

Canada. Speakers from other countries will be announced later.

The afternoon program of the 19th will include the following topics: "Trends in Fruit Varieties," John T. Bregger, Clemson, South Carolina; "Observations on Editing a Fruit Variety Magazine", W. P. Judkins, Editor, *Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest*; "The American Pomological Society's Program

for the Fruit Hobbyist", W. F. Pickett, Manhattan, Kansas.

Fruit growers, horticultural scientists, industrial men interested in fruit machinery and products, and fruit hobbyists from all parts of the United States and Canada will be present at this meeting. It gives promise of being the most important meeting of its kind ever held.



## The Ideal Peach

### Characteristics of the Tree

By W. W. Teichman, *Grower*,  
Eau Claire, Michigan

In the Summer 1947 issue of *Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest* an article was printed which presented eighteen desirable fruit characteristics of the ideal peach. The present article discusses five desirable features of the tree.

#### 1. Vigorous Grower

As a peach tree is relatively short-lived, it is essential that maximum bearing area be attained as soon as possible, but not to the extent that it sacrifices sturdiness in structure of the tree.

#### 2. Hardiness in Wood

It is important that a maximum stand

be maintained in an orchard as long as possible. After 18 years, we find a good stand of Elberta, while nearly all Hale and South Haven adjoining have long since passed out.

#### 3. Hardiness in Bud

Bud killing during winter freezes in Michigan is not an infrequent occurrence. During extremely low temperatures, some varieties may suffer a high or even total degree of bud mortality, while others may endure the cold and produce a profitable crop. Among the well-known varieties, Rochester will probably withstand a margin of 2 degrees colder than Elberta.

#### 4. Heavy Set of Fruit Buds

This may be a questionable attribute. It undoubtedly is an exhaustion of energy for any plant to produce an over abundance of fruiting buds. Ordinarily, the expended energy could better be utilized in promoting growth in other elements of the tree. However, a variety with heavy bud-setting may lose a great majority of its buds during critical winter temperature and still have enough survive to produce a profitable crop.

#### 5. Shape or Structure of Tree

This may be a new angle but merits consideration. If obtainable through ex-

perimentation, it would be of inestimable value. It has been observed that the primary cause of death in mature peach trees, has been breakage of a scaffold limb. Usually due to a sharp angled ("V") axial connection with the trunk of the tree. Scaffold limbs that emanate at right angles from the trunk never break. The Gage Elberta is the one outstanding variety where the scaffold limbs naturally grow laterally from the trunk. The tree, although sprawling, attains good size and most fruits can be picked without the aid of a ladder. Experimentation in attaining this goal in new varieties would be warranted.



## Yields of Apple Varieties

### A Clew to Profits and Losses

By Albert B. Cole, grower  
Upper Red Hook, New York

The keeping of accounts may appear to be a tedious duty to some folks but it is nevertheless an essential job if an agricultural enterprise is to be operated at a profit. If the records are maintained on a relatively simple scale the task is not difficult at all.

For a number of years, careful notes

were kept on the yields of various blocks of apples on an orchard farm which I operated in Western Connecticut. These records were of assistance in managing the business and also furnish some interesting comparisons between several apple varieties.

A considerable acreage of trees had been planted on this farm in 1910. Among the apples were several blocks of