the tree about 1890, from

which trees were propagated in nursery by them. The trees of the variety were offered for sale by Colonel Stuart about 1892, under the name Stuart, which had been suggested for it by Prof. H. E. Van Deman, then Pomologist of the Department of Agriculture, who was unaware of the name previously applied to it in the locality where it originated. Under the name Stuart it received wide advertising and distribution, so that it is one of the most widely disseminated varieties throughout the South. The original tree in Captain Castanera's garden was blown down in October, 1893, by the same storm which destroyed the top of the original Pabst tree at Ocean Springs. Some two years later a sprout from one of the roots appeared, which has developed into a symmetrical young tree, which bore its first nuts in 1902.

## DESCRIPTION.

Size large to very large, averaging about 40 to 60 nuts per pound; form cylindrical, slightly compressed, with rather blunt apex and rounded base; color

brownish gray, moderately splashed and dotted with purplish black; shell moderately thin; partitions thin and fragile; cracking quality very good; kernel bright, moderately smooth, plump, rather narrowly grooved; texture firm, fine grained, solid; flavor delicate, rich; quality very good.

The tree of Stuart is a strong, upright, spreading grower, with moderately stout young wood, grayish green in color, rather sparsely dotted with oval dots. It is proving regularly and abundantly productive in most localities where it has been fruited, and is apparently succeeding over a wider climatic range than any other sort thus far tested.

#### VAN DEMAN PECAN.

The original tree of this variety was grown from a nut planted by the late Duminie Mire, of Union, St. James Parish, La., in 1836. Mr. Mire, then 25 years of age, secured nuts from a highly esteemed tree on the adjoining place of Mr. Gravois, which he planted in the garden surrounding his dwelling. Of the several trees that resulted from this planting only the one described here is considered worthy of perpetuation. Mr. Mire informed the writer, in October, 1902, that the product of this one closely resembles the

nuts planted. This tree, which is locally known as the "Duminie," or "Duminie Mire," attracted the attention of the late Emil Bourgeois, who, about 1877 cut scions from it for propagation. Although this was his first effort at grafting, he succeeded in getting 11 scions to grow out of 22 that he set as top grafts on seedling trees near his residence on Rapidan plantation. When these grafts began bearing he commenced propagating young trees for planting in orchard form and for sale to the nearby planters, among whom it is known as the "Duminie Mire" pecan to this date.

A considerable quantity of nuts and some scions from these grafted trees having passed into the hands of Col. W. R. Stuart, of Ocean Springs, Miss., about 1890, he renamed the variety Van Deman, in honor of Prof. H. E. Van Deman, then Pomologist of the Department of Agriculture. Since 1892 it has been widely advertised and distributed under that name, which has now become so firmly fixed in the literature of the subject as to make a return to the earlier local name inadvisable at this time.

About 1900, nuts and grafted trees of the variety were placed on the market by Herbert Post, Fort Worth, Tex., under the

name Paragon.

The original tree still stands in the Mire garden, close to the Mississippi River levee, at Union Postoffice, La., and when inspected by the writer in October, 1902, was a beautiful, thrifty tree, measuring 7 feet 6 inches in circumference and bearing from 200 to 200 pounds of nuts per annum.

#### DESCRIPTION.

Size large to very large, averaging 45 to 55 nuts per pound; form long, compressed, with a rather sharp base and a long sharp apex, often slightly curved; color rather dark, reddish brown; slightly splashed with purplish black, especially toward apex; shell moderately thin, partitions rather thick but brittle; cracking quality fair; kernel long, narrowly grooved, generally plump, except at tip; color bright, clean, attractive; texture firm, fine grained; flavor delicate, rich; quality very good.

The Van Deman tree is of strong, moderately erect habit, with grayish-green young wood showing inconspicuous dots, and is a regular and abundant bearer in the locality of its origin.

It does not thus far appear to be as productive elsewhere nor to fill out its kernels as well.



Subscribe for The Nut-Grower.

## Annual Convention Report

By J. B. WIGHT

(Continued from page 103)

field has been a fruitful one for fraudulent nurserymen and unprincipled exploiters, who fatten on the credulity of others. One of these has come prominently forward during the last year. This is the Ware Pecan Company, of Waresboro, Ware county, Georgia. As a sample of their statements, they say that five pounds of pecan nuts will make one gallon of oil, which they represent will sell for \$20.00 per gallon. Stock in the company sells at \$1.00 per share and they set forth that this stock in fifteen years will be worth \$1,000.00 per share. Such statements come necessarily from those who are too ignorant to be credited, or are too rascally to have the freedom of the press or of the mails for advertising their fraudulent schemes. This and all kindred concerns should have the unqualified condemnation of honest men, and be driven from a field that they have entered for the spoils alone.



Quite a number of new advertisements are to be found in this number. THE NUT-GROWER'S popularity as an advertising medium is growing every day.

# The Nut-Grower

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**Subscription Price:** • 50c per Annum  
**Advertising Rates Sent Upon Application**

JANUARY, 1906

The Alabama State Horticultural Society meets at Thorsby January 30-31. An attractive program has been arranged, and it provides for discussion of the nut-growing interests.

Increased attention is being given to the regular and abundant bearing qualities of trees. This characteristic of a pecan counts more, from a commercial standpoint, than either size or quality.

Louisiana's State Horticultural Society convenes at New Orleans January 25 and 26. Pecan culture is given a prominent place on the program and names of well known nut growers appear in the list of officers and speakers.

Nut meats and their preparation for market will soon become a great manufacturing interest for Southern territory.

When factories for cracking and cleaning pecans are in general operation in the South, it will add largely to the value of this crop.

A typographical error escaped correction in our December number. Bear's new pecan was mentioned as "Bayal" while it should have been "Boyd." When we mention the incident of the editor's family name, on his mothers side, being "Boyd" it will be seen that we have a kindly interest in the variety, provided it scores up well.

There are frequent inquiries regarding top working large trees. A few men have made a success of the effort, at the cost of much care, time and skill. However, for the ordinary grower, we doubt its general usefulness, as the same money and labor put into young trees will, in our judgment, be productive of more satisfactory results and larger ultimate profits.

When the finest varieties of pecans are plentiful enough to ship in car lots, it will mean a lot of money for the locality producing them. At half the present price the Frotsher now brings (on its merits as a nut and not for seed purposes) an average car lot will amount to

about \$7,000. A car of nut meat will be worth nearly double this amount.

We like the Nebraska plan of organized agriculture, which brings all state organizations to a central point the same week for holding their annual meetings. The fifth annual meeting of this kind convenes at Lincoln, Neb., January 15-20. The program for about twenty state organizations are embraced in the general announcement.

Invitations are coming in from widely separate sections of the country for the 1906 convention of the Nut Growers. Biltmoe, N. C., and Chicago, Ill., have recently entered the list of applicants for the meeting. The Illinois invitation comes through the Chicago Commercial Association, while the North Carolina request is actively urged by Mr. Moore, of the Kenilworth Inn.

Mail clerks are supposed to be fond of pecans, at least this is used to account for the failure of nuts to arrive safely at destination when sent by mail. In shipping samples this way it may be well to avoid advertising the nature of package by omitting mention of reference to THE NUT-GROWER or Nut-Growers' Association, and using

the name only of the party to whom it is addressed.

With our next number we will begin the publication of names and postoffice addresses of the life members of the National Nut-Growers' Association, and continue it from month to month as new applications come in. The move seems quite popular, as applications are coming in from persons who were not present at the convention.

Blank sheets were distributed at the recent convention asking for the opinions of members as to the more important qualities which characterize the typical pecan, with request to arrange them in the order of importance. It evidently was a hard proposition as but few were returned to the secretary at Dallas, and hardly any have come in since. Consideration of this proposition will be the means of defining our impressions of this nut which are too often rather general, where they should be specific. Below we give a list of desirable qualities the nut should possess and we suggest that the readers arrange them in the order of importance:

- Shape.
- Color of shell.
- Color of kernel.
- Size.

Flavor.  
 Thinness of shell.  
 Cracking qualities.  
 Quality.  
 Productiveness.  
 Plumpness.  
 Small amount of interstitial  
 matter.

Early ripening.

As soon as you are satisfied with your arrangement of these, as well as other qualities you think should be added, send it in to the editor and he will compare them in subsequent issues and report conclusions.

## INSECT ENEMIES OF THE PECAN\*

By F. H. CHITTENDEN, Sc. D.

United States Bureau of Entomology.

**I**N accordance with a request received from the Secretary of the Association, I have endeavored to bring together brief accounts of the principal insects known to injure the pecan. Until within the last four years no comprehensive account of pecan insects was published, but during that time many reports of injury were received, specimens were obtained from many correspondents throughout pecan-growing regions, and such study as was possible was given to them in the Bureau of Entomology. It is well known that the insect enemies of hickory, walnut, butternut, and related plants are all likely to affect pecan growing in the same regions. It thus happens that

many of the species which injuriously affect pecans have been studied by various entomologists, including the writer, in their occurrence in and near the District of Columbia and elsewhere in the North. Although the Bureau of Entomology has not as yet been able to do much in a practical way with insects affecting the pecan industry, we sincerely hope in the near future to be able to send an agent to the Southern States to investigate this class of pests. In the mean time, we have done much work in rearing and identifying the insects themselves, and the observations made in our laboratories, together with the excellent reports sent by our correspondents of the manner of work of the pests, has been of great value in the suggestion of methods of control.

\*Prepared for the Dallas convention of the National Nut Growers' Association.

Prior to 1902, when Mr. W. F. Fiske brought together many valuable notes on the pecan pests of Georgia,<sup>1</sup> accounts of pecan insects were confined to short contributions scattered through state and Government bulletins and agricultural journals. In November, 1904, Prof. G. W. Herrick published, under the caption "Insects Injurious to Pecans,"<sup>2</sup> an account of eleven species of these insects, and during the present year Prof. H. A. Gossard has added a still more detailed account of 18 injurious species affecting the pecan in Florida.<sup>3</sup>

In the preparation of the present paper, the publications which have been cited and the correspondence records of the Bureau of Entomology have been freely used. As a preliminary to a consideration of the best methods for combating insect troubles of the pecan, some knowledge of the insects themselves, especially their identity, and the nature of their operations is indispensable.

The writer has in manuscript a list of about 40 species of insects which are known to attack

pecans. Less than half that number have been selected for mention in the present paper..

#### BUD WORMS.

Early in the season when the buds first appear they are attacked by small "worms" or caterpillars of varying appearance, usually yellowish or pale greenish, with dark heads and generally known to pecan growers as bud-worms. Several forms of these creatures have been reared by the writer, some of which also affect related trees, such as hickory and walnut. In their active or "worm" stage they are all very much alike, and even the adults are not well known to entomologists. The habits of the different forms have not been thoroughly investigated. The Bureau of Entomology has received more correspondence relating to their injuries than of any other class of pecan pests, and it is quite obvious that a careful study of the different forms of bud-worms is desirable. This much has been learned, however, that each species has diversified habits, and feeds on buds, tender twigs and leaves, according to the season; also that two or three generations of each develops in a year. One species has been very abundant during the year 1905, having been reported from Florida, Georgia

<sup>1</sup> Report Georgia State Horticultural Society, pp. 67-75 1902.

<sup>2</sup> Bulletin 86, Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station, pp. 1-42, 1904.

<sup>3</sup> Bulletin 76, Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, pp. 285-318, 1905.

and Texas, and, as it has been studied more thoroughly than the others, may receive special mention. It is to be found from the District of Columbia southward, frequently in great numbers. It is called the pecan bud-moth (*PROTEOPTERYX DELUDANA* Clem.)

This species attacks buds, tender twigs and leaves alike, in some cases rolling the latter into tubes of regular sizes, in others joining them by means of webs somewhat irregularly. As we have received this pest from May to August, and the writer has found it at work as late as October, it is probable that three and perhaps four generations or broods are produced in a single year.

#### REMEDIES.

The fact that there are several generations makes this species unusually difficult to control. Nevertheless if the first generation is treated with a spray of Paris green or arsenate of lead on its first appearance in May, this will do much to lessen the numbers of the insect to treat in after months. It is desirable that the spray be applied before the insect has time to conceal itself in the buds; later generations can be more easily reached. In its control, cooperation with other pecan growers of a given

region should be secured, and if it be found on walnut and other trees, these should be also treated to a spray.

Some growers inspect their trees and cut away the injured buds as they are detected, destroying the insect with them. Mr. Herrick recommends daily inspection and the removal of the bud-worm on a pin point, a somewhat laborious but efficient method of control if one has the patience to continue it.

From present knowledge of the habits of the other species of bud-worms it is not possible to prescribe other remedies than those above given.

#### THE CASE-BEARERS.

Two species of case-bearers have been observed injuring pecans during recent years. They are known scientifically as *ACROBASIS NEBULELLA* Riley and *COLEOPHORA CARYEFOLIELLA* Clem. The former is often called the bud-worm, from its habit of attacking the leaf-buds and blossom buds, in which respect it resembles the species which we have just treated under that name. It inhabits our entire pecan-growing country, and attacks several other plants. It is termed "case-bearer" from the habit of its larva of constructing a tube about its body composed of particles of its own excrement, bits of bark and sim-

ilar material joined together with silken threads of its own making. This case is considerably longer than the body of the insect itself, and lined with white silk. It carries this case with it, protruding its head through the aperture when feeding.

The habit of this species of living within the case is not a perfect protection against the arsenicals, but it is difficult to reach when it first appears and bores into buds and twigs or crumples the leaves together. The spray is to be applied in the same manner as for preceding leaf-feeders. Professor Gossard has advised the use of the lime-salt-sulphur wash with an arsenical added, applied in March and April when the buds are opening, renewing the treatment once or twice.

The second species constructs cases of the shape of a cigar, measuring about half an inch in length at their full size, when they may be seen attached to the bark of limbs and trunks. The principal injury by this species is in biting holes in the leaves; sometimes, however, it devours the blossoms, and occasionally it occurs in such numbers as to entirely denude numbers of trees. It is noticed at work from April until June, the adults usually issuing late in

May and during the last month. The remedies are the same as for the preceding species.

(To be continued.)



## Questions and Answers

In this column we will insert questions bearing on the Nut-Growing Industry, giving each a separate number to which correspondents will kindly refer in sending in answers.

"I am preparing a piece of land for planting to pecans. There are a great many hickory sprouts now growing on this land. I wish to know whether or not it is feasible to bud pecans onto these hickory sprouts. If so at what time should the budding be done?"

SUBSCRIBER.

Ans. The hickory sprouts could be budded either in the spring or in the late summer; both will give good results. Or the sprouts could be grafted as close to the ground as possible and earth banked up to prevent dying out. I will not go into the advisability of using the hickory sprouts; my objections to using them is only this: That you can't get lines or distances this way, and if the ground should be plowed it would take a very careful man not to injure the trees, otherwise the hickory root stock is just as good as the pecan for practical purposes.

CHAS. E. PABST.



### Catalogue Mention

The 1906 catalogue of the Glen Saint Mary Nurseries is a handsome 64 page

illustrated edition. G. L. Tabor, proprietor, Glen Saint Mary, Fla.

West Texas Pecan Nursery, circular for season of 1905-6. Gives list and description of ten varieties of budded trees. E. E. Risien, proprietor, San Saba, Texas.

Steckler's seed catalogue for 1906 is a closely printed pamphlet of over 200 pages, replete with illustrations and descriptions of a large line of seeds, plants, trees and implements.



### Some Pecan Questions

We would like to hear what others think of gathering pecans while they are green or just beginning to open, whether it is injurious to the trees to frail them green? As the pecan comes on new growth, we hold that having the twigs knocked off tends to make the tree bear even better. We would also like to hear some one on the borer that begins on the tiny nuts and punctures them at the breech, leaving a web where he goes. It raises three crops by the time the nut opens or gets too hard for the worm to get in. He is a small worm and looks like a wheat worm. We have never found any remedy nor heard through any newspaper the subject touched. We have been interested in the pecan industry several years and our method of gathering is to commence as soon as the hull opens well; not to wait till they

begin to dry as the nuts begin to fall out themselves and waste.

I use a ladder made of stick rounds and rope sides and a long guy rope, and it is easily taken down and carried from tree to tree and easily hung. A cedar pole, about 10 feet long, is cut and peeled about two weeks before use, and the mode of picking is in small sacks, which hold about one-half bushel, tied around the waist like a cotton sack. As soon as the wagon can be loaded send them to market.—W. J. Millican in Farm and Rance.

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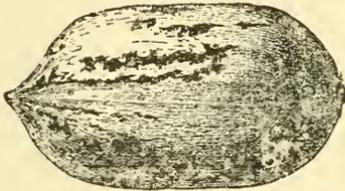
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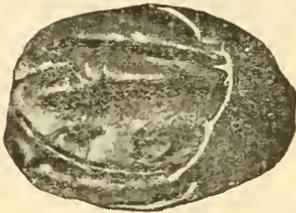
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# THE NUT-GROWER

Official Organ NATIONAL NUT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Volume IV

February 1906

Number 7

## INSECT ENEMIES OF THE PECAN

By F. H. CHITTENDEN, Sc. D.

United States Bureau of Entomology.

(Continued from last issue.)

### THE FALL WEBWORM

(*Hyphantria cunea* Dru.)

Complaints of this species to pecan foliage have been received generally throughout the South. The webs which the "worms" form on the limbs and in which they enclose the leaves are better known than the gray or brownish caterpillars which accomplish this work. The injury is so well known that it need not be described here. It should be stated, however, that the webworms remain in their webs until they are nearly mature, when they desert them and, if unmolested, crawl to other portions of the tree.

It follows that it is desirable to kill the insects before they have deserted their webs. This is accomplished by making a ball of cotton waste or old cloth at the end of a long pole, and saturating it with kerosene, forming a torch. By going from tree to tree the webs are burned

on each. A spray of Paris green or arsenate of lead will accomplish the same purpose, and is used in connection with the kerosene torch. More explicit directions for the treatment of the fall webworm are given in Farmers' Bulletin 99, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, which can be had on application.

### BLACK HICKORY OR WALNUT CATERPILLAR.

(*Datana integerrima* G. & R.)

This is a large, dark-colored caterpillar coated with long gray hairs. It occurs on pecan, hickory and related plants, lives in large colonies, and when about to shed their skins, which they do several times, the caterpillars leave the branches on which they have been feeding and frequently congregate on the trunk, often near the base, in large ball-like clusters held together by silken threads. In the South they are commonly known as webworms. It is well to know

the early stages of this insect, the better to be prepared for it and to control it. The young caterpillar is reddish with dark stripes, and it is not until it is nearly mature that it changes to black. It attains a length of fully two inches.

The knowledge of the habit of this species of clustering on the trunks of the trees affected, gives us an easy method for its control. It may be killed in the same manner as the fall web-worm, by means of a kerosene torch. Arsenicals are valuable for the earlier stages of the pest, and the trees should be frequently sprayed while this insect is present.

#### PECAN LEAF CATERPILLAR.

(*Datana angusii* G. & R.)

This insect is also injurious to the pecan in the same manner as the preceding species. It has similar habits, and can be controlled by the same methods.

#### OTHER CATERPILLARS.

The foliage of pecan is fed upon by several other forms of caterpillars than those which have been considered. Among the most common of these are two species of *Catocola*, large gray caterpillars called "alligator worms," and in some localities "bulldog caterpillars" They measure when mature from 2 to 2 1-2 inches in length. They do not as a general rule do very

great damage, but occasional reports are made of trees being injured by defoliation. They feed at night, and in the daytime may be found resting in a vertical position on the trunk or lying lengthwise along the branch. These caterpillars produce large moths with the forewings pale gray on the upper side, and with both pairs of wings marked on the lower surface with dark, conspicuous bands. As the principal color of these insects is on the lower surface the moths are frequently known as underwings.

Any arsenical, preferably Paris green or arsenate of lead, applied as a spray, will destroy these insects. The best time to apply is in early May, and in some regions far south, late in April, so as to destroy the caterpillars on their first appearance. We have also received reports of measuring worms or inch-worms (*Geometrids*) some of which eat out the buds. These insects are not numerous every year, and do little damage at any time.

The "hickory horned devil" was reported during 1905 to be injuring pecans in Florida. It is one of our largest caterpillars and attracts attention every year from its occurrence on hickory, walnut and other trees, but is scarcely to be considered a pest.

## BORERS

Of considerable importance as pecan pests are certain forms of borers which attack this tree. Those which affect the roots are not, as a rule, prominent enemies. Such as destroy the twigs and smaller branches, known as girdlers and pruners, are more readily detected in their work and are better known to pecan growers, but they also do comparatively little harm, their work serving, usually, as a mild form of pruning. There is, however, a species known as the pecan-tree borer, and which seems destined in time to develop into a pest of the greatest importance.

## THE PECAN-TREE BORER

(*Sesia scitula* Harris)

This species resembles the common peach-tree borer; it differs, however, in its manner of living. It appears to be more or less destructive throughout the Gulf region, from South Carolina to Mississippi, and has been observed, on other food plants, throughout the Eastern States and Canada. In its injuries to pecans it seldom, if ever, attacks trees less than two inches in diameter, and it is more abundant on such as are three or four inches thick or still larger. It also confines its operations to the trunk and branches above ground, and sel-

dom, if ever, penetrates deeper than the sapwood. This it channels out and destroys, and when many individuals are present, especially in comparatively small trees, their combined operation has the effect of girdling, producing the death of the tree. This borer usually enters the trees where they have been injured or where they are budded, the female being attracted to such places to lay her eggs. The complete life history has not been worked out, but considerable has been learned, from reports of different observers, in regard to the economy of the species. The moths begin to issue in April.

With the knowledge that the moths begin to appear at this time, and that the eggs are deposited in or near decorticated portions of the trunk and limbs, it would seem not difficult to protect ourselves against the ravages of this borer by covering denuded portions of bark just before the moths begin their flight, with grafting-wax, and using a sufficient quantity of the same material about the buds. The addition of some sticky substance like printer's ink or fresh pitch, or of soft soap should be tried as a further repellent and means of capturing the moths. The standard remedy for the peachtree borer—dig-

ging out with a knife or gouge— should be employed wherever and whenever the borers are found at work. It is quite possible that a thick whitewash applied to the trunks and lower limbs of the trees in March would be effective as a repellent. Special care should be taken when plowing or cultivating between trees not to abrade the bark, and horses should not be permitted to rub against the trees. Large wounds should be protected with wax, and bound over tightly with rags.

FLAT-HEADED APPLE-TREE BORER.

(*Chrysobothris femorata* Fab.)

This common and well known apple pest has several times been noted doing injury to pecans in the South, and two or three related species do similar work. Generally speaking, these insects do not attack perfectly healthy trees, but follow the attacks of such insects as the pecan-tree borer previously mentioned, and affect trees which have been injured by sun-scald.

Directions for the treatment of this insect are given in Circular No. 32, of the Bureau of Entomology, copies of which will be sent to persons who apply for it.

(To be continued)

## AN EDITORIAL RAMBLE TO DALLAS AND RETURN

(Continued from last issue.)

As nearly all our party were making their first trip in Texas, every thing was of much interest, and a sharp outlook for pecan trees was kept up on all the daylight travel. Many interesting trees were seen through Louisiana, principally in the railroad towns, but in Texas they were confined to the locality of streams, and but few were seen from the car windows.

Of the convention, with its important work and genial fellowship, it is not our purpose to

write at this time.

It was Saturday afternoon about four o'clock when adjournment followed the completion of business, and we at once began preparations for the homeward trip. Jones, however, was not content to leave the state without seeing more of it, so he joined a touring squad organized by President Kirkpatrick, and we saw no more of him.

Leaving Dallas that evening, near nine o'clock, we soon occupied our berths and were ob-

livious to our surroundings, until Curtis "rousted" us up for breakfast at Houston. This was Sunday morning, and it being a day of rest, and hardly proper for so dignified a company to travel on this day, it was arranged to lay over for the day and resume the trip about fourteen hours later. The day, however, was not idly spent, neither was it free from travel, and by the time night arrived it had proved to be a busy day, of varied experience and no small labors.

Some one had discovered that we could run down to Galveston for the day and return in time for our train on the Southern Pacific. This famous city was fifty miles away, and the fare for the round trip only one dollar, so it was to Galveston we went to spend one day of rest. The run was quickly made, and on arriving no time was lost in viewing the great sea wall and other evidences of the terrible disaster which so nearly destroyed the city a few years ago. It is hard to realize the extent of damage to property and the fearful loss of life, which reached nearly a third of the entire population.

