

whom do not like water; and of allowing the plants an opportunity of imbibing moisture through their leaves. Root watering when plants are dormant or only growing slowly, as in winter, should be practiced with care as many plants are lost through overdoses of water. A little experience soon teaches when to apply water and when to withhold it. A simple plan of ascertaining if the soil is dry is to tap the pot with your finger, if it emits a ringing sound you may safely give more water, but if, on the other hand, it gives a dull, heavy sound it is pretty certain that it has enough.

I will not detain you any longer as time is short and there are many things to discuss which, although, perhaps, of greater importance to the general interests of horticulturists, are not so attractive as the subject on which I have had the honor of addressing you to-day, and I only wish that it had fallen into abler hands to deal with. I will now conclude with thanks to you for your kind attention and with the hope that we may all meet at many such gatherings in the future.

Mr. Renouf enquired for a remedy for mildew in roses.

Mr. Palmer recommended spraying as in the case of fungus on fruit trees.

Mr. Ohlson considered that pruning was the most successful way of treating this difficulty. The pruning to be done early in the season, so as to allow the new growth time to harden. If the hybrid varieties are pruned late mildew invariably attacks them. Care is to be observed in cutting out the old and preserving the new wood, which is the secret of pruning in every case. I have found that February is not too early for this operation to be performed. Moss roses should be cut down to the ground in winter. Tea roses can wait till March or beginning of April. This is the result of twenty years' experience with roses, and I believe it is the only correct and effectual method of preventing mildew. But after it has become established upon the bush, the only way to do is dig up the bush and burn it. Sulphur is a good remedy, but not the proper one. Roses are very susceptible to neglect, but yield readily to proper treatment. In covering up roses in the fall, you must remember that what keeps out the frost also excludes the air and sunshine. I never cover my roses in winter, and carry over about 4,000 plants, including the more delicate varieties such as Marechal Neil.

Mr. Renouf—You do not believe in a mulch, then?

Mr. Ohlson—I do not. It is all right in early spring for some plants, but it is very likely to weaken roses by excluding the sun. People also make a great mistake by mixing other small truck with their roses, such as pansies, mignonette, etc., and the poor roses have a very precarious existence, indeed. Our climate is very favorable to

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