DO THE RIGHT THING AT THE RIGHT TIME.

Chas. L. Pearson.

The application of the above text to the work of the fruit grower is quite necessary to success,—more so than to the work of the man who grows ordinary field crops. Perhaps it is because the fruit grower farms more intensively, has a smaller acreage and looks for a larger money return per acre.

The man who grows corn and oats need not worry if they are planted a few days late. If weeds get started in the corn he can soon knock them out with his team and cultivator when he gets around to it. A few days delay in harvesting or preparing for market does not cause him to lose any sleep.

Sometimes these farmers will attempt fruit growing by the same easy going method but they soon get disgusted with the business. The man who grows good crops of fruit, generally has this pasted in his every day hat, "Do the right thing at the right time." If he grows strawberries he must prepare the ground very thoroughly when it is in proper condition to work. Setting the plants must not be long delayed. Cultivation must be done promptly, the runners trained and trimmed, the blossoms picked at the right time and the winter protection applied in season. The same promptness is necessary to success in all the different branches of fruit growing. A fruit grower must observe keenly, plan wisely and execute promptly.

Two neighbors were growing tomatoes for the canning factory. John set his plants at the usual time. Jim didn't get around to plant his until about ten days later. John kept his free from weeds; Jim said it didn't pay to hire and so he let the weeds get half as large as his tomatoes before he got around to tackle them. John sold the product of his acre for forty eight dollars; Jim got thirty dollars for his,—a difference of eighteen dollars in favor of doing the
right thing at the right time,—this tomato story is no
dream but is taken from real life.

Many men embark in a new business when it is at high
tide. When the boom is on they will start in; then the tide
begins to ebb and they drift along. The boom falls and
they quit the business. They didn't follow the teaching of
our text. The right time to start in a new branch of farm-
ing is when the other fellows are going out. The best
time to quit if quit you must, is at high tide; but it is said
the quitter never makes a success of fruit growing because
he does not do the right thing at the right time.

Brookside Farm, Baraboo.

HOW TO TEST THE VITALITY OF GARDEN SEEDS.

Bulletin No. 59 of the Kansas Experiment Station.

It is well known that the vitality of seed diminishes rap-
idly with age. Dealers sometimes keep seed over from one
season to another, and, if the vitality is too low, may mix
fresh seed with this. Low vitality may not be due to age,
but to unfavorable conditions at time of harvesting or to
immaturity. In any case it is well to determine the vitality
before planting. While it requires some experience to de-
termine the impurities in seeds, the farmer can at least test
his seed for vitality.

A cheap and convenient form of apparatus for testing
the vitality of seeds at home is the following: Choose two
earthenware plates of the same size: Cut out two circular
layers of flannel somewhat smaller than the plates. Be-
tween the two layers of flannel place 100 seeds of the vari-
ety to be tested. Moisten the flannel with all the water it
will absorb. The two layers of flannel are placed in one
plate and covered with the other and set in a warm place.