We wandered along the beach for about two miles outside the wall, where formerly there were residences, business blocks, street car lines and railroads. All of this, as well as the land on which it stood, was claimed by the sea. Hundreds of acres of land were literally and permanently engulfed. But the wants of the inner man were strong with us and as the time began to wear away we had the problem of finding a place to dine. Here the diversified tastes and inclinations of the party cropped out again as it had on the morning we were hungry in New Orleans. A compromise was finally affected when it was learned that both fish and oysters could be had at a designated place. Thither we went, and in a quiet, snug corner of a ladies' dining apartment, each ordered to suit his fancy.

The editor had a frugal meal in which fish was conspicuous. At least two of the party had oysters on the half shell, and they were famous large ones. There is no doubt about Wight's enjoyment of his menu. One generous portion was not enough and the order was duplicated. However this may have been the result of a lucky find of a medium sized pearl. Strange to say, another pearl was found in his second supply. Curtis and White tried to buy the pearls, but the offers they made were by no means acceptable. Finding they could not buy the pearls

for a song, they adopted a change of tactics, and insisted that the find belonged to the restaurant furnishing the meal, but Wight was not to be deprived of his good fortune, and insisted that he had bought them fair and square, and keep them he would.

After lunch the party broke up till time to return to Houston. One of our number met an old citizen of the place who was chief of police at the time of the flood, and from him learned many incidents of the tragic occurrences.

No city of ordinary importance could ever have recovered from such a catastrophe, but its great natural advantages as a seaport, and the wonderful and extensive country contributing a wealth of product for its shipping, has rebuilt a large and important city.

We were back in Houston for supper, and soon after were aboard a sleeper on the Sunset Limited, and landed in New Orleans in time for breakfast. Wight's good luck at Galveston, however, did not continue. His much-prized marsh cedar canes, cut from the seashore at Galveston, disappeared during the night, and no trace of them could be found. The presumption is that they left with the party who came aboard our car

during the night and claimed the berths which Wight and Curtis occupied. As possession is nine points of the law, they held their berths, although the arguments, *pro* and *con*, woke up other occupants. Wight's berth in particular seemed to be "hoodooed," as he also had a rival claimant for it at Houston, but the two similar tickets differed in one particular, and that was in the car number, which showed Wight to be the proper occupant.

The day was spent at the Crescent City by all except Wight, who could make a better connection for his home by hurrying on to Montgomery. With our number now reduced to a trio, a tour of the nut dealers' quarters in the city proved of much interest to both visitors and dealers. Some reference to this feature of the trip was recently published, from the pen of Mr. White.

Another night in a sleeper and we were back to Montgomery where an early connection was made with a connective line. Towards noon White and the writer changed cars and left the genial Curtis alone, with about three hundred miles still to travel.

Two hours later, at Albany, Ga., the remnant of the party took different routes. A short stop here for dinner, and a short

run to Poulan, and we were again at our home work within a few minutes after leaving the train. The trip was one of pleasure and profit as well as work, but it was on the whole a welcome recreation, and although many miles had been traversed, still it was accomplished in easy stages, and mostly while we slept, so there was none of the weariness of body, while the companionship of kindred spirits, and incidents which naturally surround a social group made the trip one of exceptional interest.

A feature of the trip not yet mentioned should not be omitted, and that is the many persons who are already interested in nut culture. At all stages of the trip, fellow passengers knew we were nut growers, and the questions asked and information desired, shows plainly a trend of public sentiment in favor of the work we have in hand. During the several days we conversed with many people from many and widely separate sections of the country, and all were anxious to know how and when to grow pecans. It is safe to assert that every member of the party talked freely, fluently and conscientiously of the nut growing industry.

If appearances do not mislead, there will in the future be some

important enterprises dating from this trip.



### News Items

James C. Riley succeeds Edgar N. Heafer as secretary of the Standard Pecan Co., of Bloomington, Ill.

The New Orleans Horticultural Society is working for the organization of an Inter-State Association of Southern Florists with a view to encouraging trade, hold conventions, and cultivate a better fraternal spirit. Paul Abele is chairman of the committee having this move in hand.

The Georgia State Board of Entomology has issued revised regulations regarding the quarantine against the Mexican cotton boll weevil. The attention of railroad, steamship and express companies as well as the general public is called to this threatened danger, and rigid regulations apply to all shipments from infected territory.

With the increasing volume of work and enlarged opportunities for business in our line, we have added to our office force and placed the Circulation Department in the hands of Mr. C. N. Wilson, who for the past year has handled the publishing end of our business. This accounts for the new and systematic work in collecting subscriptions.

# The Nut-Grower

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FEBRUARY, 1906

The Farm and Ranch is giving its readers much interesting matter regarding the Dallas convention.

In sending out our January issue there was a break in the mailing arrangements and several special lists of names were nearly a week behind the others.

We give in this issue another sample of the appreciative letters which come unsolicited to our desk. They not only encourage the editor, but help the industry as well.

Since the Dallas convention our subscription roll has grown more rapidly than ever before. The premium of a year's subscription offered by several of our advertisers have also added many names.

Sometimes mistakes will happen in our records of accounts,

and occasionally letters fail to reach us. We are always glad to have our attention called to any errors we make, and will take pleasure in correcting them.

The secretary has recently been advised that the National Nut-Growers Association is entitled to representation in the National Council of Horticulture, with the request that two delegates be appointed by the Executive Committee to serve until the next convention can regularly elect their representatives.

News items regarding nut-growing are always welcome, and afford interesting reading. The item in this issue about a Mississippi tree bearing over five barrels of nuts in one season is sure to attract attention. If some one else can make a better showing and vouch for correctness of figures, we want to publish it.

Within the past few months requests have come from some very important public libraries asking that THE NUT-GROWER be sent regularly. We are glad to comply with such requests when they bear evidence of appreciation of our publication. The University of Texas Library, the

Library of Congress and the New York Public Library are recent additions to our library list.

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The discussion on propagating pecan trees, at Dallas, was one of the notable subjects of the convention. Texas men were conspicuous on the floor during the session when this subject was reached. Mr. Stringfellow made effective use of Mr. Falkner's trees in demonstrating his mode of root pruning, while Mr. Falkner showed fine specimens of nursery stock in support of his theories.

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Mr. T. V. Munson, of Texas, was an interesting personality at the recent convention. His fame as a skilled horticulturist reaches far beyond the great state where he has labored for many years. He participated in some of the general discussions and showed his clear conception of the subjects and skill in summing up arguments and experiences, as well as presenting the logical conclusions he reached. This was not only very interesting, but impressed the truths brought out by other speakers.

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The experimental work discussed at the St. Louis Convention was timely and aroused much interest. Since then there

has been regular and numerous inquiries for just such data as can only be furnished by some organized work on lines outlined at that meeting. More recently at Dallas the matter was the subject of conversation, and a sentiment in favor of seeking state and national aid was manifested but did not take definite shape beyond the appointment of a Committee on Publicity. The President's address also brought the matter of a special committee to confer with the United States Department of Agriculture before the Convention.

•

A Texas member on the floor at the Dallas convention said he had only one objection to, or fault to find with THE NUT-GROWER, and that was, there was not enough of it—he could read two pages at the same time and get clear through with it, advertisements and all, in such short order that it failed to satisfy him. We think this a compliment rather than criticism. It is certainly better to absorb the entire contents rather than wade through a bulk of matter and have to hunt for the kernel. Our purpose is to make each number like a choice pecan nut—easy to crack and having a plump, well flavored kernel, free from objectionable interstitial

matter. When one has eaten a pecan of this kind we naturally expect him to want more, and this is right.

We have heard of one man who is making money out of pecans, but we do not approve of his methods; in fact they would not stand inspection by the Committee of Ethics of the Association. However, he does not belong to the Association, neither does he advertise in *THE NUT-GROWER* or even subscribe for it. This may be because his operations are of the middleman character, although his sales of seed nuts are made by traveling agents by means of samples shown, probably from a tree of his own, and victims are led to believe they will reproduce this variety. This may be through ignorance on his part, but when it is known that he makes sales at ten and eleven cents each for nuts that will run about seventy-five to the pound, and that he had a barrel of nuts shipped to him from Mississippi just before he filled his orders in the locality to which at least one barrel was shipped and on which the C. O. D. charges were twenty five dollars, there is a strong presumption that he is getting about seven dollars per pound for nuts that cost him about twenty-five cents. This proves

our statement all right as to his making money, but we denounce the method. All such operations cannot be excused on the grounds of ignorance, consequently they are fraudulent.

In the matter of organizing experimental groves, considerable progress has been made. Several members are ready to furnish trees of desirable varieties for planting in widely separated sections, and several commercial orchard companies are ready to cooperate in caring for such trees in their respective localities. Plans for the details of work, and records and publication of results as soon as obtained, are outlined. In fact everything is ready except the money required to administer the movement. The work needs to be operated extensively, skillfully and persistently. Years of time can be profitably spent in lines already in mind, while others are sure to develop as time passes. Results are certain to be of great and permanent value, which will be of public benefit as well as to the members of the Association. The data, which can be obtained only in this way, is needed now, and needed badly. It has been suggested that the Department of Agriculture might lend a hand in this work, and this possible

source of aid will be considered by the Executive Committee of the Association at an early meeting.



### How To Set Out Pecan Trees

In setting out a pecan tree, a hole 24 inches in diameter and 30 inches deep is usually large enough, although wider holes may be dug with advantage, thereby enabling more pulverized and richer soil to be put around the roots, which is beneficial to the new feeding roots as they form. When setting out the tree, carefully fill in among the roots with pulverized top soil, or woods earth. Well-rotted manure, or not exceeding one and one-half pounds of commercial fertilizer, may be put in outer sides of hole, as far as practicable beyond ends of lateral roots, while hole is being filled, but by no means to come in contact with the roots or trunk of tree. No fertilizer should be put at bottom of hole. Work and firmly press the dirt among the roots, laying each root out in natural position. No holes or cavities in the soil should be left and soil must be in close contact with all roots, especially the tap root. The bottom of hole should be firm to avoid further settling of the tree.

The tree should be set at such

a depth that after a copious watering and the permanent settlement of the earth, it will be perhaps a little deeper than it stood in the nursery row. It is very important that no part of the crown or root be left uncovered when planted, or afterwards, and if at any time it is found that earth has settled and left any brownish-red part of crown or root exposed it must again be covered with soil. The point where the root and crown leave off and where the trunk begins is a very vital portion of the newly-set tree and must always be underground. Trees should be carefully examined after the first heavy rain after planting and earth thrown to tree if soil has settled. It is better to plant them an inch or two deeper than they stood in the nursery row than to run any risk of having the crown or root exposed. If tap-roots are inconveniently long, say over 30 inches, they may be cut off by a sloping cut with a sharp knife. In the larger size trees it is better to sink hole deep enough to receive the root without cutting shorter than we do before packing. The foolish theory about a pecan tree not bearing if its tap-root has been cut has been so thoroughly disproved by ourselves and others that it is not worth discussion. If the tap-

root is cut when the tree is dug, as is often necessary, the cut quickly heals and a new tap-root (sometimes several) will form. After planting is completed, loose soil should be lightly thrown around the tree to lessen evaporation, or it may be mulched with leaves, straw, etc., in lawns and other places where no crops are to be planted. The mulching of newly-set trees is highly recommended. The ground is thereby kept moist, a slowly decaying supply of natural plant food is provided and grass and weeds are not so troublesome, thus avoiding the necessity of so frequently stirring the soil immediately around the trees. The ground around fruit or nut trees should never be allowed to bake or crust, and it is the more important with newly-set trees, particularly the first season.—Circular of The G. M. Bacon Pecan Co.



### A Heavy Bearer

Editor NUT GROWER:—I have been greatly interested in reading of the large yield of some pecan trees and their profit to their owners. But nowhere have I seen an account comparable to the yield of one tree in this city, owned by Mrs. Mary B. McLain. The tree, according to the most reliable information obtainable,

is about fifty years old. It is a seedling and bears medium to small nuts, rather hard of shell, but the meat is well flavored. It stands on a clay hill in Mrs. McLain's back yard and has never been fertilized, but it has grown to large proportions. Last season Mrs. McLain gathered five flour barrels of nuts from it, and there are now probably one-half a barrel yet upon it. The tree is within 50 yards of my residence, and I know the above facts to be true. It is a late bearer. The greater part, if not all of this crop was sold to local dealers at ten cent per pound. Every alternate year the tree bears heavily.

I write these facts thinking they may prove interesting to your readers. If any one can cite an instance of a more abundant yield from one tree, I would enjoy reading an account of it.

W. P. TACKETT.

Lexington, Miss.



Mr. L. M. H. Whetstone, of Anniston, Ala., sends a fine, large Van Deman seedling for examination. Out of 250 bearing trees grown from Stuart and Van Deman seed, only one reached the size and appearance of the parent nut, the others being inferior in size and quality.

### Mile-Stones to Success

Editor NUT-GROWER:—I hand you herewith check for \$10.00 for life membership in the Nut-Growers' Association, and trust that the proposition will be universally accepted.

Permit me to say that I am now getting ready to plant about 1000 acres of nuts in Grimes county, Texas, and am now in correspondence with nurseries that have improved grafted and budded trees. The information which I have obtained through your journal, as well as the Proceedings of Nut-Growers' Conventions held, has been of valuable service to me, and I would not be without it for one hundred times the cost. They are the best mile-stones on the road that leads to successful pecan culture and planting.

F. W. BROCKMAN,  
St. Louis, Mo.



### Life Members

The following firms and individuals have paid the fee and been enrolled as life members of the National Nut-Growers Association. A number of other subscriptions are on file and remittances are coming in regularly. Subsequent numbers will give additional names as the fees are paid:

American Nut and Fruit Co., by H.

E. Van Deman, President, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Standard Pecan Co., by H. S. Watson, President, Bloomington, Ill.

The G. M. Bacon Pecan Co., by G. M. Bacon, President, DeWitt, Ga.

C. Falkner, Waco, Texas.

J. F. Jones, of The Nut Nursery (Co.), Monticello, Fla.

E. E. Risien, West Texas Nursery, San Saba, Texas.

H. C. White, Horticulturist G. M. Bacon Pecan Co., DeWitt, Ga.

H. S. Graves, Gainesville Nurseries, Gainesville Fla.

U. B. Stewart, The Stuart Pecan Co., Ocean Springs, Miss.

W. G. Weeks, New Ibera, La.

Dr. Y. R. LeMonier, New Orleans, La.

E. M. Treacle, Southern Nut Nursery, Kansas City, Mo.

H. W. Simpson & Sons, Knox Nurseries, Vincennes, Ind.

J. B. Wight, Cairo, Ga.

C. Forkert, Bay View Nurseries, Ocean Springs, Miss.

H. M. Stringfellow, Lampasas, Tex.

J. F. Wilson, Piney Park Nursery, Poulan, Ga.

F. H. Burnett, Louisiana A. & M. College, Baton Rouge, La.

F. W. Brockman, St. Louis, Mo.

E. W. Kirkpatrick, McKinney, Tex.

Dr. J. B. Curtis, Orange Heights, Fla.

John S. Horlbeck, Charleston, S. C.

The Nut Grower Co., by C. N. Wilson, Poulan, Ga.



### The Grace Pecan

The Grace is a Georgia seedling showing a number of excellent qualities. It has good size, a thin shell, very plump kernel, is a splendid cracker and has a fine flavor. It is hardly

up to the popular standard in color of shell, while the kernel is so rich and palatable that its dark shade seems to bear testimony to its superior quality. The tree, unfortunately, is a slow grower, but makes amends by regular and generous yields. It is sixteen years old, only about fifteen feet high, with spread of branches about the same, but is finely branched and graceful in form and figure. Its 1905 crop was about 16 pounds.



### **Pecans A Favorite Southern Money Crop**

The pecan belongs to the hickory family, and in its fine, thin shell forms is, by best authorities, considered the finest nut known in commerce. It is a natural growth of the Southern States, especially those that touch the Gulf of Mexico. Texas furnishes the principal supply of pecans in commerce, averaging 200 to 500 cars annually. The greater supply appears to come out over the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific railroads, and San Antonio and Brownwood appear to be the larger shipping points. The future possibilities of improving the pecan and the increase of its supply is unlimited. The demands for this nut in its finer forms are most allur-

ing. The rich, alluvial soil along all Southern streams is the natural home of the pecan. The high lands in many large areas are also well adapted to its growth. The pecan appears well adapted to soil and climate throughout the Southern States, and as far north as Illinois and Ohio. It remains in its wild form without systematic cultivation. Its limited supply forbids its use in unlimited quantities, in the manufacture of highest grade machine oils, butter and rare toilet soaps, and also confectionery and other edibles and high-priced articles.

The keeping qualities of the finer varieties of pecans when stored in dry air and uniform temperatures are much in its favor. When we have produced large quantities of uniform and thin shell nuts, cleaning machinery will be constructed to do the work at a very cheap rate, compared with the present practice of hand-cleaning. The pecan can be grown in pasture or on meadow land with no injury to the pasture. Alfalfa, Bermuda or Johnson grass grows well under the large trees. The latter should be well established first and then there is no danger of other plants preying upon them.

Wild trees of the finer types

are producing annual crops which sell for \$25 to \$50 each at wholesale, whereas, if the owners of these trees had sufficient quantity to attract buyers, they would often receive more than \$100 dollars for the annual product of a single tree of these finer kinds.—American Agriculturist.



## Catalogues

*Catalogue and Price List*, Summit Nurseries, Monticello, Fla. A handsome pamphlet of 20 pages, containing much useful information regarding pecans.

*How to Make Money in a Nutshell*. Illustrated prospectus of the La Fourche Pecan Grove Association, Ltd., showing their plan of operating and estimated returns from investments made with the company. Much valuable information regarding culture, etc. is also given.

*Fruit Guide and Catalogue*, B. W. Stone & Co., Thomasville, Ga. A neatly gotten-up booklet of 24 pages in which pecans and their culture are given a prominent place.

*Pocket Price List*, The Griffing Bros. Co., Jacksonville, Fla., a handy little booklet published for the convenience of the company's patrons.

*Price List*, Glen St. Mary Nursery, Glen St. Mary, Fla. A condensation of the matter to be found in the handsome catalogue of this popular firm.



## Revised List of Officers

Below we give the list of officers and committees of The National Nut-Growers' Association as revised by the Dallas Convention:

President, E. W. Kirkpatrick, McKinney, Tex.

First Vice-president, J. B. Curtis, Orange Heights, Fla.

Second Vice-president, F. H. Burnette, Baton Rouge, La.

Secretary and Treasurer, J. F. Wilson, Poulan, Ga.

### STATE VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Alabama, R. S. Mackintosh, Auburn.

Arkansas, J. T. Underwood, Fort Smith.

Florida, H. S. Graves, Gainesville.

Georgia, J. B. Wight, Cairo.

Illinois, H. S. Watson, Bloomington.

Indiana, H. M. Simpson, Vincennes.

Louisiana, F. H. Burnette, Baton Rouge.

Minnesota, Chas. A. Van Duzee, St. Paul.

Missouri, E. M. Treacle, Kansas City.

Mississippi, Chas. E. Pabst, Ocean Springs.

North Carolina, H. Harold Hume, Raleigh.

South Carolina, John S. Horlbeck, Charleston.

Tennessee, Wm. E. Cooke, Chattanooga.

Texas, H. A. Halbert, Coleman.

Virginia, Wm. N. Roper, Petersburg.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

G. M. Bacon, DeWitt, Ga., J. B. Curtis, Orange Heights, Fla., H. C. White, DeWitt, Ga., Theo. Bechtel, Ocean Springs, Miss., E. W. Kirkpatrick, McKinney, Tex., Wm. Nelson, New Orleans, La., J. F. Wilson, Poulan, Ga.

E. Meade Wilcox, Auburn, Ala., S. H. James, Mound La.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

S. W. Peck, Hartwell, Ga., B. M. Young, Morgan City, La., E. W. Kirkpatrick, McKinney, Tex., C. E. Pabst, Ocean Springs, Miss., H. S. Watson, Bloomington, Ill.

COMMITTEE ON NOMENCLATURE AND STANDARDS.

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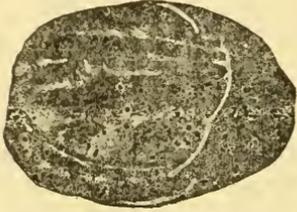
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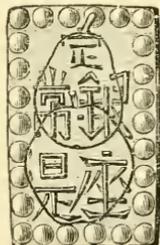
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# THE NUT-GROWER

Official Organ NATIONAL NUT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Volume IV

March 1906

Number 8

## INSECT ENEMIES OF THE PECAN

By F. H. CHITTENDEN, Sc. D.

United States Bureau of Entomology.

(Continued from last issue.)

### THE APPLE TWIG-BORER.

(*Amphicerus bicaudatus* Say.)

This insect, also known as the grape-cane borer, affects a variety of fruit, and occasionally shade and forest trees and ornamental shrubs, and during the year 1904 was reported as injuring pecans in Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi. It breeds normally in dying wood, and injury is practically confined to beetles boring into the twigs, usually about a bud or leaf scar, straight to the center, where they form a cylindrical burrow an inch or more in length.

The remedy is to cut the affected twig below the point of attack and promptly burn the cut portion. In case injury is extensive and can be traced to the presence of such plants as wild grape, smilax or catbriar of the vicinity, these plants should be burned and kept down as any other weeds, since they are the principal breeding places of this insect.

### ROOT-BORERS.

Two or three forms of root-borers, very large, white, grub-like creatures, the larvæ of long-horned beetles of the genera *Malodon* and *Prionus*, are occasionally reported injuring living roots of pecan. They are not, however, restricted to any particular form of tree, and as they live naturally in dead or dying wood, injury may be prevented by not planting pecans in land containing stumps, logs or old trees. Direct remedies are not practicable.

### GIRDLETS AND PRUNERS.

Only brief mention need be made of the insects which prune and girdle twigs and smaller branches of pecan, as well as other trees. Three common species of these pests are known—the pecan girdler (*Oncideres texana*), the hickory girdler (*Oncideres cingulata*) and the oak pruner (*Ellophidion villosum*). The first is restricted to the

South, and its life history has been carefully worked out in recent years. Twigs affected by it present the appearance of having been sawed, and the outer portion remains on the tree for some time before it finally drops. This work is done by the parent beetle prior to the deposition of her eggs. The hickory girdler has very similar habits.

Both of these species can be controlled by gathering the severed branches of pecan and other food trees of the girdlers—such as hickory, oak and persimmon—of the vicinity and burning them during the winter or before the insects make their appearance in early fall.

The oak pruner does not especially favor pecan, attacking a variety of trees, including those of the forest, orchard and city parks. Hickories and oaks are frequently found with the ground beneath them littered with the twigs and small branches which have been cut off by this insect. The work in this case is that of the larva, or "grub," which, just before its first transformation, severs the wood, all except a portion of the outer bark, so that during the first winter wind it will be brought to the ground. This species can be controlled in the same manner as the girdlers—by collecting the severed twigs.

There are other forms of borers than those which have been considered, such as the painted hickory borer and hickory bark beetle, but they are not of sufficient importance as pecan enemies at the present time to demand consideration in this paper.

#### THE PECAN OR HICKORY-NUT WEEVIL.

(*Balaninus caryæ* Horn.)

During 1903 and 1904 numerous inquiries as to the cause of the holes in pecan nuts were made, and these were found in every case to be due to the attack of this species, which closely resembles the well-known chestnut "worms" or weevils. Correspondence during the past year shows that this injury has decreased considerably, but I am informed by Mr. Fiske that the beetles are still as numerous as ever and quite destructive of hickory in some parts of the South. Wild pecans are more favored than the orchard varieties. Considerable shortage was reported during the years that have been mentioned, in Texas and Mississippi, while in Georgia, in one locality, 75 per cent of one crop was a failure.

