

HOME FRUIT GROWER

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Home Fruit Grower by M. G. Kains

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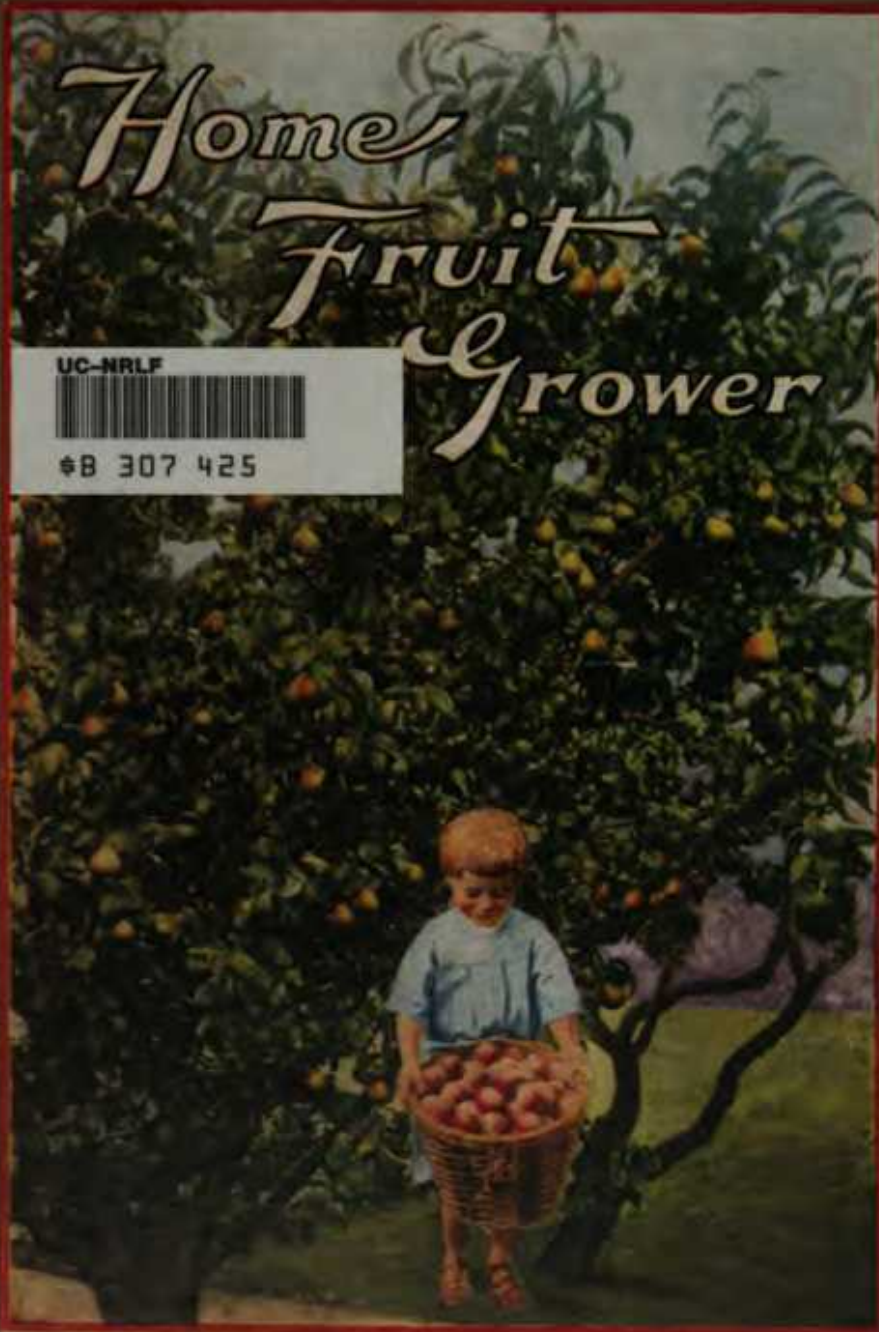
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FRUIT GROWER**

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of

David John Hughes, Edward Horton, George Kains,
Charles Roe, Jehiel Mann, Samuel Eccles, James
McAdam, Edward Ermatinger, George Scott and
Samuel Day, whose home plantings added flavor,
rest and adventure to my boyhood days and helped
not a little to mold my appreciation of fruits of
high merit

To view



Honestly! Don't you wish this fruitful arbor was just outside your dining room door?

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PREFACE

IN writing this book my aim has been to enhance the home production of fine fruit and thereby foster better living. As the text clearly shows, I have herein consistently ruled against commercial standards and practices, whenever these fall below the high order of merit and quality set by the amateur. The commercial grower produces fruit for a livelihood, to supply the demands of people who do not grow it; the amateur grows it for the joy of achievement, for the realization of a high ideal. In the one case the fruit is the means to an end; in the other, it is the end itself. Both men are needed in our national economy, but of the two, as shown in chapter 13, the amateur from the beginning has played, and should continue to play, the title role because he, rather than the commercial grower, sets the standard of excellence.

Such being the case, effort has been made to depict the pleasure of growing—and eating—fine fruits and, by means of photo-engravings, to portray the restful and the refining influences of home fruit growing. These pictures which present glimpses of home plantations, such as those in which my boyhood and young manhood were spent, reveal happy blendings of beauty and utility and should, therefore, prove suggestive and helpful to the dweller on the city and suburban lot, the owner of a "country place," and the farmer who aims to give an air of refinement and *hominess* to his residence, without belittling utility and economy.

As beginners are often bewildered by descriptions of varieties in nurserymen's catalogs, as they may know little as to the kind of nursery stock to order, and are frequently at sea as to how to make a selection, especially if they read literature based upon commercial standards, I have rather fully discussed the main points to consider in choosing varieties and buying plants for the home plantation. The primary aim should be for high quality, for as Downing points out, "He who owns a rood of proper land in this country, and, in the face of all the pomonal riches of the day, raises only Crabs and Choke-Pears, deserves to lose the respect of all sensible men."

The great majority of the Northern tree fruits discussed herein, I have learned to know well in Canada, (my boyhood home), Ohio,