

If the fruit has set too thickly it has to be thinned, which is a very tiring job.

Early in December the first peaches and plums ripen, and from then right on until the end of the summer, your time is quite occupied picking and packing the fruit as it ripens.

All through this time you must watch continually for the worst pest of all—the fruit fly. All fallen fruit must be picked up and destroyed; traps are also set in the trees.

In the autumn the trees look beautiful when the leaves are changing colour. Soon the leaves fall and the orchard looks very bare. Then the year's work starts all over again—hard ploughing, pruning, spraying, picking, and packing.

—MARJORIE KNIGHT.

A DREAM.

One night I dreamed a dream. I was on a boat with quite a number of other people, and we were passing a rock, the waves dashed about us unmercifully. The boat ran on to the rock and we were all fighting for our lives in the raging waters.

But at last I was free from the dashing of the waves, and on the sea-floor I saw a pretty little path before me. I began to walk up it. At last I saw a heap of shells and coral, amongst which were crabs with glaring eyes, and fish of all sizes and colours.

Presently I was surprised to see beside me a man in black armour. Before I could utter a word, he spoke to me: 'Your Royal Highness is welcome to the Temple of Learning, where the spirits of wise men dwell.' Then he picked up a shell and said, "Servants of Ector Demus, arise." Soon I was surrounded by numerous men just like my guardian himself.

Then I was led away through a garden of growing coral. Many a cheeky little fish came out to see me and my mysterious escort. Through the waters I could see a towering building before me.

When we reached the gates the men fell into order and I was placed by the side of the man whom I first saw. We passed through many halls and passages and at last came to a big room full of dazzling light, where I saw a King on a golden throne. After receiving me courteously, he told the men to show me the rest of the Temple. I was led into a room in which I saw long-dead kings.

There sat Henry VIII, with Cardinal Wolsey and his