The remedy is to store the infested nuts in tight receptacles, so that the larvæ or "worms" when issuing from the nuts soon after they are gathered, will not be able to enter the ground for

transformation. After crawling about the bottoms of the receptacles they soon die. After the main crop has been gathered, hogs should be allowed access to the pecan grove, where they will root up and destroy many weevils. Poultry are also of value for this purpose. Bisulphide of carbon has been found a perfect remedy for "worms" in chestnuts, but although an effort has been made to test this against the pecan weevil, we cannot state, from experience, its effects. It is probable, however, it will be quite effective in the case of the thinner shelled varieties, using the bisulphide rather strongly with a considerable exposure and in a perfectly tight receptacle. A tablespoonful or less to each cubic foot, with an exposure of two or three days will probably suffice. In the treatment of the pecan weevil, it is really necessary to collect and destroy the infected wild pecans and hickories as well, if these occur in the vicinity of extensive orchards, otherwise the insects will spread from the wild to the cultivated trees.

THE WALNUT CURCULIO.  
(*Conotrachelus juglandis* Lec.)

While considering the pecan weevil, the walnut curculio should be mentioned. It is more commonly observed attacking black walnut, in the fruit of

which the larva lives. It was reported in the late 90's as doing considerable damage to young nuts in a large orchard in Louisiana. The beetle is almost an exact counterpart of the pernicious plum curculio in all its stages. It is larger, and when examined critically certain differences can be detected.

An early spray of Paris green applied in the same manner as for the plum curculio, would hold this insect partially in check. Otherwise the best remedy would be to destroy the infected nuts as often as they are found. If hogs are allowed the run of the orchards before the nuts mature, they will attend to this matter.

THE PECAN HUSK-WORM.  
(*Anarmonia caryana* Fitch.)

The husks of growing nuts are much affected some seasons in many districts by a small, whitish "worm" or caterpillar known as the husk-borer or husk-worm. Quantities of nuts have been received at the Bureau of Entomology, in some cases of about the usual size, that were found upon examination to be invariably empty, although the worms fed only on the outer hull. Some growers claim that the principal injury of this species is in checking the growth of the earliest nuts, but from all nuts examined by the writer, the husks of which

contained the worm of this species, it seems that this latter form of injury is equally serious.

The difficulty of applying a good remedy for this insect tends to show that it is likely to become a serious pest indeed. About all that can be done is to gather and destroy the infested nuts as often as they are seen and to gather windfalls and dispose of them in the same manner. For the perfect protection of the pecan orchard, however, hickory nuts and wild pecans should be also gathered when found affected and promptly destroyed. Where it is feasible to allow hogs the range of the orchard, this should be done until the regular picking time.

#### MAY BEETLES.

The foliage of pecan and other nut trees is often injured by May beetles. One of the most destructive of these is the hairy May beetle (*Lechnosterna hirticula* Knoch), which has a most pernicious habit of severing the bud and the foliage of the trees attacked.

The best remedy is to jar the insects from the affected trees on curculio catchers, special receptacles made for catching the plum curculio.

#### WHITE ANTS.

Our common white ants, *Eutermes flavipes* Koll., known also as woodlice and termites, have

several times been reported as injuring groves of pecans, walnut and other nut trees. They usually enter the roots and are described as eating out the heart, rendering the limbs and branches nothing but hollow shocks. Injury is most severe to seedlings, especially of the first year's growth. As a rule, white ants are most destructive in dry localities, and if the trees can be frequently drenched with water the insects can be driven out. Where they have obtained a good foothold on the trees, however, it is best to inject bisulphide of carbon into their nests. A measure of precaution before planting pecans would consist in removing all old stumps, limbs and other dry wood in which these insects normally breed. After treatment with bisulphide of carbon, fertilizers should be applied to enable the seedlings to recuperate from attack. Hot water has been advised as a remedy, but if employed it should be used with care.

#### SCALES AND RELATED INSECTS.

Scale insects, as a rule, have not been found to do very serious injury in pecan orchards, but in course of time they will doubtless demand attention. The San Jose scale occurs on pecan but rarely, which is fortunate. The cottony scale (*Pulvinaria innum-crabilis* Rathv.) is sometimes

found, and may be recognized from the large, white, cottony masses covering its egg sacs. It is never, like the preceding, a very dangerous pest, seldom occurring in sufficient numbers to require remedial treatment.

The walnut scale and another species, a *Lecanium*, are the only species, to my knowledge noticed in pecan orchards. They can all be treated in the same manner as the San Jose scale, with the lime-salt-sulphur wash, kerosene or other oily preparation, with this reservation—that it is not necessary to resort to heroic measures in their control.

Numbers of sucking insects, other than scales, are occasionally found on pecans but not, as a rule, in injurious numbers. These include plant bugs of several species and the pecan *Phyllorera*, which causes little rounded swellings or galls on the leaves. Some forms of mites also attack the foliage.

#### NATURAL ENEMIES.

The work of the various observers who have been mentioned in the opening paragraph as having contributed to our knowledge of the principal pecan pests, has brought out the fact that natural enemies are of considerable importance in their nature. As example of the usefulness of natural enemies, it will suffice to state that the tussock moth is record-

ed by Dr. Howard as having 21 distinctive primary parasites. This does not include secondary parasites or other natural enemies. The pecan-feeding fall web-worm has a similar number, and both of these insects are largely controlled by the parasites, their fluctuation in numbers being dependent partially on the weather, but more on the direct operations of their smaller natural enemies. Ordinarily these agencies can be expected to preserve the balance of nature, but in exceptional years when they are not so active, their hosts—the tussock caterpillars and webworms—gain the ascendancy, and extensive defoliation of valuable trees is the result.

Among predaceous enemies are birds, which frequently destroy great numbers of certain forms of pecan insects, the praying mantis or rear-horse, the wheel-bug—a special enemy of webworms—and *Podisus spinosus*, or spined soldier-bug. Even the eggs of pecan-infesting insects are frequently destroyed by parasites, and it is desirable that the grower know the difference between his friends and foes. A more detailed consideration of this topic cannot well be presented in the present paper.

#### GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

A very considerable proportion of damage done by insects can

be averted by proper attention to orchard management. This applies to insects in general. If the trees can be kept in thrifty condition by the addition of fertilizers, cutting away injured and dying limbs, and the cutting out of entire trees when their death is positively assured, comparatively little attention need be given to other forms of remedies beyond spraying. If a systematic course of spraying is instituted on the first appearance of insects which we know to be dangerous, much injury from future generations, where the insect is known to have more than one brood a year, can be largely prevented. It follows that close inspection of the orchard, particularly of the outskirts, should be made early in the season at least once a week, and later at least twice monthly. It should always be remembered that wild pecan and hickory furnish breeding places for all forms of pecan insects, and if in bad condition, to borers, and their presence, if neglected, in the neighborhood of the orchard is a standing menace to the welfare of the cultivated trees.

## EXAMINATION OF VARIETIES

By J. F. WILSON

THE application of the scale of points adopted by the National Nut Growers' Association at New Orleans in 1904 is by no means an easy matter. The work contemplated is very important and will have an influential effect upon the industry and will add dignity and character to the Association.

The committee on Standards and Nomenclature, which has this work in hand, was very carefully selected, and no one engaged in the commercial line of growing or selling nut nursery stock was considered eligible to serve on it. This fact, together with the well-known ability and character of the parties composing the committee, makes their deliberations of much general interest.

During the past few months several nuts have been submitted and are now going the rounds of the committee. Nearly all of these are new candidates for public recognition, but as far as individual reports have come in there is a pronounced indication that they must show a high order of general merit and some particular quality in which they exceed the standard and well-known varieties.

In tabulating reports as they come in, some general rules are in prospect which promise uniform and practical results. The scale provides for 100 points. Should a nut reach this high grade at the hands of each examiner, it would undoubtedly be our typical pecan as far as the nut itself was concerned, but it would still have to undergo further and more trying tests in the examination of the tree producing it as to its vigor, productiveness, adaptability to different localities, freedom from disease and insect injury and various other points which influence its value.

Thus we see that the obtaining of a favorable grade is really only the beginning of the more thorough and prolonged trial. A nut which falls below an average of 75 points at the hands of a majority of the committee is not regarded as meriting further consideration. Should any member of the committee give a nut a score on any point below 50 per cent. of the number prescribed for that point, it would disqualify the nut, although it made an acceptable grade in all other respects.

To illustrate: size is given 20 points in the scale. Suppose the nut in question is marked below 10 as its rating in this particular. It would, in that case, be re-

garded as too small a nut for further consideration, although having a good grade in other respects. The same rule would apply to each particular which enters into the scale. Where 5 points are allowed, anything below  $2\frac{1}{2}$  would disqualify.

These rules are by no means arbitrary but are, rather, a convenience in assembling the individual reports pertaining to the nuts examined, with a view to eliminating all falling below this average from further consideration when the committee gets together for the further examination of those which promise the most merit.

The matter of names for the varieties passed for testing will receive careful attention from the committee and will be, as far as practicable, fitting and convenient.

The real test of a variety will be in the nursery and orchard and in its adaptability to the varying conditions of soil and climate.

It is the evident policy of the committee to avoid and prevent, as far as possible, the multiplication of varieties and the indiscriminate naming of similar nuts.

Each one endorsed must have some one or more qualities in which it rivals those already being propagated and placed on the market.

# The Nut-Grower

Published by The Nut-Grower Co.

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**Subscription Price:** 50c per Annum  
**Advertising Rates Sent Upon Application**

MARCH, 1906

Notwithstanding our efforts to get out the Proceedings of the Dallas Convention promptly, we seem to be held up as badly as we were when the reporter of the St. Louis Convention died.

Through an oversight in making up the forms for our February number, the advertisement of Mr. J. A. Bear, of Palatka, Fla., was left out. This notice, however, may make amends for the omission.

Our list of subscribers in Arkansas is not as large as in some states, but it heads the list in one particular, at least. We commend the example it gives in having only one delinquent subscriber.

When our last number was ready for the press the supply of paper needed had not arrived, so rather than delay the issue, another grade of stock was substituted. This number however,

is on our regular grade of fine book paper.

The Huntsville Wholesale Nurseries, of Huntsville, Ala., have submitted for examination by the Committee on Nomenclature and Standards, a pecan nut which has some superior qualities. The tree producing it is located at Biloxi, Miss.

Mr. C. Falkner, of Texas, has kindly promised to write for THE NUT-GROWER a description of the important exhibit he made at the Dallas Convention, which so forcibly demonstrated the fact that pecans do not reproduce the size or character of the original nut when propagated from seed.

Why should a tree which has been bearing several years fail entirely during a season when trees on all sides of it, receiving the same treatment, bore heavily? The solution to this question may be found to be connected with the time of blooming. The blooms may have come earlier or later than those on the surrounding trees and at a time when unfavorable conditions prevailed.

Our Texas friend, Halbert, is getting up in the world and particularly in the pecan business, in which he is so enthusiastically

engaged. A recent issue of *Farm and Ranch* gives two pictures of him engaged in working the tops of large trees. We do not have much of this work in the Southeast, owing to the absence of large pecan trees on which to operate, but we have a lot of them started right in the nursery before removal to orchard.

A recent ruling by the Post-office Department regarding second-class postage is of great importance to publishers. In substance, it limits the rate of one cent per pound to paid in advance subscriptions. This compels publishers to discontinue their delinquent list or else pay the third-class rate. Our circulation manager, therefore, is obliged to have our subscription books in good shape all the time and ready for inspection by the postal authorities.

Synonyms of the *Rome* pecan seem to have good staying qualities. However, there is enough diversity of opinion as to whether there are one or several distinct nuts among these several names. It may be well to have a report on this matter at the next convention, either by our committee on Standards and Nomenclature or by a special committee. Such a report, when

presented would probably give rise to a wholesome discussion and lead to some specific declaration which would be regarded as authoritative.

Speaking of top-working large pecan trees reminds us of a Florida grower who has a commendable way of top-working his trees annually, and who is fixed for it with extensible ladders and other appliances which enable him to reach all parts of the trees. His plan in gathering is to pick the nuts from the tree in preference to picking them up from the ground. He says it is just as easy if you are fixed for it and, besides, you cut out the labor of thrashing the trees with its consequent injury. By this method he gets all the nuts and the entire crop is harvested at one operation.

The seed trade is getting in good work in opposition to the governmental free seed distribution. The Granges and other farm organizations have been active in opposing appropriations for this purpose. The House committee on Agriculture has stricken out the appropriation this year, and all who recognize the useless cost of this much abused plan for the introduction of new varieties should write their senators and representa-

tives to oppose the expenditure of public funds in ways which injure, rather than benefit, the legitimate seed trade.



The filbert is a popular nut in the market but the home supply is quite limited. Some localities do not seem well-suited to their growth and a few failures have had a depressing effect on the planting of large orchards. It is probable that some remedy for controlling the diseases which now compromise the growth of the tree may be found. Climate, soil and natural conditions for this nut are found in many sections of the country and the investigators who show how to grow the trees successfully will distinguish themselves and add much to the wealth of the country.



The convention at Dallas showed more than the importance of nut growing. It gave an example of the kind of men who are inclined to follow the commercial lines of horticulture. All gave evidence of out-door work, many were large men, all were robust and vigorous and those of smaller stature were not lacking in power of mind and energy. The noticeable feature of this survey of the assembly was the absence of old men. This was not through the lack of gray

hair or of those who had passed the three-score-and-ten limit, for they were both there; but the bodily vigor and active minds showed a condition which can only be obtained by congenial work which employs both body and mind in noble endeavor. To anyone seeking employment and fortune in lines that will bring them close to Nature and which will be, at the same time, removed from the competition and worry of trade, whose constant tension shortens the life of the individual, the growing of nuts affords an ideal occupation in which the rewards are wealth, ease, honor and long life.



During the past few months we have seen various circulars, prospectuses and other matter exploiting projected nut growing companies. All of these contain estimates of the prospective yield of nuts and of the anticipated profits. We say *estimated* because the budded and grafted trees planted for commercial purposes are not yet old enough to show actual results. These figures all show so promising a prospect that financial men usually will hardly give them a second thought, claiming that anything promising more than a fair dividend has some fatal defect. Others fear to venture on so alluring a project because they are

not conversant with the business. These estimates, although showing a more safe and profitable investment than can usually be found, all seem to be based upon the yield of isolated trees now in bearing, and anyone posted on the money making qualities of a choice pecan tree will be slow to question the accuracy of the figures given by these promoters. However, the pathway of the beginner in the business is beset with pitfalls, which experience alone can obviate, so that when the prospect is taken up from the view-point of an investor, it is very important that the practical horticultural skill shown by experienced growers should be utilized. This must be learned by a careful study of recent literature, such as that which the National Nut Growers' Association has developed in its published Proceedings, in the volumes of THE NUT-GROWER and other horticultural publications. All commercial nut orchards should have a competent horticulturist in their employ. It will help to avoid mistakes, thus saving money and time, and give better results. The supply of such skill, however, is not equal to the demand.



Have you tried THE NUT-GROWER as an advertising medium?

### Why We are Late

Since our February number was issued the Herald Press, printers of THE NUT-GROWER, have moved their plant from their former location to a building in the business center of Poulan, Ga. The moving of a printing office breaks in seriously on the regular work, while in this case the new location brought in an increased amount of local printing. So it will be seen that the delay in getting out this number had a reasonable cause.

The Herald Press is doing an increasing amount of printing for nut growers and nurserymen, and will be pleased to receive orders from the patrons of THE NUT-GROWER for anything in that line. Except in catalogue work they can compete with the large city offices, both in prices and quality of work. Their plant is up-to-date in every respect and only skilled printers are employed.



Commencing with this issue, our readers will notice the new advertisement of the Hart Pioneer Nurseries, of Fort Scott, Kan., advertising high grade nursery stock. This is an old established firm, having organized their business in a small way in 1865. At the present time their nurseries comprise over 600

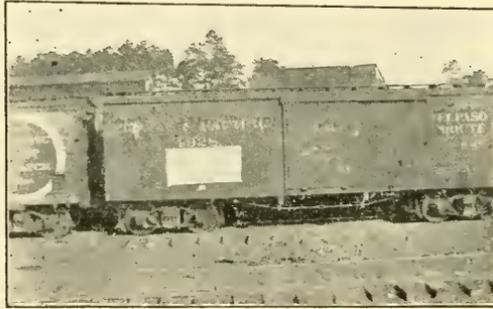
acres. This firm makes a specialty of the mail order business, selling their stock direct to the planter at wholesale prices.

Our readers who contemplate purchasing nursery stock should write for their catalogue.



### A Big Shipment

During the planting season just past, the Nut Nursery Co., of Monticello, Fla., made a shipment of budded and grafted pecan trees, which so far as we know, is the largest order of this kind ever handled and the first solid car of fine pecan stock



SOLID CAR OF GRAFTED AND BUDDED PECAN TREES.

ever shipped. It consisted of ten thousand trees, which all went to one purchaser, the American Nut and Fruit Company, whose orchards at Ferriday, La., are under the supervision of Mr. H. E. Van Deman, president of the company.

Mr. J. F. Jones, manager of the Nut Nursery Co., kindly furnished the accompanying photograph, but through a mis-

take of the engravers the cut was made so small that it does not show up very well and the inscription on the car is illegible.

There are but few nut nurseries yet able to fill orders of this size, and customers able to buy in such quantity are not very numerous either.



### Increasing Demand for Nuts

An increasing demand for the

best varieties of nuts is everywhere discernable. They are found in every conceivable form at the confectioners; sold in all large food empor-

iums; while no dinner is counted complete without nuts as an accessory or served as the chief article of food in some one of the many ways in which they are now prepared; endorsed alike by fashionables and faddists, though it is questionable if the latter devotees derive much benefit from innovations so decidedly extreme. Those who plunge into the fruit and nut diet, sub-

sisting exclusively upon raw food, are likely to miss the comforts of a more generously prepared menu. Dietary changes are generally productive of salutary results when undertaken because of desire for certain foods, rather than entered upon as one would do penance. Light, nutritious food is sought no less by those who feel the need of better physical conditions than by brain-workers everywhere. Those engaged in occupations demanding quick intellectual perceptions, note the cause and accentuation of power, and it is from these and kindred sources that nuts as food will secure a permanent indorsement.—American Nut Journal.



### Hogg's Monument

The accompanying clipping from the daily press dispatches is very significant and means much, not only for Texas, but for the entire country. It shows an appreciation of the value of nut trees by a prominent man who had the welfare of the masses at heart and who chose the time of his departure from earth to impress the injunction upon his family and, through them, on the public at large.

"I want no monument of stone," he said, "but let my children plant at the head of my grave a pecan

tree and at the foot of my grave a walnut tree, and when these trees shall bear let the pecans and the walnuts be given out among the plain people of Texas, so that they may plant them and make Texas a land of trees."

Such a monument will not only perpetuate the memory of Gov. Hogg—generations to come will share in the beneficial results which will follow the stimulus thus given to the nut growing industry, which is only now beginning to attract the attention it merits from every one who owns a farm or village home.

Gov. Hogg was a man of wide experience, a close observer of cause and effect and he doubtless saw in the future of nut growing much to interest him and much of prospective good to his state. We like monuments of this kind, that help others to better lives and more profitable and pleasant surroundings.



### A Large Orchard

The largest and most important planting of budded and grafted pecans which has thus far come to our notice, is the "Pecania" orchard of the American Nut and Fruit Co., near Ferriday, La. Six hundred acres have been planted during the present season.

The soil is a rich alluvium and the trees have been given fifty

feet space. About ten thousand trees were used, half of them being of the *Stuart* variety. 2,700 were *Van Demans*, 1,800 *Moneymakers*, which originated in that locality; about 200 each of *Pabsts* and *Frotschers*, with a few trees of a number of other varieties planted in a test orchard.

Mr. H. E. Van Deman, the president and general manager of this company, writes interestingly about the planting of this orchard. After his squad of about a dozen hands became familiar with the work it moved easily and rapidly. Use was made of a wire 1,000 feet long, spaced with marks every 50 feet. This was stretched and lined from end to end by sight poles. Holes were then dug at the proper places, finished with posthole augers and the trees planted, the soil being tamped about the roots as in the setting of a fence post. When a row was finished, the wire and squad moved forward for a repetition of the operation. By this plan about 20 trees, or some over an acre of land was planted in fifteen minutes or at the rate of 40 acres per day.

This work was performed under the personal supervision of Prof. Van Deman, who directed the operations, getting a bout from point to point on horseback.

Results in the growth of trees, the age of bearing and yield of these varieties will be carefully watched by all interested in the commercial aspect of the industry. The orchard is in good hands and the general public can rely on the data which the president will give out as results are obtained.



### Consumers' Fancies

Since the farmer supplies townspeople and city people—a growing extent people who were not reared in the country and who are lonesome if they cease to hear the clatter and roar of the city and to play a part in unnecessary bustle and crush—he must not govern himself in his business operations by standards based upon country life and country living. He must be prepared to raise pretty red apples stuffed with cotton if his customers want them; blackberries that are large and pleasing to the eye, although disagreeably sour to the taste; large strawberries, even though they may have a white tip, full of seed and without flavor; and any other products that his own family would not care to consume because having better ones.

Some general principles appear, although more or less crude, vague and incomprehensive. The

customer has a fondness for red, white and the colorless, and sometimes for yellow when reinforced with large size. Gloss, polish and luster are wanted. Things should be large and, when applicable, of plump appearance; they should be uniform in size, shapely and with ornamental lines. A convenient and showy package is appreciated, and a product, grade or producer's name once established favorably, catches the fancy of customers often more easily and securely than anything else.

The gratification of the sense of taste is of minor consideration; the farmer's market customers are largely without keen discrimination in the taste of his products, in this respect being in contrast with country-bred and especially farm-bred customers, whose gustatory nerves were educated and trained in youth to be critical in the taste of the materials of foods produced on the farm.

It remains to be asserted, after all due weight and importance have been given to the fancies of consumers, that honesty is the best salesman that the farmer and dealer can have—honesty in grading, in packing, in quality, in condition.

The "honest farmer" who establishes a reputation of this sort for himself and has feasible mar-

kets within reach does not need to seek customers, because they will seek him and he cannot produce to equal the demand.

The farmer must not hang back in supplying things that are pretty to look upon, although they may not be delicious to eat; he must learn the scores of whims and notions in his available markets, even though they may be "without rhyme or reason," and remember that one of the great buyers of the products of the farm is the human eye.—  
GEO. K. HOLMES in *Year Book* of the Department of Agriculture.



The Texas Pecan and Orchard Co., of St. Louis, is out with a neat prospectus giving reliable data regarding the industry and exploiting their financial plans, which provide for common and preferred stock.



### Book Notices

*Pear Blight Disease: Cause and Prevention.* Bulletin No. 18 of the Georgia State Board of Entomology, Atlanta, Ga. By R. I. Smith and M. B. Waite. 20 pages, illustrated.

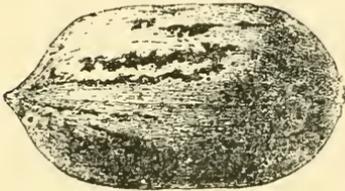
*How to Grow Strawberries:* by Dr. J. C. Whitten. No. 3 of the Brother Jonathan series, published by the Fruit Grower Co., St. Joseph, Mo. 60 pages; price 25c. An interesting booklet, designed to help those interested in the culture of this most excellent fruit.

*Report of the Secretary of Agriculture, for 1905.* 100 pages of interesting matter, showing the extent of operations during the past year along established and new lines of operations.

*Proceedings of the Louisiana State Horticultural Society,* second annual meeting held at Shreveport. Issued by the State Board of Agriculture and Immigration, J. G. Lee, Commissioner, Baton Rouge, La. 80 pages, with roll of active and honorary members. About six pages are devoted to pecan growing.

*The Home Garden.* By W. L. Howard and E. H. Favor, of the University of Missouri and Agricultural Experiment Station. No. 4 of the Brother Jonathan series mentioned above. A brief discussion of garden soils and how they are built up, with suggestions for growing the common vegetables. 60 pages; price 25c.

## The Stuart Pecan Company Ocean Springs Mississippi



Are headquarters for Reliable Budded and Grafted Trees of the choicest known varieties

SEND FOR PRICE LIST

*In Writing to Advertisers Please Mention The Nut-Grower*

## PUBLICATIONS

ISSUED BY THE

### NATIONAL NUT GROWERS ASSOCIATION

*Proceedings of the Second Annual Convention,* held at New Orleans, La., October 28-30, 1903. 60 pages; 25 cents, postpaid.

*Proceedings of the Third Annual Convention,* held at St. Louis, Mo., October 26-28, 1905. 150 pages; 30 cents, postpaid.

These publications can be obtained by addressing the Secretary

J. F. WILSON,

Poulan, Ga.

