try to ripen. These symptoms usually occur first in the lower parts of fields, in little draws, dips or depressions. Most of the foliage scorches on seriously infected plants and the berries do not mature or are seedy and of very low quality. Most of the infected plants continue to lose vigor and die out. The disease can be identified easiest by carefully digging suspected plants and splitting the roots lengthwise. In diseased plants the central core (or stele) of the roots is a dark red or copper color. This corresponds to the appearance of the lead in a pencil split lengthwise.

Control measures. At present the the best control seems to be to avoid the disease, if possible. This can be done, to a large extent by setting only clean plants that have come from inspected fields. Use higher, well-drained soil as far as possible, especially after the disease has become established on the farm. Setting berry plants on small ridges has proven helpful in infected areas. Lay out the berry rows so as to encourage good surface water drainage but, of course, still attempt to reduce erosion. Keep new settings of berries out of infected fields for at least five years, since the disease remains in the soil for an unknown length of time. The use of resistant varieties would be an ideal control measure; however, to date, we know of no satisfactory shipping berry that is resistant to the trouble. The United States Department of Agriculture and several state experiment stations are attempting to breed new varieties that are resistant. The Temple variety seems fairly resistant to red stele and is doing nicely in several infected areas in other states but little is known, to date, of its behavior in Kentucky. Where tried, Temple seems to be satisfactory for local markets and processing but too soft for a dependable shipping variety. Much testing of resistant seedlings and new sorts is scheduled for Kentucky the coming season, as well as possibly some breeding work.

The presence of this disease in a section (as it is known to be started around Paducah) makes it more important than ever to use only inspected plants for setting. Several growers are known to have brought the disease onto their farms by digging plants from a neighbor's infected field. It will take the cooperation of all growers in a section to keep this disease from seriously crippling the industry. This is especially true in sections of western Kentucky and elsewhere where much of the soil devoted to strawberry growing is rather tight and poorly drained.

HINTS AND OBSERVATIONS

BY W. W. MAGILL

If you failed to control apple scab on your fruit or foliage this year, don't be discouraged. Remember, we had almost perfect scab weather through late May and all of June, six weeks after the scab season of normal years.

PEACH BROWN ROT

Attention — Farm orchard and back yard peach growers! Did you lose most of your peach crop from brown rot near peach harvest? I am of the opinion you did. Remember, we had very hot weather (90 to 100 degrees, day and night) together with a very high humidity through late July and August. Some of our commercial growers found it necessary to apply from 4 to 6 sulphur sprays or dusts during the 20 days just ahead of harvest to save their crop from rot.

SAFE, RATHER THAN SORRY

Buy your 1948 nitrogen fertilizer now or the first date you can find some available. From all reports it will be scarce and hard to get in 1948.

TROUBLE AGAIN

Too many Kentucky apple growers found girdled trees the first day they looked for the presence of orchard mice last winter. A fall application of poison is more profitable than injured trees.

A BARGAIN

Are you a regular subscriber to any fruit journal? If you got only one "idea" from it during the next twelve months, you would certainly be ahead.