

Mr. McKINNON: How would it be to gather the leaves that fall and burn them?

Dr. FLETCHER: If your orchard were very much sheltered it might be important to burn the leaves, but I think in general practice it would be impracticable. You might destroy a great many spores undoubtedly.

Mr. T. H. RACE (Mitchell): Would Dr. Fletcher recommend spraying in winter for gooseberry mildew?

Dr. FLETCHER: I have had no experience; I think the usual practice is to spray during the summer.

Mr. RACE: I am strongly convinced that Bordeaux mixture has no virtue at all with gooseberry mildew. I think I have given it a thorough test the last two years, and my experience is it is absolutely harmless so far as mildew on the gooseberry is concerned.

Mr. McKINNON: What is the best thing for grape mildew? Is Bordeaux mixture good for that?

Dr. FLETCHER: Yes, undoubtedly it is the best remedy.

Mr. ORR: Is not sulphur thoroughly effectual for that?

Dr. FLETCHER: No, not thoroughly.

Mr. ORR: We have found no difficulty whatever with it in the last ten or twelve years. We have found sulphur controlled it thoroughly.

Dr. FLETCHER: There are two mildews to the grape.

Mr. RACE: Would Dr. Fletcher or Dr. Saunders let us know whether either ever tried Bordeaux mixture on gooseberries that had been mildewed before? There are a great many things that are recommended for gooseberry mildew that have been tried on gardens and gooseberry orchards that never had mildew; but in an orchard or garden where the mildew has been in one year, has any man found that the Bordeaux mixture has prevented it the following year? I used to hold to the theory that a sufficient application of hardwood ashes beneath the bushes, and thinning the bushes so as to let in plenty of sunlight and air, was all that was needed to prevent mildew. I stuck to that theory for several years, but I found that mildew got into my garden by getting bushes from other quarters that had mildew, and after it once got in there all the hardwood ashes that I could pour into the garden had not the slightest effect, so I had to resort to spraying, and I have been trying spraying with Bordeaux mixture for two years. I know I have done it as thoroughly as can be done, and it has not had any effect at all on the mildew.

Dr. FLETCHER: When did you begin to spray?

Mr. RACE: I began just as the buds were forming and gave the first spray. Then after the blossom was just about open—before it had opened—I gave the second spraying. After the blossom had dropped and the berry was fairly formed I gave the third spraying. Then I didn't do anything further than that, because I found in a very few days after I had finished the third spraying the mildew appeared.

Dr. SAUNDERS: I don't know that I can fully answer Mr. Race's question, but I can say this much, that there was mildew among those gooseberries on those experiments with the Bordeaux mixture that were tried by the Horticulturist at Ottawa. I was not present at every trial, but I saw enough to prove that it had a marked effect in lessening or preventing the mildew on the English gooseberries, which, with us, are very liable to mildew, and some of them were badly withered and worthless. Others again are much less liable to mildew. It is a subject that will bear a great deal of further experimentation. Mr. Race's experience will certainly be a stimulus to others to try still more perseveringly to see whether the mildew cannot be controlled entirely by that means. I don't mean to say that we have been without mildew, but the opinion of the Horticulturist was that the spraying with the Bordeaux mixture had been decidedly beneficial for that purpose.

Mr. RACE: I was so determined to give the Bordeaux mixture a thorough test this year that in the third application I took an open dish with the mixture in and bent the