**Nuts for Profit** A BOOKLET of 158 pages; 60 illustrations. Propagation, Cultivation, etc., of Nuts best adapted to the various sections. Interesting and instructive. *Price by mail, 25 cents.* JOHN R. PARRY, PARRY, N. J. From Jan. 1 to April 15, ORLANDO, FLA.

## If You Want Your Business Known

To Fruit Growers and Farmers in the South and West

Advertise in The  
Southern Fruit-Grower  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

"A Short Talk on Pecans," by Fred S. Dawson, Starke, Fla. It is free. Write a postal card for it.

## ST. GEORGE

THE new Northern Colony in Georgia offers special inducements to those wishing to engage in farming, fruit and vegetable growing in a mild and healthy climate. Soil especially adapted to nut growing. ¶The population of the colony is now over 1000, although it has been started less than a year. ¶Cheap and fertile lands, good community, good water, good railroad facilities.

For further particulars address  
**W. L. Glessner**  
 MACON, GA.

## Ocean Springs Pecan Nursery

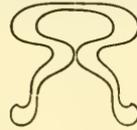
Season 1906-7

Will be pleased to book orders now for Grafted Pecans. No Seedlings. Send for Price List

**CHAS. E. PABST, Prop.**  
 Ocean Springs, Mississippi

No Farm is **BUDDED**  
 Complete **PECAN**  
 Without a **TREES**  
 Grove of

They are Safe  
 Sure and Profitable



GRIFFING'S CATALOGUE TELLS  
 ABOUT THEM

Twenty leading varieties of Pecans. Also a complete line of Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubbery. Catalog free. Address

**The Griffing Bros. Company**  
 JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

**Trees** For Season 1905-6 **all Sold**

It is not too soon to arrange for your next season's wants. Write for prices, information, etc.

**J. B. WIGHT, Cairo, Ga.**

**Grafted Pecan Trees**  
 OF SELECT PAPER SHELL VARIETIES

*Not the Most—  
 Only the Best*

For Descriptive List write  
**BAYVIEW NURSERY**  
 C. FORKERT, Prop. Ocean Springs, Miss.

**BECHTEL PECAN NURSERIES**

"SUCCESS"—Natural Size



The nut that has never failed to bear and never failed to fill at both ends with kernel of best quality : : :

Ocean Springs : : Mississippi

### Are You Interested In Peaches

The cultivation of

Or other fruits & vegetables

?

If so, send 50c for a year's subscription to

### The Peach Grower Savannah, Ga.

It has the Circulation and reaches the Growers.

### Gainesville Nurseries Of Gainesville, Fla.,

Make a specialty of Budded and Grafted Pecan trees of such standard varieties as have a good record behind them. Our Catalogue will not only help in the selection of varieties but will assist you in the planting and culture; its free for the asking.

H. S. GRAVES, Prop., GAINESVILLE, FLA.

### FRUIT GROWERS and FARMERS

The Southern Fruit Grower is the best, most practical fruit paper to read. 24 to 40 pages every month 50c a year. Send 10c and 10 names of fruit growers and get the paper 6 mos. on trial. Sample free. Southern Fruit Grower, Box A, Chattanooga, Tenn.

## Season Now Open for Transplanting

We offer trees of all kinds, extra fine stock, in any quantity of the following:

6 varieties of Budded Pecans  
Budded Orange Trees, 160 varieties of Roses, All varieties of Shade and Fruit Trees, Evergreens, Shrubs, Palms, Ferns.

Our new crop of high grade seeds, with few exceptions, is now in stock; also onion sets, grass and odd seed of every description. What we furnish is

### NOT HOW CHEAP, BUT HOW GOOD

Eastern and Tennessee grown seed potatoes our specialty. Catalog to all applicants free of charge.

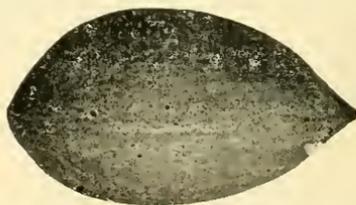
### J. Steckler Seed Co.

Successors to Richard Frottscher

Long Distance Phone, Main 428

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NEW PLANT



For growing **Pecans, Pears, Peaches**, etc., at a profit—Free 50 per cent. reduction in price of trees. Sure to live. No agents. Freight paid. **B. W. STONE & CO., :: Thomasville, Ga.**

**Potato Growers** Send for the *New Science of Potato Growing* by Prof White. Also explains how you can save several dollars per acre on your potato seed bill. A great saving to growers. Send for the pamphlet today. Price, 50c. Guaranteed. Address

**Scientific Gardening** DAYTON MISS.

*In Writing to Advertisers Please Mention The Nut-Grower*

# The Nut Nursery Co.

Monticello, Fla.

*Growers of Fancy and Rare Varieties in the various species of Nuts which are of Value to the Planters of this Country.*

We have probably the finest stock of Grafted and Budded Pecans of genuine fine varieties in the South. Don't overlook us if you want the best in this line. Illustrated descriptive catalogue—FREE

J. F. JONES, Manager

## Nut and other Trees

In immense quantities for Fall Delivery

- PECANS—Grafted and Budded
- WALNUTS—Japan and English
- Chestnuts, Peaches, Apples, Plums, Pears, Cherries, Grapes, Small Fruits, Roses, Shade Trees and Shrubs.

### P. J. BERCKMANS COMPANY

FRUITLAND NURSERIES

Established 1856 AUGUSTA, GA.  
400 acres in Nursery, 60,000 feet of Glass

## PECANS

AND NOTHING BUT PECANS. BEST VARIETIES.

### Hartwell Nurseries

S. W. PEEK, Prop'r. HARTWELL, Ga.  
Established 1882. Send for Catalogue.



**BEAR'S PECAN NURSERIES**  
J.A. BEAR PROP.  
PALATKA, FLA.  
SEND FOR PRICE LIST

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ARKANSAS AND THE SOUTHWEST

Less than One-way Fare for the round trip by Memphis and the Cotton Belt Route. Dates are October 17, November 7 and 21, December 5 and 19.

Pick your date and say when and where you want to go and we will give you full information by return mail.

**L. P. Smith, G. P. A.**  
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THE PECAN OF THE FUTURE  
IT'S ALL MEAT

Leading varieties of Grafted and Budded Pecan and other choice Nut trees our specialty. Send for catalogue.

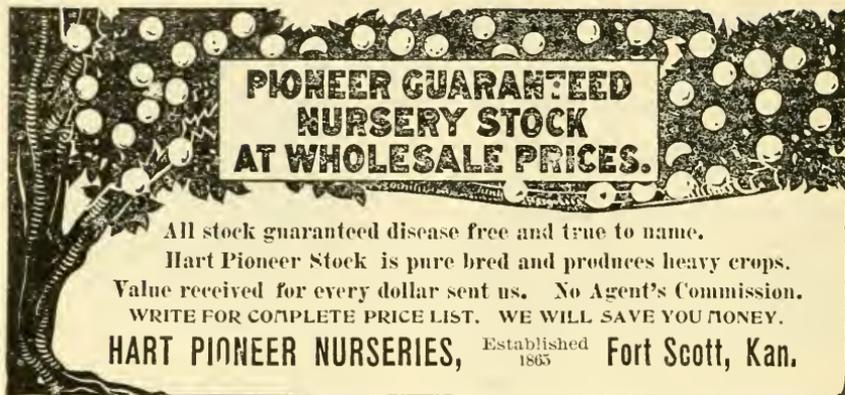
### SUMMIT NURSERIES

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### STUART-ROBSON PECAN COMPANY

Growers, Dealers in Large Soft and Paper Shell Pecans. Growers of the celebrated varieties, Columbian, Stuart, Van Deman and Capital. Budded, Grafted and Seedling Trees for sale. Address either

Ocean Springs, Miss. Kirkwood, Ga.



**PIONEER GUARANTEED  
NURSERY STOCK  
AT WHOLESALE PRICES.**

All stock guaranteed disease free and true to name.  
Hart Pioneer Stock is pure bred and produces heavy crops.  
Value received for every dollar sent us. No Agent's Commission.  
WRITE FOR COMPLETE PRICE LIST. WE WILL SAVE YOU MONEY.  
**HART PIONEER NURSERIES,** Established 1865 **Fort Scott, Kan.**



## Huntsville Wholesale Nurseries

We offer GRAFTED PECANS, one year's growth on two and three year roots. In our soil we get a splendid system of fibrous roots, superior to anything we have seen elsewhere. We have in stock the following varieties: STUART, RUSSELL, PABST, VAN DEMAN, TAYLOR, PRIDE OF THE COAST, FROTSCHER, MONEYMAKER. Particulars by mail. Address

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## Atlantic & Birmingham Railway

The land along this line  
is especially adapted to  
**PECAN GROWING**

**H. C. McFADDEN**  
General Passenger Agent

**Atlanta, Georgia**

### FRUIT GROWERS and FARMERS

The Southern Fruit Grower is the best, most practical fruit paper to read. 24 to 40 pages every month. 50¢ a year. Send 10¢ and 10 names of fruit growers and get the paper 6 mos. on trial. Sample free. Southern Fruit Grower, Box A, Chattanooga, Tenn.

### Grow PECANS and get Rich!

Splendid lands surrounding the new colony at Folkston, Ga., close in \$3 to \$6 per acre. 2 railroads. Address C. W. WAUGHTTEL, Mgr., Folkston, Ga.

*In Writing to Advertisers Please Mention The Nut-Grower*

# THE NUT-GROWER

Official Organ NATIONAL NUT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Volume IV

April 1906

Number 9

## FIELD NOTES ON PECANS

IN our March 1905 number we reported conditions and growth of an experimental plot of seedling pecan trees growing near THE NUT GROWER office. The purpose of this article is to give the result of observations on this plot during the past year. As formerly stated, these trees have had only ordinary attention such as any farmer can easily give young trees, while the land is still in cultivation in farm crops. Reference to the former description of this plot will be of interest in connection with this report of the past season's growth.

The season was a normal one for general crops, with ample rains well distributed during the growing seasons. The plot was cultivated in cotton and trees received the same working with an addition of one-fourth pound of commercial fertilizer at beginning of season.

As the plot was set out in the spring of 1901, the memoranda here given applies to the fourth season's growth.

The trees are all numbered, and each has a separate page in Record Book. Nos. 1 to 8 inclusive are close to a board fence, and get cultivation only on one side. Besides this the fence is lined with briar and honeysuckle vines, which have escaped from cultivation.

Tree No. 3 failed to grow, and was replaced by a *Van Deman* grafted tree March 25, 1905. It was cut back to 18 inches at planting, and as growth was not very satisfactory, it was again cut back to ten inches at close of growing season.

Tree No. 166 did not grow, but sprouted from root in 1903, but it died or was destroyed in cultivation in 1905. The vacancy was filled by a one year hybrid seedling of *Jewett* and *Columbian*, crossed by Mr. Forkert, of Ocean Springs, Miss. It was cut back to ten inches at planting.

Tree No. 31 was replaced March 27, 1905, with a *Frotscher* 20 inches in height. This was

cut back at end of season to 5 inches.

By dividing the seedlings into two groups, we obtain better comparative results. One group includes all the seedlings along the board fence, seven in number, and some more standing at north end of rows, which came close to a pine thicket. This pine thicket was cleared away in the spring of 1905. These 14 trees, during the past season, showed an average growth in height of fifteen inches, and an average increase in circumference of nearly one inch. The tree showing the greatest growth in height in this group was No. 20, which added two feet and eight inches. Tree No. 5 was no higher than at previous measurement. Increase in circumference varied from 2½ inches for No. 33 down to nothing in the case of Nos. 5 and 6.

The remaining 21 trees, or group two, all enjoyed the full advantages of location and cultivation and gave measurements as follows:

The greatest growth of any of these in 1905 was four inches, with an average of nearly three feet to the tree.

In circumference the average increase was two inches.

All the trees except replants are well branched; several are over ten feet in height, and all

have a healthy appearance, and thus far have been subject to no insect injuries aside from the webs of caterpillars, which are burned out as they appear.

Following up the memoranda published for previous years, we have at the end of fourth season's growth the following:

	FT.	INS.
Highest tree	11	4
Smallest tree	3	
Average height	7	
Average circumference		5½
Greatest growth in 1905	4	2
Least growth in 1905		2
Average growth in 1905	2	
Greatest increase in circumference in 1905		4
Least increase in circumference in 1905		½
Average increase <sup>1</sup> in circumference in 1905		1½

While this data is very commonplace, and only such as any observer can make, still it is from such recorded data that deductions can be made, and by similar records in various localities we are able to arrive at a knowledge of the most favorable localities for growing the pecan. It is not the size or yield of individual or exceptional trees which furnishes the reliable data for calculating what this nut will do in any particular section, but the sum total of the records of all trees which give a general average of growth and crops.

Other experiments are under way on our home grounds, and

one of the most important is the testing of seed nuts where 200 nuts each of several selected varieties are being grown, side by side under similar conditions, with a view to determining their relative value for seed purposes. This experiment is designed to show several things: First, the percentage of nuts which germinate; second, the relative growth of the varieties; third, the facility with which the stock will take buds, and, fourth, its availability for grafting.

There is a large field for trials

of this kind, as some nuts are certainly far superior to others for seed purposes, and it is only by tests and records of comparative results that practical and valuable evidence can be obtained, showing what qualities are most essential for the typical seed purposes. These tests should be directed along similar lines in various localities, and if observations are carefully made and faithfully recorded, deductions can be made, which will be of much practical value to the industry.

## HORTICULTURAL MEETINGS AT JAMESTOWN'S EXPOSITION

It would be a grand, good plan if all the National Horticultural and kindred organizations of the United States could hold a convention, for one month, during the exposition in the summer of 1907.

As the American Pomological Society is the oldest organization in the land, it seems proper for us to take the initiative in this.

A gathering together of all the different departments of horticulture would give a fine opportunity for the members of these different National Societies to meet each other during this convocation and perhaps unify all

interests, at least for us to gain a greater insight into the different divisions of our work and assist the National Council of Horticulture in its work of exploiting and advertising our various interests.

The plan of this convocation should be for each National Society to hold a one or two days session, following each other in succession; three or more each week, during the whole of the month of August; this would give eighteen or twenty different organizations time for their annual or biennial meeting and these gatherings would be of great value to every association.

Each meeting would be visited by many members of other societies and this arrangement would be most convenient for all those who belong to more than one of these societies to attend them all without extra expense of another trip. It would be a splendid opportunity for all of us who would like to know more of the members of other societies and of their work, and thus increase our interest and broaden our views of horticulture.

As suggestive only, we would recommend the following classification and dates:

The first ten days to be devoted to the fruit industry and its interests.

August 1-2	The Apple Growers.
August 2	Apple Shippers.
August 4	Cider and Vinegar Mk's
August 6	Evaporators.
August 7	Canneries.
August 8	Council of Horticulture.
August 9	Horticultural Asso.
August 10-11	Pomological Society.
The week beginning August 13th, to be devoted to the Florists.	
August 13-14	American Florists.
August 15	Chrysanthemum So'y.
August 16	Carnation Society.
August 17	Rose Growers.
August 18	Green House Builders.
The week beginning August 20th to be devoted to the Nursery, Seed and Commission Men.	
August 20-21	Nurserymen.
August 22-23	Commission Men.
August 24	Nut Growers.
August 25	Seed Growers.
—Circular American Pomological Society.	

## NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETS

THE second called meeting of the National Council of Horticulture convened at the Auditorium Annex, Chicago, February 5th, 1906. There were present, Prof. W. W. Tracy, of Washington, D. C.; Prof. S. B. Green, of Minnesota; C. E. Kendel, of Cleveland, Ohio; L. A. Goodman, of Kansas City; H. C. Irish, of St. Louis; C. C. Simmons, P. J. Hauswirth and J. C. Vaughan.

Telegrams or letters were received from the following: J. H. McFarland, Prof. E. J. Wick-

son, Prof. L. R. Taft, Prof. L. H. Bailey, Prof. John Craig, Philip Breitmeyer and J. H. Dayton.

The minutes of the October meeting at Cleveland were read and approved. The plan outlined at Cleveland for securing funds from florists, nurserymen and seedman showed \$210 in the treasury for promotion of trial work of the Bureau of Publicity. The method for carrying out the plans arranged at Cleveland were discussed and definite propositions read by D. J. Thomas, and J. H. Burdette, of Chicago, giv-

ing their views as to the best methods of securing high-class newspaper publicity for the Council. Subjects for preliminary articles were discussed and many suggestions given to the secretary with instructions to take up the matter with Messrs. Thomas and Burdette and arrange for sending out the preliminary articles to such an extent as the funds in hand would provide for.

It was conceded that material on general subjects coming from a national body covering broad lines and from all parts of the country and bearing no evidence of commercialism, would be eagerly accepted through our own or other press bureaus by hundreds or even thousands of the best newspapers in all parts of the country. It is believed that this part of the Council work can be placed on a self-supporting basis.

There being a vacancy of one member in the delegates-at-large of the National Council, Prof. S. A. Beach, of the Iowa State College of Agriculture, was appointed.

It was voted to invite the Secretary of Agriculture to appoint two delegates from the United States Department of Agriculture to become a part of the Council on a similar basis as are delegates from the National So-

cieties of the Florists, Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

Mr. Warren H. Manning, landscape designer of the Jamestown Exposition, asked for the advice and assistance of the Council in his work at the Exposition, and asked the Council to suggest names for committees to aid him on the following sections of the Exposition work in Horticulture Classification, Awards, Standards of Excellence, Call for National Congress, Special Events and Programmes.

These appointments were made as requested, and the secretary instructed to submit same to Mr. Manning for his approval.



### Black Walnut in Illinois

This idea of planting the black walnut for profit as a lumber tree is largely bosh. It is very nice to have a small walnut grove on a prairie farm, as a landscape relief, for a wind-break, and to get a few nuts, but for actual money—oh, no! For lumber the stem must be long and free from branches. There are two ways to attain this. One is nature's way, which is to plant thickly, so that the side limbs may be starved off, and the other is to give greater room, and trim up, and keep at it. Without this trimming the tree may give one short, saw-log, the rest

branches. The general practice is to plant closely, either in row or grove form, and, as with humans, let the thrifty, hogish trees starve out the little ones. This is rich, black soil here, the natural (except for fires) home of the black walnut, and I can say that the young man just of age who plants a walnut grove, and who lives until he is 80, will find no profit in the lumber he has grown, from his grove. Plenty of groves and rows are to be seen all through the country here that were planted 40, 50, 60 and more years ago, and it will take 50 or 75 years more to give lumber that will amount to anything. It may do, sometimes, to plant for one's children, but when it comes to grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, excuse me! Yet plant a small grove of walnuts. Of course the wood is poor for fuel purposes—coal is cheaper and better. As a post in the ground the walnut is not to be praised. Osage will last three times as long, and it costs just as much to plant a 10-year post as one that will last 30 years. For nuts the trees must have room, leaving the lumber factor out, and the nuts will pay—that is, just about pay the children's wages for picking up and hulling and marketing. Plant the grove—but don't expect too much.

Now, I know that what ap-

plies to one locality may not to another. In a treeless country—say in Western Kansas, and where coal is not found, and high in price because of the long haul, and the great problems are wood to burn, stakes on which to stretch barbed wire and poles to use in the construction of cribs, outbuildings and even primitive dwelling houses there, if the black walnut succeeds, it may pay to plant it. Still, this does not affect the original proposition—planting for lumber—except that the grove is partly paying for itself as it grows, which is not the case in most places east of what was once our "Great American Desert." Of course a rich bottom land that is actually irreclaimable for farming purposes might be one of the exceptions.—S. Buckman in *Rural New-Yorker*.



### Appearance vs. Quality

EDITOR NUT-GROWER—I have just been looking over the scale of points adopted by the National Nut-Growers' Association as the standard for judging pecans, and, while it may be presumptuous for me to set my opinion against the experience of the authorities who worked out this standard, it seems to me that there are some inconsistencies in it which should be remedied.

Too much prominence is given to points which are of little or no importance. The point which, to my mind, is of the greatest importance, quality, is made subordinate to size, plumpness and cracking qualities, the three latter being given 20 points each, while quality must be content with 15. Color as an external characteristic is given 5 points, and as a kernel characteristic the same number. Form is also given 5 points. Yet color and form have no more influence on a nut than the man in the moon has on an Indian war dance.

Under the conditions of this standard a nut might score as high as 90 points and still be unfit to eat. We might just as well add a few points to the standard for color and size of the husk while we are about it, as to cling to the belief that the consumer will be more influenced by size, color and form than by quality.

"The apparel off proclaims the man"—but the appearance of a nut never proclaims what the kernel is.

SUBSCRIBER.



### The Swinden Orchard

The pecan orchard, near Brownwood, Texas, has attracted much attention on account of some reports that the enterprise was a commercial and hor-

icultural failure. The following recently appeared in *Farm and Ranch*, and evidently gives reliable information, and coming as it does from the present owner, the property is of interest to the industry:

With an effort not to take issue with any writer on pecan orchards or attempting in any way to destroy any one's pet theory, I will give you, in my own simple way, my four years' experience in handling the 40 acres in pecan orchard, near Brownwood, known everywhere as the Swinden Pecan Orchard. This venture has attracted a great deal of attention and has been branded a success or a failure according to the idea or information of the person speaking.

When this orchard came into my hands and under my personal supervision many of the trees were beginning to bear a few fine nuts. The thrifty trees were not here and there, but seem to be located in sections—as did those that showed dead tips. I soon discovered that where cotton and corn were grown and the ground had been deeply plowed that the growth and condition of the trees were anything but satisfactory.

In 1891 I discontinued these crops and seeded 200 acres to alfalfa, and began irrigating by pumping water from Pecan bayou, and today the trees are making good growth—the dead tips fast disappearing, and I am now very hopeful that these trees will yield a remunerative crop this season.

While the trees now shade very much, being 40 feet apart each way,

(Continued on page 167.)

# The Nut-Grower

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Subscription Price: 50c per Annum  
Advertising Rates Sent Upon Application

APRIL 1906

The management of the Jamestown Ter-Centennial Exposition will make a strong effort to have the 1907 Nut Growers' Convention meet in that town.

Joint Conventions are becoming quite popular. The Louisiana State Agricultural Society and the Louisiana Stockbreeders' Association meet at Marksville, La., May 1, 2 and 3. All agricultural societies are invited to send delegates.

Trade papers are great business builders, and it is claimed that money spent in their support for advertising, should be regarded as an investment rather than an expense. Advertising in suitable journals opens an unlimited field for enterprise, and when carefully planned and persistently followed, is sure to produce remunerative results.

During the past season the demand for nuts in the Chicago market exceeded the supply, and the supply consisted of native nuts—pecans, hickory and beech nuts from native forest trees. The choice pecans do not yet reach the general market, as special orders take them all and call for more than can be furnished.

Among our exchanges *Gleanings in Bee Culture* is a regular visitor to our sanctum. It has so much of interest that can be utilized by nut growers, that we feel like advising our orchard owners to make bee culture a side line, as it will fit in well with nut growing and help bridge over the waiting period for trees to reach bearing age. The bee journals will post you on the work, and the cost of subscription will be money well invested.

If the Southern opportunity for nut growing could be moved north to sections where land is worth \$100 per acre, there would be more invested to the square mile than can be found here, where climate, soil and all other conditions, except willing capital, are at hand, and the land is to be had at a tithe of the above mentioned price. Since we cannot move the climate, we need

to move the investor, or rather persuade him to establish a winter home in the balmy South, and incidentally grow pecans. If he can be started on such a program, it will not not be long until the South will claim him as a permanent citizen.



Now is a good time to stock the pecan orchard with poultry. It will make a fine range, especially for turkeys. Poultry product of all kinds are always in good demand, and at remunerative prices, if reasonable care is exercised in selling. While planning this side line, arrange to make out of it all you can, and this will suggest the propriety of using pure bred stock. This will pay better in more ways than one, and shows good business in having the best of everything that becomes only an indirect part of the orchard.



The advocates of pecan culture have a good proposition to urge for investment, but some of the literature we see overdoes the matter, at least in the important particular of prospective profits—not so much in over estimating the value of the investment, as in promulgating statements that will not be accepted as true. By representing the prospect as being safe and sure in capable

hands, and that it will in a few years pay a net profit of 10 per cent. per annum, on the investment, and that it will increase in value with additional age, the ordinary mind will see into a good thing. But when you say an acre orchard will be worth \$3,000 at the end of 20 years you destroy the confidence of your customer, stagger his intellect, and give the impression that your proposition is too roseate to be true. The moral is, to not tell more than is likely to be believed.



Nut meats promise to be the form in which pecan nuts will eventually reach the consumer. The cracking or shelling of pecans and other nuts, is fast becoming an important industry. It can readily be seen that this will have an important influence on the selection of varieties which prove most profitable for the manufacture of nut meats. A plump kernel, of good flavor, and a nut that will crack easily without breaking the kernel will be in demand. Then when these qualities are found combined, the next step will be to get the highest possible percentage of kernel out of a bushel of nuts. Of two varieties which can now be purchased at the same price, and which will run the same number of nuts to the

pound, one might yield from 45 to 55 per cent. of weight in kernels, while the other would produce from 10 to 15 per cent. more. The relative commercial value of the two nuts, to the manufacturer, will be sufficient to cause him to hunt industriously for the variety which will make him the largest profits, as the expense of manufacturing the heavy kernel is no greater than with the other.



The following shows how our state agricultural stations have increased funds on hand for experimental work. This should enable all the states to make needed experiments in nut growing suited to their respective sections. The National Nut Growers' Association, and THE NUT-GROWER will be glad to cooperate with these state institutions, rendering such assistance as may promise to be of public benefit.

The Adams' Bill, providing for increased Federal appropriations to the Agricultural Experiment Stations, was passed by the House of Representatives on February 15th, and by the Senate on March 12th, and was approved by the President on 16th of March. By the provisions of this bill, the annual Federal appropriation to each station is increased at once, from \$15,000 to \$20,000, while, for the next five years the appropriation is to be

increased annually by \$2,000, so that at the end of that time the present appropriation will be doubled. The bill provides that the money appropriated is to be used strictly for experimental work and not for teaching, and not more than 5 per cent. of it may be used in the purchase, erection or repair of any building or buildings, or for the purchase or rental of land. This bill provides a much needed increase in Station funds, and its author, the Hon. H. C. Adams, of Wisconsin, is to be congratulated upon the success of his tireless efforts in its behalf.



Some months ago we noticed a discussion in the *National Nurseryman*, regarding rental prices of lands used for growing trees. It seems that such land demands from \$4 per acre in Arkansas to \$20 in Western New York, where lands for growing vines are in demand. This prompts us to remark that many Southern localities are admirably adapted to growing nursery stock of all kinds, and frequently the land can be bought in fee simple for the price of a year's rent in the North. The young man who is planning to grow nursery stock, should come South. There is not only a good local demand, but car loads of Northern-grown stock is shipped South every season, and we would naturally suppose, shipments could be made in the other direction just as

well. The long growing season, and mild winters are most favorable for the work in the South. Labor is cheap and easily controlled, and a small working capital will go farther than in the North. Besides this, pecan growing is practicable in the lower South, and that means easy and good profits to the skillful nurseryman.



### The Swinden Orchard

(Continued from page 163.)

a full crop of alfalfa is impossible, yet on 200 acres I am holding 130 brood Berkshire sows and necessary males, and at one time marked 241 pigs and did not complete the job.

I cannot see that alfalfa has done any injury to the pecan trees, though the alfalfa is attacked by root rot in small spots.

I am of the opinion that a pecan orchard seeded to alfalfa after it is ten years old and stocked with good hogs and water sufficient to keep the pasture green when the rains fails to come on time a man has a combination hard to beat.

GEO. H. INGRAM, Mgr.



### Business Opportunities

Pecan growing for profit is a plain business proposition, which simply requires the assembling of capital and using it in a practical way under the direction of a management skilled in the special work of nut culture, and with ability to make the best possible use of the general farm

operations the orchard work will permit. Thus the farm operations produce by-products of value as well as being the means of accomplishing the planting of orchards at small cost, aside from the self-sustaining farm operations, which alone warrant the full amount of investment required.

The general plans along which some of the large pecan plantations are working are to capitalize the movement at approximately \$100 per acre for the area to be set in trees, and the payment of subscriptions to stock as the work progresses. The first essential is to have the location selected by someone entirely familiar with the requirements of the pecan, with as many auxiliary business advantages as the skill of experts and the business judgment of the officers of the company can combine. Then the work is placed in the hands of the competent farmer, under direction of a horticulturist familiar with nut culture, who is equipped with the implements, live stock and supplies needed for conducting up-to-date farm operations. Clearing of lands, putting up fencing, buildings and conveniences are identical with those needed on a first-class farm. This preparation is used at once in cultivating the land in general and special farm crops, with

a view to obtaining direct profits from this source, as land, by this cultivation, is thus given the best preparation for the pecan tree, which is subsequently planted during the winter season, when farm work is not active. For several years, while the trees are small, the lands are still cultivated in suitable crops, which incidentally cultivates the young trees. This program is continued from year to year until all the contemplated acreage is planted in trees, and the trees have reached a bearing age, when other crops would be impracticable. Then a change of program follows and the grove becomes an ideal range for live stock and poultry interests which have been built up while the trees were growing.

Thus the period of waiting for crops from trees has been bridged over, the business made self-sustaining from the start, while the enhanced value of every acre of land planted has each year amounted to as much as the acre and improvements cost. One can afford to wait six or eight years for profits under such circumstances, especially so when the cost of the investment, is sure to be returned, annually for a period measured by generations rather than by years.—Circular of Texas Orchard and Pecan Co.

### The Pecan

An intelligent Southern horticulturist in writing of the pecan, says: "The pecan (*Carya oliviformis*), or the olive-shaped hickory, is the most valuable of American trees. This is true, whether we consider its uses in the unflinching production of a crop of nuts of great commercial worth, its splendid service as a shade tree, or the constant demand for it as a timber tree. And in all these regards no section stands in more urgent need of its blessings than the South. We need the money from its fruit as a supplement to the revenue too long derived from only one money crop—cotton."

The pecan tree is naturally of a spreading habit, growing to be very large and tall, and makes a most beautiful and symmetrical shade tree. Specimens of great size are found that have reached the height of 175 feet and are supposed to be several hundred years old. Here and there over the South are old trees, of large size, that bear each from five to fifteen bushels of nuts, which sell at such prices as render them very valuable to the owners—so much that the only regret of the owner is that they do not possess large groves instead of a few trees. The pecan tree is exceedingly hardy, prolific and long-lived. After it begins to

bear each year adds greatly to its yield, and it continues to increase in vigor and productiveness until more than fifty years old. It becomes so firmly rooted in the ground that it is rarely disturbed by storms, is comparatively free from disease and insect pests, and is never known to die from old age. Other fruit and nut trees soon succumb to disease and disaster, but the pecan alone for a long series of years stands unharmed.

In other branches of horticulture we hear complaints of overproduction and low prices, but pecan growing is safe from these troubles for a long period. It will even be many years before the supply of choice nuts is sufficient to produce an active demand. The bulk of the nuts now marketed are of an inferior quality, obtained from the wild trees of Texas and Louisiana. As soon as a sufficient quantity of improved nuts from cultivated groves is placed upon the market to enable the people to learn something of the pecan as an article of diet, there will spring up such a demand as cannot be over-supplied in the next fifty years.

A prominent horticulturist of Florida has this to say: "Don't be afraid you are too old to plant pecan trees or that if you do plant a grove the market will

be glutted before your trees began to bear. Eighty million people will consume ten times as many pecan nuts as can ever be raised in the United States, and new uses are being developed yearly for this delicious food nut."

The owner of the largest grove in Louisiana says: "I have never seen anything like the demand for fine eating pecans. I can scarcely supply the demand in my small parish where pecans grow wild, to say nothing of the wide, wide world."

The people of this country are beginning to manifest some interest in the pecan, and its culture will, in time, become a great American industry. The nuts will be used in many ways and will become an important article of export. But this evolution in pecan culture is likely to be a gradual process, because in this industry a few years intervene between seed-time and harvest. Many would enter the field if they could plant to-day and gather to-morrow, but as this cannot be done, it is likely that for many years only the most enterprising and far-seeing will plant groves as investments.

This has been the history of the industry up to the present time.

—Circular of S. W. Peek.



NUT-GROWER ads pay.

**Standard of Excellence**

Among the papers collected at the Dallas convention, and subsequently there was found Prof. Van Deman's estimate of the essential requirements of pecans in their order of importance for the various uses given herewith. The typical nut:

1. Quality of kernel.
2. Reliable bearing.
3. Plumpness of kernel.
4. Size.
5. Ease of extraction of kernel.
6. Thinness of shell.
7. Color of shell.
8. Color of kernel.

For the commercial nut he varied the order of these qualities to some extent and put them as follows:

1. Reliable bearing.
2. Plumpness of kernel.
3. Ease of extraction of kernel.
4. Size.
5. Quality of kernel.
6. Thinness of shell.
7. Color of shell.
8. Color of kernel.

For seed nuts he requires:

1. Plumpness of kernel.
2. Size.

Under head of characteristics of tree:

1. Reliable bearing.
2. Hardiness.

3. Freedom from insect and other injury.



The enterprise of Virginia peanut growers is shoving this tuber into wide notice and new uses, and new markets are being found for the increasing crops. Virginia, however, is not the only state which can produce the peanut, as much Southern territory is available, although it is grown for fattening hogs rather than as a market crop. Virginia growers are planning to show it off to advantage at the Jamestown Exposition in 1907, and are adopting the tactics of Western corn growers for exploiting their product.



Some seedling pecans near our office are now in full bloom, and it is interesting to notice that no two trees are alike in any particular except in the slight variation in date of first appearance of the bloom. Some have long, while others have short calkins; some are profuse, others sparse bloomers, while one tree has no blooms visible. In previous years this tree has been devoid of bloom, but still bears a few nuts. The theory is that the fertilizing results from pollen carried from surrounding trees.

The nut largely known as the English walnut, which is more properly called the Persian walnut, is admired by many, and frequent inquiries are made regarding cultivation and adaptability to various sections of the country. We are under the impression that demonstrated commercial success in producing this nut in this country is confined to the Pacific slope. If any one can report success in other parts, we will be glad to hear of it.



### Book Notices

The Missouri State Horticultural Society sends out a *Fruit Report* showing the prospects for the 1906 crops.

*Bulletin No. 194*, of New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, 60 pages, is replete with formulas and directions for spraying.

*The Home Fruit Garden*, Farmers' Bulletin No. 154, 16 pages, by L. C. Corbett, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 185, *Beautiful Home Grounds*, by L. C. Corbett, 24 pages, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Oread Institute, *Catalogue for 1906-7*, an industrial school of agriculture, manufactories and commerce, at Tilson Farm, Oread postoffice, Md.

Farm Bulletin No. 126, reprint, *Practical Suggestions for Farm Building*, 48 pages, by George C. Hill, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Colorado Experiment Station *Bulletin No. 108*, gives an interesting history of the Rockyford cantaloupe industry, with sketch of its early days in that state.

The Georgia State Board of Entomology published for March, *Bulletin 19*, devoted to spraying for control and prevention of injury from insects and plant diseases.

*Farmers' Reading Courses*, Farmers' Bulletin No. 109, 20 pages, an abridgment of Bulletin No. 72, by L. H. Bailey, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

*Forest Preservation and National Prosperity*, circular No. 35 of Forest Service, by Gifford Pinchot, Forester. Contains portions of addresses delivered at the American Forest Congress.

*Bulletin No. 193* of New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is devoted to "Concentrated Feeding Stuffs," and contains much information showing the relative value of various brands and preparations.

*A Short Talk on Pecans and Other Profitable Nuts*, by Fred S. Dawson, Starke, Fla. A twelve page booklet, illustrated, showing the importance of the nut-growing industry, and advertising the Curtis pecan.

*Propagating Trees and Plants*, by W. L. Howard, 50 pages, price 25 cents, No. 1 of Brother Jonathan series. The Fruit Grower Co., St. Joseph, Mo. Simple directions for propagating many common fruits of orchard and garden.

*Home Markets* is the title of the first document of the congressional campaign of 1906, issued by the American Protective Tariff League. The pamphlet is a reproduction of the speech of Congressman John F. Lacy, of Iowa, recently delivered in Congress.

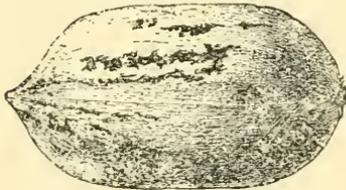
*A Treatise of Spraying*, by J. Steadman, 124 page booklet, price 25 cents, by the Fruit Grower Co., St. Joseph, Mo. This is No. 2 of the Brother Jonathan series, and contains descriptions of insects attacking apple and strawberry, with treatment recommended for holding them in check.

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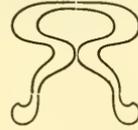
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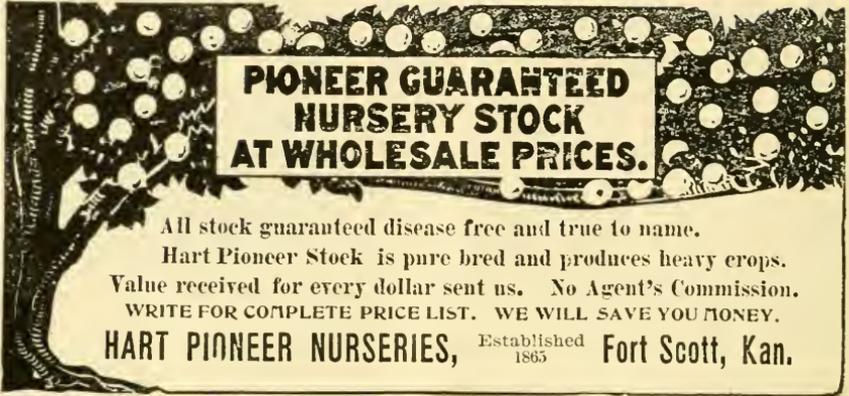
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*In Writing to Advertisers Please Mention The Nut-Grower*

# THE NUT-GROWER

Official Organ NATIONAL NUT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Volume IV

May 1906

Number 10

## TRANSPLANTING LARGE TREES

By J. H. BURGESS

HAVING sold a tract of land, on which was a grove of about one hundred and fifty seedling pecan trees, fourteen years old, and having the privilege of moving these trees, I determined to do so.

This transplanting of such old and large pecan trees, was done against the advice of two specialists in the pecan industry. I had submitted the conditions to them, asking their opinion.

It was an opportunity to make an experiment, entirely at my cost, and should the final result be *to my cost*, I will shoulder the blame.

Having another grove of one hundred and seventy trees, same age and planting, about one-half mile distant, the transplanted trees were used to fill missing places, and to enlarge this grove.

Work was begun by paying seven cents per hour to have the holes dug four feet square by four feet deep, but it was soon found that twenty cents per hole

made the holes appear much faster, and soon had more holes than trees to put into them. Many of these were dug only three by three by three feet deep, though.

Then I paid twenty-five cents per tree to have them dug up, requiring the tap root cut not less than two feet below the surface, and most of the laterals were cut two feet from the trunk; many of them were cut three feet from the trunk. This required a widening of the hole when the trees were being set.

When the tap and lateral roots were cut, by catching the limbs the trees were pulled down. A man with a good sharp axe limbed them up and cut off the top from eight to twelve feet from roots, at five cents per tree.

The ground was largely a sandy loam, in some places a stiff red clay subsoil, but most of the dirt fell from the roots, leaving them bare. They were loaded on a two-horse wagon, four to six

at a time, and hauled to their next home.

Fifteen cents per tree was paid to have them set out, having the top earth put in to fill the entire hole. Had it well packed in about the roots, as thrown in. These trees were from six to ten inches in diameter. The tap roots were very variable in size. I cannot speak about their length, for it was not attempted to dig one up. The size of the tree did not indicate what the tap root would be.

There were many which presented very much the appearance of the cut shown in the G. M. Bacon catalogue No. 11, page 5, with the exception that they claim to show the "entire tap root." I don't see any tap root in the cut referred to. Any of my trees, photographed, would have shown a tap root cut off. Where there was a large tap root, extending well into the ground, the lateral system was less numerous than where the tap root appeared to pass off rapidly in a conical shape.

There was a striking peculiarity about most of the larger lateral roots, viz: They were not round, but compressed, as it were, from side to side, making the perpendicular diameter in many cases, twice as great as the cross section. I think it would be almost impossible for a

storm to blow down a pecan tree.

Tried to get a photographer to take some views of some of the trees when ready for transplanting, but failed to do so.

This work was done in Clavendar Co., S. C., the second week in January, 1906. Have not heard particularly from the trees since they were moved. I would rather see the trees living in the other man's field, than dead in my own field, but would never have been satisfied about it, so I moved them. I don't think, after seeing their root system, that half of the trees will live, but about a year from now will give the pecan industry the benefit of my experiment. The whole job cost about \$110.



There is no doubt about nuts making pork, but other as well less valuable food, will serve for this use as long as demands and prices remain satisfactory for pecans.



One of the strong arguments in favor of nuts as a farm crop is the fact that they can be marketed at pleasure. They are not perishable and can be stored and shipped at a convenient time as readily as corn or wheat.



Pecan trees are growing rapidly and budding will soon begin.

## WHAT NUT GROWERS ARE DOING\*

By J. F. WILSON

ABOUT forty years ago, a number of us whose hair is now sprinkled with gray, used to go nutting. We looked forward to the season with pleasant anticipations, which in due time were fully realized. We enjoyed the gathering, and the long winter evenings, when there were nuts to crack, is a cherished recollection of other days. The justly famous shellbark hickory was then the standard of excellence, and well do we remember the superior flavor, thin shell and plump kernel of particular trees. We also recall the thick hard shell, which would yield only to repeated blows of the hammer, while the nut was placed between finger and thumb on the smooth surface of a flat iron. It required some practice and no little skill to keep the nut under the hammer, and you all remember how it would leave your tender fingers to receive the blow while it gaily pirouetted around the room.

The black walnut in those days also had marked attractions. At least our fingers gave unmistakable evidence of our harvesting

\*Address delivered at the annual meeting of the Alabama Horticultural Society.

operations.

Then the clubbing of chestnut trees in the pasture field, on frosty mornings, the prickly burr in contact with hands and bare feet, will not be effaced from memory any more than the delicious flavor of the ripened nuts.

Those majestic native trees have been disappearing rapidly for years, and their places are not refilled in kind. There has never been a market supply of these nuts, for other than native trees, except to a limited extent by select varieties of the chestnut. Is it not strange that such a store house of natural food for man and beast, should be ruthlessly destroyed? At this late day we are trying to profit by lessons from the past and a new era, in appreciation of nuts, is not only coming, but is already at hand. The pecan nut is the one most prominent, and doubtless the most valuable. This nut is at home in the Southern States, and primeval forests of pecan trees have to some extent escaped the ravages of civilization in portions of Texas, which have for years, supplied our markets to a limited extent with this nut. The pecan has much

to its favor from our particular view point, especially when the modern methods of propagating the large thin shelled and finely flavored varieties are employed. It does not come true from seed except possibly with the fixed types as found in Texas, and the select and valuable samples are perpetuated and reproduced with certainty only by budding and grafting, which is now--in hands of experienced propagators—a commercial success.

This process also has to its credit the production of profitable crops, in substantially half the time a seedling tree requires to bear fruit, while by a careful selection of buds and scions from trees of known abundant bearing habits, the yield is made more certain and regular.

With this particular product we can take our time in harvesting and marketing operations. It will not spoil on our hands in a few day's time, neither do we need refrigerator cars and express trains to hurry the crop to market. Late spring frosts or severe winters have no terrors to the pecan grower, and his trees are immune from San Jose scale, and has fewer diseases than fall to the lot of most fruits.

While it has been regarded as a luxury, it is fast securing recognition as a food, and various new uses for the nut are in pros-

pect as soon as a cheaper price will admit of their introduction into new lines of manufactured foods.

But this is a long introduction to the subject assigned me on your programme, "The National Nut-Growers' Association."

While I do not pretend to know it all, as some Georgia horticulturists are reputed to do, there is still room and opportunity for all to learn much about modern nut culture, and the National Association, which I have the honor to represent, is one of the potent agencies which is popularizing the industry, and rapidly building it up on a substantial, scientific and business basis. This National body was organized at Macon, Ga., in 1902, and has since held regular annual conventions, which have been attended by representative men from all the Southern and several of the Northern States.

Then, seedling trees were held in the highest esteem, because there were few others. Now, budded and grafted trees are used entirely in all well-managed commercial orchards.

Then, there was no visible or accessible data regarding the business. Now, several volumes of convention proceedings, various books and two monthly nut journals give regular, modern and reliable information in

all the features of the work. and are availing themselves of the passing opportunity.

Then there was no concert of action among growers or nurserymen. Now, there are strong bonds of mutual helpfulness and encouragement among the list of members.

Then, the fraudulent dealer was abroad in the land, with false representations, faked stock, and selling to a confiding public at exorbitant prices. Now, reliable nurserymen and dealers are known, and genuine stock of the finest varieties, can be had at reasonable prices.

Then, the seedling trees yielded uncertain crops of nuts inferior to seed planted. Now, budded and grafted trees give sure and profitable returns.

Then a period of waiting for 12 to 15 years for trees to come into uncertain bearing kept down the trees to small areas. Now, regular and true to variety crops are obtained in half period required by the seedling tree.

Then, but few trees and small orchards were put out. Now superior trees are planted in great numbers, and commercial orchards of hundreds of acres are not uncommon. Then we had small, thick-shelled nuts. Now we have large, thin-shell and fine quality varieties. Then but few people were interested in the work. Now, thousands are delighted with the prospects, and are availing themselves of the passing opportunity.

It is no presumption on my part to claim that this National body has been the potent cause for such marked changes, and the active agency which developed such improved conditions in the industry. There is much more in prospect for the public good, which requires time to work out. Pioneer work is being organized, experiments instituted, statistics gathered, comparative data as to most suitable soils and productive varieties, assembled, cultural directions given to the public, and the prospects for profits carefully and continuously advertised.

The achievements of the past and prospects for the future, as far as now in operation or planned, is accomplished by the mutual helpfulness of members, and is maintained entirely by the voluntary support of the membership.

In the years to come, when nut culture assumes its rightful place, as yielding one of the choicest and most valuable products of the soil, then will this band of horticultural specialists, who see far beyond the present for a full appreciation of their services, be regarded with sentiments such as the present generation is not likely to bestow. Their deeds will liter-

ally, as well as figuratively live after them for years and for generations, as the pecan numbers its days by centuries, rather than by years.



### Do Walnuts Pay?

Good walnut land in the vicinity of Los Angeles, Cal., can be had at from \$250 to \$300 per acre, though the amount on the market is limited. Orchards in full bearing are obtainable at from \$600 to \$700 an acre, while many choice ranches cannot be bought for \$1,000.

A fair yield is 50 pounds to the tree, or 1,000 pounds to the acre. Many orchards average twice that amount. Soil, cultivation, knowledge of growing, climatic conditions, all have their separate effects on the returns.

The owner, who does not care to attend his own ranch, can hire the work done for \$10 per year. This includes cultivation and the work of irrigating. The product can be gathered, washed and bagged and placed in the packing house for three-fourths to one cent a pound. Hence, a fair yield, 1,000 pounds per acre, would cost from \$7.50 to \$10 per acre.

The cost of water for irrigating varies in different sections, but the average cost will not ex-

ceed \$5 per acre per year, making the total cost not to exceed \$25 per acre. The yield from the "fair" crop is \$100 per acre, while the cultivation and water for a good crop is no more than for a "fair" one.

The harvest begins about Oct. 1, or a little earlier. The older orchards, most of which are standards, or hard shells, are gradually giving place to the soft shell variety, and while the young trees are on the road to maturity, various crops, including barley, alfalfa, corn, vegetables, etc., are growing prolifically between the rows, keeping down the expense of cultivation and yielding good returns besides.---  
*Pacific Fruit World.*



### The American Hickory

WITHOUT going into a scientific dissertation of the botanical characteristics of the large number of varieties of the hickory family, we may state a few facts regarding this valuable wood. The pecan is well known as one of our superb edible nuts, each year becoming in greater demand, the finer, improved sorts, as the paper shells of Texas, and others being far superior to the small common nuts, yet the pecan is a hickory. The great sweet hickory nuts, while seldom found in commerce,

are sought for by those who know them in the region where they are grown. The small shellbark is another favorite nut, usually found on sale in country stores, but seldom at the fruit stands where pecans and other thin shelled nuts are preferred on account of the ease with which they may be opened.

The mocker nut—bitternut—pignut and a host of hickory fruit of various shades of quality are well known. Some varieties are common to the Northern and Eastern States, although the pecan and a larger number of varieties are peculiar to the South.

The size, shape, and flavor of the nuts, the number of leaflets and their shape, as well as the peculiarities of the bark and the size which the trees attain to, are variously used to determine, botanically, where the variety stands, but when the trees have been cut into lumber and placed upon the market it all goes for hickory, no discrimination being made in commerce. The manufacturer buys hickory and only asks if it is second growth or old timber.

Hickory wood is quite dense and grows very slowly. While young it is remarkably strong, flexible, elastic, and when kept from continuous moisture is very durable, although it decays quickly when exposed to mois-

ture or in connection with the earth.

There is no wood known which is quite so well adapted to the manufacture of light vehicles as second growth hickory. The spokes of most carriage wheels, the bent rims, axles, and bolsters, as well as the running gears, poles and shafts, and the foundation frame work of carriage bodies, as also the single trees and double trees are, or should be, of hickory.

Ax handles and many large and small tool handles are of second growth hickory where that is obtainable.

Ash and even maple have been substituted for certain lower grade work, and when covered with several coats of paint and varnish cannot be distinguished from hickory, yet a little hard usage will soon determine which timber has the toughness, strength, and elasticity requisite for good vehicle material.

Second growth timber is that young, quick growth, which springs up in rich soils after clearing away the old timber. Second growth woods, or quick growing woods, are far superior to old or slow growths, because more elastic, stronger and harder.

The changed conditions which now exist, since the removal of

(Continued on Page 190.)

# The Nut - Grower

Published by The Nut-Grower Co.

Improve in your methods of planting so that every tree will grow.

Entered as second-class matter at the Postoffice at Poulan, Ga., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

**Subscription Price: 50c per Annum**

**Advertising Rates Sent Upon Application**

MAY 1906

Trees should be frequently examined during the growing season, as insect injuries may require attention.

*Arboriculture* says: "The pecan is the coming nut of America, and can scarcely be grown in so great quantities as to become unprofitable."

Cultivation of orchards is now in season, and should be given thoughtful consideration, and careful execution. Many trees are injured by wanton carelessness on part of laborers.

Now that the planting season is past it is none too soon to begin planning for another season's work. Begin early, map out a program, place order for trees, and get ready to plant as soon as the trees are ready to transplant.

The safety of investments in pecan culture, depends largely upon the ability and the integrity of the parties who handle the funds. No matter how good the proposition, and excellent the opportunity, they cannot overestimate the defects of bad management or dishonest administration.

The web worm will soon put in an appearance on pecan trees. Prompt and thorough attention will be in order, as such a course will prevent the forming of successive broods during the season. Burning them out seems to be the most effective mode of dealing with them. A ball of twine saturated with oil, and fastened on a light extensible pole, is all the equipment needed.

The gathering of statistics each year, of actual yield of pecans and other edible nuts, is likely to become a part of the work taken up by the National Nut-Growers' Association. Records are already being made of commercial orchards, as fast as they are reported, and this will subsequently be available for reports as to yield, when trees

come into bearing. Vice-presidents of the different states are supposed to keep in touch with such movements, and report to the Association secretary.

The installment plan for getting a pecan orchard has "broken out or butted in" to notice at different points. This is all right, if promoters and managers of the enterprises are honest and competent. However, the price paid for one tree by this method costs the investor about \$10, while the promoter doubtless has a handsome profit on his work. Still, a good pecan tree planted on land you own, will soon pay a good profit on this cost.

Nut growers have tribulations of their own, especially when they are, as is frequently the case, obliged to trust to hired help. An aggravated case is in mind, where a tenant owned a half interest in a bunch of hogs which ranged on the lands of one of our subscribers, who has a fine nut orchard in generous bearing. He failed to get many nuts, however, but had a half interest in a lot of fine hogs. It did not take much of a philosopher to see where the pecans went, and now that farm and orchard is without a tenant.

It is a problem with some people of means how to use their money to best advantage, how to make the most out of it aside from dollars and cents. The noblest and purest services to humanity, our own happiness, and the happiness of those dependent upon us, all need money, and the greatest safety and profitableness of our investments measure the results, not only in money, but also in other ways. We commend pecan culture as furnishing the most favorable opportunity for such investment—provided it is handled by competent managers.

Suitable soil for nut growing is a subject frequently broached, and many want to know what soil or locality is best for the pecan or English walnut. While some soils and some localities may be, and doubtless are, superior to others, still they can be grown profitably on different soils, just the same as corn. As staple a crop of corn is planted by every farmer regularly, regardless of his location or character of soil. The same considerations in regard to pecans in Southern territory would lead to a largely increased acreage and the establishing of a permanent source of product, without the necessity for annual planting.

It is not the cost of an investment which determines its value but its ability to make profitable returns. One pecan orchard which costs the owner \$150 per acre, is a profitable one when it produces a thousand pounds of nuts worth 10 cents per pound. Another may have cost less than half that much, and would give equally large returns, and would pay a larger per cent. on cost. Both yield the same, and both will last so long that the initial cost is soon lost to sight, and the inheritors care little about the early history of an orchard that gives them a support.



The generous response to the movement at Dallas, fixing life membership fee at \$10 gave the Association a good financial lift, but how it may effect the regular support, is still to be determined. A Louisiana member, in sending in his check for life fee, expresses the opinion that it may be a move in the wrong direction, and likens it to sailing to an unknown island and burning the ship. But our theory is that the committee which secured the change, had an idea that pecan trees would be found on the island, and that would not only furnish food, but timber with which to build another ship.



The *Epitomist* impresses the

point that poultry needs shade, and that the natural home of the fowls is in the woods and brush where they dig around the roots of trees and devour worms and insects. This is the occasion of our oft-repeated suggestion to nut growers to stock their nut and other orchards with fowls, not only for the addition of a by-product for the orchard, but for the direct benefit to trees in reducing, by natural and easy means, insect injury. While we are on this subject we want to emphasize the additional profit which comes from growing thorough strains, rather than the common fowls.



In further mention of desirable qualities of the pecan we find the following arrangement in a pecan prospectus rendered some time ago:

1. Regularity in bearing of the parent tree.
2. Sweetness of kernel.
3. Plumpness—that is, the pecan meat fully filling the shell at both ends.
4. Shallowness of convolutions --- that is, smoothness of kernel so that the pith does not penetrate deeply.
5. Thinness of shell.
6. Size of pecan.

This schedule is notable in its placing size at the extreme bottom of the list, while color of

nut or kernel is not taken into account at all.

Unexpected delay in publishing the *Proceedings* of the annual convention has again occurred, and for different reasons than formerly. This is through no fault of the Association, or its officers, who have done all they could to publish the work promptly. The Association accepted the offer made by the Dallas Commercial Club, to furnish, at their expense, the stenographic report. Their reporter was in attendance, took notes, and retained all the formal papers, reports, etc., which came before the convention. Request was made that the full report be furnished ready for printing, as early as practicable and not later than thirty days after the meeting. At this writing it has not yet been received. Repeated requests by letter and personal solicitation by the president of our Association have all been answered with the assurance that it would be *furnished soon*. This statement is made in justice to our members, who may not know the cause of delay.

Some time ago we sent out some inquiries and mentioned in these columns that we desired the opinions of growers as to

the relative importance of certain desirable qualities of the pecan. So few replies have been received, that we conclude there is some doubt in the minds of many as to the essentials and order of importance. A Southwest Georgia grower arranges them in the following order, and if anyone can improve it, we will be glad to note the re-arrangement. This one starts off right, in our opinion, if judged from a convenient standpoint, but quality, which is No. 7 on this list, should be moved up several points. Size is now a prominent quality, but eventually quality and facility for cracking are likely to out-rank it. This is the arrangement referred to:

1. Productiveness.
2. Size.
3. Plumpness.
4. Color of shell.
5. Cracking quality.
6. Shape,
7. Quality.
8. Thinness of shell.
9. Color of kernel.
10. Absence of corky matter.
11. Early ripening.



### Hogg and his Monument

The unique dying request of the late Gov. Hogg has aroused an interest in nut culture not only in Texas, but far and near. Not only this, but Texas nut-growers

are importuning Gov. Lanham to adopt various suggestions, freely made for carrying out the request to plant a pecan at the head and a walnut at the foot of the grave. An enterprising nurseryman of Tennessee tenders a pecan tree for this purpose, and the governor accepts, while Texas growers claim their own state can furnish the necessary and most suitable tree, and are competing among themselves for the coveted honor.

All of this is of much interest, and some amusement to the nut-growers of other states. Those figuring conspicuously in the matter are all subscribers to *THE NUT-GROWER*, and are prominent members of the National Nut-Growers' Association. So we make free use of names in showing the present situation, with a view to making a suggestion of our own, which may serve to give prompt and wide-reaching results in the line contemplated by the late governor.

It seems that Mr. Falkner suggests that Mr. E. W. Kirkpatrick be appointed a committee of one to take charge of the matter. At first glance this seems eminently fitting, as Mr. Kirkpatrick is well known throughout the state and nation, and is now the president of the National Nut Growers' Association.

This, however, does not suit

Mr. Halbert, who contends that all Texan growers should be heard and have a voice in selecting the memorial tree, and he nominates a committee of three to whom the matter might be referred, and wants all to present the claims of their tree or variety to this committee.

This does not appear to simplify the work but might lead to complications and delays detrimental to the project.

Our idea is that Texas, and all the South, should adopt the sentiment Gov. Hogg expressed to a member of his own family, and utilize it in a practical way for carrying out the purpose, while leaving the actual compliance with the personal request to his immediate family, which will remove the present opportunity for rivalry.

But this is only the beginning of the matter. Let the benevolent work be taken up at once by every one who delights to honor Gov. Hogg, and place at the disposal of Gov. Lanham, or the Agricultural Department of the State, hundreds of bushels of pecan nuts, and thousands of trees, which can be distributed all over the state till every city and town will have its grove of memorial trees, every hamlet its plot of pecans and every farm its nut orchard. This will be a memorial in which the nation, as

well as Texas, can delight. It will be the embodiment of Gov. Hogg's plan, the early fulfillment of his desire, and the rapid accomplishment of a purpose fraught with momentous results, when carried out by the people of a great state.



### Questions and Answers

I was out to my four-thousand pecan tree farm yesterday, and I noticed that on a lot of my trees six inches in diameter through the body and about 7 or 8 years old, the bark is scaling off in pieces as large as your hand from the ground up to the first limb. The tree is perfectly healthy, putting out bloom and heavy foliage, and the inside bark is swelling as if it was going to burst.

We want to know what causes it? Our theory is that we have fertilized it too much, and this fall the tree has been growing at the root, and not having to sustain the top, it has swelled the body and caused it to break its bark. The bark curls up and looks as though somebody had gone there to get the bark off of it.

We would like to know the cause and the remedy if it is other than what we think it is. We have fertilized with compost and stable manure, ashes, cotton seed meal and bone. Of course this did not go on all at one application. We do something for our trees about every three or four months in the way of fertilizer as top dressing and plowing it under shallow. Give us relief if you can.

Ans. As long as the *outer* bark peels off and leaves the soft inner bark exposed, I consider it a fine sign of a thrifty, healthy tree; in fact, a condi-

tion *all* orchard trees *should* be in, and I would be delighted to have all of my trees in such fine shape.

If the *inner* bark (soft), peels off, too, that is another question, and one I am unable to answer except by personal observation, though I am sure the first idea is the right one, and is a rare sign of thrifty trees.

CHAS. E. PABST.



### Letter from Mr. Riehl

EDITOR NUT-GROWER:—The National Nut-Growers' Association seems to be devoted almost exclusively to the Southern pecan, and will in all probability continue to be so in the future, and of little value to us who live so far North. Yet to me the transactions of the St. Louis meeting were intensely interesting, and I wish to congratulate you on the good work done. There is, however, room for some improvements that would make the book more convenient and valuable. I think a full list of all members in good standing should be published every issue. I read in this volume papers and discussions; maybe I would like to correspond with them, but they being old members and their names having been published in previous reports that I have no copy of, I am unable to find what

is their address. Also I think there should be as complete an index as can be made. One reads the report and later wants to refer to something that he read there and he will have to hunt at random as best he may, there being nothing by which he may know where to look except his memory. In a case of this kind an index would be of great value, and I think hereafter you should have one. It may not be convenient for you of the South, but I have thought that if your meeting were held after December it would be very much more convenient for us who live North. I would very much have liked to have attended the meeting at Dallas. But it was not possible as we had a meeting of our State Horticultural Society at nearly the same time. It seems to me that many would go down in early winter and remain some time and look the country try over. I know that I would, and doubtless there are others.

E. H. RIEHL.

Alton, Ill.



### The American Hickory

(Continued from Page 183.)

so great a proportion of American forests, has reduced the number of birds, there being fewer resting places, and a less quantity of wild fruits for food, which has resulted in a vastly

increased number of noxious insects. The balance maintained in nature has also been destroyed by the same forest destruction. Many parasitic insects and those which prey upon other noxious insects, have been reduced, and the destructive worms, caterpillars, borers, etc., have greatly increased.

Now the hickory, chestnut and many other trees are threatened with extermination from the damage done by these various destructive insects.

So serious has this injury become the carriage manufacturers have asked the government for some relief, that the deprecations may possibly be checked, as will be seen by the following press dispatch:

Chicago, Dec. 21. — Increasing scarcity of hickory wood in the U. S. has alarmed the manufacturers of wooden vehicles to such an extent that at a meeting here today of over 200 representatives of these manufacturers the advisability of taking the matter before Congress was discussed. Hickory trees recently have been attacked by an insect which, it is said, is fast destroying that class of timber. At today's meeting it was declared that unless the government took action in devising means whereby these insects can be kept from breeding, in 10 years practically all the hickory trees in the United States will have been destroyed.

"There are now but three states from which we can draw our sup-

plies," said P. F. Van Behren, of Evansville, Ind., "and hickory trees are becoming extinct in these states. The shortage in this article, which is the most essential component of a wooden vehicle, probably will necessitate a general raise in prices of all wooden vehicles."

Just what the government may be able to accomplish is not very apparent, although presumably the Entomological Bureau is expected to perform this heroic task.

It is strange the Forestry Bureau cannot make some efforts toward planting more hickory and other economic forest trees. Certainly Congress would provide funds for such work if it were asked for by the Forestry officials.

There is some effort being made in Texas and other Southern States toward pecan culture, but this is only for the nuts. There is absolutely no planting being done by either state or National government, and but little by private individuals, except that New York has planted some spruce and pine, but carriage woods have been neglected.

The serious condition of the hickory supply has largely been brought about by immense quantity of young hickory poles from ten to twenty years' growth, which have been cut for cooperage stock, as it takes five trees to make the hoops for one barrel,

while a lard or pork barrel requires ten or more trees. By this practice there is no young stock of hickory left to grow into lumber trees, while the prices obtained from cooperage stock is infinitesimal.

Hickory will grow on almost any soil and upon mountain and rough lands, while such locations have a very low value, being unprofitable for cultivation in farm crops.

So long as carriage manufacturers absolutely refuse to consider the future prospective of lumber, and will not encourage the work of forest planting, they must not complain when the supply finally ceases and their business must end.

*Arboriculture* has brought this question to the attention of manufacturers during many years past, and urged the restricting of the hoop-pole cutting and the planting of timber trees. One prominent carriage builder met the proposition with the argument that "In future vehicles will be built of compressed paper," but he forgot that the paper must be made of wood and the wood must first be grown.

Automobile wheels are made of steel wire and rubber—but these are very expensive, while farm vehicles and road wagons, carriages, etc., would become very costly if made of these ma-

terials, and by no means as strong or satisfactory as when made of good hickory wood.—*Arboriculture.*



### News Notes

Press Bulletin No. 150 from Kansas Experiment Stations, reports the presence of San Jose scale in the locality of Dodge City. It was found on various fruit trees, at different points, and site of original infection could not be located or proof obtained as to source from which this pest was introduced, as the trees were purchased largely from agents.

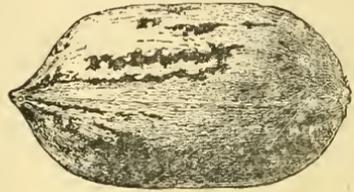
Mrs. Thomas A. Banning, of Chicago, Ill., during the last winter planted 300 fine grafted pecan trees on her place, "Long-acres," near Rosington, Baldwin county, Ala., consisting principally of *Georgia Giants*, *Alleys*, *Frotchers*, *Boltons*, *Schleys* and *Van Demans*. She expects to plant several hundred more this coming winter until she has some 1,200 in all. She also planted 50 Japanese walnuts and expects to increase the number to some 300.

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by Fred S. Dawson, Starke, Fla. It is free. Write a postal card for it.

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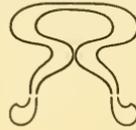
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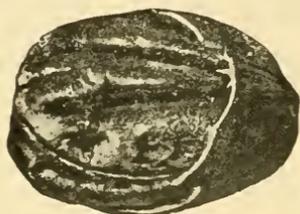
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# THE NUT-GROWER

Official Organ NATIONAL NUT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Volume IV

June 1906

Number 11

## ABOUT THE PECAN INDUSTRY

By THEO. BECHTEL

THAT the pecan is fast becoming the most important of all American nuts is no longer in doubt. That the choice varieties selected and perpetuated by the nurseries of the South are immensely profitable is easily shown by pointing to the trees of these varieties that are now bearing, yielding their owners nuts of such quality as to bring from five to six times as much on the market as the ordinary wild nut with which the markets are usually supplied.

Commercial nut growing is comparatively a new industry in this country, though the walnut orchards of California, where the planters selected the best varieties, have been yielding handsome profits for a number of years, while those orchards which have been planted with unprofitable sorts are now, after long years of expense and waiting, being grubbed out and replanted to such varieties as have proven profitable there. This very expensive experience perhaps was unavoidable in the case of the Persian walnut since, it being of foreign origin, there were no native trees growing in this country by which we could judge of the adaptability to climate, productiveness, quality, etc. However, it is quite a different proposition which presents itself to the commercial pecan orchard planter, since this nut is a native of our country and there is no good reason why he should make the mistake of planting comparatively unprofitable varieties when we have but to look about us and see what each individual variety has to recommend it. However, there have been thousands of seedlings, of unknown quality, planted in the past, because until recent years the grafted varieties could not be obtained, and there will probably be thousands planted in the years to come by those who are either uninformed or penny wise and pound

foolish. This matter of selecting the most suitable or profitable variety is of so much importance that it would well repay one contemplating planting large orchards to investigate thoroughly, and, if not possible to visit the bearing trees, at least get samples and history of varieties recommended.

In selecting to plant for market, do not choose many varieties, as the uniform grades of nuts will always command the highest prices. Good size, easy cracking quality, productiveness and a plump kernel of high quality are the leading requirements of a profitable pecan, while color, shape and time of ripening also are to be considered. However, a nut with the four first named qualities to its credit, is a safe nut to plant.

The eagerness to introduce and name a new variety before it is well tested is very detrimental to the introducer of a new and really valuable variety of nuts or fruits, since the public grows weary with trying so many, only to find out that about nine out of ten of the new things are comparatively worthless.

The list of new varieties of pecans propagated and offered for sale has made a most wonderful and unprecedented growth within the past few years. Propagators would do well to make

a rule never to introduce a variety unless it combines enough of the qualities of a perfect pecan to make it a little more valuable than any of the old standard sorts.

The articles written on pecans and pecan culture, too, seem as though some writers were more anxious to appear in print than to be of real benefit to the public by giving them the information they seek. To be sure, a selfish motive sometimes directs the author's pen, and this may have been the case when some time ago a Texas paper was said to contain an article recommending Texas planters to use Texas grown trees only, under the pretext that they alone would produce profitable orchards, for surely this is not the spirit of the average Texan. As evidence that this advice will not be strictly heeded is the fact that we have in the past, and will ship several thousand Mississippi grown pecan trees to Texas this season to be planted in that state.

The difference in opinion of some writers as to whether a pecan tree attains a certain size or not regardless of age before bearing, is perhaps due to different environments of the trees, such as climate, soil, varieties etc. That some varieties bear much earlier than others under the

same treatment has been proven beyond a doubt long ago. and you have the handsome income of \$500 per acre. The nuts

As stated at the beginning of the article, commercial pecan orcharding is comparatively a new industry and it is likely that orchards will be planted by unscrupulous speculators with cheap seedling trees only to be sold before bearing at a fabulous price (for such orchards) to some unsuspecting investor who has seen or heard of the profits to be derived from an orchard of good grafted pecans. To those unacquainted with the profits in a good pecan orchard it may be interesting to know that trees from fifteen to eighteen years old are actually yielding on an average of \$27 to \$56 annually. Count twenty trees to the acre and only \$25 per tree

from the trees referred to sold for 25 cents per pound, in the open market, but allowing that choice nuts become more plentiful than they are at present and the price drops within the reach of the masses, and the nuts sell at 10c per pound wholesale, there would still be a showing of \$10 per tree yielding 100 pounds or \$200 per acre, which is equal to the average gold mine. However, pecan orcharding is no "get rich quick" scheme on account of the time required to mature an orchard, and therefore never will be overdone and the market glutted as is sometimes the case with the peach and other perishable fruits.

## FROTSCHERS---TRUE AND FALSE

By J. B. WIGHT

Not every *Frotscher* is a *Frotscher*, so I have learned by experience; and some others have discovered the same, while others still believe they have the *Frotscher* when they have not. Fourteen years ago I ordered the budded *Frotschers* of the original disseminator of this variety. One of these died; the other has developed into a vigorous tree, bearing nuts of the finest quality. About three years later I ordered another *Frotscher* which proved to be an entirely different nut from the first. A few years later still I ordered from the same party one hundred budded *Frotschers*, and while most of these proved to be the true *Frotscher*, there were several that are identical with the second tree spoken of above. Some of the differences between the two are as follows: The true *Frotscher* is quite

spreading in its habit of growth. The spurious are more upright, and the limbs are thicker and smaller. The *Frotscher* is rather a more vigorous grower than is the spurious. The *Frotscher* nut is very nearly the same size at both ends, while the other is quite pointed at the bloom end. Both are good and regular bearers, the spurious being an especially prolific and uniform bearer. But as the latter nut is only about three-fourths the size of the *Frotscher*, it does not produce more pounds of nuts per tree.

The spurious is a little more plump meated, has a darker colored shell, and has not quite so good a flavor as the *Frotscher*.

The counterfeit is a good nut, if there were not better ones; but taking all the qualities that go to make a first-class pecan, it is by no means equal to the *Frotscher*, under whose name it has been parading.

## THE CURTIS PECAN

By J. B. CURTIS

The seed which produced the *Curtis* pecan was obtained from Arthur Brown, Bagdad, Fla., in 1886.

The *Curtis* is a tree of vigorous growth, with long, willowy branches and quite distinct in foliage from other pecan trees standing near. The nuts are medium in size, thin shelled, the kernel plump and full and of the best quality—or, at least, none better.

The tree first bore nuts—about a dozen—in 1893, and has borne a crop every year since, except in 1902, and an extremely heavy rain on the 19th of April, while the tree was in full bloom, would account for the failure that year.

The tree has been cut for budding and grafting wood every season since it commenced bearing. Last season the tree bore 80 pounds of nuts.

Grafted trees that have been transplanted have borne in two years from planting, and a tree in Tampa, Fla., transplanted six years ago, bore 24 pounds of nuts last year.

The tree has one great advantage over some of the other standard varieties—the bud worm, so troublesome some seasons, will not feed on the *Curtis*. I can give no reasons for this, but trees with limbs grafted to *Curtis* will be free from the pest, while the rest of the tree will have them in large numbers.

The tree is quite hard to pro-

pagate by grafting and budding, as the wood is small and eyes of buds not numerous, but with care in selecting the bud wood we get a fair per cent.



## Texas State Nut-Growers' Association

The request of the late Gov. Hogg that nut trees be planted beside his grave has stimulated the nut growers and has caused them to seek the formation of a nut-growers' association in this state. Mr. E. W. Kirkpatrick has therefore issued a call for all interested parties to meet at Austin, Texas, May 29 and 30. It is requested that owners of fine pecans and walnut trees bring or send samples of nuts together with a detailed description of nut, tree, etc.

After organization the following program will be carried out:

### FOR MAY 29.

The Wisdom of Gov. Hogg's Request—A. W. Terrell, Waller Baker, Cullen Thomas, Judge Duncan and others.

Benefits of Organization—C. Falkner, H. A. Halbert and others.

Selecting the Varieties, The Ideal Nuts—E. E. Risien, Philaner Miller, F. T. Ramsey and others.

### MAY 30.

Affiliation With Farmers' Congress—Professors Kyle, Green and others.

Best Methods of Planting and

Growing—H. M. Stringfellow and F. W. Mally.

Relation of Nut Growing to Civic Improvement—Goodrich W. Jones, P. L. Downs and others.

Nuts as a Standard Source of Food—Sam H. Dixon, H. P. Atwater and others.

Commercial Possibilities of Nut Growing—Wm. Cameron, Mr. Dueller, pecan manufacturer, and others.

—*Farm and Ranch.*



## Bug at Work

In our locality, the southern part of Jackson county, Mississippi, thus far the pecan tree has had no enemies that have given much trouble. As the orchards increase, however, especially orchards of the finer grades, enemies are likely to increase, and those in charge should be on the watch constantly.

This season I was much interested in noticing the work of a small bug, wholly unknown to me and of which I could learn nothing from others near us. This bug was of the Coleoptera family with hard sheath wings, and was of a gray-mottled color. Its length was from a half to three quarters of an inch, with a breadth of from one-eighth to one-fourth of an inch. The head terminates in a sharp snout or point—the insect's weapon. Our attention was first called to it by finding limbs of a half-inch

diameter, lying under some of our young trees, as neatly cut off as if done with a saw. By watching carefully, we found a bug at work. It would start a circle around a limb by use of the sharp snout, and cut deeper and deeper until the limb was sawed off. Then it would proceed to another limb, and in the case of two or three of our young trees, only the stumps of the limbs were left. We were told by parties near us, that sometimes limbs nearly as thick as the wrist was cut off; but this we did not see,

I intended to bring home with me some of the branches, to examine them for eggs of the insect, thinking the object in the cutting was to allow the falling to the ground of the egg depositories, if the eggs had really been laid in the limbs. I could see no other explanation for the work of the little insect. Unfortunately, I mislaid the branches and thus lost the chance to study this point.

Probably this insect is well known to the old pecan men; if so, I shall be glad to hear from them, and to learn what kind of insect it is. Were it to increase greatly in numbers, it would become a serious menace to orchards, and we should be ready to prevent a possibility of such an increase.—R. O. GRAHAM in the *American Nut Journal*.

### Some Nut Recipes

**PECAN NUT CANDY.**---1 cup of pecan meats, 3 cups of sugar, 1 cup of water. Boil sugar and water without stirring, until thick enough to spin a thread; flavor with lemon or vanilla. Set off into cold water; stir quickly until white; then stir in nuts; turn into flat dishes; when cold cut into squares.

**PECAN FUDGE.**---Three cups of sugar,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cups of water, boil till sugar threads, then add one cup of pecan meats; stir till creamy; pour on buttered plates; cut in squares; flavor to taste.

**CREAMED NUTS.**---Mix 1 pound powdered sugar, white of one unbeaten egg, one teaspoon vanilla and two teaspoons cold water to a stiff paste; roll in little balls; press nut meats on top.

**PECAN WAFERS.**---Two cups brown sugar, two cups pecan meats, scant cup of flour, one-half teaspoon baking powder, one-half teaspoon salt, two eggs; mix. Drop small spoonfuls on buttered pan; bake in a quick oven.



### A New Society

The Society of Southern Florists was organized at Chattanooga May 22. The purpose is to encourage the industry in Southern territory, which does not

now produce near all the stock the South consumes, although the local conditions for growing many lines are far more favorable than in northern latitudes. Membership, however, is not restricted to the South, and amateurs, professionals and dealers in horticultural supplies are eligible.

The organization starts off under favorable auspices, with a charter membership of forty-five, the larger portion of whom are from New Orleans, where the movement originated with the local Horticultural Society.

A prominent feature of the society is the including of ornamental gardeners, whose work is so closely allied with the florists, that it is made a part of the society name.

A convention will be held later in the season, at New Orleans, La.

A constitution similar to that governing the Society of American Florists was adopted, and the following officers elected:

President---Robert C. Berckmans, Augusta, Ga.

First Vice-President---C. N. Eichling, New Orleans, La.

Second Vice-President---C. O. Hunt, St. Elmo, Tenn.

Secretary---Dr. J. F. Wilson, Poulan, Ga.

Treasurer --- Joseph Steckler, New Orleans, La.

This organization is of close kinship to the National Nut-Growers' Association, as each has a special horticultural mission, and several of its officers are well known in nut-growing circles.



### The Peanut in France

Last year France imported 182,010 tons of peanuts, of which 100,971 tons arrived already decorticated, mainly from India, and 80,049 tons came in the shell, principally from the west coast of Africa.

All of the material is taken up by the oil mills. At least one-half of the total quantity imported is converted into the higher grades of comestible oil, competing, on its own merits, with olive and cotton seed oils.

The American peanuts are now consumed exclusively in natural form or by the confectionery trade. For these purposes they are perhaps the best in the world, although the Spanish variety is also highly thought of.

Last year, owing to a short crop in the United States, peanuts to the declared value of \$27,065 were sent to the United States from France. However excellent for oil making purposes, these re-exported African nuts were much less desirable for eating than the American product.—Ex.

# The Nut - Grower

Published by The Nut-Grower Co.

Entered as second-class matter at the Postoffice at Poulan, Ga., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

**Subscription Price: 50c per Annum**  
**Advertising Rates Sent Upon Application**

JUNE 1906

Extensive preparations are being made for the 1906 meeting of the American Association of Nurserymen, which convenes at Dallas, Texas, this month.

Ten barrels of seed nuts is a fairly good planting for one company. Prof. Van Deman finished up his work at his Louisiana plantation by planting that quantity, which would make about 60,000 nuts.

President E. W. Kirkpatrick, of the National Nut-Growers' Association, is a leading spirit in the Texas State Nut-Growers' Association. Other states can follow this example with profit.

Live stock, poultry, bees, etc., are so allied with nut growing as auxiliary sources of revenue that we heartily commend the trade journals which give atten-

tion to these interests. Among our exchanges of this kind the *Live Stock Journal* (Chicago), is a weekly paper for the breeder and the farmer, which we find of much practical interest.

When a public service is needed, those who act promptly render a double good in prompting others to follow a good example. When Gov. Hogg's request became known, both the Texas State Horticultural Society and the Texas Nurserymen's Association promptly forwarded to the family of the deceased suitable trees for carrying out the request.

The permanent character of a pecan should be in mind when arranging to plant these trees. The results will follow the life of a planter, and when the planting has been of a choice and abundant bearing variety, it becomes a monument to his foresight. On the other hand an inferior nut, and a poorer bearing tree, will not add to the favorable reputation of the planter.

Mr. Wight's contribution in this number on the *Frotscher*, true or false, is of much interest and of more importance than the casual observer will likely attach to the subject. This addi-

tional nut seems, however, to be a valuable one, even rivaling the genuine in some important particulars. All growers of this variety should notice their bearing trees carefully with a view to finding how widely the two nuts are sailing under the same name.

Mr. H. S. Graves, vice-president for Florida, sums up his estimate of the considerations which should determine the choice of variety as follows:

- 
- Its inherent hardiness.
- Its permanency as an orchard tree.
- Its freedom from frost injury.
- Its product non-perishable—can hold for favorable market.
- Its drouth resisting qualities.
- Its worth as a shade and ornamental tree.
- 

The time may not be far distant when nut growing will merit special attention at the hands of the United States Department of Agriculture. Lines now in operation investigating the habits and qualities of various fruits and vines can be followed regarding nuts, to the great benefit of many people, in showing adaptability to various conditions of soil, climate and conditions of culture, as well as methods of harvesting, storing and marketing the crop at home and abroad.

A private letter from one of our advertising patrons says he estimates his growing stock of budded and grafted pecans at \$40,000. He has some nice orders booked, and indications are that he will readily dispose of all salable stock. He says also: "People are becoming awake to the great possibilities in growing their fine pecans, and if it was generally known that the trees in the lower south come into profitable bearing as soon or sooner than the apple does farther north, we could not be able to fill orders for years to come."

•

Texas was moving in line of pecan culture, at a commendable rate, but the dying request of Gov. Hogg put new life into the industry, and now a great wave of popular interest in nut culture is reaching over the state, and is being felt far beyond its boundaries. This is crystallizing in practical ways, and one of the first and valuable fruits of the agitation is the formation of a state organization of nut growers, called to meet at Austin. We look for a substantial and permanent good to grow out of all such well-directed efforts.

•

There are many people, industrious, and frugal, living

within their means, who, when the savings accumulate, are at a loss how to invest their money to the best advantage. They naturally turn to the banks where a small rate of interest is allowed on time deposits. Now the banks know how to use the money of their patrons to advantage and can afford to pay the interest because they make a larger interest or profit from the same money. It is the knowing how and when to place funds which makes the difference. The placing of money in the bank is a matter of confidence in the institution. Now if the same confidence can be placed in the integrity and ability of the management of a pecan orchard company, and investments made with others in this business, it makes the investor a partner in the enterprise and sharer in all the profits the business may make. Where this confidence is established, the safety is equal to that of the bank, while the profits are not only the interest the bank would pay but the larger profits, which the bank makes as well.

longer while being subject in a less degree to insect injury and plant diseases. All of this is favorable to the pecan, but it has more and highly important claims to preference, such as greater value of the crop, less risk in marketing, and no danger of overproduction. All of these are not subject to the usual discounts of prospects on account of season, frost, etc., which menace the profits to such an extent with all fruits. It is true we have made frequent reference to these facts about pecans, but since they are true it will bear repetition. Besides this our list of readers is constantly increasing, and this number will doubtless fall into the hands of many people in widely separated sections of this and other countries, who have not previously seen a copy. We have never received larger or more regular additions to our circle of regular readers than during the past few weeks, but there are thousands more yet to learn what a pleasant and profitable vocation the business offers.

The early bearing of budded and grafted nut trees should convince any one that nut-growing not only makes as early profits as apples or pears, but last much

Frequent inquiries from subscribers and others calls for information regarding the hickory and other nuts. Occasionally we are accused of publishing a

pecan organ rather than a nut journal. This is true to a certain extent, but there are hundreds of people interested in and growing pecans to one hickory specialist. In fact the hickory is still in the woods, rather than in the orchard, and practical commercial experience in growing it is scarce, while the pecan is furnishing an increasing amount of valuable data each succeeding year. Then the pecan seems to offer better prospects for money making than any other nut known, and it will be a difficult task to furnish more information than is desired, regarding it. The hickory and other nuts are well worthy of much greater attention than they now receive, especially in localities where a vigorous climate bars the pecan, and we are always ready to give any new or interesting data when the same can be found. Our efforts in seeking contributions on the hickory have not thus far produced very encouraging results, and we have had to glean from exchanges and other sources, such items as occasionally appear. There is a promising field for the hickory when methods and enterprises such as brought the pecan into prominence are applied to it.

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In speaking of the hickory it

seems strange that the demand for second growth timber by manufacturers does not prompt the enterprising American to grow it for its timber value alone. There are many wasted places admirably adapted to the growth of hickory, when, at small expense, they could be started and given the opportunity of growing. This would most certainly be a good investment, but not a "get rich quick" scheme, but the enhanced value of property with growing trees of this kind surely give a large interest on the cost of trees. While the farmer would not expect to obtain ready cash each year from the start, still if he regarded it as a side line, in which he was willing to wait for returns, he could certainly, in a few years, see that it was a profitable move. The time is sure to go by, whether we plant or not, and the waiting period is simply a "bug bear" which should not frighten sensible men.



### Orchard Statistics

Growing interest in commercial groves make it desirable that more systematic plans should be formulated for collecting regularly each year, data covering the new plantings and reports regarding crops in all sections of nut-growing territory.

From time to time items of this kind have been appearing in THE NUT-GROWER, but something more than simple news notes is needed. Any planting of nut trees in the nature of a commercial business should be reported and duly recorded, showing location, area planted, date of planting, character of tree, whether seedlings or standards, varieties, etc., while annual reports could give information as to additional plantings, yield of nuts, and also report any losses of trees, giving cause of loss, as far as known. These reports would not need to include small plantings, where the nuts are grown for home use rather than sale.

Such data, when assembled and tabulated, will be interesting and valuable in various ways and do much to show the importance of the industry, regarding which the general public know very little.

The next convention will probably adopt some plan for accomplishing this work, and in the mean time THE NUT-GROWER is gathering in reports as opportunity offers.



### News Notes

The stenographic report of Dallas Convention is still in the hands of the reporter, who says

it will be ready "soon."

The Jamestown Ter-Centennial management is putting up a strong plea for the 1907 convention to go to that locality.

The newly organized Society of Southern Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists will hold their first annual convention at New Orleans, La., probably in December.

Extensive preparations are being made for the 1906 meeting of the American Nurserymen's Association which convenes this month at Dallas, Texas. A large attendance is anticipated.

Definite announcement for the 1906 Nut-Growers' Convention will be made in the near future. Indications all point to Scranton, Miss., as the place, and the date is likely to be fixed for the beginning of pecan harvest.

A pleasant caller at our office recently was Mr. W. B. Dukes, of Moultrie, Ga. He is a careful observer and industrious student of the pecan proposition, and is putting his knowledge into practical use by planting orchards of the choicest varieties.



### Top-Working Old Trees

In top-grafting trees the best success will be obtained where scions are set in branches one-half to one inch in diameter, as

the union will be more perfect than if larger ones are used. Where old trees are grafted with the object of changing entire top it will be necessary to use larger branches, but two inches in diameter should be the limit. In stock one inch and larger use two scions, and if both grow cut one out the following season. Where all the top is grafted, set a part each season, making the change gradual, the older and larger the trees the more time required. Be careful in grafting that the bark of scion and stock are in perfect line, to allow free flow of sap. Cover wound airtight with grafting wax. Apple trees from piece root grafts are partly on their own roots, as many varieties root freely on the scion as well as the seedling root. Budded trees are wholly on seedling root and are not as hardy. Nearly all varieties of apple can be maintained 25 years or longer in a healthy condition by proper care and pruning. Neglect is the prime cause of the failure of many trees.—L. L. KELLOGG in *Rural New Yorker*.



### Importance of Tree Growing

The importance of tree growing on the farm is becoming more generally understood each year as the supply of timber

fades from view. There is a commercial value in tree culture that argues strongly for the grove, the tree line and the individual tree on every prairie farm throughout the western country. The increasing scarcity of commercial timber throughout those districts that have been the recognized supply points, is ample reason why an individual effort, in tree culture, should be encouraged and put in operation on the farm. The prairie is today a liberal consumer of timber, but contributes nothing to restore the slaughter of forests that is steadily going on all over the timbered districts.

The steady and increasing demand for all kinds of building timbers, while the supply is steadily decreasing, is a feature that is now confronting the people of this country. Consumers of timber must expect prices to increase, going higher and higher as the years move on. The only possible chance for lessening the cost of a commodity is to decrease the demand or increase the supply of it. In timber there is no evidence that either of these influences will be exerted upon the trade.

In view of meeting these conditions which are inevitable, and in the course of a generation remedying the evils already done in forest destruction, by

fires and careless management, the United States government, through the Department of Agriculture, has planned a work for its division of forestry that promises not only a restoration of timber conditions in timber lands, but makes possible new timber districts where timber never grew before.

The present reserves over the western country, causing agitation among the live stock grazing interests, are examples of the foresight of the department of forestry, in holding out portions of the public domain for this feature of improvement. The cultivation of a sentiment for forest growth, which this timber agitation has already set on foot, is one of the most promising features of reform and education that the forestry movement has to its credit.

The farm may do much to help in this effort in forest reform. The farm can and should grow all of its post timber. The basis of small forests, of a few acres, should be started on each quarter section of land throughout the prairie farming districts. These farm forests may not develop into timber that will serve the needs of the planters of them, but they will have their offerings of matured timbers for the next generation, and to generations yet to follow. All our

prairie lands are natural timber lands in the sense that they are adapted to the encouragement of timber growth. In no forest country are there such evidences of vigorous, rapid growth in all varieties of timber, forest, ornamental, shade and fruit trees as are found on the prairie farms of the Missouri valley country. These evidences are the basis upon which forest timbers may be grown, with every assurance of success.

A few acres of the least desirable land on the farm for cultivation, when devoted to timber culture, may be made to produce a value far in excess of any other similar acreage on the farm. Forest varieties of timber grow best in forests or groves; they demand the influence and surroundings of the shade they lend each other to encourage an upward growth. It is the tall, stately forest tree only develops its natural timber producing qualities when given natural conditions.—*Twentieth Century Farmer*.



Texas furnishes the principal supply of pecans in commerce, averaging 200 to 500 cars annually. The greater supply appears to come out over the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific railroads, and San Antonio and Brownwood

appear to be the larger shipping points. The future possibilities of improving the pecan and the increase of its supply is unlimited. The demands for this nut in its finer forms are most alluring.—*American Fruits.*

George Ketchum, a prominent Georgian, died recently at St. George, Ga., the new colony town near Jacksonville, Fla. He was one of the early members of the National Nut-Growers' Association, and a conspicuous and influential character in the Macon convention.

### Book Notices

*Bulletin No. 84* of Texas Experiment Station gives interesting results on experiments in fertilizing tomatoes.

*Perpetual Prosperity*, a sixteen-page prospectus of the Standard Pecan Co., of Bloomington, Ill., gives interesting data for prospective planters.

University of Wisconsin Experiment Station sends *Bulletins Nos. 130 and 134*, showing results of examination of licensed feeding stuffs and fertilizers.

*Fundamental Principles of Plant Breeding* by Luther Burbank, 12 pages. A paper read at the International Plant Breeders' Conference, New York, Sept. 1906.

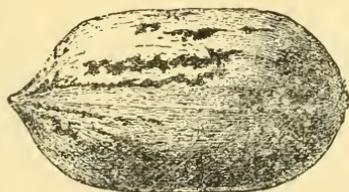
Spraying potatoes for prevention of leaf blight and rot is the subject of *Bulletin No. 135* Wisconsin Experiment

Station, by E. P. Sandsten and J. G. Milward.

*Bulletin No. 89* of Texas Experiment Station is from the horticultural section, by Prof. E. J. Kyle, and treats of peach growing in Texas. It has 30 pages of interesting illustrated matter.

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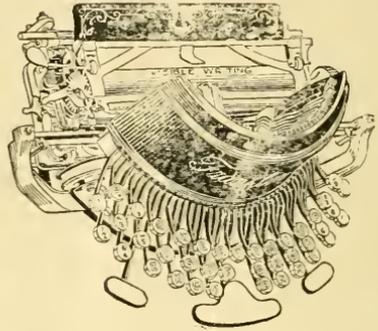
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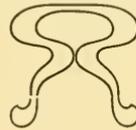
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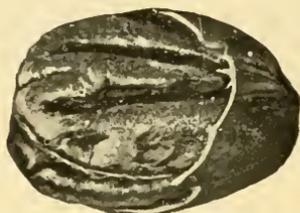
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# THE NUT-GROWER

Official Organ NATIONAL NUT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Volume IV

July 1906

Number 12

## THE FROTSCHER PECAN

By J. B. WIGHT

THE original Frotscher pecan tree is growing at Olivier, Iberia parish, La., and is still vigorous and productive. Its exact age is not known, but it is likely about fifty years old. It was named for the late Richard Frotscher, of New Orleans, who, in the early eighties, made diligent search through the Mississippi valley for the best pecans. He selected the three best that he could find; and what he considered the finest of the three was named for himself. Budded trees of these three varieties were widely disseminated by Mr. Joe Frotscher and Mr. William Nelson.

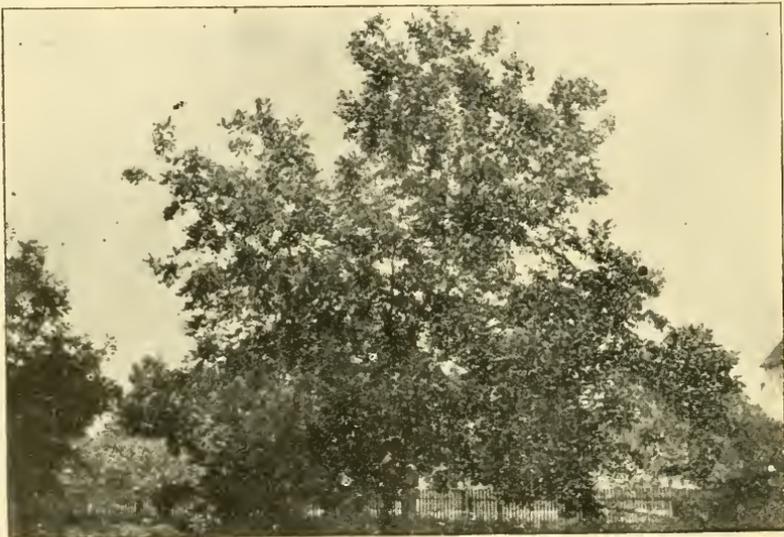
The Frotscher has most of the qualities that go to make up a first-class pecan. Its size is large; the color of the nut, as it comes from the tree, is bright and attractive; its cracking qualities are excellent; the tree is an early and regular bearer, vigorous in growth, and holds its foliage well into the autumn, and the tree is symmetrical and regular in its habit of growth. The flavor of the Frotscher is medium, and it does not fill quite so well as some varieties. But, taken all in all, I have not yet demonstrated to my satisfaction that out of the thirty varieties I have growing, there is a better all-purpose nut; and so I propagate and set in my orchards this variety in numbers far exceeding that of any other. I believe it to be one among the very few varieties that is worthy the attention of the commercial orchardist.

Beginning with 1886 and continuing for several years, I bought nuts of this variety from Mr. Frotscher; and I now have hundreds of its seedlings growing, many of which are bearing. These differ very widely in their habits of growth, size of nuts, and bearing qualities. Whether it is because trees budded or grafted from Frotscher seedlings have been widely sold as Frot-

schers, or whether from other causes, yet it is true that thousands of trees have been sold as Frotscher that will prove a disappointment. The nomenclature of pecans has become considerably mixed: and in buying this or any other variety it is important that the true be obtained.

the tree at the end of the year indicated. The second column gives the weight of nuts in pounds produced each year. No measurement was made of the tree until December, 1904.

	Circumference.	Nuts in Pounds.
1894	...8½ inches	
1895	...12¼ inches	



FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD FROTSCHER TREE, OWNED BY J. B. WIGHT, CAIRO, GA.

Though it has been before published, yet an account of my oldest Frotscher tree will not be without interest. The tree was purchased from Mr. William Nelson, New Orleans, in January, 1892. It was about three feet high when set, and cost \$2.00. The first column gives the circumference in inches,

1896	... 14½ inches	... 1 nut
1897	... 20 inches	... 7 lbs.
1898	... 25 inches	... 10½ lbs.
1899	... 29¼ inches	... 13½ lbs.
1900	... 33¼ inches	... 27 lbs.
1901	... 37¼ inches	... 16 lbs.
1902	... 40¼ inches	... 45 lbs.
1903	... 44 inches	... 80 lbs.
1904	... 46¾ inches	... 121 lbs.
1905	... 50 inches	... 131 lbs.

It is but justice to say that this tree has been well cared for; on

the other hand, it has been severely pruned for scions.



### Denatured Alcohol

The bill removing the internal revenue tax from denatured alcohol has passed Congress, and will become effective January 1, 1907. This bill, as was recently explained in the *Fruit Grower*, removes the tax from alcohol which is rendered unfit for use as a beverage, and which is to be used for industrial purposes. The passage of this bill was advocated by practically every farmers' organization in the country, for the reason that cheaper alcohol to be used for industrial purposes will afford cheap fuel, light and power for farm homes. The passage of the bill was opposed by the oil trust and the wood alcohol trust—and this opposition, in itself, should have been sufficient to cause farmers to favor its passage.

Manufacturers of gasoline engines claim that these engines can be changed to use alcohol at very light expense, and that will give better satisfaction. Alcohol will also give cheap light and fuel, for it is claimed it can be made from refuse potatoes, low-grade corn, etc., for about 8 cents a gallon. If this be true, alcohol can be sold for less money than gasoline.

will be found more satisfactory for lighting, cooking, and for use in engines. The increased manufacture of alcohol will make a demand for lowgrade products of the farm which might otherwise be wasted. And, better than all, denatured alcohol is not controlled by a trust, as in the case with gasoline—at least, it is not yet controlled by a trust. —*Western Fruit Grower*.



### Interest in Pecans

Our recent trip through the Southern States impressed us with the idea that the pecan is to take a very important place in the pomology of that region, in the comparatively near future. Two facts contribute to this growing popularity. One is the fairly well-defined, though somewhat newly acquired idea that the pecan has a much wider range of adaptation than that which we originally credited it with. Our friends of the Gulf States formerly believed that it was a native only of the rich bottom lands of that section; more than that, that it would be unhappy and uncomfortable anywhere else. Investigation and experience are dispelling that idea from the minds of careful observers. The pecan is indigenous northern Florida, southern Georgia, and central Geor-

gia, orchards are being widely planted, and the industry promises to flourish in a way that surpasses the most sanguine imagination of its warmest adherent. Whether the planting of this nut is likely to be overdone or not, is another question. That phase we are not prepared to discuss.—*National Nurseryman*.



### Not Easy to Grow from Nuts

It is slow work growing native chestnut from seeds. Under ordinary forest conditions it requires 10 years to grow seedlings eight feet high. The first twelve or fifteen years appear to be spent in perfecting an extensive root system, and afterwards the growth is fairly rapid, overtaking sprout trees about the twentieth year and more than keeping pace with them afterwards. Nuts for seed must be carefully stored where they will neither sprout nor dry out until spring, and must be especially well protected from vermin. Boxes of moist sand, guarded with wire netting and kept in a cold cellar, furnish good protection. The nuts should be planted in early spring in a seed bed, or where the trees are to stand. Not over 10 inches of growth can be expected the first season.

European and Japan chestnuts grow readily from seed, but are of little value for timber, as they tend to make dwarfish, branching trees, beginning to bear when very small. Our native species does not commonly bear until 10 or more years old, and nuts are very scantily produced until about the twentieth year, after which regular crops may be expected. Trees may live 400 to 600 years, and have attained immense size, but the timber lessens in value after the first 90 years of growth. Japan chestnuts planted six or eight feet apart each way may reach, in good soil, dimensions sufficient for fence posts in 20 years, but it is not likely they will grow tall enough in this country for telephone poles. Our native appears to be the hardiest species, but it is too sensitive to hard frosts to thrive far north of Boston, and does not well endure the changeable climate of the prairie states, but thrives vigorously all through the Atlantic and gulf regions. Originally very plentiful, it has been almost exterminated in many localities in the search for durable fencing timber. The fortunate owners of good second-growth stands are now in excellent position to manage their holdings in a profitable way.—*Rural New Yorker*.

### The Texas Association

On May 28th and 29th Texas nut-growers and others interested convened at Austin, and organized the Texas Nut-Growers' Association.

C. Faulkner, of Waco, was elected president; F. T. Ramsey, of Austin, vice-president, and A. M. Ferguson, of Austin, secretary.

The next meeting will be held in connection with Farmers' Congress, July 10th, 11th and 12th, at College Station. The regular winter meeting is scheduled for February 22, 1907, probably at Austin.

At this initial meeting, and throughout the discussion frequent and feeling tribute was paid to the memory of ex-Gov. Hogg, and his expressed sentiment regarding nut trees. It was formally declared to be one of the objects of the Association to assist in carrying out his request, for giving out nuts among the plain people of Texas, so that the state may be made a land of trees.

A movement was started to secure state aid in establishing a Memorial Park at Austin, and have the same planted in nut trees, with a view to distributing the fruits among the school children of the state, according to Gov. Hogg's request.

The Association starts off with

about forty members, and others who join by July 10th will be enrolled as charter members.

Application for membership can be made to the secretary at Austin, Texas.



Practical records and careful observations go much farther than theory in pressing claims, such as early-bearing of budded pecan trees. In this line, we counted on the 8th day of June, 1906 98 nuts on a single Georgia Giant tree, in a young orchard of the G. M. Bacon Pecan Co., of DeWitt, Ga. This tree is less than nine feet in height, and has the following history: It was budded on 2-year-old stock during summer of 1903; was set in orchard March, 1904, bloomed in spring of 1905, and is now carrying the 98 well formed nuts. In same orchard with other trees other varieties and same age, many nuts were found, especially in the Stuart variety.



At a recent adjourned meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Nut-Growers' Association, Dr. J. F. Wilson, of Georgia, and Prof. F. H. Burnette, of Louisiana, were appointed as representatives of the Association in the National Council of Horticulture.

### Georgia at Jamestown

Virginia will welcome Georgia to the Jamestown Exposition with open arms. Counting the beautiful state building that Georgia will erect, more states will be represented by buildings at Hampton Roads than at any previous exposition. This is good news for the South when it is remembered that many more states will fall in line when their legislatures meet. A great Southern celebration without Georgia represented would be an anomaly.

"Georgia, the Empire State of the South, will be represented at the Jamestown Exposition next year, in splendid shape. Its geological, agricultural and educational exhibits will be among the best, if they do not take the lead. Georgia will expend \$50,000 in a state building and exhibit."

The foregoing is the message that President M. N. Mitchell, of the Georgia Jamestown Exposition Commission sent to Norfolk. Mr. Mitchell further states that Georgia will stand shoulder to shoulder with Virginia in making the Jamestown Tercentennial a great success.

Mr. Mitchell is a native of Virginia, but is now a prominent business man in Atlanta. One condition that creates hope with the exposition officials that

Georgia will fall in line with a large and magnificent exhibit is the fact that Atlanta will hold a great exposition in 1910, and that state will take steps at Jamestown to advertise the Atlanta event.

Atlanta can learn much at the Jamestown Exposition that will be of value to her in formulating her great enterprise of 1910, just as Virginia is profiting by the experience of former expositions. But apart from any material consideration, the people are heartily imbued with the sentiment of patriotic pride in the underlying idea of the Jamestown Exposition, and will do what they can to add to its glory.



### Pecans on Hickory

EDITOR NUT-GROWER:

Two years ago we began grafting paper shell pecans into the hickory, and what grafts lived made a very rapid growth, and this year some of them were full of bloom, but there will be no nuts.

Have never had any grafts to live in top-working the hickory, but have had the best success in sawing the hickory off at the ground and putting in the grafts in the stump, which is usually about 1½ to 2 inches in diameter. I have some that were put in this way the first of February, 1903,

and are now from one to four feet in height. pagna, make a handsome grove indeed.

E. A. BINGHAM.

Arcadia, Fla.



### The Finest Hazels

Just as the attar-of-rose, which hails from Rumelia, is always called Turkish, and the Italian lemon is the name applied to this fruit, wherever it may hail from, so, with the hazel, the term Neapolitan is applied to the very finest brand of filberts, when, as a matter of fact, Naples has no more to do with this quality than to serve as a port for their shipment to this country. The finest hazels in the world, without doubt, are those from the vicinity of Rovigno, a little hamlet on the east coast of the Adriatic, a few miles below the Austrian seaport of Trieste. There, in season, everyone takes to gathering the hazel, and preparing it for eventual American consumption.

At Rovigno the hazel is everywhere: in the garden as ornamental shrubs, along the waysides as a hedge, and in the meadows as copses, are the hazels golden in the fall. They grow to be tall shrubs here, almost on the border between shrubs and trees, in fact, and many of them, out in the cam-

Immediately after, or occasionally just before the wine harvest, the peasants turn to the hazels. In September and October the copses are notably full of the children, who gather the nuts into sacks as they are shaken down by fathers and elder brothers. Often as many as two hundred nuts will come from a single shrub at Rovigno.

These nuts are bought up, as found, by the wholesalers' agents at the queer old fishing town—Italian in its life, though a possession of Austria. They scatter them upon broad canvasses and allow them to dry five or six days in the sun. Just how much they reduce in weight may be shown by the prices. Over Southern Europe, everything goes by the metric system, and the kilogram is the standard weight for nuts. Fresh hazels weigh heavy, and so they bring but twenty-six kreuzer, or 10.4 cents the kilo. Dried, the same quantity brings 45.2 cents.

Hence the pride with which the Rovignan takes the rare visitor out among the olive trees besides the sea, and shows him his hazels. For protection, as well as ornament, the hazel and the fig will be planted along the garden walls, hiding the pictur-

(Continued on Page 229)

# The Nut - Grower

Published by The Nut-Grower Co.

Entered as second-class matter at the Postoffice at Poulan, Ga., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

**Subscription Price: - 50c per Annum**

**Advertising Rates Sent Upon Application**

JULY 1906

The local press in many sections of the country is reporting the successful launching of commercial nut orchards.

We have a report from Colquitt county, Ga., which tells of a pecan tree being budded in August, 1904, which blossomed freely in 1906.

In March, 1905, we planted a number of budded Stuart pecans. A year later one of them bloomed, and by another year will likely mature fruit. This does not seem very long to wait.

The shocking developments regarding the Beef Trust should serve a good purpose in directing attention to the superior qualities of nuts as a standard food product. The only difficulty in this respect at present is the small supply of nuts, and,

consequently, the high price.

Theory and practice are very closely allied, especially in any new industry. In nut growing at the present stage of development, our province is not only to let the public know what the business affords, as an investment, but also to aid the practical grower to accomplish the best possible results.

We are glad to have suggestions and inquiries from subscribers. However, we cannot follow all the good ideas which are offered as the following taken from a single day's correspondence will show. One thinks THE NUT-GROWER would be better if we had more practical cultural instruction and less speech making, while another wants it issued twice a month so as to tell more about what there is in the business.

We have no quarrel with life insurance when honestly managed, but in common with several others, we dislike the idea of being compelled to shuffle off this mortal coil before it becomes payable. It then goes to some one who may not be benefited by all your toil and saving. It is much more agreeable to get your investment back fre-

gently, and still leave an inheritance when you can enjoy it no longer.

●

Halbert, of Texas, says there are three ways to start a pecan orchard or grove. 1. By planting the nuts. 2. By planting young trees; and, 3rd, by top-working old bearing trees. Outside of Texas the proposition is simplified, as there are no old trees to top-work and the planting of nut, where orchard is to stand has not proved very desirable, so two of the three ways are eliminated, and the third and only one left, is the one to follow.

●

Some thoughtful parents begin early to provide for their children and take what they think is the most safe and sure way, by depositing in the bank, on each birthday, a specified sum, and leave it to bear a small rate of interest until the child is of age. This is infinitely better than no systemized plan, but the opportunity is so much better when pecan trees are planted with the money that every parent should look into the prospect this nut offers. Figure it out for yourself, at five dollars for each child, and see what it will make.

●

Among staple farm crops there

is a considerable range of value per year. Wheat pays an average of less than eight dollars per acre per year. Potatoes are credited with thirty-five dollars, while the average for ten leading staples is about twelve dollars. With all these the labor of putting out the crop must be repeated annually. Contrast this with what one pecan tree will do regularly without the annual labor cost of the tree and putting it out but once. A fairly good tree should yield easily 50 pounds each year, and if the variety was well selected, they will sell for 25 cents per pound. Thus if a tree is better than a full acre of ordinary crops, what will 20 trees on the acre do?

●

We recently examined one of the duplicate Frotscher trees. Although a young tree, it is showing results of importance. We call it the duplicate Frotscher in preference to the false Frotscher, because this is one instance in which the substitution of one variety for another has evidently been a simple mistake with no intention to defraud, and where the substitute has substantial merit, and some qualities superior to the distinguished variety in question. This tree is showing abundant bearing habit which will go far to compensate for its variation

in size and shape, from the genuine nut.

Mr. White, at DeWitt, takes commendable pride in showing a tree which he budded when three years old, in 1903. The tree bloomed in 1905, and is now carrying about 75 nuts. In the fall of 1904 he set six buds from this tree in a stock about seven years old, all grew, in season of 1905 making about eight feet of growth. This year it is bearing a full crop, and by this we mean that each terminal tip has its cluster of nuts. The variety of this tree is still in doubt: whatever it proves to be, it has early and abundant bearing qualities to its credit. We shall expect Mr. White to count and carefully weigh the mature nuts on these two trees, and report results as soon as the crop is gathered.

The 1906 Convention of the National Nut-Growers' Association is to be held at Scranton, Mississippi, and the date, if not modified in order to obtain better railroad rates, will be Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 31st and November 1st and 2nd. The program which has already been outlined, promises to be of great practical value and interest, fully in keep-

ing with the rapid advances made during the past few years in the industry. The leading speakers are drawn from all parts of the country, and each is a recognized authority in the line assigned. The local committee of arrangements is composed of men well and widely known, and insures an enjoyable occasion.

Straws show which way the wind blows, and the following postscript from a recent Texas letter, develops a subject of much importance to nut culture. So many requests of this kind have come in that we advertised for men of this kind, and, although we have some applications for positions on file, there is only one in the lot who even claims a practical knowledge of the business. The Association needs to take cognizance of this situation and encourage the establishing of facilities for introducing carefully selected men to this work:

"I want an experienced man who understands and has successful experience in budding pecans. If you know of one please put him in correspondence with me and oblige." W.

With warm weather, the presence of web worms is evident, and they require prompt attention. In this and subsequent

numbers, we are able to give the views of several practical growers, in reply to a subscriber's letter on this subject. If any one has other remedies, we will be glad to have them reported. Whatever plan is adopted to hold the pest in check should be thoroughly and persistently followed.



### A Correction

EDITOR NUT-GROWER:

In the JUNE issue of THE NUT-GROWER, just received, I note there is an item giving points which I consider most essential in the varieties of pecans. This item is in error, insomuch as the points enumerated should have referred to the *orchard* instead of variety. My estimate of considerations which should determine the choice of varieties for the commercial pecan orchard are as follows:

#### THE NUT.

1. Quality and plumpness of kernel.
2. Thinness of shell and cracking quality.
3. Size.
4. Color.
5. Form.

#### THE TREE.

1. Productiveness.
2. Adaptability to location.
3. Resistance to insects and disease.

4. Vigor and toughness of wood.

5. Uniformity of ripening.

I am much pleased to note your success in bringing out such articles for THE NUT-GROWER as those of Dr. Curtis and Mr. Wight. More of this will help greatly to make THE NUT-GROWER a valuable medium.

H. S. GRAVES.

Gainesville, Fla.



### Questions and Answers

Three (3) years ago I bought a lot of budded and grafted pecan trees from a nurseryman. I set them out on same kind of land at same time of year, December 15th, and every one of them seemed to live and do well till the second year, when the trees that were grafted began to die. Since then several have died. In fact, I lost several in 1905. Several of the grafted stock died and have never sprouted. The roots died also, while the budded stock is all still living and doing well. I would like some one, through THE NUT-GROWER, to tell me why the grafted trees died and the budded ones lived. I would like to know the cause. All trees received the same kind of treatment, and there was some cause why the grafted stock did not do as well as the budded.

Occasionally a bud will die, and the whole plant down to the ground, but would sprout out and the tree was not lost, but in case of the grafted trees every one that died did never sprout at all, for the whole thing, root and branch, died. I will never buy another grafted tree, but will always take the budded stock.

W. B. DUKES.

Moultrie, Ga.

Unless some one can furnish a satisfactory local and preventable cause which gave Mr. W. B. Dukes such unfavorable results from grafted trees, while his budded stock, under the same surroundings, were satisfactory, it may attract renewed attention.—Ed.



### The 1906 Convention

The fifth annual convention of the National Nut-Growers' Association is called to meet at Scranton, Miss., October 31st and November 1st and 2nd, 1906. The outline of program promises a meeting of unusual practical interest. Jackson county, Miss., of which Scranton is the county seat, enjoys the distinction of being the place of origin of many of the largest and finest pecans known, while her area of orchards of bearing budded and grafted trees surpasses at pres-

ent all other sections of country producing the pecan.

The date selected promises to show the orchard with bearing crops ready for harvesting.

However, if more advantage on railroad rates can be obtained, near this date, a change may be desirable.

All members who can attend, are expected to be present. All interested are cordially invited, and since nuts enter so largely into domestic economy the ladies are especially invited, as some of the most noted authorities will speak on the food value and home uses of nuts. Later announcements will give particulars regarding program, railroad rates and other matters of general interest.

A rate of one and a third fares for round trip to Scranton, Miss., on account of the 1906 convention has already been granted by the Southeastern Passenger Association, and the Trunk Line Association. Other territory from which attendance is expected, will most likely have the same rate. This rate is on the certificate plan, and those expecting to use the rate must procure certificates with ticket.



*The California Fruit Grower*, of San Francisco, Cal., has re-established their office at Sacramento. Box 342 is their address.

### The Finest Hazels

(Continued from Page 223)

esque brick and mortar.

From Rovigno, where the burros bring the nuts in from the back country, they go to Trieste, by boat, and thence overland by rail to Naples. There they meet with the Sicilian nut, and there is a re-assorting, to meet with popular prejudices. All good filberts are now imported by the first-class dealers, but it is an open question if all the smaller and round nuts come from Sicily, as is claimed, and all the larger filberts from Naples. In fact, the infallible Baedeker gives Rovigno the claim to the finest hazels in the world, but consumers, or at least very many of them, do not know of Rovigno.

From Naples or the other ports the nuts are sent to America in sacks of perhaps a hundred pounds, costing the dealer sixteen cents the pound for the Naples filberts and twelve cents for the Sicilian. Transferred by him to the retailer, they will probably cost, in the finer groceries, from fifteen or twenty cents the pound, upward. Now and then an especially fine, large variety will bring twenty-five cents the pound. This, of course, is aside from the prices paid by the candy factories. These concerns deal with still another *entrepreneur* who will buy up the

smallest size of the nut, and shell these by the thousands, putting the kernels up in packages of five pounds each, ready for addition to the candy.

The consumption of hazels has been remarkable in this country since the nut salad became the vogue. Its origin is uncertain, save that the Americans are renowned as a race of experimenters along the lines of eatables, and when a new thing is good, it is rapidly popular. What the homes prepare, the hotels imitate: what the hotels serve, the homes copy, so that it does not take long for a fad to grow. In fact, almost wholly because of the nut salad, nuts are now kept over the summer in many cities where this was never done before: being placed in cold storage, at a temperature of from thirty-five to forty degrees, at which, it is believed, nuts may be kept an indefinite number of years, especially if the temperature, once established, remains even. Large dealers, however, seldom need to keep them over a second year, and in such a time a "strong" nut will of course be unknown.

A single large grocer, in a large city, will probably use up between three and five hundred bags of hazels, of all brands, annually: selling, of course, to the finer candy-makers in this city,

who do not buy the cheaper quality described. In fact, in view of this demand, hazel culture has been attempted, with varying success in this country, at such points as the hazel may be found growing. Near Urbana, Ohio, some fine gardens of hazel are produced, these being sold the grocer at fifteen cents the pound, and quite usually retailed by him at the same price as the medium imported varieties. To consumers, moreover, these American nuts are oftener sold unhulled, by the bushel.—FELIX J. KOCH, in *American Nut-Journal*.



### A Valuable New Almond

Dr. Timmons, of Sacramento, who, in addition to his professional duties, is an enthusiastic horticulturist, recently showed us some samples of almonds produced by him which, if they carry out all that they seem to promise, will be a very valuable addition to the varieties already found in our state. This almond is a chance seedling which was left to fill out a row, but when it came into bearing its superiority was noticeable. It is hardshell, of large size, and very excellent flavor. But its superior qualities lie in the fact that it is frost-resistant and a certain bearer, yielding each season a very

heavy crop. The doctor has grafted several trees from scions taken from this seedling, and these show the same characteristics as the parent tree. They have given a heavy crop every year since they first came into bearing. Experts rate the nuts as first-class hardshells. The great trouble with the almond in California is its uncertainty. We cannot count on a good crop more than once in five years, with a fair crop about once in three years, with almost a total failure about every third year. The almond is a very early bloomer, coming out in January or February, and the young fruit is always subject to attacks from frost, which often destroys the grower's hopes of returns. It is claimed for this almond that it is so hardy that it will stand any ordinary frost that we may have, and this it has proved in the past, for it has now been fruiting for several years and has never missed a crop, while the nuts hang on the branches almost as thick as grapes on the vine. If this nut is all that is claimed for it, and there is no reason to doubt it, it is certainly a great addition to our almond varieties and will be a boon to California growers. Dr. Simmons shows his faith in it by the fact that he is working over a large orchard of other varieties

## Book Notices

Mr. J. B. Wight, of Cairo, Ga., has issued a new edition of his valuable booklet, *Pecans: The What, When, How of Growing Them*. It is free to interested parties.

*Bulletin No. 83*, Florida Experiment Station, February, 1906, by H. K. Miller and A. W. Blair is No. 111 on Pine-apple culture, and reports fertilizer experiments with this crop.

*Texas Fruits*, by Sam H. Dixon, illustrated. Published by the Texas Horticultural Society; 75 cents. Gives special attention to Texas Horticultural Exhibit at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904.

*Farmers' Bulletin No. 177* of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, by Wm. E. Rice, treats of Squab Raising. This business affords a promising side line for orchardists, who care for interests of this kind.

Bulletin No. 134, *The Alfalfa Seed-Crop and Seedling Alfalfa*, treats of two subjects important to every grower of this unsurpassed forage crop. It may be obtained free by addressing the Experiment Station, Manhattan, Kas.

*Hardy Bermuda Grass* is the title of Bulletin No. 70, Oklahoma Experiment Station. This is of much value to all sections, where a hardy pasture grass is needed. It is claimed to surpass all other grasses for this purpose in that state.

*Bulletins 110 and 111* of the Colorado Agricultural College, gives much timely information regarding alfalfa, as grown in that state. This plant is quite sure to be a consideration, in commercial nut growing in different sections of the country.

*Bulletin No. 82* of Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, by Prof.

H. S. Morgan, treats of the Texas fever cattle tick, and the methods of pasture rotation, adopted for eradication of the pest. This is of most importance to all stock men.

*The Forty-Second Annual Report* of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Wisconsin for the year ending June 30, 1905, is a volume of 400 pages, well illustrated and contains much of interest to the general farmer, especially in line of his state interests.

*Bulletin No. 84* of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, March, 1906, by Prof. H. H. Hume, illustrated, gives practical information regarding the handling of the Pineapple crop. This industry is commanding much attention, and is assuming a prominent position in the state's products.

*Bulletin No. 79* of Texas Experiment Station gives results of fruit experiment with United States Bureau of Plant Industry in cotton breeding with a view to finding early and rapid fruiting varieties, which escape the boll weevil. Short-jointed and low fruiting plants are found to best escape injury.

*Proceedings of the Forty-first Annual Convention* of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Gardeners, is an interesting pamphlet of 225 pages, contains reports, addresses, lists of members, etc., pertaining to the meeting held at Washington, D. C., August, 1905, Wm. J. Stewart, Secretary, Boston, Mass.

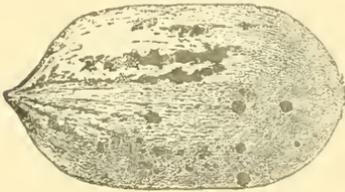
*Bulletin No. 85*, Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, March, 1906, by Prof. H. Harold Hume, is the States's second report on pecan culture. This bulletin has about 40 pages, is profusely illustrated, and of special interest to pecan growers. A more extended notice of this publication will appear elsewhere in THE NUT-GROWER.

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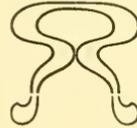
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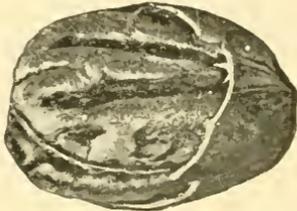
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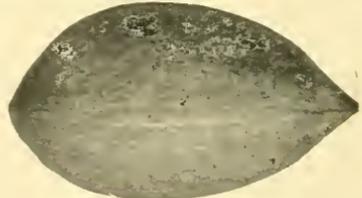
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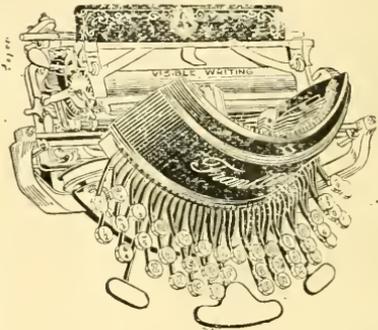
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